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#### Appendix A

## Leicestershire Pension Committee LGPS CENTRAL LIMITED – PRIVATE MARKETS UPDATE





10 June 2022

## Agenda



#### **Private Markets Update**

- Private Markets Overview
- Infrastructure
- Private Equity
- Private Debt
- ESG within Private Markets

# Private Markets Overview Portfolio Overviews

### **Platform Overview**



#### Commitments as at 30 April 2022

	PE 2	018		Infrastr	ucture			Cree	dit		PE 2	021	
	Primary	Co-inv	Core	VA	Co-inv	Single	Inflation	Real	Lower	Higher	Primary	Co-inv	Total
Local Authority 1	20	2	80	10		40	340		170		50	10	722
Local Authority 2									50				50
Leicestershire	10		70						100	60	30		270
Local Authority 4	10	5	115	45		20					45	20	260
Local Authority 5			59	7					120		30		216
Local Authority 6	10		60			60			45	45	40		260
Local Authority 7	100	100					180		540	200	125	100	1,345
Local Authority 8													0
Total	150	107	384	62	0	120	520	0	1,025	305	320	130	3,123
Vintage		257				566				1,850		450	

Source: LGPS Central Limited

- Three asset classes, 12 sleeves 39 separate Partner Fund commitments
- 25 investments to date, c.35 by year end
- Significant commitments pending for real assets credit and infrastructure
- Direct property live in late summer and Indirect by year end

# **Funds Overview**

Launched

Private Equity Funds

 Called (31/12/21)
 Net IRR (31/12/21)
 Investments to date

			(31/03/22)	(31/12/21)	(31/12/21)	
Primary 2018	Jan 2019	£150m	100%	54%	31.5%	5 investments
Co-Investments 2018	Jan 2019	£107m	100%	92%	48%	5 investment
Primary 2021	Sept 2021	£320m	33%	0%	n.m.	3 investments
Co-Investments 2021	Sept 2021	£130m	28%	28%	n.m.	2 investments

Sub-committed

Commitments (31/03/22)

Infrastructure Funds	Launched	Commitments (31/03/22)	Sub-committed (31/03/22)	Called (31/12/21)	Net IRR	Investments to date
Core/Core Plus	April 2021	£383.5m	67%	14%	n.m.	3 investments
Value Add/Opportunistic	April 2021	£61.5m	34%	6.6%	n.m.	1 investment
Single Asset	Feb 2022	£120m	100%	0%	7.3% (6.6% cash yield)	1 investment
Co-Investment	Feb 2022	Commitments due later in 2022	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Private Credit	Launched	Commitments (31/03/22)	Sub-committed (31/03/22)	Called (31/12/21)	Net IRR	Investments to date
Private Credit Stable Returns (CP III)	Launched July 2021				Net IRR n.m.	Investments to date n/a
		Commitments (31/03/22)	(31/03/22)	(31/12/21)		
Stable Returns (CP III)	July 2021 First close due later in	<b>Commitments (31/03/22)</b> £440m	<b>(31/03/22)</b> 0%	<b>(31/12/21)</b> n/a	n.m.	n/a



# Private Equity Portfolio Overview

# **Market Outlook – Private Equity**



Asset class continues to deliver strong relative returns

- Investor appetite for PE remains high, but allocation  $\checkmark$ constraints due in part to the 'denominator' effect are beginning to bite
- 2021 was another strong year for PE with its second- $\checkmark$ best ever fundraising year
- 2021 also broke the \$1bn average deal size for the  $\checkmark$ first time ever
- Increasing sector & sub-sector specialisation  $\checkmark$
- Less reliance on leverage to generate returns  $\checkmark$

- Pricing remain high but deal activity continues to be X robust - increased inflation and rising interest rates could see deal volumes drop
- Supply chain issues and staffing shortages could X further impact new investment activity as well as current investments
- Record \$3.4tn of unspent capital remains (largely X at upper end of the market &  $\sim$ 2.5 years deployment)
- Deal activity amongst GPs is increasing with mergers, X public listings and acquisitions all ticking up – expect further activity in this space
- Pace of fund-raising and level of fund sizes is a concern X

