# **AON RETIREMENT PLAN**

# ANNUAL CHAIR'S STATEMENT - DC ARRANGEMENTS

### YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Occupational Pension Schemes (Scheme Administration) Regulations 1996 ('the Administration Regulations') place a legal requirement on Aon UK Trustees Limited ('the Trustee') to prepare an annual statement regarding governance for inclusion in the annual Trustee Report and Accounts and this statement is issued for the purposes of complying with this legal requirement. The Administration Regulations apply to all defined contribution ('DC') pension arrangements, including Additional Voluntary Contributions ('AVC'), and aim to help members achieve a good outcome from their retirement savings.

This statement, issued by the Trustee, covers the period from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 (the 'Plan year') and is signed on behalf of the Trustee by the Chair.

### DC arrangements

This statement covers the following DC arrangements in the Aon Retirement Plan (the 'Plan'):

Plan	Type of DC arrangement
Aon OnePlan	DC arrangement
	Qualifying scheme used for auto-enrolment purposes
Hewitt Associates Pension and Life	DC arrangement with guarantees
Assurance Plan (HAPLAP)	Closed to new members and future contributions
Hewitt Pension Fund (HPF)	
	DC and AVC arrangement
Aon UK Pension Scheme (Aon UK)	Closed to new members and future contributions
Aon Alexander & Alexander UK Pension	AVC arrangement
Scheme (Aon A&A)	Closed to new members but open to some contributions
Aon Bain Hogg Pension Scheme (Aon BH)	AVC arrangement
	Closed to new members and future contributions

A new DC benefit category of the Plan, referred to as the Aon OnePlan, was launched for Aon employees on 1 October 2024. The Aon OnePlan has the same default investment arrangement as the other sections(s)/benefit categories, the Aon Managed Retirement Pathway (which targets drawdown). It also has a range of self-select funds, and member borne charges on those funds that are unique to this benefit category. The Aon OnePlan is designed so that members (with a few exceptions) who leave Aon employment are transferred, as part of a block transfer with other members, to the Aon OnePlan section of the Aon Mastertrust. These automatic transfers are scheduled to occur quarterly, however as the first transfer did not fall in the period covered by this statement, governance reporting is not required until the next Chair's statement reporting period. For Aon OnePlan members, this statement includes the required disclosures for the six-month period since the launch date.

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As the other section(s)/benefit categories of the Plan are closed to new members and new DC contributions, they are referred to collectively in this statement as the 'legacy sections' and the members referred to as 'legacy members'.

# **Contents**

This statement covers the following governance and charge disclosures:

<u>Section 1: Improving Trustee knowledge and understanding</u> shows the continuous efforts the Trustee makes to ensure it maintains the specialist knowledge required to make sure the Plan is well run.

<u>Section 2: Managing the Plan's investment options and reviewing the Default Option</u> focuses on how the Trustee designs and monitors the investment options offered to members.

Section 3: Investment performance and member borne costs and charges provides information on the performance of funds made available to members and the various deductions made from those funds each year to pay for the investment management services and associated running costs of the Plan. Aon OnePlan members should refer to section 3a and legacy members should refer to section 3b.

<u>Section 4: Administration service</u> includes the monitoring and processing of core financial transactions, explaining the internal controls the Trustee has in place in respect of the administration services, including ensuring that financial transactions such as investment switches and transfers out are processed promptly and accurately.

<u>Section 5: Value for Members</u> states what the Trustee does to ensure that members are receiving value for money from the Plan, including the results of its latest annual assessment.

Appendix A sets out the transaction costs for each of the funds underlying the Retirement Pathway Funds to Drawdown, Annuity and Cash.

<u>Appendix B</u> (relevant to legacy members only) provides the required disclosures for legacy members who are entitled to transfer-back their DC pot from the Aon Retirement Plan section of the Aon Mastertrust at retirement to fund their defined benefit tax-free pension commencement lump sum.

Jane Curtis - Chair
On behalf of Aon UK Trustees Limited

#### Section 1

# Improving Trustee Knowledge and Understanding

Sections 247 and 248 of the Pensions Act 2004 set out the requirement for trustees to have appropriate knowledge and understanding of the law relating to pensions and trusts, the funding of occupational pension schemes, investment of scheme assets and other matters to enable them to exercise their functions as trustee properly. This requirement is underpinned by guidance in the Pensions Regulator's General Code of Practice.

The information in this section relates to the whole Plan and not solely to the DC arrangements.

The Trustee Directors have arrangements in place for ensuring that they take personal responsibility for keeping themselves up to date with relevant developments and carry out a self-assessment of training needs. All Trustee Directors receive structured initial and ongoing training in line with the Trustee training protocol.

The Trustee Board has a range of skills and experiences including a mixture of Member Nominated and Company Nominated Directors with varying backgrounds, and one Trustee Director is a professional trustee.

The Trustee Directors are conversant with the Trust Deed and Rules, scheme management tools and documents setting out the Trustee's current policies. The Trustee Directors have, to the degree that it is appropriate for the purposes of enabling the individual to properly exercise his or her functions as a Trustee Director, knowledge and understanding of the law relating to pensions and trusts and the principles relating to investment and assets of occupational pension schemes. The Trustee refers to its legal advisor for any clarifications required.

In addition to the skills of the Trustee Board, the Trustee Directors work closely with their appointed professional advisers throughout the year to ensure that they run the Plan and exercise their functions properly. Their professional advisers also attend Trustee and Sub-Committee meetings.

Training logs are maintained for all Trustee Directors by the Plan Secretary. A training plan for the Trustee Board is agreed each year, in collaboration with the Plan advisers, aligned to planned strategic activities and known legislative changes. Ad-hoc training is provided at Trustee Board or Sub-Committee meetings, in addition, as required. During the Plan year, the Trustee received training on aspects of the Plan covering both the defined contribution and defined benefit section(s)/benefit categories. Examples of some of the training relevant to the defined contribution section(s)/benefit categories include:

- Overview of the Plan's DC arrangements
- Roles and responsibilities of DC Trustees
- Illiquid assets
- Discretionary decisions
- The Pensions Regulator's (TPR) General Code of Practice

The Trustee Directors also attended a combination of external training, conferences and seminars. The Trustee Directors supplement their DC knowledge by discussing DC market and industry developments in their quarterly Defined Contribution Sub-Committee (DCSC) meetings.

The Trustee Directors assess their knowledge and understanding by means of a self-assessment. Any gaps identified are addressed as part of the training provided throughout the Plan year.

