

Redwheel Climate Beliefs & Commitments

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1. Context

- 1.1 Our business model is one of investor autonomy and independence, we believe this is aligned with our clients' best interests. The model underpins our belief that the best outcome for clients is one which gives investors (i.e. our portfolio managers) the freedom and flexibility to develop their own investment strategies and their own stewardship approach, based on their experience. To impose a top-down solution could undermine the best attributes of the model and deliver a suboptimal outcome for our clients. Our focus on achieving the best outcomes for our clients is reinforced through our emphasis on co-investment.
- 1.2 This document reflects Redwheel's climate beliefs and commitments as at June 2024, and is to be read in conjunction with the Redwheel Policy on Responsible Investment and the Redwheel Stewardship Policy.

2. Our Climate Beliefs

- 2.1. When it comes to climate change, we share some common beliefs, namely that climate change poses a systemic risk to our clients' capital, to Redwheel as a business and the societies in which we live, work and invest.
- 2.2. As a fiduciary of our clients' capital, it is critical that climate-related risks and opportunities both from climate change itself and the deep system transitions required to mitigate it are identified and actively managed.
- 2.3. The investment management industry has an important role to play in advocating for an ambitious, consistent, and credible policy environment to enable and incentivise issuers to decarbonise with confidence and minimise their exposure to both physical and transition risks.
- 2.4. The world is not currently on track to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement and every fraction of a degree counts, so high ambition must be maintained.
- 2.5. We cannot afford to underestimate the speed of the transitions that are already underway in many sectors and geographies, and the implications for companies and their investors.
- 2.6. The physical risks from climate change already baked into natural systems due to historic man-made emissions have – in our view – been under appreciated by the investment community.
- 2.7. A transition that is just and mindful of wider social and environmental goals will be complex to navigate and there will be trade-offs. As the transition unfolds, we will continually review our beliefs as evidence and experience around these trade-offs



develop. Our approach is informed by in-depth research in this space undertaken by our in-house thematic sustainability research team "Greenwheel" and our involvement with organisations of which we are a member such as the Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change and the "Financing a Just Transition" Alliance coordinated by the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change.

2.8. While we are aware that many of our peers have adopted various climate-related commitments, we feel our approach is reflective of our understanding of the complexity of the issues we are dealing with and the responsibility we feel we have for the ultimate outcome in the real world.

3. Our Climate Commitments

- 3.1. We want to commit to something we are confident we can deliver. At the firm level our approach to climate change has four principal pillars:
 - <u>Be transparent and clear in our communications</u> provide clarity in terms of our starting point, rationale (what we are trying to do and why) and components of our approach.
 - <u>Build capacity internally</u> enhance and strengthen climate knowledge and expertise, including in relation to data and systems, to:
 - Facilitate capital flow into companies and teams that develop and deliver solutions to a range of sustainability challenges i.e. growing our sustainable fund franchise
 - Facilitate capital flow into companies that are willing and able to decarbonise i.e. leveraging our teams' experience engaging robustly with portfolio companies
 - Engage with companies to help ensure commitment, feasible roadmaps and acceptable timelines for decarbonisation
 - More effectively and efficiently monitor climate-related risks and support and challenge their management
 - <u>Collaborate externally</u> with our clients, investee companies, the bodies of which we are members (in particular the IIGCC, CA100+, Nature100 and the Investor Forum), policy makers and other stakeholders (where collaboration offers a better avenue to achieve our strategic goals).
 - Attend to our own operations Run our own organisation and manage climate risk in a way that is consistent both with the expectations of our clients and the challenge being put to investee companies by our investment teams



4. Support tangible, real-world decarbonisation

- 4.1. We are more interested in driving real world decarbonisation than 'paper decarbonisation'.
- 4.2. We are in the process of identifying and understanding our climate risks and opportunities at the firm, strategy, product and issuer level and recognise the need to measure and mitigate risks through setting meaningful targets.
- 4.3. Throughout 2023 with the support of a third-party we assessed the merits and methodologies underpinning a number of climate related investor initiatives (including Net Zero Asset Managers initiative, 'NZAMI'). In doing so, we not only gave careful consideration to the intention and ability of these initiatives to deliver on commitments as currently framed in practice, but also to how such a commitment could realistically work in the context of our business model.
- 4.4. One of Redwheel's core strengths is that our business model supports the autonomy and diversity of our investment teams. Time and care must therefore be taken to reflect each team's distinctive investment process and philosophy in developing an overarching commitment by the business; consideration must also be given to the needs of investment teams that we might hope would join our business in future and help support our continued growth.
- 4.5. We are now working in partnership with our investment teams to set targets using the primary levers at their disposal as active investment managers, namely:
 - Stewardship
 - Investment in climate solutions
 - Portfolio level emissions reduction
 - Client engagement
- 4.6. Once targets and metrics are agreed, we envisage progress will be monitored as a routine part of annual business reviews (conducted by our Head of Business Development) and investment process reviews (conducted by our Head of Investments), with oversight provided by our Sustainability Committee and ultimately the Redwheel Board.



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