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# **Future PE Vintages**

#### Larger vintages, raised less often?

- Current arrangements:
  - 18 month fundraising cycle
  - 18 month investment period
  - 8-9 primary investments
- Annual allocations frequently outside 18 month cycle
- Short investment period creates pressure and means best managers may be missed
- Size makes cost negotiations challenging
- Frequent cycles increases number of commitments
- A three year cycle (with three years of allocations) would achieve appropriate scale, reduce fund raising work, reduce number of commitments and provide more flexibility

# Impact for LPF:

- Larger commitments
- Fewer number of investments
- Greater visibility on fund construction
- Development of underlying investments

# Infrastructure Funds Portfolio Overview

# **Market Outlook – Infrastructure**



- Infrastructure investments viewed as important for economic recovery
- Current inflationary environment and low interest rates have created heightened interest
- Thematic shift towards assets with 'infrastructure characteristics'
- Demand for digital infrastructure i.e. datacentres, fibre and broadband
- Energy transition is growing fast including renewables, EV charging and energy storage

- Transport and logistics still recovering from covid and supply chain disruption
- Trend towards fewer but larger funds. However managers are attempting to be more investor friendly with lower management fee rates and fairer performance fee structures

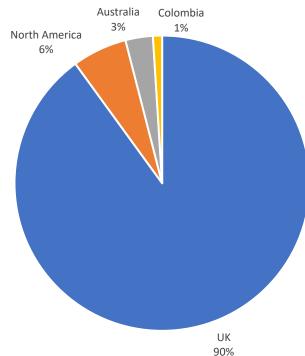
# **Core/Core Plus Exposures (31/12/21)**

Sector Social Infrastructure Renewable 16% Power 22% Transport 27% Environmental

Services

25%

Geography



Source: Core/Core Plus Quarterly Report (31/12/21)

Fibre Networks

2%

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Smart Metres

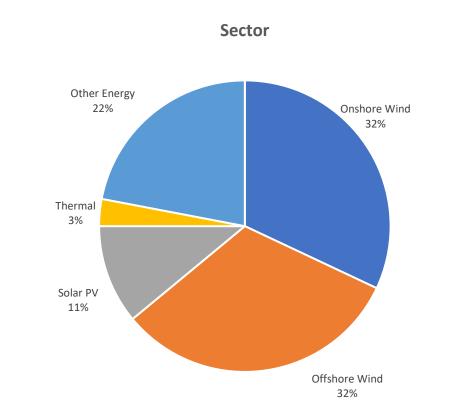
4%

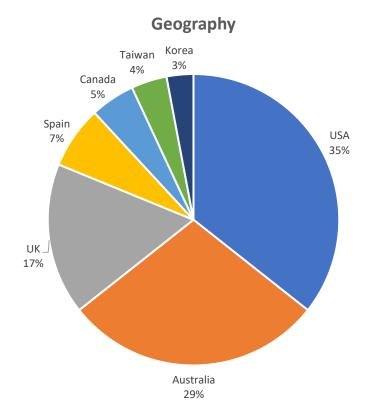
Utilities

4%

# Value Add/Opportunistic Exposures (31/12/21)









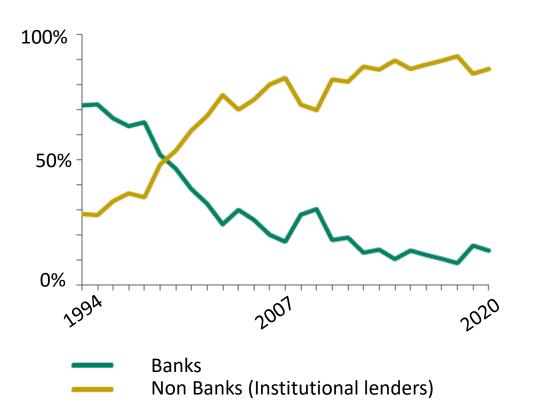
# **Future Plans**

- Two more commitments into the Core/Core Plus fund in June 2022 (1 x European fund, 1 x UK solar fund)
- Investment into the UK Solar fund could potentially qualify for levelling up and/or net zero agendas
- Top up of existing commitments
- Next commitment into Value Add/Opportunistic Fund (1 x global fund) in May 2022
- Continue to source and diligence investments for the Core/Core Plus and Value Add/Opportunistic sleeves to achieve targeted parameters
- Work with Partner Funds if new products are required





