

Dear Chair,

As a LGPS member in the fund your committee administers, I am deeply concerned by [research published](#) by Palestine Solidarity Campaign (PSC), which has uncovered LGPS funds collectively hold at least £3.2bn in companies complicit in Israel's grave breaches of international law and Palestinian human rights. I am particularly concerned that our local authority pension fund has invested my pension contributions in multinational companies that are associated with the occupation and violation of Palestinian human rights. This could place financial, reputational, legal and regulatory risks on fund investments.

Israel is engaged in grave violations of Palestinian human rights and international law. This includes the illegal military occupation and settlement of Palestinian land in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, as affirmed by the [UN Security Council](#), and the UK government; the inhumane land, sea and air blockade on Gaza, deemed a [flagrant violation of international human rights and humanitarian law by UN experts](#); the denial of the fundamental human right of dispossessed Palestinian refugees to return to the land from which they, or their family members, were expelled, [in violation of UN Resolution 194](#).

Israel can only maintain its grave violations of Palestinian human rights because of products, equipment and services it receives from a range of complicit companies. These companies are complicit through:

- 1) Supplying the Israeli military with weapons and other technology used to oppress Palestinians.
- 2) Providing technology and equipment used to maintain Israel's infrastructure of military occupation, such as its checkpoints and the apartheid wall.
- 3) Investment and other activity in Israel's illegal settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, based on stolen Palestinian land.

As a pension holder I therefore ask for you to take immediate action to:

- 1) Make public what procedures are in place to ensure the scheme is not complicit in Israeli violations of Palestinian human rights and international law. This includes outlining robust time-limited engagement practises where complicit companies are identified, and what subsequent action can be taken if companies do not respond to engagement processes.
- 2) Call for a robust investment strategy statement/statement of investment principles, to ensure that our pension fund cannot be invested in companies that contribute to a breach of international law or are complicit in human rights abuses.

Please pass on my concerns to your fellow councillors on the pension committee. I hope you will support us in ensuring that public service workers have decent pensions, but not at the expense of some of the most oppressed and vulnerable people in the world.

If you require more information about companies complicit in Israeli violations of international law, please contact info@palestinecampaign.org

Yours Sincerely,