The most recent external evaluation of the Trustee Board was carried out by Isio in 2023 and concluded in 2024. Among other things this considered the design, systems, security, administration, risk management, advisers, governance of the Plan and the composition and effectiveness of the Trustee Board. Actions were captured and agreed by the Trustee Board and are monitored by the Governance Risk and Audit Sub-Committee (GRASC). The GRASC

oversaw the implementation of agreed actions during 2024. Ongoing monitoring of the actions is scheduled in the GRASC business plan on an annual basis.

Some areas where the Trustee Directors have demonstrated their working knowledge during the Plan year include, but are not limited to:

- TPR requirements for an effective system of governance through an in-depth review and update to their risk management approach.
- The law relating to pensions and trusts through de-sectionalisation of the Plan and introduction of a new DC benefit category for Aon employees.

There is a formal Trustee Director selection process in place. New Trustee Directors are required to undertake trustee training at the earliest opportunity after selection and agree to the training protocol in place. During the Plan year one Trustee Director stepped down, and one new Trustee Director was appointed on 1 January 2025. All Trustee Directors have completed TPR's toolkit, with one exception, which is an online training resource for trustees. The Trustee Director that has not yet completed the toolkit will complete it within TPR's timescales and during the Plan year ending 31 March 2026.

Two Trustee Directors have attained the Award in Pension Trusteeship from the Pensions Management Institute. Four Trustee Directors are members of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries, and one Trustee Director is an Accredited Professional Trustee. In addition, four Trustee Directors fulfil their annual professional Continuing Professional Development requirements.

Trustee Directors have online access to all the Plan documents. As a minimum, the full Trustee meets four times per year and four of the Sub-Committees also each meet four times per year in between these meetings. The Sub-Committees progress actions and monitor and review the administration and investment performance, audit and approve the Trustee Report and Accounts, review the Statement of Investment Principles and other Plan documents and policies, amongst other tasks. Additional meetings have been held throughout the year as the Trustee Directors have been involved with the set-up of the Aon OnePlan.

The Trustee commenced its 2025 Task Force on Climate Related Financial Disclosure ("TCFD") report, which includes a review of the Plan's material funds' climate-related risks and opportunities, during the Plan year and have had detailed training on the content of the report and its implications.

As a result of the above actions, the Trustee Directors have sufficient knowledge and understanding of the law relating to pensions and trusts and of principles relating to investment of DC schemes. Furthermore, the Trustee Directors have sufficient knowledge and understanding in relation to the identification, assessment and management of risks and opportunities relating to the Plan, including risks and opportunities arising from steps taken because of climate change.

The Trustee therefore considers it has met TPR's Trustee Knowledge and Understanding requirements during the Plan year.

Taking into account the knowledge and experience of the Trustee Directors, combined with the specialist advice (both in writing and whilst attending meetings) received from the Trustee's appointed professional advisers (e.g. investment consultants, governance consultants and legal advisors), the Trustee Directors believe they are well placed to exercise their functions as Trustee Directors of the Plan properly and effectively.

#### Section 2

Managing the Plan's Investment Options and reviewing the Default Option

The Trustee is required to design the Default arrangements in members' interests and keep it under review. The Trustee will need to take account of the level of costs and the risk profile that are appropriate for the Plan's membership in light of the overall objective of the Default arrangements' strategy.

The Trustee implements the Plan's DC investment strategy through Aon's Delegated DC Services. Under this approach, the Trustee delegates the selection of the platform provider, available fund range and day to day management of the funds to Aon Investments Limited ('AIL'). The Trustee maintains responsibility for the investment fund options made available to members and takes advice as required from its professional advisers.

#### **Default Option**

The Trustee is aware that many members will either not wish to choose how their contributions are invested or do not have the confidence to make investment decisions. It therefore makes available a Default Option.

The Plan's Default Option is the **Aon Managed Retirement Pathway Funds (which target drawdown)**. This is designed to meet the needs of the majority of members by providing an appropriate balance between risk and return over the lifetime of a member's savings journey.

### Regulatory 'default' arrangements

There are two additional arrangements within the Plan that are also treated as 'defaults' from a regulatory perspective. This is as a result of members' contributions being invested in these arrangements without the members having taken an investment decision. Such default arrangements mean that the Trustee has to comply with the same additional statutory governance and reporting requirements as are required for the Default Option itself. The additional regulatory defaults are:

- Aon Managed Liquidity Fund This is a regulatory default because it is used for investing
  the first month's contributions for new Aon OnePlan members who are auto enrolled into the
  Plan. If members do not opt out in 30 days their assets are re-directed to the Plan's Default
  Option unless they make an alternative investment selection.
- Aon Managed Retirement Pathway Funds to Cash This range of funds became a regulatory default when legacy members who held Prudential With Profit AVCs, and were close to their target retirement age, were transferred into these funds.

This statement is accompanied by the Plan's Statement of Investment Principles (SIP) which is located here: <u>ARP – Statement of Investment Principles (DC) – December 2024 Edition</u>. This governs decisions about investments made available to members, including the Default Option, along with their aims and objectives.

#### Investment strategy review

The Plan's last investment strategy review was completed on 21 November 2022. The next formal review of the Plan is due to take place by 21 November 2025.

Prior to the launch of the Aon OnePlan, the Trustee considered the needs of the incoming members and concluded that the Aon Managed Retirement Pathway Funds (which target drawdown) is an appropriate default for these members.

# **Performance monitoring**

Performance of all funds is monitored on a quarterly basis by the DCSC who, among other things, track performance against the respective fund benchmarks.

AIL made changes to the Default Option for members within 15 years of retirement during the first half of 2024, which were fully in place by 30 June 2024. The changes were expected to significantly

reduce risk for members closer to retirement, while keeping on track to deliver the long-term return objectives for members, by introducing government bonds earlier, increasing the allocation to short-dated inflation linked government bonds, reducing exposure to corporate bonds and equites and adjusting the corporate bond portfolio to wholly invest in actively managed bond funds.

Changes were also made to the Default Option's growth phase by decreasing exposure to multi-factor equities in favour of climate transition equities. This change was phased in over 2024 and was completed by the end of February 2025. This change increases the Default Option's exposure to larger companies and strategies with specific objectives around the energy transition and is also expected to reduce the performance variability between the Default Option and the benchmark.

#### Default arrangements' asset allocation

The Trustee is required to disclose details of full asset allocations of investments for each Default arrangement. The tables below show the percentage of assets allocated in the Default arrangements to specified asset classes over the Plan year to 31 March 2025 as provided by AlL.

