

Clwyd Pension Fund
Monitoring Report
Quarter to
30 September 2021

Nick Buckland

November 2021



## **Important Notices**

References to Mercer shall be construed to include Mercer LLC and/or its associated companies.

© 2021 Mercer LLC. All rights reserved.

This contains confidential and proprietary information of Mercer and is intended for the exclusive use of the parties to whom it was provided by Mercer. Its content may not be modified, sold or otherwise provided, in whole or in part, to any other person or entity, without Mercer's prior written permission.

The findings, ratings and/or opinions expressed herein are the intellectual property of Mercer and are subject to change without notice. They are not intended to convey any guarantees as to the future performance of the investment products, asset classes or capital markets discussed. Past performance does not guarantee future results. Mercer's ratings do not constitute individualised investment advice.

Information contained herein has been obtained from a range of third party sources. While the information is believed to be reliable, Mercer has not sought to verify it independently. As such, Mercer makes no representations or warranties as to the accuracy of the information presented and takes no responsibility or liability (including for indirect, consequential or incidental damages), for any error, omission or inaccuracy in the data supplied by any third party.

This does not contain regulated investment advice in respect of actions you should take. No investment decision should be made based on this information without obtaining prior specific, professional advice relating to your own circumstances.

This does not constitute an offer or a solicitation of an offer to buy or sell securities, commodities and/or any other financial instruments or products or constitute a solicitation on behalf of any of the investment managers, their affiliates, products or strategies that Mercer may evaluate or recommend.

For the most recent approved ratings of an investment strategy, and a fuller explanation of their meanings, contact your Mercer representative.

For Mercer's conflict of interest disclosures, contact your Mercer representative or see www.mercer.com/conflictsofinterest.

Please also note:

- The value of investments can go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount you have invested. In addition investments denominated in a foreign currency will fluctuate with the value of the currency.
- The valuation of investments in property based portfolios, including forestry, is generally a matter of a valuer's opinion, rather than fact.
- When there is no (or limited) recognised or secondary market, for example, but not limited to property, hedge funds, private equity, infrastructure, forestry, swap and other derivative based funds or portfolios it may be difficult for you to obtain reliable information about the value of the investments or deal in the investments.
- Care should be taken when comparing private equity / infrastructure performance (which is generally a money-weighted performance) with quoted investment performance (which is generally a time-weighted performance). Direct comparisons are not always possible.

#### **Nick Buckland**

## Contents

| •   | Overview                   | 1  |
|-----|----------------------------|----|
| ííí | Strategy Monitoring        | 4  |
| K X | Investment Manager Summary | 7  |
| ISI | Appendix                   | 11 |

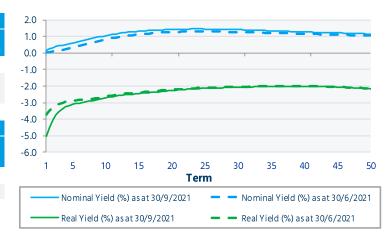
# **Overview**

## **Executive Dashboard**

| Page 5  | Asset Allocation              |                                  | Page 9  | Investment Performance  |                                  |
|---|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|---|----------------------------------|
| Assets are broadly in line with their strategic target weights.  Cash and Risk Management Framework remains slightly overweight (25.4%), but within range. Total Private Markets continues to be marginally underweight (24.2%), largely due to the underweight allocation to Infrastructure, which is outside the tolerance range, and an underweight allocation to Local/Impact and Private Credit. |                               |                                  | of 1.2%. Over the 1 yea<br>September 2021, the Fo | % over the quarter against a target<br>r and 3 year periods to 30<br>und returned 19.3% and 8.1% p.a.<br>% and 7.9% p.a., respectively. | Signal Previous Qtr  Current Qtr |
| <b>Asset Allocation</b> Within acceptable ranges. Plans are in place to bring Private Markets closer to target weights.   |                               |                                  |   | <b>mark</b><br>or performance is ahead of the strateg<br>nd future service liabilities targets.   | ic target and the                |
| Page 10   | Manager Research              |                                  | Additional Commen                                 | ts  |                                  |
| No significant new  | s to report over the quarter. | Signal Previous Qtr  Current Qtr |   | work with the Wales Pension Partners<br>merging Markets equity assets during  |                                  |

