Dear Jessica,

His Royal Highness has sent clear, uncompromising messages for the need for change if we are to align finance and accounting practices and reporting to serve and meet the needs of society. These messages have resonated with me and drove my desire to apply to lead one of the new LGPS asset pools. I saw the potential new pools had to deliver:

- Much higher standards of responsible investment and stewardship of assets by investing in sustainable and resilient companies;

- Greater transparency and providing meaningful information to the beneficiaries of pension funds on how their pension was performing but also the impact on real world issues such as climate change, health and well-being and sustainability of the cities in which we live;

- Strong financial performance, thereby relieving funding pressures on local authorities to redirect their resources to front line services;

- The potential for asset owners and investors to scale up action and gain momentum in a significant and unprecedented way.

In the short time that Brunel Pension Partnership has been operational we have achieved a great deal, bringing our partner funds together on a journey to deliver stronger investment returns over the long term, protect our clients’ interests. These actions contribute to a more sustainable and resilient financial system, which supports sustainable economic growth and a thriving society.

In setting up Brunel Pension Partnership to be a leader and best practice example of how asset management can deliver sustainable investment returns and contribute to a thriving society we can already demonstrate tangible benefits.

People – recruitment candidates clearly identified our values and commitments to responsible investment as a core reason to applying, giving us access to a great pool of talented individuals to draw on to join our team.

Forging better futures
Partners – our leadership and expertise has been acknowledged and reflected in highly competitive commercial relationships and the desire to genuinely move the industry forward in becoming more aligned to sustainable business practise.

Performance – we have built a robust infrastructure that is delivering on our business case and financial savings arising from effective pooling.

Transparency is core to our values and looking to the future, we aim to provide our client funds and pension fund beneficiaries with clear, engaging reporting that will enable and assure them that we are protecting their best interests, in the broadest sense. We have committed to report against the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and more specifically the recommendations Taskforce on Climate Related Financial Disclosure.

We will continue to support The Prince of Wales and A4S and to spread the word for a more sustainable planet. We are grateful to His Royal Highness for his vision and clarity of thought over several decades, which is now culminating in real change across the world.

We firmly believe that we need to communicate more effectively, relating the outcomes of investment decision making to real world issues and demonstrate we are forging better futures by investing for a world worth living in.

My colleagues at Brunel join me in wishing His Royal Highness a very happy seventieth birthday.

Yours sincerely,

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