

# NEWS LETTER

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## CURRENT NEWS

### PUBLIC PENSIONS

A recent report suggests redirecting UK public service pension contributions towards diverse assets could yield substantial fiscal savings and boost national investment. By learning from successful transitions like those in Canadian schemes, the UK could enhance its economic growth prospects while reducing fiscal burdens.

<https://on.ft.com/49HE9Vi>

### CLIMATE INVESTING

The notion of aligning green investing with financial gains is challenged as major asset managers depart from Climate Action 100+, citing conflicts with fiduciary duties. This shift reflects growing skepticism towards climate investing's profitability, exacerbated by reduced ESG shareholder support and political pressures. The backlash poses challenges for climate associations and underscores the need for policy mandates to drive carbon reductions.

<https://on.ft.com/49yBUb>

### INVESTMENT TRUSTS

In 2023, investment trust purchases dropped 28% amid inflation and interest rate rises. Negative net demand recorded for the first time since 2011. Discounts widened, averaging 13.2%, with lower returns compared to FTSE All Share. In 2024, discounts persisted, with popular trusts trading at discounts. Investors favored specific sectors.

<https://on.ft.com/3SRMAGP>

AUTHOR - JOE KEHOE

## STUDENT TESTIMONIAL:

"Since becoming a trainee analyst with the LSMIF I have had my skills put to the test producing an ERR on my chosen company and working in a group of analysts to pitch a stock to a panel of judges as part of our latest competition. I look forward to researching other companies and attending future competitions over the coming months with the fund. I have enjoyed every bit of my time so far with the LSMIF and have met many like-minded people already who I can learn skills from that will be invaluable for my future beyond the university."

STUDENT: JAMES WISEMAN

## UPCOMING DATES

**Adjusted ERR Hand-in, March 12th:** Take feedback and build on your report and create a more in depth and stronger report.

**Investment Committee Meeting, April Date TBD:** A day where the fund will make important strategic decisions for the future and will make recommendations for the portfolio.

**2nd ERR Hand-in, April 12th:** Pick another stock on the FTSE markets and produce another ERR.