

Questions from the public.

SYPA Authority Meeting 14/03/2024

Sean Ashton (on behalf of South Yorkshire Fossil Free)

In a recent announcement, Wiltshire Pension Fund has officially declared its plan to divest from fossil fuels by 2030 (<https://www.wiltshirepensionfund.org.uk/plan-for-fossil-fuel-divestment>). This is a very welcome statement from an LGPS fund showing a clear intent to remove some of the most carbon-intensive and intransigent companies from its investments.

We acknowledge that it is not immediately straightforward to divest from fossil fuels given the constraints of pooling. However, within a six year timeframe it is not impossible. A similar statement by this Committee would add weight to South Yorkshire Pension Authority's plan to be net zero by 2030 and give added incentive for the Border to Coast Pension Partnership to provide investment vehicles to facilitate removing fossil fuel companies from your portfolio. We would like to know whether the Councillors on this Committee will show the leadership needed to make a similar statement and if not, why not?