

## FairPensions' Climate Change Questionnaire 2009

Name of Firm: **Sarasin & Partners LLP**

Assets Under Management: £6.7 billion as at 31 March 2009

### Section A: Assessment of climate change as an investment issue

1. In your business, how important is climate change as a factor in investment research, decision making and engagement activities with companies?

- a) Very unimportant
- b) Unimportant
- c) Important
- d) Very important

2. With regard to question 1, and compared to 2007, has climate change become:

- a) Less important
- b) Unchanged from 2007
- c) More important

3. As a fund manager, which of these factors do you see as a barrier to incorporation of climate change risks/opportunities into investment analysis and decision making?  
(please mark any that apply in priority order with 1 as the most significant barrier)

a) lack of demand from clients	
b) low current carbon price / difficulties in determining material financial impact	
c) lack of regulatory requirements for investee companies	2
d) poor quality data on GHG emissions disclosed by firms	1
e) lack of regulatory requirements for investors	
f) other - please specify	

Please comment on barriers to integrating climate change into investment analysis and decision making:

The barriers are societal not investment driven. Behaviour is driven by immediate threats and not by distant, unquantified risks.

4. As a business, would you welcome regulatory requirements on investee companies to report GHG emissions?

- a) Yes
- b) No

5. As a business, would you welcome regulatory requirements on investee companies to reduce GHG emissions?

- a) Yes
- b) No

**6. Do you (directly or through any collaborative initiatives) engage with government regarding regulation for companies and investors concerning GHG emission measurement, reporting and reduction responsibilities?**

a) Yes

Please specify if via membership of any collaborative initiatives:

b) No

Please comment on your firm's stance on the regulatory framework for companies:

**7. As a business, would you welcome stock exchange listing rules which require companies to disclose on a comparable basis climate change related risks?**

a) Yes

b) No

Please comment on the relevance of listing requirements to achieving useful disclosure?

Regulation should be a light touch.

## **Section B: Use of climate change data**

**1. Does your firm request climate change related information (including data on emissions) from investee companies?**

a) In no sectors

b) In a minority of sectors you invest in

c) In a majority of sectors you invest in

d) In all sectors

Please comment on which sectors and why:

Our Sustainable Process takes account of detailed environmental and social factors for most major global equities considered in the research process.

**2. As a business, do you factor climate change related risks and opportunities into analysis and investment decisions?**

a) In no sectors

b) In a minority of sectors you invest in

c) In a majority of sectors you invest in

d) In all sectors

Please comment on which sectors and why:

**3. Are you currently making use of climate change related data provided by companies (including data on emissions) in investment decision making?**

a) In no companies

b) In a minority of companies where data is available

c) In a majority of companies where data is available

d) In all companies where data is available

Please comment on your use of climate change information from investee companies:

4. In the last 2 years, have climate change related factors affected investment allocations at your firm (n.b. excluding specialist SRI / Environmentally focused funds)?

- a) In no sectors
- b) In a minority of sectors you invest in
- c) In a majority of sectors you invest in
- d) In all sectors

Please comment on why climate change does or does not affect investment allocations:

The threats and costs vary in immediacy.

## Section C: Engagement on climate change issues

1. As a business, do you engage (via written or face-to-face communication) with investee companies to ensure that they address climate change related risks and opportunities effectively?

- a) with no companies
- b) with a minority of companies you invest in
- c) with a majority of companies you invest in
- d) with all companies you invest in

Please comment on why you engage or do not engage with companies to address climate change related risks/opportunities, and if relevant how you undertake engagement:

2. Where engagement occurs, which of the following do you seek to have in place at investee companies?

i) Named board member / senior executive responsible for addressing climate change risks/opportunities

- a) Yes
- b) No

ii) Company measures its GHG emissions and discloses to shareholders

- a) Yes
- b) No

iii) Company has an action plan with targets to reduce GHG emissions over a specified timetable

- a) Yes
- b) No

iv) Other - Please specify

Your questions are too narrowly focused on GHG emissions. We prefer to engage on a wider range on environmental issues.

Please comment on the purpose of climate change related engagement with companies:

## Section D: Reporting

1. As a business, do you report on action taken (including engagement with companies) to reduce portfolio risks and enhance opportunities arising from climate change?

- a) no reporting
- b) to clients who request it
- c) to all clients
- d) publicly on a website

Please comment on your policy for reporting action to reduce climate change risk and enhance opportunity:

We applaud all efforts to encourage action to address climate change. However, we are wary of a tick-box approach that creates a compliance culture rather than addressing underlying issues.

**Please return the completed questionnaire by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2009 to:**

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