



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LAPFF DEMANDS EXXON TAKES ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Petroleum company under pressure to act in line with Paris Agreement

The Local Authority Pension Fund Forum (LAPFF) is calling on members to oppose the re-election of the entire Exxon Board. This in response to the company blocking a proposal by investors involved in Climate Action 100+ (CA100+) asking Exxon to align operations and investments with the Paris climate agreement.

LAPFF is in the CA100+ Exxon collaborating investor group, has engaged over many years with the company and issued voting alerts on climate-related resolutions at Exxon since 2008.

LAPFF has also recommended members support three shareholder resolutions:

1. Appoint an independent chair. Shareholders are best served by a separate independent Board Chair who provides a balance of power between the CEO and the Board.
2. Report on risks of Gulf Coast Petrochemical Investments. Investors are concerned about the range of risks from operating and building in Gulf Coast locations increasingly prone to catastrophic storms and flooding associated with climate change.
3. Report on Lobbying. Concerns have been raised that the company's lack of lobbying disclosure presents reputational risks The ExxonMobil AGM takes place on 27 May 2020.

Cllr Doug McMurdo, Chair of the Local Authority Pension Fund Forum, said: “ExxonMobil’s ongoing resistance to supporting the Paris Agreement on climate change is unacceptable. We expect the boards of companies in which we invest to take investor concerns over climate seriously.”

The Church Commissioners for England and the New York State Common Retirement Fund, as joint-leads for the CA100+ engagement, are also calling for investors to take a strong voting stance on director elections and to vote for the proposals for and independent chair and on lobbying.



ENDS>

Date 26 May 2020

For further information:

Tessa Younger
PIRC Ltd, (research and engagement partner to LAPFF)
Tel: 07507 844561 Email: Tessa.Younger@pirc.co.uk

About the Local Authority Pension Fund Forum: The Local Authority Pension Fund Forum (LAPFF) is a voluntary association of 82 public sector pension funds and six pools based in the UK with combined assets of approximately £300 billion. It exists to 'promote the long-term investment interests of local authority pension funds, and to maximise their influence as shareholders to promote corporate responsibility and high standards of corporate governance amongst the companies in which they invest.' www.lapfforum.org. PIRC is the Research and Engagement partner to the Forum.