# (i) DEFAULT OPTION: The Aon Managed Retirement Pathway Funds targeting Drawdown

	Average asset allocation over year to 31 March 2025 (%)			
Asset class	25 years old	45 years old	55 years old	65 years old
Listed equities	90.8	90.8	72.2	38.3
UK equities	3.0	3.0	2.4	1.3
Developed market equities (excluding UK)	78.9	78.9	62.7	33.3
Emerging markets	9.0	9.0	7.1	3.8
Bonds	0.0	0.0	13.1	43.7
Corporate bonds	0.0	0.0	0.7	1.3
Fixed interest government bonds	0.0	0.0	2.5	6.4
Index-linked government bonds	0.0	0.0	4.8	26.3
Other bonds	0.0	0.0	5.1	9.7
Infrastructure	1.4	1.4	1.0	0.4
Property	7.6	7.6	5.7	2.5
Other	0.0	0.0	6.5	12.5
Cash	0.3	0.3	1.5	2.6

Not all columns sum due to rounding

# (ii) The Aon Managed Retirement Pathway Funds targeting Cash

	Average asset allocation over year to 31 March 2025 (%)			
Asset class	25 years old	45 years old	55 years old	65 years old
Cash	0.3	0.3	1.5	75.5
Bonds	0.0	0.0	13.1	8.5
Corporate bonds	0.0	0.0	0.7	4.4
Fixed interest government bonds	0.0	0.0	2.5	1.5
Index-linked government bonds	0.0	0.0	4.8	1.0
Other bonds	0.0	0.0	5.1	1.7
Listed equities	90.8	90.8	72.2	12.6
UK equities	3.0	3.0	2.4	0.4
Developed market equities (excluding UK)	78.9	78.9	62.7	10.9
Emerging markets	9.0	9.0	7.1	1.2
Infrastructure	1.4	1.4	1.0	0.2
Property	7.6	7.6	5.7	0.9
Other	0.0	0.0	6.5	2.4

Not all columns sum due to rounding

# (iii) Aon Managed Liquidity Fund

Asset class	Average asset allocation over year to 31 March 2025
	(%)
Cash	100.00

#### Section 3

Investment performance and member borne costs and charges

### Net investment performance

The Trustee is required to report on net investment performance for all funds which Plan members were invested in during the Plan year. Net investment performance refers to the investment returns on funds minus all member-borne costs and charges.

The Trustee has responsibility for the investment options made available to members and takes expert advice as required from its investment adviser. Members are offered a range of distinct investment strategies which target different benefits at retirement, namely drawdown, annuity and cash, through a target date fund structure. Members are also offered other funds, designed to capture the range of expected objectives and enable members to navigate markets using different asset classes, and – if they choose to do so - reflecting their own views toward Ethical, Social and Governance (ESG) risks.

The net investment performance of all funds available in the Plan are shown in Section 3a for Aon OnePlan members and Section 3b for legacy members. The performance figures have been prepared taking account of statutory guidance.

The net investment performance for the Aon Managed Retirement Pathway Funds is based on a member having a Target Retirement Age of 65. As the Aon Managed Retirement Pathway Funds have the same type and composition of assets until 5 years before retirement (until age 60 where the Target Retirement Age is 65), the net returns for Funds targeting Drawdown, Annuity and Cash are the same up until this age, and can vary thereafter as the type and composition of assets changes to better match how the members are expected to take their benefits in retirement.

We show the net investment returns achieved over 1 year and 5 years for individual members aged 25, 45 and 55 at the start of the recommended 5-year reporting period. In each case, we show the performance of the appropriate Retirement Pathway Fund assuming the member retires at age 65 (for example, a member aged 25 at the start of the 5 year period, now with 35 years to retirement, would retire in 2060 and hence we show the performance of the Aon Managed Retirement Pathway 2058-2060 Fund).

### Member borne costs and charges

The Trustee is required to regularly monitor the level of costs and charges borne by members through the investment funds. These charges comprise:

- Charges: these are explicit, and represent the charges associated with operating and managing an investment fund. They can be identified as a Total Expense Ratio ('TER');
- Transaction Costs: these are not explicit and are incurred when the Plan's fund manager buys and sells assets within investment funds but are exclusive of any costs incurred when members invest in and switch between funds.

The Trustee is also required to confirm that the charges on the Default arrangements have not exceeded 0.75% p.a, (the charge cap) and produce an illustration of the cumulative effect of the costs and charges on members' retirement fund values as required by the Occupational Pension Schemes (Administration and Disclosure) (Amendment) Regulations 2018.

The information on charges and transaction costs has been provided by AIL. The Aon Managed Retirement Pathway Funds are target date funds which have a number of different vintages depending on the retirement date being targeted. Each fund covers a three-year target retirement period (e.g. 2025-2027, 2028-2030 etc.).

The TER for the Default arrangements, along with the transaction costs (TCs), are shown in Sections 3a for Aon OnePlan members and 3b for legacy members. The TER is well within the legislative charge cap of 0.75% p.a. for schemes that are used for auto-enrolment purposes.

### Illustration of the cumulative effect of costs and charges

To help members understand the impact that costs and charges can have on their retirement savings, the Trustee has provided illustrations of the cumulative effect of costs and charges on the value of a typical member's retirement savings over the period to their retirement.

The illustrations have been prepared having regard to statutory guidance and selecting suitable representative members. It is based on assumptions about the future which are set out below.

Members should be aware that such assumptions may or may not hold true, so the illustration does not promise what will happen in the future and fund values are not guaranteed. Furthermore, because the illustrations are based on typical members of the Plan, it is not a substitute for the individual and personalised illustrations which are provided to members in their Annual Benefit Statements.

# **Assumptions and data for illustrations**

- Annual salary growth and inflation is assumed to be 2.5% p.a.
- The starting fund value used in the projection is representative of the median fund value for either Aon OnePlan members or legacy members.
- Projected net annual returns are as follows:

Aon Managed Initial Growth Phase Fund <sup>1</sup>	6.0% p.a.
Aon Managed Global Impact Fund 1,2	7.0% p.a.
Aon Managed Diversified Asset Fund <sup>1</sup>	4.0% p.a.
Aon Managed Diversified Multi Strategy Bond Fund <sup>1</sup>	2.0% p.a.
Aon Managed Short Term Inflation Linked Fund <sup>1</sup>	2.0% p.a.
Aon Managed Up to 5 Year Gilt UK Fund <sup>1</sup>	2.0% p.a.
Aon Managed Liquidity Fund <sup>1</sup>	2.0% p.a.
Aegon BlackRock World (ex-UK) Equity Index (BLK) Fund <sup>3</sup>	6.0% p.a.
Aegon BlackRock UK Equity Index Fund⁴	6.0% p.a.
	Aon Managed Global Impact Fund <sup>1,2</sup> Aon Managed Diversified Asset Fund <sup>1</sup> Aon Managed Diversified Multi Strategy Bond Fund <sup>1</sup> Aon Managed Short Term Inflation Linked Fund <sup>1</sup> Aon Managed Up to 5 Year Gilt UK Fund <sup>1</sup> Aon Managed Liquidity Fund <sup>1</sup> Aegon BlackRock World (ex-UK) Equity Index (BLK) Fund <sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Funds underlying the Default arrangements

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Highest TER in the Aon OnePlan and Legacy self-select fund range\*

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Lowest TER in the Aon OnePlan self-select fund range

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Lowest TER in the Legacy self-select fund range

<sup>\*</sup> Whilst the Aon Managed UK Equity (Legacy) has the highest TER this fund is no longer available for members to choose to invest in.

