

Avon Pension Fund must respond to the climate crisis we find ourselves in, and divest from fossil fuel companies over the next 5 years. I welcome the Fund moving more of its equity to be invested in the Brunel Pensions Partnership's low carbon fund. This is a recognition of the threat climate change poses not just to the Fund's investments, but to people and the planet.

The Fund must therefore recognise that its' holdings in oil and gas companies have helped to create the climate emergency we find ourselves in. Engagement with the fossil fuel companies it is invested in, is no longer an acceptable option in the circumstances we now face.

As a young member of the Avon Pension Fund, I am increasingly worried about the world in which I will retire into. To use my money to actively support an industry which threatens my very future is unacceptable.

Other members of the Fund I speak to are also unhappy the money for our retirement is going towards industries which undermine the planet in which we will retire into. I ask the Pension Fund to listen to its members, and divest its investments currently held in fossil fuel companies. This is an opportunity for the Fund to take bold steps in ensuring it is part of the solution to the climate emergency, and not part of the problem.

Matt Soames
Member of Avon Pension Fund