## **Market Outlook – Private Debt**



- ✓ Investor demand remains strong
- ✓ Record fundraising in 2021, market now at \$1.2tn
- Graph illustrates US market retrenchment of traditional bank lending.
- Switch in Europe less prominent but follows the same trend
- Non Banks active across senior acquisition finance market and credit opportunities

# **Market Outlook – Private Debt**

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#### **Higher Return**

- The current market environment remains favourable for opportunistic funds, and as volatility continues, the opportunities to deploy capital should broaden
- Credit opportunity funds focus on relatively short lends, 3-5 years, applied to viable companies that nevertheless cannot access traditional capital markets through either market dislocation or company specific drivers
- Complexity premiums drive returns. Equity upside in the form of warrants and options
- ✓ Floating rate structures aid achievement of returns

- Lending by traditional banks to middle market companies continues to retrench, accelerated by volatility
- × In-house credit teams taking a 'risk off' approach.
- × Dislocation tending to correct more quickly potentially reducing for landscape for credit strategy funds
- Manager selection narrowed by use of leverage at fund level

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#### **Lower Return**

- Lower return funds dominated by direct lenders providing debt to sponsor backed (e.g. private equity) companies
- The current market environment remains favourable as strong US economic tailwinds remain, and record levels of private equity dry powder bode well for future investment and portfolio performance.
- Investors looking for yield still see private debt as an attractive asset class

- × On the downside, higher interest rates, supply chain issues and inflationary pressures serve to reduce lending viability of borrowers
- Higher energy costs puts European companies at a competitive disadvantage
- Default rates currently at record lows of 0.7% to trend towards long term average of 2.5%

# **Future Plans**



- ✓ Greater cross pool co-operation scale and non-scale benefits
- ✓ Leverage enhancing returns at fund level by investing in modestly levered managers
- ✓ Broaden the types of investable strategies e.g. secondaries for rapid diversification and deployment
- ✓ Open vs close-ended

# ESG within Private Markets Update

# **RI&E Integration in Private Markets**

**RIIS OVERVIEW** 

RI Beliefs	<ul> <li>Private Markets are an area in which investors can take exposure to businesses that are directly exploiting sustainable trends.</li> <li>ESG integration leads to better outcomes.</li> </ul>
Selection	<ul> <li>5-pillar framework: Policy, People, Process, Performance, Transparency &amp; Collaboration</li> <li>GRESB framework</li> </ul>
Stewardship	<ul> <li>RI monitoring of funds and co-investments undertaken as part of the regular monitoring process, or more frequently where risks are flagged</li> </ul>
Transp. & Discl.	<ul> <li>RI included in regular reporting internally (to Quarterly Review Committee)</li> <li>External reporting (to partner funds) to be provided annually</li> </ul>

# **Climate Risk Management in Private Markets**

#### METHODOLOGIES

#### **Net Zero Zeal Tool**

- Net Zero rating that follows 6 consecutive tests.
- Measures Net Zero alignments, which is reliant on a firm having a website and publicly available information.