# Section 3a - Aon OnePlan members

Net investment returns, member borne costs and charges including illustrations

# (i) Net investment returns

The Aon Managed Retirement Pathway Funds targeting Drawdown (Default Option), Cash and Annuity (Self-select strategies)

Performance to 31 March 2025	Net return (% p.a.)	
Age of member at the start of the 5 year investment reporting period	1 year	5 years
25	3.3	11.0
45	3.3	11.0
55	4.6	7.4

The Aon Managed Core Retirement Pathway Funds targeting Drawdown, Cash and Annuity (Self-select strategies)

Performance to 31 March 2025	Net return (% p.a.)	
Age of member at the start of the 5 year investment reporting period	1 year	5 years
25	4.0	14.6
45	4.0	14.6
55	3.6	9.1

### Self-select funds

Funds	Net return (% p.a.)	
	1 year	5 year
Equity Funds		
Aon Managed Global Equity Fund	4.2	12.1
Aon Managed Active Global Equity Fund	-2.4	11.6
Aon Managed Global Impact Fund <sup>1</sup>	-3.7	N/A
Aegon HSBC Islamic Global Equity Index (BLK) Fund	3.3	16.2
Aegon BlackRock UK Equity Index (BLK) Fund	9.2	11.2
Aegon LGIM FTSE4GOOD Developed Equity Index (BLK) Fund	3.1	15.2
Aegon BlackRock World (ex-UK) Equity Index (BLK) Fund	2.9	14.7
Aegon BlackRock Emerging Markets Equity Index (BLK) Fund	7.6	7.4
Multi-Asset and Property Funds		1
Aon Managed Initial Growth Phase Fund	4.2	11.4
Aon Managed Property and Infrastructure Fund	3.8	5.5
Aon Managed Diversified Asset Fund	7.6	5.9
Bond and Cash Funds		
Aon Managed Diversified Multi Strategy Bond Fund	6.3	3.5

Funds	Net return (% p.a.)	
	1 year	5 year
Aon Managed Bond Phase Fund	4.5	1.9
Aon Managed Passive Corporate Bond Fund	2.5	-0.5
Aon Managed Pre-Retirement Bond Fund	-3.4	-5.3
Aon Managed Long-Term Inflation Linked Fund	-9.3	-9.8
Aon Managed Short-Term Inflation Linked Fund	3.2	3.6
Aon Managed Liquidity Fund	5.0	2.4

<sup>1</sup>This fund was launched 31/10/2020 so returns over a five year period to 31 March 2025 are not available.

It is important to note that past performance is not a guarantee of future performance.

# ii) Member borne costs and charges

# **Default arrangements**

Default Arrangement	TER (% p.a.)	TCs (% p.a.)	Total Costs (% p.a.)	
Aon Managed Retirement Pathway Funds to Drawdown				
<ul> <li>All vintages of the Fund and the Perpetual Fund</li> </ul>	0.34 - 0.35	0.07 - 0.08	0.41 – 0.43	
Aon Managed Liquidity Fund				
Aon Managed Liquidity     Fund	0.18	0.01	0.19	

Where a fee is calculated by reference to the returns from investments held by the Plan and is not calculated by reference to the value of the member's rights under the Plan, the Trustee must state the amount of any such performance-based fees in relation to each Default arrangement. The Trustee confirms that, in the Plan year, no performance based fees were incurred by members in the Default arrangements.

# Self-select strategies and funds

Strategies	TER (% p.a.)	TCs (% p.a.)	Total Costs (% p.a.)	
Aon Managed Retireme	ent Pathway Funds to	Annuity		
<ul> <li>All vintages and the Perpetual Fund</li> </ul>	0.32 – 0.35	0.00 - 0.08	0.32 - 0.43	
Aon Managed Retireme	ent Pathway Funds to 0	Cash		
<ul> <li>All vintages and the Perpetual Fund</li> </ul>	0.32 - 0.35	0.01 – 0.08	0.33 – 0.43	
Aon Managed Core Retirement Pathway Funds to Drawdown				
<ul> <li>All vintages and the Perpetual Fund</li> </ul>	0.21 – 0.22	0.05 – 0.06	0.26 - 0.28	
Aon Managed Core Retirement Pathway Funds to Annuity				
<ul> <li>All vintages and the Perpetual Fund</li> </ul>	0.20 - 0.22	0.01 – 0.06	0.21 – 0.28	

Strategies	TER (% p.a.)	TCs (% p.a.)	Total Costs (% p.a.)	
Aon Managed Core Retirement Pathway Funds to Cash				
<ul> <li>All vintages and the Perpetual Fund</li> </ul>	0.20 - 0.22	0.01 – 0.06	0.21 – 0.28	

Individual Funds	TER (% p.a.)	TCs (% p.a.)	Total Costs (% p.a.)
Equity Funds	,		
Aon Managed Global Equity Fund	0.24	0.05	0.29
Aon Managed Active Global Equity Fund	0.78	0.10	0.88
Aon Managed Global Impact Fund	0.79	0.11	0.90
Aegon HSBC Islamic Global Equity Index (BLK) Fund	0.45	0.00	0.45
Aegon BlackRock UK Equity Index (BLK) Fund	0.16	0.08	0.24
Aegon LGIM FTSE4GOOD Developed Equity Index (BLK) Fund	0.45	0.01	0.46
Aegon BlackRock World (ex-UK) Equity Index (BLK) Fund	0.16	0.03	0.19
Aegon BlackRock Emerging Markets Equity Index (BLK) Fund	0.36	0.00	0.36
Multi-Asset and Property Funds			
Aon Managed Initial Growth Phase Fund	0.26	0.06	0.32
Aon Managed Property and Infrastructure Fund	0.39	0.16	0.55
Aon Managed Diversified Asset Fund	0.33	0.00	0.33
Bond and Cash Funds		-1	1
Aon Managed Diversified Multi Strategy Bond Fund	0.45	0.38	0.83
Aon Managed Bond Phase Fund	0.32	0.19	0.51
Aon Managed Passive Corporate Bond Fund	0.19	0.00	0.19
Aon Managed Pre-Retirement Bond Fund	0.30	0.00	0.30
Aon Managed Long-Term Inflation Linked Fund	0.19	0.00	0.19
Aon Managed Short-Term Inflation Linked Fund	0.18	0.04	0.22

A full listing of the underlying funds in the Retirement Pathway Funds to Drawdown, Annuity and Cash, and their respective TCs is shown in Appendix A.