### **Market Conditions**

|                                      | Yields    | Yields at (%) |               | ange in Yields | (%)               |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Change in Yields                     | 30 Sep 21 | 30 Jun 21     | 3 Months      | 12 Months      | 3 Years           |
| Over 5 Year Index-Linked Gilts       | -2.21     | -2.16         | -0.05         | -0.03          | -0.72             |
| Over 15 Year Fixed Interest<br>Gilts | 1.33      | 1.18          | 0.15          | 0.62           | -0.52             |
| Over 10 Year Non-Gilts               | 2.43      | 2.25          | 0.17          | 0.25           | -0.83             |
|                                      | £1 is t   | worth         |               | £ Appreciation | n                 |
| Exchange Rates                       | 30 Sep 21 | 30 Jun 21     | 3 Months<br>% | 12 Months<br>% | 3 Years<br>% p.a. |
| US Dollar (\$)                       | 1.348     | 1.381         | -2.4          | 4.3            | 1.1               |
| Euro (€)                             | 1.163     | 1.165         | -0.1          | 5.5            | 1.2               |
| 100 Japanese Yen (¥)                 | 1.504     | 1.533         | -1.9          | 10.3           | 0.5               |





Source: Thomson Reuters DataStream. Returns are shown in Sterling if the investment is generally expected to be on a non-currency hedged basis. Where non-Sterling exposure is expected to be hedged, returns are shown in local currency terms. Local currency returns are an approximation of a currency hedged return. LC: Local Currency; HC: Hard Currency.

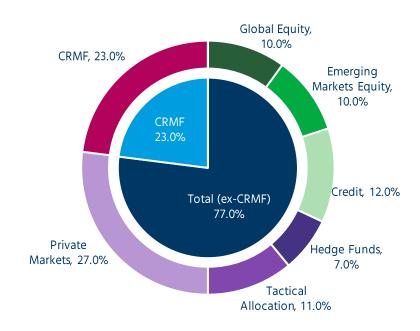
# **Strategy Monitoring**

### **Asset Allocation**

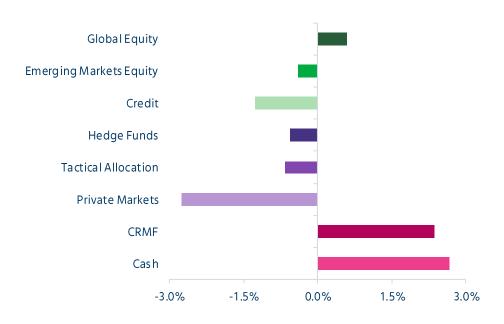
|                 | 30/06/2021<br>Market Value<br>(£M) | Net Cash Flow<br>(£M) | Investment<br>Growth/<br>Decline (£M) | 30/09/2021<br>Market Value<br>(£M) | 30/06/2021<br>Allocation<br>(%) | 30/09/2021<br>Allocation<br>(%) | 30/09/2021<br>B'mark<br>(%) | 30/09/2021<br>B'mark Range<br>(%) |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Total           | 2,326.4                            | -3.5                  | 59.7                                  | 2,382.6                            | 100.0                           | 100.0                           | 100.0                       |                                   |
| Total (ex-CRMF) | 1,685.5                            | -6.3                  | 35.7                                  | 1,714.9                            | 72.5                            | 72.0                            | 77.0                        |                                   |
| Total CRMF      | 580.2                              |                       | 24.0                                  | 604.2                              | 24.9                            | 25.4                            | 23.0                        | 10.0 - 35.0                       |
| Cash            | 60.7                               | 2.8                   |                                       | 63.5                               | 2.6                             | 2.7                             | 0.0                         | 0.0 - 5.0                         |

Source: Investment Managers and Mercer. Figures may not sum to total due to rounding.