#### **Scenario Analysis**

Climate Scenario Analysis to examine the return implications across different temperature scenarios. Includes 1.5°C



### **ESG Data Convergence Project**

# **Carbon Footprinting in Private Markets**



Private Equity	<ul> <li>ESG Data Convergence Project – first round of data received for 2020</li> <li>ESG Data Tool procurement – August completion</li> <li>Co-Investment data collection – August completion</li> </ul>
Private Credit	<ul> <li>To be included in the ESG Data Convergence Project in future years</li> </ul>
Infrastructure	<ul> <li>Expectation set at the due diligence stage</li> </ul>
Benchmarking	Estimation Annual Requests

# Appendices



## **PE Primary Partnership 2018 LP**

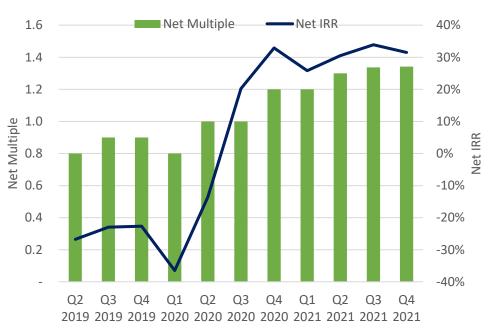
#### **Continued steady performance**

**Investment Performance** 

	Performance Since Inception	Target Since Inception	Relative vs Target	Gros MOIC	Gross IRR				
LGPS Central PE Primary Partnership 2018 LP	31.5%	20.2%	+11.3%	1.3x	32.5%				

#### Portfolio

	Commitment	Underlying Companies	Capital Called	Gross MOIC	Gross IRR
Asia Fund VII	£30.5m	21	89%	1.6x	41.5%
USA Fund VIII	£26.0m	9	29%	1.4x	54.4%
European Fund V	£31.7m	12	55%	1.3x	20.4%
Global (US HQ ) Fund VIII	£31.6m	19	27%	1.3x	62.6%
Global (EU HQ) Fund VII	£30.6m	15	69%	1.2x	17.1%
	£150.3m	76	54%	1.3x	32.5%



- Investment period for three funds have ended for management fees
- Capital called to date is now 59.9%
- Distributions now stand at 21.8% of paid-in capital

### **PE Co-Investments Partnership 2018 LP**

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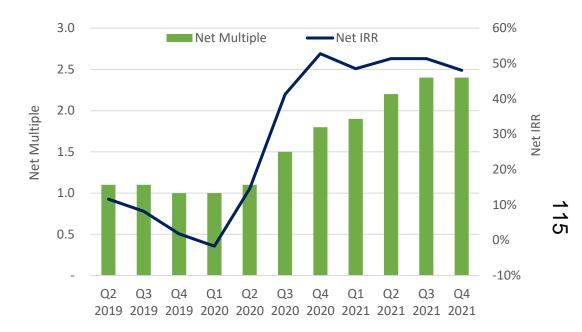
#### **Continuing strong performance**

#### **Investment Performance**

Fund	Performance Since Inception	Target Since Inception	Relative vs Target	Gross MOIC	Gross IRR
LGPS Central PE Co- Investments Partnership 2018 LP	48.1%	18.9%	+29.2%	2.4x	48.4%

#### Portfolio

Fund	Geography	Sector	Commitment	Gross MOIC	Gross IRR
Project Pet	Europe	Medical Services	£20.7m	4.4x	103.5%
Project Betty	North America	Waste	£20.7m	2.6x	44.2%
Project Spider	Europe	Software	£15.0m	2.0x	30.6%
Project Agora	Asia	Financial Services	£20.5m	1.5x	19.7%
Project Biliken	USA	Medical Services	£24.2m	1.4x	19.0%
			£101.1m	2.4x	48.4%



- 92.0% invested (£98.5m)
- Project Pet is a standout performer, but others developing well
- TVPI now stands at 2.4x and DPI at 73.3%
- Further partial realisations expected

### **PE Primary Partnership 2021 LP**

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#### Portfolio building steadily