On occasions, transactions can arise that do not lead to a cost but instead to a profit. As the requirement is to report on costs, these transactions are shown as a 0% p.a. cost in the table above.

# iii) Illustration of the cumulative effect of costs and charges

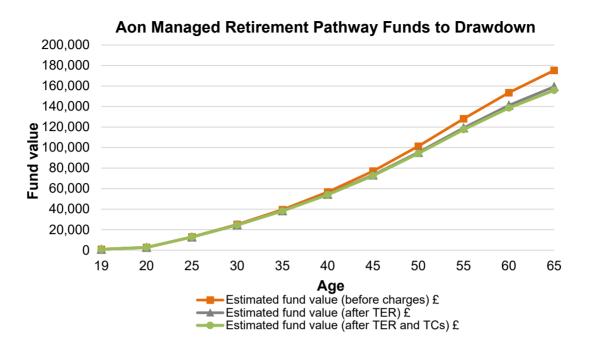
The illustrations show the projected retirement savings for an Aon OnePlan member invested in the Aon Managed Retirement Pathway Funds to Drawdown and the Aon Managed Liquidity Fund. However, as the projected retirement savings are dependent on investment returns as well as the level of costs and charges, we have also included comparison figures with other types of investments as follows:

- Aegon BlackRock World (ex-UK) Equity Index (BLK) Fund the lowest charging fund available to invest in
- Aon Managed Global Impact Fund the highest charging fund available to invest in

The illustrations are shown as a chart and a table. The projection of the retirement savings to retirement age are shown with and without costs and charges applied.

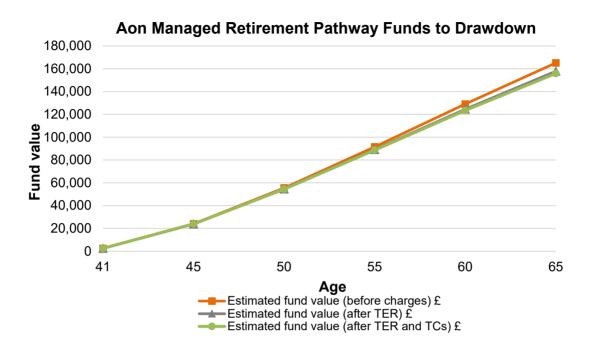
All projected retirement savings are shown at today's values, and do not need to be reduced further for the effect of future expected inflation.

Illustration 1 is based on the youngest Aon OnePlan member who is aged 19 with a retirement age of 65 years. The member has a current fund value of £900 and is invested in the Aon Managed Retirement Pathway Funds to Drawdown. Contributions are assumed to be 9% p.a. based on a current salary of £20,000



		anaged Reti Funds to D			on Manage iquidity Fur		Aegon BlackRock World (ex- UK) Equity Index (BLK) Fund		Aon Managed Global Impact Fund			
Age	Before costs & charges	After costs & charges	Effect of costs & charges	Before costs & charges	After costs & charges	Effect of costs & charges	Before costs & charges	After costs & charges	Effect of costs & charges	Before costs & charges	After costs & charges	Effect of costs & charges
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
19	900	900	0	900	900	0	900	900	0	900	900	0
20	2,740	2,730	10	2,670	2,670	0	2,740	2,740	0	2,760	2,740	20
25	12,960	12,790	170	11,390	11,320	70	12,920	12,850	70	13,330	12,950	380
30	25,100	24,510	590	19,890	19,680	210	24,960	24,710	250	26,440	25,080	1,360
35	39,530	38,170	1,360	28,190	27,760	430	39,200	38,620	580	42,700	39,490	3,210
40	56,680	54,090	2,590	36,300	35,570	730	56,040	54,940	1,100	62,840	56,600	6,240
45	77,060	72,650	4,410	44,200	43,120	1,080	75,970	74,090	1,880	87,820	76,920	10,900
50	101,290	94,270	7,020	51,910	50,420	1,490	99,530	96,540	2,990	118,780	101,060	17,720
55	128,100	117,580	10,520	59,440	57,480	1,960	127,410	122,890	4,520	157,170	129,720	27,450
60	153,510	138,730	14,780	66,790	64,300	2,490	160,370	153,790	6,580	204,750	163,770	40,980
65	175,250	155,860	19,390	73,960	70,890	3,070	199,370	190,040	9,330	263,730	204,200	59,530

Illustration 2 is based on the average Aon OnePlan member who is aged 41 with a retirement age of 65 years. The member has a current fund value of £2,500 and is invested in the Aon Managed Retirement Pathway Funds to Drawdown. Contributions are assumed to be 9% p.a. based on a current salary of £55,500.



		anaged Ret Funds to D			Aon Managed Aegon BlackRock World (ex- Liquidity Fund UK) Equity Index (BLK) Fund Impact Fund			` `				
Age	Before costs & charges	After costs & charges	Effect of costs & charges	Before costs & charges	After costs & charges	Effect of costs & charges	Before costs & charges	After costs & charges	Effect of costs & charges	Before costs & charges	After costs & charges	Effect of costs & charges
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
41	2,500	2,500	0	2,500	2,500	0	2,500	2,500	0	2,500	2,500	0
45	24,030	23,820	210	21,990	21,900	90	23,980	23,890	90	24,500	24,020	480
50	55,480	54,410	1,070	45,830	45,420	410	55,220	54,770	450	57,890	55,450	2,440
55	91,540	88,740	2,800	69,100	68,160	940	92,180	90,990	1,190	99,280	92,770	6,510
60	129,080	123,490	5,590	91,800	90,140	1,660	135,880	133,480	2,400	150,580	137,100	13,480
65	165,190	155,910	9,280	113,950	111,380	2,570	187,580	183,320	4,260	214,190	189,740	24,450

Members are advised to consider both the level of costs and charges and the expected return on assets (i.e. the risk profile of the strategy) in making investment decision.

