

Model CLP Motion on Local Government Pension Scheme Divestment

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Model Motion - 250 words (exclude highlighted text if you don't have May 2026 elections)

This CLP notes:

- Labour Conference 2025 voted to accept the findings of the UN Independent Commission of Inquiry confirming Israel has committed genocide in Gaza.
- Despite the partial and fragile ceasefire, Israel's grave violations of international law continue.
- The International Court of Justice July 2024 Advisory Opinion found Israel's decades-long military occupation of Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, is illegal and Israel is in breach of the international prohibition against racial segregation and apartheid.
- Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) funds invest more than £12.2 billion in companies complicit in these violations of international law, including in manufacturers of weapons used to kill Palestinians, according to Palestine Solidarity Campaign's research.
- A Position Paper from legal experts says LGPS administering authorities are legally obliged to take steps to divest from companies complicit in Israel's violations of international law, a move already heeded by dozens of councils in England and Wales.

This CLP believes:

- All local councils must ensure they are not complicit in Israel's violations of international law.

This CLP resolves to write to the local Labour Group, and all Labour councillors and candidates in the constituency, calling on them to:

- Make a council manifesto commitment to take all appropriate steps to ensure the council is not complicit in Israel's violations of international law, including through the council divesting funds it administers from complicit companies.
- Propose and support a council motion, at the earliest opportunity, demanding divestment of LGPS funds from companies complicit in Israel's violations of international law.

Briefing Note

What is the LGPS and what is the issue? (Full details [here.](#))

- The Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) is one of the largest public sector pension schemes in the UK. It is made up of 86 pension funds, the vast majority of which are administered by a local council, with investments decisions made by elected local councillors sitting on a pensions committee.
- PSC's research has found that LGPS funds invest over £12.2 billion in companies with proven involvement in Israel's genocide, military occupation, and apartheid against Palestinians. PSC's investment database is [here](#). Complicit investments include:
 - Over £450 million in BAE Systems, which manufactures components for Israel's F-15, F-16, and F-35 fighter jets used extensively to bomb Gaza.
 - Over £80 million is invested in Caterpillar, which manufactures bulldozers used by Israel to demolish Palestinian homes, schools, and hospitals across the Occupied Palestinian Territory.
- A [Position Paper](#) recently obtained by PSC outlines local councils administering a pension fund are under a legal obligation to take steps to divest from companies enabling Israel's violations of international law.
- At the time of writing, 27 local councils have passed a motion or issued a statement committing to support divestment from companies enabling Israel's violations of international law. Full list [here](#).

What changes are being proposed to LGPS? (Full explainer [here.](#))

- The Government's reforms require all LGPS assets to be transferred by 31st March 2026 to asset pools, which will manage the investments of multiple LGPS funds.
- Pools will have full responsibility for the implementation of the investment strategy set by the Administering Authority (the council with responsibility for a pension fund).
- Councils will still be able to take action to divest their pension fund from companies enabling Israel's crimes. This can be done by Administering Authorities using their influence as shareholders and/or clients of the pool to:
 - Direct the pool to create new investment funds with robust exclusion criteria to ensure no investments are made in companies enabling Israel's crimes.
 - Demand the pool divest all its existing funds from companies enabling Israel's crimes and put in place policies to ensure that no future investments can be made in such companies.

If you are successful in passing the motion through your CLP, it would be appreciated if you informed Palestine Solidarity Campaign's Political Organiser at dan.iley-williamson@palestinecampaign.org.