#### Intended portfolio construction

	Sector	Strategy	Currency	Amount	£m	Stage
Europe						
UK PE Fund VI	Tech	Small	GBP	35	35.0	Committed
France PE Fund VI	Tech	Mid	EUR	35	29.7	DD
ANO	Gen	Small	GBP	20	20.0	Reviewing
ANO		Small	GBP	38	38.0	
					114.7	
Asia						
Asia Fund II	Gen	Large	USD	53	39.8	Committed
Asia Fund VIII	Gen	Large	USD	50	37.6	Committed
ANO		Mid	USD	30	22.6	
					100.0	
US						
ANO		Mid	USD	70	52.6	
ANO		Mid	USD	70	52.6	
					105.3	
Total commitments		9			319.9	

#### **Geographic and strategic targets**

	£m	Projection	Target
Strategy			
Small buy-out	85.0	27%	30%
Mid-Market buy-out	157.5	49%	50%
Large buy-out	77.4	24%	20%
	319.9	100%	100%
Region			
Europe	114.7	36%	35%
Asia	100.0	31%	30%
US	105.3	33%	35%
	319.9	100%	100%

- On target to achieve geographic and strategic parameters
- One European fund in due diligence, others undergoing scoring review
- Material fee savings negotiated with UK PE firm, despite another LGPS pool having agreed to a higher fee level

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### **PE Co-Investments Partnership 2021 LP**

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#### A cautious approach to opportunities

#### Portfolio

Company	Sponsor(s)	Geography	Sector	Commitment
Project Mozart	Three Global Buyout Firms	US	Healthcare	\$25m
Project Apple	Global Buyout Firm	Asia	Technology	\$20m

Source: LGPS Central Limited

- Investments under consideration:
  - Logistics, Japan, Global Buyout Firm

- Opportunities declined:
  - Early-stage digital bank, UK, UK Financial Services Firm
  - Automotive software, Switzerland, Global Buyout Firm
  - Café chain, South Korea, Global Buyout Firm
  - Tea producer, emerging markets, European Buyout Firm
  - Software, US, European Buyout Firm
  - Fund transfer, global, US Buyout Firm
  - Software, global, Global Buyout Firm

### Infrastructure

#### **Fund Portfolios**

Fund	Commitment Date	Geography	Sector	Industry	Commitment	Stage	
Core / Core Plus Infrastructure LP							
Investment 1	June 2021	Global	Diversified	Diversified	£83.2m	Committed	
Investment 2	November 2021	UK	Diversified	Diversified	£75m	Committed	
Investment 3	March 2022	Global	Diversified	Diversified	£100m	Committed	
Due Diligence 1	Planned for June 2022	Global	Diversified	Diversified	£70 - £100m	DD	
Due Diligence 2	Planned for June 2022	UK	Renewables	Solar	£50m	DD	
Value Add / Opportunistic Infrastructure LP							
Investment 1	April 2021	Global	Renewables	Energy	£21.4m	Committed	
Due Diligence 1	Planned for May 2022	Global	Diversified	Diversified	£35m	DD	
Single asset							
Investment 1	February 2022	Global	Diversified	Diversified	£120m	Committed	



• Value Add / Opportunistic Infrastructure LP investment target CPI + 5%

- Investments 1 and 3 are open-ended funds. Majority of commitments expected to be drawn in Q2/Q3 2022
- Investment 2 is expected to be fully drawn by end 2022

#### **Current Exposures**

#### The following information is based on the first three investments as at 31/3/2022

	Existing Portfolio		
	Target	vs	
		Target	
Sector			
Energy (traditional)	5.0% - 10.0%	12%	
Energy Renewables & Transition	20.0% - 45.0%	12%	
Utilities	10.0% - 25.0%	25%	
Transport	0.0% - 20.0%	22%	
Social	5.0% - 20.0%	11%	
Telecommunications	5.0% - 20.0%	12%	
Other	0.0% - 15.0%	5%	
Open vs closed			
Dpen	>= 70.0%	71%	
Closed	< 30.0%	29%	
Currency			
GBP Funds	>= 50.0%	29%	
Non GBP Funds	< 50.0%	71%	
Geography (look through)			
JK	20.0% - 30.0%	30%	
Europe	20.0% - 30.0%	24%	
S	20.0% - 30.0%	36%	
sia	10.0% - 20.0%	5%	
Dther	5.0% - 15.0%	5%	