# Section 3b - Legacy members

Net investment returns, member borne costs and charges including illustrations

# (i) Net performance

The Aon Managed Retirement Pathway Funds targeting Drawdown (Default Option), Cash and Annuity (Self-select strategies)

Performance to 31 March 2025	Net return	(% p.a.)
Age of member at the start of the 5 year investment reporting period	1 year	5 years
25	3.4	11.1
45	3.4	11.1
55	4.7	7.5

# **Self-select investment funds**

Funds	Net retur	n (% p.a.)
	1 year	5 year
Equity Funds		
Aon Managed Global Equity Fund	4.2	12.1
Aon Managed Active Global Equity Fund	-2.4	11.7
Aon Managed Global Impact Fund <sup>1</sup>	-3.6	N/A
Aegon HSBC Islamic Global Equity Index (BLK) Fund	3.4	16.3
Aegon BlackRock UK Equity Index (BLK) Fund	9.3	11.3
Aegon LGIM FTSE4GOOD Developed Equity Index (BLK) Fund	3.2	15.3
Aon Managed UK Equity (Legacy) Fund <sup>2</sup>	N/A	N/A
Multi-Asset and Property Funds	l	
Aon Managed Initial Growth Phase Fund	4.2	11.5
Aon Managed Property and Infrastructure Fund	3.9	5.6
Aon Managed Diversified Asset Fund	7.7	6.0
Bond and Cash Funds		1
Aon Managed Diversified Multi Strategy Bond Fund	6.4	3.5
Aon Managed Pre-Retirement Bond Fund	-3.4	-5.2
Aon Managed Long-Term Inflation Linked Fund	-9.3	-9.8
Aon Managed Short-Term Inflation Linked Fund	3.3	3.7
Aon Managed Liquidity Fund	5.1	2.4

 $<sup>\</sup>overline{\ }^{1}$ This fund was launched 31/10/2020 so returns over a five year period to 31 March 2025 are not available.

It is important to note that past performance is not a guarantee of future performance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>This fund is no longer available as a self-select option, and as the fund is in wind down the returns are not available.

# ii) Member borne costs and charges

# **Default arrangements**

Default Arrangement	TER (% p.a.)	TCs (% p.a.)	Total Costs (% p.a.)		
Aon Managed Retirement Path	way Funds to Dra	wdown			
<ul> <li>All vintages and the Perpetual Fund</li> </ul>	0.26 - 0.27	0.07 - 0.08	0.33 – 0.35		
Aon Managed Retirement Pathway Funds to Cash					
<ul> <li>All vintages and the Perpetual Fund</li> </ul>	0.24 - 0.27	0.01 – 0.08	0.25 – 0.35		

Where a fee is calculated by reference to the returns from investments held by the Plan and is not calculated by reference to the value of the member's rights under the Plan, the Trustee must state the amount of any such performance-based fees in relation to each Default arrangement. The Trustee confirms that, in the Plan year, no performance based fees were incurred by members in the Default arrangements.

# **Self-select funds**

Strategies	TER (% p.a.)	TCs (% p.a.)	Total Costs (% p.a.)	
Aon Managed Retirement Pathway Funds to Annuity				
<ul> <li>All vintages and the Perpetual Fund</li> </ul>	0.24 - 0.27	0.00 - 0.08	0.24 - 0.35	

Individual Funds	TER (% p.a.)	TCs (% p.a.)	Total Costs (% p.a.)
Equity Funds	· · ·		,
Aon Managed Global Equity Fund	0.17	0.05	0.22
Aon Managed Active Global Equity Fund	0.71	0.10	0.81
Aon Managed Global Impact Fund	0.72	0.11	0.83
Aegon HSBC Islamic Global Equity Index (BLK) Fund	0.35	0.00	0.35
Aegon BlackRock UK Equity Index (BLK) Fund	0.06	0.08	0.14
Aegon LGIM FTSE4GOOD Developed Equity Index (BLK) Fund	0.35	0.01	0.36
Aon Managed UK Equity (Legacy) Fund	0.88	0.07	0.95
Multi-Asset and Property Funds		•	•
Aon Managed Initial Growth Phase Fund	0.19	0.06	0.25

Individual Funds	TER (% p.a.)	TCs (% p.a.)	Total Costs (% p.a.)
Aon Managed Property and Infrastructure Fund	0.32	0.16	0.48
Aon Managed Diversified Asset Fund	0.26	0.00	0.26
Bond and Cash Funds			
Aon Managed Diversified Multi Strategy Bond Fund	0.38	0.38	0.76
Aon Managed Pre-Retirement Bond Fund	0.25	0.00	0.25
Aon Managed Long-Term Inflation Linked Fund	0.14	0.00	0.14
Aon Managed Short-Term Inflation Linked Fund	0.13	0.04	0.17
Aon Managed Liquidity Fund	0.13	0.01	0.14

A full listing of the underlying funds in the Retirement Pathway Funds to Drawdown, Annuity and Cash, and their respective TCs is shown in Appendix A.

On occasions, transactions can arise that do not lead to a cost but instead to a profit. As the requirement is to report on costs, these transactions are shown as a 0% p.a. cost in the table above.

### (iii) Illustration of the cumulative effect of costs and charges

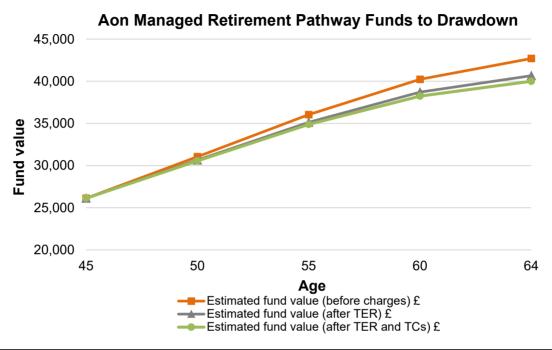
The illustrations show the projected retirement savings for a legacy member invested in the Aon Managed Retirement Pathway Funds to Drawdown and Aon Managed Retirement Pathway Funds to Cash. However, as the projected retirement savings are dependent on investment returns as well as the level of costs and charges, we have also included comparison figures with other types of investments as follows:

- Aegon BlackRock UK Equity Index (BLK) Fund the lowest charging fund available to invest in
- Aon Managed Global Impact Fund the highest charging fund available to invest in

The illustrations are shown as a chart and a table. The projection of the retirement savings to retirement age are shown with and without costs and charges applied.

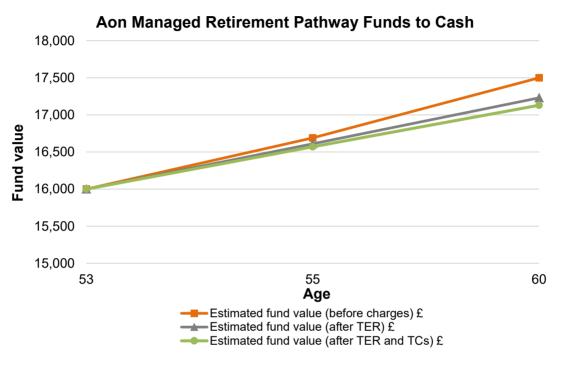
All projected retirement savings are shown at today's values, and do not need to be reduced further for the effect of future expected inflation.

<u>Illustration 1</u> is based on the youngest deferred legacy member who is aged 45 with a retirement age of 64 years. The member has a current fund value of £26,125 and is invested in the Aon Managed Retirement Pathway Funds to Drawdown. No further contributions are made to the Plan.



