

The British Society of Soil Science (BSSS) is a registered charity in the UK. We routinely invest funds with third-party organisations through the investment of surplus funds. Our aim is to maximise the returns from our investments, for the benefit of our members, whilst taking into account our social, environmental and ethical responsibilities as an investor.

## *This policy covers:*

- BSSS Trustees and Executive Officer
- Suppliers of financial services to BSSS.

## *This policy's purpose is to set out the agreed parameters for all BSSS investments. BSSS commits to:*

- Maintain a minimum of one year's operating costs in easily accessible accounts
- Invest in accordance with Charity Commission guidelines
- Wherever possible, invest in funds and organisations which take into account our social, ethical and environmental responsibilities, and with due consideration for our charitable aims and objectives
- Reducing our impact on the natural world through our business operations, which can be seen in our [Environmental Policy](#) and our investments will seek to do the same. This includes avoiding investments in areas such as fossil fuel and/or plastic production.

## *Scope:*

- Wherever possible, investments made should aim to achieve growth in value, which will provide us with additional funds to support our charitable aims
- Investments should be made over the short-term with risk appetite for two to three-year investments
- We recognise that this will not usually provide the highest levels of return, however believe that this will provide the Society with the liquidity it needs to manage any fluctuations in short-term income
- Where high street bank accounts are used, as far as possible, the money saved within them should not exceed the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) deposit and savings account protection scheme
- We recognise that the value of our assets may not increase significantly in such a short time-frame and that the value may decrease, as opposed to increase, based on the terms we have chosen
- Our Finance Trustee, will support with choosing the right investment opportunities for the Society. We recognise that this is undertaken in their personal capacity as a Trustee, rather than in any professional capacity
- Our investments will be made in GBP Sterling, unless otherwise agreed by the Board
- Investments must be made with Financial Conduct Authority registered organisations and must have a positive reputation
- Where possible, our investments will be spread across a range of products, to limit any impact of fluctuating markets
- We will monitor our investment performance at quarterly Board meetings

- There will be three signatories to all Society bank accounts and investments, the President, Finance Trustee and Executive Officer, and two signatures are required to make any changes to the investment(s)
- Trustees will be required to approve any new, or significant change in investment.

This Investment Policy is fully supported by BSSS Trustees and will be reviewed on an annual basis.

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