### Benchmark Asset Allocation as at 30 September 2021



#### **Deviation from Benchmark Asset Allocation**



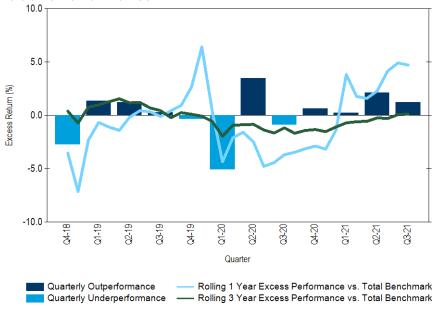
### **Investment Performance**

|  | 2021 Q3 (%) | 1 Yr (%) | 3 Yrs (%) |
|--|-------------|----------|-----------|
| Total  | 2.6         | 19.3     | 8.1       |
| Total Benchmark  | 1.2         | 14.3     | 7.9       |
| Strategic Target (CPI +3.4% p.a.)                                | 1.3         | 5.5      | 5.5       |
| Actuarial Target - Past Service Liabilities (CPI +1.75% p.a.)    | 0.9         | 3.8      | 3.8       |
| Actuarial Target - Future Service Liabilities (CPI + 2.25% p.a.) | 1.1         | 4.3      | 4.3       |

Figures shown are net of fees and based on performance provided by the Investment Managers, Mercer estimates and Thomson Reuters Datastream.

Strategic and Actuarial targets are derived from Mercer's Market Forecasting Group assumptions (based on conditions at 31 December 2019). Current 10-year CPI assumption: 2.1% p.a. For periods over one year the figures in the table above have been annualised.