	,	ged Retireme ids to Drawd	•	Aegon Bla	egon BlackRock UK Equity Index (BLK) Fund			Aon Managed Global Impact Fund		
Age	Before costs & charges	After costs & charges	Effect of costs & charges	Before costs & charges	After costs & charges	Effect of costs & charges	Before costs & charges	After costs & charges	Effect of costs & charges	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
45	26,125	26,125	0	26,125	26,125	0	26,125	26,125	0	
50	31,050	30,560	490	30,900	30,730	170	32,390	31,130	1,260	
55	36,040	34,890	1,150	36,550	36,140	410	40,150	37,090	3,060	
60	40,230	38,240	1,990	43,230	42,510	720	49,770	44,200	5,570	
64	42,700	40,000	2,700	49,440	48,410	1,030	59,100	50,860	8,240	

<u>Illustration 2</u> is based on the average legacy deferred member who is aged 53 with a retirement age of 60 years. The member has a current fund value of £16,000 and is invested in the Aon Managed Retirement Pathway Funds to Cash. No further contributions are made to the Plan.



	Aon Managed Retirement Pathway Funds to Cash  Aegon BlackRock UK Equity Index (BLK) Fund  Aon Managed Global Impact Fund								
Age	Before costs & charges	After costs & charges	Effect of costs & charges	Before costs & charges	After costs & charges	Effect of costs & charges	Before costs & charges	After costs & charges	Effect of costs & charges
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
53	16,000	16,000	0	16,000	16,000	0	16,000	16,000	0
55	16,690	16,570	120	17,110	17,070	40	17,440	17,160	280
60	17,500	17,130	370	20,240	20,080	160	21,610	20,450	1,160

Members are advised to consider both the level of costs and charges and the expected return on assets (i.e. the risk profile of the strategy) in making investment decision.

#### Section 4

### **Administration Service**

The Trustee has a specific duty to ensure that core financial transactions are processed promptly and accurately. Core financial transactions include the transfer of member funds into and out of the Plan, transfers between different investments within the Plan and payments to and in respect of members/beneficiaries.

Core financial transactions (CFTs) are undertaken on behalf of the Trustee by the administrators.

Administration and Communication Sub-Committee (ACSC) meetings are held quarterly; these oversee the administration function and help ensure a good member experience.

The Trustee has a service level agreement (SLA) in place with the administrators. The SLAs detail a number of key administration processes to be performed and the target timescale within which each of these processes should be completed. There are SLAs in place for all CFTs. The SLAs for the Plan and performance relative to SLAs over the Plan year are summarised in the below table:

Plan	Admin	Target completion time for processing DC CFTs	DC CFTs completed within target	All transactions completed within target
Aon OnePlan	Aegon	3-5 working days (depending on the type of transaction)	92%	96%
Legacy section(s) / benefit categories	gacy section(s) / App 5 working days		93%	91%

In addition, the administrators have the following key processes and controls to help meet the SLAs:

- Straight Through Processing for investment switches. This is used to improve efficiency and includes the administration platform being fully integrated with the investment platform to ensure that member records and fund prices are updated on a daily basis.
- Full member reconciliation. This is undertaken annually in preparation for the Plan's Annual Report and Accounts.
- Daily and monthly cash and unit reconciliation. The unit reconciliations are included in the
  quarterly administration reports and the cash reconciliations are provided as part of the Plan's
  Annual Report and Accounts. There are escalation points if there is no response or closure to
  the questions raised.
- Daily monitoring of bank accounts. The Trustee has reviewed the processes and controls implemented by the administrators and considers them to be suitably designed. In addition, controls around administration and the processing of transactions are documented in the Plan's risk register which is reviewed at quarterly ACSC meetings.

Between January 2025 and December 2026 (subject to conditions specified in the Schedule of Contributions), the Aon UK Limited Section will fund the monthly DC contributions to the Aon OnePlan from the liquid, uninsured surplus. This process is jointly managed by the Aon and Aegon administration teams to ensure an adequate cash balance is available to meet the cost of monthly contributions. Aegon reports to the Trustee's advisers on the management of the contribution cash flows on a monthly basis.

# Have core financial transactions been processed in a timely and accurate manner?

The Trustee is pleased to report there have been no administration service issues with respect to core financial transactions during the Plan year, and is satisfied that:

- the administrators were operating appropriate procedures, checks and controls and operating within the agreed SLAs;
- there have been no material administration errors in relation to processing core financial transactions; and
- all core financial transactions have been processed promptly and accurately.

### Section 5

### Value for Members

The Administration Regulations require the Trustee to make an assessment of charges and transactions costs borne by members and the extent to which those charges and costs represent good value for money for members.

Every year, the Trustee captures all member-borne charges, including transaction costs, and considers the benefits of membership of the Plan's DC arrangements so they can assess whether members are getting good value.

There is no legal definition of "good value" or the process of determining this for Plan DC members. Therefore, working in conjunction with our advisers, Aon, the Trustee has developed a cost-benefit analysis framework to assess whether members receive good value from the Plan relative to the costs and charges members pay. Benchmarking relative to other pension arrangements and/or industry best practice guidelines is also undertaken.

The costs borne by members are the TER and transaction costs and are set out earlier in this statement.

For Aon OnePlan members, the Trustee has a bundled administration and investment service. Under this agreement Aon OnePlan members pay the investment and administration costs.

For legacy members, the Trustee has an unbundled administration and investment service, Under this agreement Legacy members pay the investment costs and the company pays the administration cost.

The Trustee has considered the benefits of membership under the following categories: Plan governance, investments, administration, member communications and engagement, and retirement support.

The Trustee's beliefs have formed the basis of the analysis of the benefits of membership. A summary of the assessment outcome is set out below:

### Plan governance

- The Trustee regularly reviews and updates its governance processes and procedures to ensure that these meet regulatory and industry best practice requirements; for instance, the Trustee has developed, and is managing, a register of policies, processes and procedures in line with TPRs new expectations on trustees to demonstrate that they operate an effective system of governance.
- The Trustee has a DC Sub-Committee (DCSC) that focuses on matters relating to the DC arrangements, and on delivering good member outcomes.
- The DCSC works alongside the GRASC in respect of managing the Effective System of Governance of the DC arrangements; the Administration and Communications Sub-Committee ('ACSC') who support with oversight of the DC administrator and DC communications; and the Funding and Investment Sub-Committee (FISC) on matters relating to DC members with Defined Benefit underpins. All committees meet quarterly.
- A review of the governance structure and its operation was undertaken in the Plan year in preparation for the launch of the Aon OnePlan. A number of changes and refinements were made to ensure the Trustee was in a position to effectively govern this benefit category from its launch.