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Source: LGPS Central

# **Co-Investment Fund Overview**

- Fund launched February 2022
- Lower management fees often with no performance fee
- Strategy focus Core/Core Plus (minimum 50%) via passive investments
- Small investments (usually <5% of total value)
- OECD focus

#### **Illustrative Portfolio**

- Benchmark CPI + 3.5%
- 5 year lock in period
- Quarterly subscriptions
- Annual redemptions
- Significant opportunities available from existing fund managers

Asset Type	Geographic Focus	Description
Electricity Distribution	UK	Bilateral discussions for a 25% - 33% stake in a UK Power Network. Will provide regulated and contracted cashflows with inflation linkage
Water Company	UK	Bilateral discussions for a significant minority stake in one of top performing UK water companies. Regulated cashflows with inflation linkage
Renewables	Sweden	Operational wind farm portfolio. Mainly merchant power prices at present but will be exploring PPA strategies
Battery Manufacture	UK	Development of the UK's largest gigafactory in Northumberland producing batteries for electric vehicles

### **Private Credit**

#### **Fund Portfolios**

Fund	Commitment Date	Region	Strategy	Commitment	Underlying Companies	Called To Date		
Credit Partnership I LP ("Higher" return, 12-14% net)								
Fund 1	Q4 2021	Global	Credit Opportunities	£100m	14	£25.9m		
Credit Partnership II LP ("Lower" return, 6-8% net)								
Fund 2	Q3 2021	US	Mid Market Direct Lending	£72.7m	31	£15.4m		
Fund 3	Q4 2021	EU	Mid Market Direct Lending	£200m	0	£Nil		
Fund 4	Q4 2021	EU	Mid Market Direct Lending	£200m	0	£Nil		
Fund 5	Q2 2022	US	Mid Market Direct Lending	£185m	0	£Nil		

- Order of commitments driven by closing dates or first close discounts
- Significant scale economies being achieved, but also further savings through direct negotiation
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- Approximately £1m of fund life nonscale savings achieved so far
- Co-ordinating with B2C and Brunel to maximise negotiation impact
- CP III and CP IV commitments undergoing due diligence

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Share Class and Benchmark performance displayed in GBP.

Performance is shown on a Net Asset Value (NAV) basis, with gross income reinvested where applicable.

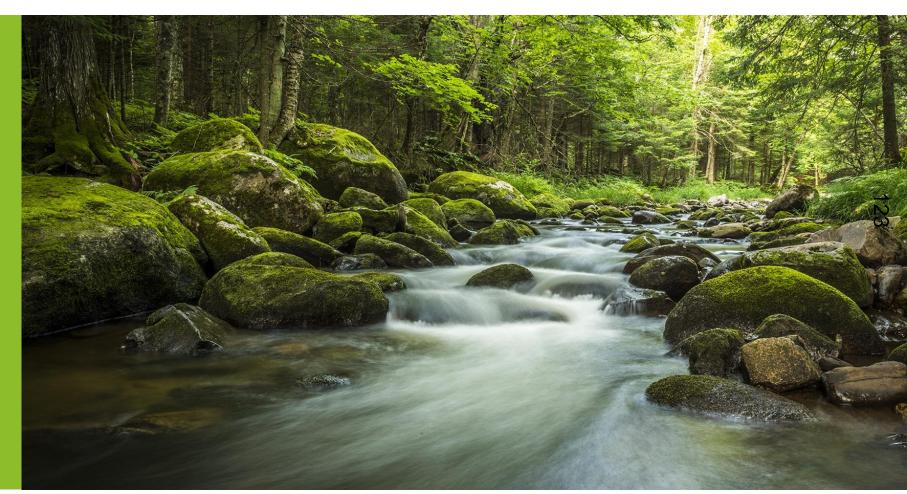
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"One Central team, working in partnership to invest with purpose and deliver superior returns"





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