#### **Relative Performance**



# **Investment Manager Summary**

## Manager Allocation

|   | Investment<br>Manager | 30/06/2021<br>Market Value<br>(£M) | Net Cash<br>Flow (£M) | Investment Growth/ Decline (£M) | 30/09/2021<br>Market Value<br>(£M) | 30/06/2021<br>Allocation<br>(%) | 30/09/2021<br>Allocation<br>(%) | 30/09/2021<br>B'mark<br>(%) | 30/09/2021<br>B'mark Range<br>(%) |
|---|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Total                                     |                       | 2,326.4                            | -3.5                  | 59.7                            | 2,382.6                            | 100.0                           | 100.0                           | 100.0                       |                                   |
| Total (ex-CRMF)                           |                       | 1,685.5                            | -6.3                  | 35.7                            | 1,714.9                            | 72.5                            | 72.0                            | 77.0                        |                                   |
| Total Equity                              |                       | 490.2                              |                       | -9.0                            | 481.2                              | 21.1                            | 20.2                            | 20.0                        | 10.0-30.0                         |
| Global Equity                             |                       | 247.2                              |                       | 5.4                             | 252.5                              | 10.6                            | 10.6                            | 10.0                        | 5.0-15.0                          |
| WPP Global Opportunities                  | Russell               | 124.5                              |                       | 0.5                             | 125.0                              | 5.4                             | 5.2                             | 5.0                         |                                   |
| World ESG Equity                          | BlackRock             | 122.6                              |                       | 4.9                             | 127.5                              | 5.3                             | 5.3                             | 5.0                         |                                   |
| Emerging Markets Equity                   |                       | 243.1                              |                       | -14.4                           | 228.7                              | 10.4                            | 9.6                             | 10.0                        | 5.0-15.0                          |
| Emerging Markets (Core)                   | Wellington            | 82.7                               |                       | -5.4                            | 77.3                               | 3.6                             | 3.2                             | 3.0                         |                                   |
| Emerging Markets (Local)                  | Wellington            | 73.8                               |                       | -4.0                            | 69.8                               | 3.2                             | 2.9                             | 3.0                         |                                   |
| Emerging Markets Equity                   | BlackRock             | 86.6                               |                       | -5.0                            | 81.5                               | 3.7                             | 3.4                             | 4.0                         |                                   |
| Total Credit                              |                       | 255.9                              |                       | 0.0                             | 255.9                              | 11.0                            | 10.7                            | 12.0                        | 10.0 - 14.0                       |
| WPP Multi-Asset Credit                    | Russell               | 255.9                              |                       | 0.0                             | 255.9                              | 11.0                            | 10.7                            | 12.0                        |                                   |
| Total Hedge Funds                         |                       | 151.9                              |                       | 1.6                             | 153.6                              | 6.5                             | 6.4                             | 7.0                         | 5.0-9.0                           |
| Hedge Funds                               | Man                   | 151.5                              |                       | 1.6                             | 153.1                              | 6.5                             | 6.4                             | 7.0                         | 5.0 - 9.0                         |
| Hedge Funds (Legacy)                      | Man                   | 0.4                                |                       | 0.0                             | 0.4                                | 0.0                             | 0.0                             |                             |                                   |
| Total Tactical Allocation                 |                       | 243.4                              |                       | 3.2                             | 246.6                              | 10.5                            | 10.4                            | 11.0                        | 9.0-13.0                          |
| Best Ideas                                | Various               | 243.4                              |                       | 3.2                             | 246.6                              | 10.5                            | 10.4                            | 11.0                        | 9.0 - 13.0                        |
| Total Private Markets                     |                       | 544.1                              | -6.3                  | 39.9                            | 577.7                              | 23.4                            | 24.2                            | 27.0                        | 15.0-37.0                         |
| Property                                  | Various               | 132.0                              | -0.6                  | 4.0                             | 135.5                              | 5.7                             | 5.7                             | 4.0                         | 2.0 - 6.0                         |
| Private Equity                            | Various               | 186.5                              | -6.2                  | 17.2                            | 197.4                              | 8.0                             | 8.3                             | 8.0                         | 6.0 - 10.0                        |
| Local / Impact                            | Various               | 55.5                               | 5.0                   | 6.5                             | 67.0                               | 2.4                             | 2.8                             | 4.0                         | 0.0 - 6.0                         |
| Infrastructure                            | Various               | 106.1                              | -1.6                  | 10.5                            | 115.0                              | 4.6                             | 4.8                             | 8.0                         | 6.0 - 10.0                        |
| Private Credit                            | Various               | 47.5                               | -2.1                  | 1.4                             | 46.8                               | 2.0                             | 2.0                             | 3.0                         | 1.0 - 5.0                         |
| Timber/ Agriculture                       | Various               | 16.5                               | -0.8                  | 0.3                             | 16.0                               | 0.7                             | 0.7                             |                             |                                   |
| Total CRMF                                |                       | 580.2                              |                       | 24.0                            | 604.2                              | 24.9                            | 25.4                            | 23.0                        | 10.0-35.0                         |
| Cash and Risk Management Framework (CRMF) | Insight               | 580.2                              |                       | 24.0                            | 604.2                              | 24.9                            | 25.4                            | 23.0                        | 10.0 - 35.0                       |
| Cash                                      |                       | 60.7                               | 2.8                   |                                 | 63.5                               | 2.6                             | 2.7                             | 0.0                         | 0.0-5.0                           |
| Cash                                      |                       | 60.7                               | 2.8                   |                                 | 63.5                               | 2.6                             | 2.7                             | 0.0                         | 0.0 - 5.0                         |

Source: Investment Managers and Mercer. Figures may not sum to total due to rounding. Net cashflows exclude the reinvestment of income.

Emerging Markets Core and Local valuations are converted from USD to GBP using closing price exchange rates. Hedged Funds (Legacy) valuation includes the Liongate portfolios.

