# **Press Release**

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## **Membership Announcement**

New member of ESG Ireland: Irish Life Investment Managers

**Dublin, Ireland, 21 May 2020** — ESG Ireland is pleased to welcome Irish Life Investment Managers as a new member of the ESG Ireland community, committed to working towards a more secure future.

Kathy Ryan, Head of Responsible Investing, Irish Life Investment Managers, said: "We are delighted to become a member of ESG Ireland and share their commitment to closing the knowledge gap around responsible investing.

Our clients trust us with their investments and to deliver on our core promise to help them build better futures. The sustainability of investments is a key issue and needs to be considered by all investment managers.

Irish Life was one of the first Irish signatories to the UN-supported Principles of Responsible Investment\* in 2010, and have been leading the way since. We have developed and operate a holistic 3 pillar approach which covers exclusion, integration and active ownership all of which we consider core to our investment philosophy. We look forward to working with ESG Ireland on new initiatives together".

Vincent McCarthy, Founder, ESG Ireland, said: "I am pleased to welcome Irish Life Investment Managers as a new member of ESG Ireland. They have demonstrated a real commitment to putting responsible investment at the heart of their investment process. Most notably, their decision last year to explicitly consider ESG across more than €15 billion of discretionary assets illustrates a clear willingness to lead on responsible investing.

I look forward to working with Irish Life Investment Managers, as part of helping all stakeholders come to terms with how best to develop responsible investment policies and integrate ESG into decision making. Interest in responsible investing continues to gather momentum, but I believe we are still in the early stages of a massive cultural shift globally in terms of how investors think about the impact of their investments."

### About Irish Life Investment Managers (ILIM) & Irish Life Group

#### ILIM

For over 80 years, ILIM has been working with clients to deliver investment solutions. We're entrusted with assets exceeding €84 billion (as of 29.02.2020) across a broad range of asset classes and investment solutions. We work for a wide range of institutional clients including insurance companies, wealth managers, pension schemes, fiduciary managers and sovereign wealth funds across Europe and North America.

With solution design and delivery at the forefront - our core investment capabilities extend across indexation, quantitative active strategies, active fixed income, property and alternative asset classes. Our business is built on putting clients first and delivering high-quality and innovative investment solutions. We're results-focused, finding new ways to deliver what matters to our clients, and we achieve it with teamwork, working across disciplines to deliver to our clients.

#### Irish Life Group

Irish Life is one of Ireland's leading financial services companies with over 1.3 million customers. In existence for over 80 years, we help people look after their life insurance, pension, investment and health insurance needs.

Since July 2013 Irish Life has been part of the Great-West Lifeco group of companies, one of the world's leading life assurance organisations. Great-West Lifeco and its subsidiaries have approximately CAD\$1.5 trillion in consolidated assets under administration and are members of the Power Financial Corporation group of companies.

Irish Life is committed to delivering innovative products backed by the highest standards of customer service. As part of Great-West Lifeco, we have access to experience and expertise on a global scale, so we can continuously enhance our leading range of products and services.

Irish Life Assurance plc is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. Irish Life Investment Managers is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. Irish Life Investment Managers Limited is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland

#### About ESG Ireland™

ESG Ireland<sup>™</sup> is an independent knowledge centre focused on delivering thought leadership, education and the latest developments on the integration of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) factors into responsible decision-making frameworks, to assist companies,

trustees, investors and all stakeholders. ESG Ireland has been established to be part of the solution for a more secure future; we believe the best way to achieve this is through collaboration with all stakeholders, to promote a greater sharing of perspectives.

While the broader theme of sustainability has garnered more attention recently, a big knowledge gap exists around the practical application of ESG and responsible investment among companies. trustees, pension scheme members, investors and other stakeholders. This is something we aim to address. Taking a responsible approach to capital allocation and investing is not about sacrificing returns, it is about delivering more sustainable returns over the long term and in turn securing the future.

To learn more about ESG Ireland membership and to join this collaborative effort, contact:

membership@ESG.ie

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