

BARCLAYS ASSET MANAGEMENT LIMITED

Strategic Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Section 172(1) statement

The Directors have acted in the way that they considered, in good faith, would be most likely to promote the success of the Company for the benefit of its member as a whole and this section forms our Section 172 disclosure, describing how, in doing so, the Directors considered the matters set out in section 172(1)(a) to (f) of the Companies Act 2006. The Directors also took into account the views and interests of a wider set of stakeholders, including regulators.

The Directors have acted in a way that they considered, in good faith, to be most likely to promote the success of the Company for the benefit of its member as a whole, and in doing so had regard, amongst other matters, to:

- the likely consequences of any decision in the long term;
- the need to foster the Company's business relationships with suppliers, customers and others;
- the impact of the Company's operations on the community and the environment;
- the desirability of the Company maintaining a reputation for high standards of business conduct; and
- the need to act fairly as between members of the Company.

You can find out more about who the Barclays Group's stakeholders are, how management and/or the Directors engaged with them, the key issues raised and actions taken on pages 18 to 19 of the Barclays PLC Annual Report 2020 and also on page 11 of the Barclays Bank UK PLC Annual Report 2020 (both of which are incorporated by reference into this statement).

Considering this broad range of interests is an important part of the way the Board makes decisions, although in balancing those different perspectives it will not always be possible to deliver everyone's desired outcome.

How does the board engage with stakeholders?

Depending on the decision in question, the relevance of each particular stakeholder group may differ, and equally the Board adopts a variety of methods of engagement with different stakeholder groups. The Board will sometimes engage directly with certain stakeholders on certain issues, but the size and distribution of our stakeholders and of the Company means that stakeholder engagement often takes place at an operational level.

In addition, to ensure a more efficient and effective approach, certain stakeholder engagement is led at Barclays Group level, in particular where matters are of group-wide significance or have the potential to impact the reputation of the Barclays Group.

The Board considers and discusses information from across the organisation to help it understand the impact of the Company's operations, and the interests and views of our key stakeholders. It also reviews strategy, financial and operational performance as well as information covering areas such as key risks, and legal and regulatory compliance. This information is provided to the Board through reports sent in advance of each Board meeting, and through in-person presentations.

As a result of these activities, the Board has an overview of engagement with stakeholders, and other relevant factors, which enables the Directors to comply with their legal duty under section 172 of the Companies Act 2006.

The following are some examples of how the Directors have had regard to the matters set out in sections 172 (1)-(f) when discharging their section 172 duties and the effect of that on certain of the decisions taken by them.

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Strategic Report (continued) For the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Engagement in action

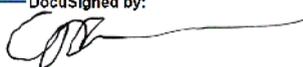
COVID-19

Throughout almost the entirety of 2020, as the pandemic unfurled, the primary focus of the Company and the Board has been on (i) maintaining focus on risk management and investment outcomes as market volatility significantly increased; (ii) the operational resilience of the front-to-back operating platform as it transferred to an entirely virtual model; (iii) establishing enhanced oversight of all delegates carrying out core functions; (iv) the health and wellbeing of colleagues across the group that support the operating of the Company; and (v) the continued satisfactory control environment, notably maintaining the positive trajectory on CASS issues, despite heightened trade volumes. The Board has demonstrated leadership and oversight during the pandemic, and this continues at the date of this report.

Customer and client focus

Notwithstanding the challenging environment, over the course of the year and building on work done in previous periods, the Board has taken steps that have had an immediate positive impact on each customer's investment experience and sought to eliminate functional inconveniences. In the wider context of the FCA's Assessment of Value, the board has (i) reduced the fees in a number of share classes to ensure equitable pricing across funds; (ii) benchmarked each fund's pricing against the competitive landscape; (iii) initiated a material consolidation of products to release scale efficiencies and drive down running costs and (iv) maintained momentum on enhancing our client records to allow greater digital communication and non-cheque based payments of distributions and redemption proceeds. In aggregate these steps represent good progress and increased the value the funds offer customers. The Board remains committed to the work of enhancing the proposition, evolving the product set to meet investor needs and eliminating any structural inefficiencies when identified.

This report was approved by the board and signed on its behalf.

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C J Mack
Director

Date: 23 April 2021