## Manager Performance

|   | Investment<br>Manager | 2021 Q3 (%) | B'mark (%) | 1 Yr (%) | B'mark (%) | 3 Yrs (%) | B'mark (%) |
|---|-----------------------|-------------|------------|----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Total                                     |                       | 2.6         | 1.2        | 19.3     | 14.3       | 8.1       | 7.9        |
| Total Equity                              |                       | -1.8        | -1.4       | 18.8     | 19.6       | 9.2       | 10.7       |
| WPP Global Opportunities                  | Russell               | 0.6         | 1.9        | 24.3     | 24.6       |           |            |
| World ESG Equity                          | BlackRock             | 3.9         | 3.8        | 25.0     | 24.5       |           |            |
| Emerging Markets (Core)                   | Wellington            | -6.6        | -5.6       | 16.6     | 14.5       | 11.3      | 8.5        |
| Emerging Markets (Local)                  | Wellington            | -5.4        | -5.2       | 8.5      | 15.9       | 6.7       | 9.9        |
| Emerging Markets Equity                   | BlackRock             | -5.8        | -5.8       | 13.4     | 13.3       |           |            |
| Total Credit                              |                       | 0.1         | 1.0        | 8.1      | 3.9        | 2.5       | 2.6        |
| WPP Multi-Asset Credit                    | Russell               | 0.1         | 1.0        | 8.1      | 4.1        |           |            |
| Total Hedge Funds                         |                       | 1.1         | 0.9        | 8.3      | 3.6        | 1.6       | 4.0        |
| Hedge Funds                               | Man                   | 1.1         | 0.9        | 8.4      | 3.6        | 2.2       | 4.0        |
| Hedge Funds (Legacy)                      | Man                   | 2.5         | 0.9        | -6.2     | 3.6        | -36.4     | 4.0        |
| Total Tactical Allocation                 |                       | 1.7         | -0.2       | 19.3     | 5.3        | 7.2       | 4.5        |
| Best Ideas                                | Various               | 1.7         | -0.2       | 19.3     | 5.3        | 7.3       | 4.5        |
| Total Private Markets                     |                       | 7.4         | 1.8        | 18.6     | 6.5        | 8.8       | 5.2        |
| Property                                  | Various               | 3.1         | 4.6        | 8.2      | 13.4       | 5.1       | 4.3        |
| Private Equity                            | Various               | 9.3         | 1.2        | 30.6     | 5.1        | 14.4      | 5.5        |
| Local / Impact                            | Various               | 12.1        | 1.2        |          |            |           |            |
| Infrastructure                            | Various               | 9.9         | 1.2        | 8.2      | 5.1        | 5.3       | 5.5        |
| Private Credit                            | Various               | 2.9         | 1.8        | -0.6     | 7.5        | 2.6       | 7.5        |
| Timber/ Agriculture                       | Various               | 2.2         | 1.2        | 3.4      | 5.1        | 0.4       | 5.5        |
| Total CRMF                                |                       | 4.1         | 4.1        | 34.2     | 34.2       | 13.2      | 13.2       |
| Cash and Risk Management Framework (CRMF) | Insight               | 4.1         | 4.1        | 34.2     | 34.2       | 13.2      | 13.2       |

Figures shown are net of fees and based on performance provided by the Investment Managers, Mercer estimates and Thomson Reuters Datastream. For periods over one year the figures in the table above have been annualised.

Prior to 30 September 2020, performance for all portfolios and sub-totals/total was estimated based on MWRR approach.

Performance benchmark for WPP Global Opportunities and Wellington Emerging Markets portfolios include an outperformance target.

Performance for hedge funds, best ideas and private markets portfolios has been estimated by Mercer.

Private Credit benchmark was revised to Absolute Return 7.5% p.a. in Q4 2020 and for all preceding periods.

# Manager Ratings

| Investment Manager | Asset Class                               | 12m Perf | 3yr Perf    |
|--------------------|---|----------|-------------|
| Russell            | WPP Global Opportunities                  | •        | <del></del> |
| BlackRock          | World ESG Equity                          | •        |             |
| Wellington         | Emerging Markets (Core)                   | •        | •           |
| Wellington         | Emerging Markets (Local)                  | •        |             |
| BlackRock          | <b>Emerging Markets Equity</b>            | •        |             |
| Russell            | WPP Multi-Asset Credit                    | •        |             |
| Man                | Hedge Funds                               | •        | •           |
| Various            | Property                                  | •        |             |
| Various            | Private Equity                            | •        |             |
| Various            | Local / Impact                            |          |             |
| Various            | Infrastructure                            | •        | •           |
| Various            | Private Credit                            | •        | •           |
| Various            | Timber/ Agriculture                       |          | •           |
| Insight            | Cash and Risk Management Framework (CRMF) | •        | •           |

