## **Implementation Statement**

# **Inspirations Group Pension Scheme**

#### Scheme year ended 30 September 2023

This implementation statement has been produced by the trustee of the Inspirations Group Pension Scheme ("the Scheme") to set out the following information over the year to 30 September 2023:

- how the trustee's policies on exercising rights (including voting rights) and engagement activities have been followed over the year.
- the voting activity undertaken by the Scheme's investment managers on behalf of the trustee over the year, including information regarding the most significant votes; and

In 2022, the trustee transacted with Pension Insurance Corporation PLC ("PIC"), under which PIC assumed liability to pay the Scheme's benefits as set out in the bulk annuity purchase contract. As a result, the Scheme did not hold any assets where voting and engagement was applicable.

#### How voting and engagement/stewardship policies have been followed

The trustee's Statement of Investment Principles (SIP) in force at May 2022 describes the trustee's policy on the exercise of rights (including voting rights) and engagement activities. It was last reviewed in 2022 and has been made available online here:

https://www.opentrustees.com/?s=inspirations&post\_type=scheme-documents

The trustee decided not to set stewardship priorities for the Scheme because the Scheme invests entirely in bulk annuity policies, and as such delegates responsibility for carrying out voting and engagement activities to PIC as the Scheme's insurer. There is limited scope for the consideration of ESG issues over any period from a financial materiality perspective given the investment is illiquid and its objective is to exactly match member experience.

Having reviewed the above in accordance with their policies, the trustee is comfortable the actions of the insurer was in alignment with the Scheme's stewardship policies.

### Voting and engagement

The annuity policies held by the Scheme with PIC, have no voting rights attached and limited ability to engage with key stakeholders given the nature of the mandate.

At a firm level PIC have their own stewardship policy which sets out their approach to stewardship within their investment portfolio. There is limited scope for the trustee to report on their process but their policies are available here:

https://www.pensioncorporation.com/about-us/corporate-governance/stewardship-policy

Prepared by Open Trustees Limited; acting as sole trustee of the Inspirations Group Pension Scheme

September 2023