

Investment Policy

Issue 2. February 2025



The Margaret Adcock Foundation

Registered Charity Number 1205889
135 Foss Road, Hilton, Derbyshire, DE65 5BJ.

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The Margaret Adcock Foundation is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by a Constitution which established the objects and powers of the charity. The Foundation entered the Register of Charities on 24th November 2023 with Registered Charity Number 1205889.

Investment Policy

1. Purpose

This Investment Policy provides a framework for managing the investments of The Margaret Adcock Foundation. It aims to ensure that funds are invested responsibly and in alignment with the charity's objectives, while safeguarding assets and securing financial stability.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All investments made by The Margaret Adcock Foundation, including cash reserves, endowments, and other funds not required for immediate operational needs.
- Trustees, staff, or third-party advisers involved in the management of investments.

3. Investment Objectives

The primary objectives of this policy are to:

1. Preserve the charity's capital to ensure the long-term sustainability of its mission.
2. Generate a reasonable return on investments to support charitable activities.
3. Invest responsibly in alignment with the charity's values and ethical considerations.

4. Legal and Regulatory Context

The Margaret Adcock Foundation will manage its investments in accordance with:

- The Charities Act 2011, including Trustees' duties to act prudently and in the best interests of the charity.
- Guidance from the Charity Commission (e.g., "CC14: Charities and Investment Matters").
- Other relevant laws and regulations.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

5.1 Trustees

The Board of Trustees holds ultimate responsibility for managing the charity's investments. Trustees will:

- Set and regularly review the investment strategy.
- Monitor investment performance.
- Ensure compliance with legal and ethical standards.

5.2 Investment Committee (if applicable)

The Trustees may delegate specific responsibilities to an Investment Committee, which will:

- Provide recommendations on investment decisions.

- Liaise with external investment managers or advisers.

5.3 External Advisers

Where appropriate, the charity may engage professional investment advisers. Advisers must:

- Be regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).
- Act in the charity's best interests.

6. Investment Strategy

6.1 Risk Management

- The charity will adopt a cautious and balanced approach to risk, prioritizing capital preservation while seeking reasonable returns.
- Investments will be diversified to reduce risk exposure.

6.2 Ethical Considerations

Investments must align with the charity's mission and values. The charity will avoid investments in:

- Industries or companies that conflict with its objectives (e.g., tobacco, arms, gambling, or fossil fuels, if relevant).
- Activities that could harm the charity's reputation or beneficiaries.

6.3 Liquidity

The charity will maintain sufficient liquidity to meet operational needs and unforeseen expenses. At least 90% of reserves will be held in low-risk, accessible assets.

6.4 Types of Investments

Acceptable investment types include:

- Cash deposits.
- Government bonds or gilts.
- Ethical or socially responsible investment funds.
- Equities or property, subject to ethical screening and risk assessment.
- Unacceptable investments include high-risk financial products such as speculative derivatives or non-regulated assets.

7. Monitoring and Reporting

- Performance Review: Investment performance will be reviewed at least quarterly, with reference to benchmarks set by the Trustees.
- Reporting: The Investment Committee (or external adviser) will provide regular reports to the Trustees, including:
 - Performance against benchmarks.
 - Compliance with ethical guidelines.
 - Risks and any recommended adjustments to the strategy.

8. Reserves and Surplus Management

The charity's reserves policy will guide decisions about funds available for investment. Reserves required for immediate operational needs will not be subject to this policy but managed as cash holdings.

9. Conflicts of Interest

Trustees and staff must declare any conflicts of interest related to investments, in line with the charity's Conflict of Interest Policy. Decisions must be made solely in the best interests of the charity.

10. Review and Updates

This Investment Policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if there are significant changes in:

- The charity's financial situation.
- Legal or regulatory requirements.
- Market conditions.

Approval and Acknowledgment

This policy has been approved by the Board of Trustees. All investment decisions must adhere to its principles and procedures.

Approved By:

- Chair of Trustees: D. Adcock _____
- Date: February 2025 _____

Policy Review Date:

- Next Review: November 2025 _____