|                          | Active Funds, Target Specified                   | Active Funds , Target Not Specified | Passive Funds           |
|--------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Meets criteria           | Target or above performance                      | Benchmark or above performance      | Within tolerance range  |
| Partially meets criteria | Benchmark or above performance, but below target |                                     |                         |
| Does not meet criteria   | Below benchmark performance                      | Below benchmark performance         | Outside tolerance range |
| Not applicable           |  |                                     |                         |

# Appendix

# Appendix A

#### **Benchmarks**

| Name   | Investment Manager | B'mark (%) | Performance Benchmark                                 |
|--|--------------------|------------|---|
| otal   | ·                  | 100.0      | -   |
| Total (ex-CRMF)                              |                    | 77.0       | -   |
| Total Equity                                 |                    | 20.0       | Composite Weighted Index                              |
| WPP Global Opportunities                     | Russell            | 5.0        | MSCI AC World (NDR) Index +2.0% p.a.                  |
| World ESG Equity                             | BlackRock          | 5.0        | MSCI World ESG Focus Low Carbon Screened Midday Index |
| Emerging Markets (Core)                      | Wellington         | 3.0        | MSCI Emerging Markets Index +1.0% p.a.                |
| Emerging Markets (Local)                     | Wellington         | 3.0        | MSCI Emerging Markets Index +2.0% p.a.                |
| Emerging Markets Equity                      | BlackRock          | 4.0        | MSCI Emerging Markets Index                           |
| Total Credit                                 |                    | 12.0       | Composite Weighted Index                              |
| WPP Multi-Asset Credit                       | Russell            | 12.0       | 3 Month LIBOR Index +4.0% p.a.                        |
| Total Hedge Funds                            |                    | 7.0        | 3 Month LIBOR Index +3.5% p.a.                        |
| Hedge Funds                                  | Man                | 7.0        | 3 Month LIBOR Index +3.5% p.a.                        |
| Hedge Funds (Legacy)                         | Man                |            | 3 Month LIBOR Index +3.5% p.a.                        |
| Total Tactical Allocation                    |                    | 11.0       | UK Consumer Price Index +3.0% p.a.                    |
| Best Ideas                                   | Various            | 11.0       | UK Consumer Price Index +3.0% p.a.                    |
| Total Private Markets                        |                    | 27.0       | Composite Weighted Index                              |
| Property                                     | Various            | 4.0        | MSCI UK Monthly Property Index                        |
| Private Equity                               | Various            | 8.0        | 3 Month Sterling LIBOR +5.0% p.a.                     |
| Local / Impact                               | Various            | 4.0        | 3 Month Sterling LIBOR +5.0% p.a.                     |
| Infrastructure                               | Various            | 8.0        | 3 Month Sterling LIBOR +5.0% p.a.                     |
| Private Credit                               | Various            | 3.0        | Absolute Return Composite Weighted Index              |
| Timber/ Agriculture                          | Various            |            | 3 Month Sterling LIBOR +5.0% p.a.                     |
| Total CRMF                                   |                    | 23.0       | Composite Liabilities & Synthetic Equity              |
| Cash and Risk Management<br>Framework (CRMF) | Insight            | 23.0       | Composite Liabilities & Synthetic Equity              |

Figures may not sum to total due to rounding.

Performance benchmark for WPP Global Opportunities and Wellington Emerging Markets portfolios include an outperformance target.

Private Credit benchmark was revised to Absolute Return 7.5% p.a. in Q4 2020 and for all preceding periods.

Cash & Risk Management Framework benchmark is assumed equal to fund performance for calculation purposes.



Mercer Limited 1 Tower Place West London EC3R5BU www.mercer.com

Mercer Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority Registered in England No. 984275 Registered Office: 1 Tower Place West, London EC3R5BU