

**COUNCIL
2 OCTOBER 2025**

PUBLIC DOCUMENT

TITLE OF REPORT: NOTICE OF MOTIONS

The following Motion has been submitted, due notice of which has been given in accordance with Standing Order 4.8.12.

Motion on the Local Government Pension Scheme and Responsible Investment

North Hertfordshire District Council (NHDC) and its staff contribute toward the Hertfordshire Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) which is managed through Hertfordshire County Council's Pension Committee (HPC). The overwhelming majority of past and present NHDC staff are scheme members.

The Hertfordshire LGPS directly, or indirectly via the ACCESS pool, holds and therefore benefits from shareholdings or funds that have underlying shareholdings, in companies that profit from conflict through the manufacturing of weaponry, and military technology, and are alleged to be used in atrocities internationally today.

It also invests in various corporate entities which according to an International Court of Justice (ICJ) ruling and subsequent United Nations opinion, are associated with human rights violations and international crimes.

It has been calculated that just under £100 million of the £6 billion pension fund is invested in these companies.

Residents expect councils to invest public funds in ways that are ethical, responsible and transparent.

This motion requests that HPC withdraw any links - through these investments - to supporting war, weapons manufacturing, military technology, or any other business activities that breach international law.

Therefore, Council resolves to:

- 1. Instruct the Leader of the Council to write formally to the Pensions Committee of Hertfordshire County Council to:**

Express our concerns above, and request that under its fiduciary duty, it takes action to divest from all pension fund investments in companies that profit from the manufacture of weapons and military technology used contrary to international law, and from any companies found to be profiting from business activity which is illegal under international law.

Request the Hertfordshire Pension Fund to apply Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) standards to not just directly held managed funds but also pension fund assets pooled with ACCESS.

Request that the Hertfordshire Pension Committee will regularly disclose details of all holdings (including directly managed and those pooled with ACCESS) annually for the public to see that the fund is complying with International Law.

- 2. Further instruct that at the next scheduled review of North Hertfordshire District Council's own Investment Strategy, the review specifically considers how to align with the above investment principles.**

Proposer: Councillor Dave Winstanley

Seconder: Councillor Daniel Wright-Mason