### **Investments**

The Plan offers a variety of Retirement Pathway Fund strategies targeting drawdown, cash and annuity at retirement; and self-select funds covering a range of risk profiles and asset classes. As well as the Aon Managed Pathway Funds, members of the Aon OnePlan also have access to the Aon Core Retirement Pathway Funds, for those members that prefer a more passive approach to investing. The investment funds available have been designed, following advice from the Plan's investment adviser, with the specific needs of the Plan's members in mind.

- The structure of the Default Option suitably reflects how members are expected to access their funds at retirement. Prior to the launch of Aon OnePlan, the Trustee considered the needs of the incoming members and concluded that the Aon Managed Retirement Pathway Funds (which target drawdown) is an appropriate default for these members.
- The Trustee and its advisers have monitored performance closely and an investment strategy review is carried out triennially to assess suitability of the investments available to members. The last review had regard to the manner in which members take their benefits from the Plan and other criteria that may change how members access their savings in future.

#### **Administration**

- The Trustee is satisfied that the Plan administrators have sufficient checks in place to monitor and report on the standard of the administration service and to ensure that when administrative errors do occur, members are not disadvantaged as a result.
- In preparation for the launch of the Aon OnePlan, the Trustee and its advisers were involved with the development of the administration manual which sets out how the administrator will operate the benefit category. A Client Service manager, one for each of the Aon OnePlan and legacy section(s)/benefit categories, attends all ACSC meetings in order to provide enhanced transparency and support of the administration functions.
- Members have online access to their accounts and a member helpline is available. For legacy members the member experience is monitored through surveys that members are asked to complete after contacting the helpline, call statistics and complaint details. For Aon OnePlan members, the member experience is monitored through information reported on through the quarterly administration report.

### Retirement Support, Member communications and engagement

- The Plan provides communications that are accurate, clear, informative and timely. The Trustee believes the Plan's communications help members better understand their DC savings and take appropriate actions.
- The Plan makes use of a variety of communication media, including access to well-developed online tools and helpful information around retirement planning via the Plan's member website.
- The Trustee uses specialist communication experts and DC consultants to support with the development of member communications. The Trustee works with these advisers to create communication and engagement plans on an annual basis.
- Members can access help to support them in their decision making in the form of investment guides, plan booklets and pre-retirement support.
- Members have access to a retirement service, which provides practical information about the retirement options available, and specialists are on hand who can provide guidance or advice.
- The Plan provides members with a preferred Independent Financial Adviser (IFA), whereby the first round of advice is free for legacy members, and the cost is at a lower rate to market for Aon OnePlan members.

### Does the Plan deliver value for members?

The Trustee's assessment for the Plan year concluded that the costs and charges borne by Plan members are competitive in comparison to current market rates and represent good value for members relative to the benefits of membership as set out above.

# **APPENDIX A**

The table sets out the TCs for the underlying funds in the Retirement Pathway Funds to Drawdown, Annuity and Cash. The TER for each Retirement Pathway Fund and the blended TCs, reflecting the mix of the underlying funds at each age, is set out in the tables shown in section 3a and 3b of this statement. The TCs for the Core Retirement Pathway Funds to Drawdown, Annuity and Cash are also shown here for members of the Aon OnePlan.

### Aon OnePlan:

Fund name	TCs (% p.a.)
Aon Managed Initial Growth Phase Fund	0.06
Aon Managed Global Impact Fund	0.11
Aon Managed Diversified Asset Fund	0.00
Aon Managed Diversified Multi Strategy Bond Fund	0.38
Aon Managed Passive Corporate Bond Fund	0.00
Aon Short Term Inflation Linked Fund	0.04
Aon Managed Up to 5 Year UK Gilt Index Fund	0.08
Aon Managed Pre-Retirement Bond Fund	0.00
Aon Managed Liquidity Fund	0.01
Aon Managed Core Diversified Asset Fund	0.02
Aon Managed Core Initial Growth Phase Fund	0.05
Aon Managed Core Bond Phase Fund	0.19

# Other section(s)/benefit categories:

Fund name	TCs (% p.a.)
Aon Managed Initial Growth Phase Fund	0.06
Aon Managed Global Impact Fund	0.11
Aon Managed Diversified Asset Fund	0.00
Aon Managed Diversified Multi Strategy Bond Fund	0.38
Aon Managed Passive Corporate Bond Fund	0.00
Aon Short Term Inflation Linked Fund	0.04
Aon Managed Up to 5 Year UK Gilt Index Fund	0.08
Aon Managed Pre-Retirement Bond Fund	0.00
Aon Managed Liquidity Fund	0.01

# **APPENDIX B**

# Statement regarding cash pass through arrangement

This statement relates to the option for some legacy Plan members, at retirement, to use their savings in the ARP section of Aon's MasterTrust to fund a tax-free pension commencement lump sum ('PCLS') in the Plan.

This option is referred to as the 'Cash Pass-Through Arrangement' (the '**Arrangement'**). To the extent applicable, this statement complies with the Occupational Pension Schemes (Scheme Administration) Regulations 1996.

#### **Investments**

Under the Arrangement, a member's funds in the Aon MasterTrust are disinvested and transferred to the Plan's DC legacy section(s)/benefit categories as cash. This cash is then held in the Plan's DC legacy section(s)/benefit categories for a short period of time prior to being applied towards the member's PCLS.

Details regarding the investment options available to members prior to taking up the option (including the default arrangement, its DC SIP, any review of the DC SIP that has taken place, and the charges and transaction costs that apply) are set out in the Chair's Statement for the Aon MasterTrust.

# **Processing Financial Transactions**

The Trustee has a specific duty to ensure that core financial transactions (including the transfer of member assets into and out of the Plan, and payments to and in respect of members) are processed promptly and accurately. In order to ensure compliance the Trustee ensures that its administrator:

- Actions retirement elections promptly (including where members make an election under the Arrangement) and processes funds received from the Aon MasterTrust to secure a PCLS.
- Applies daily monitoring of bank accounts.

In the light of the above, the Trustee considers that core financial transactions in connection with the Arrangement were processed promptly and accurately during the Plan year.

#### **Charges and Value for Members**

There are no member-borne costs under the Arrangement. The Trustee confirms that defined contribution funds held in the Plan pursuant to the Arrangement are received and paid out within 5 days of the original request. During this time, the funds are held as cash in a bank account and do not decrease or increase in value.

The Trustee is aware of statutory guidance on member-borne charges and transaction costs and has taken it into account to the extent applicable for an arrangement of this nature.

The Trustee considers that the Arrangement provides a valuable option for members. It enables members to maximise the value of the tax-free PCLS they can take, whilst minimising the impact on their Plan pension by reducing the level of benefits that they need to commute.