



## Veolia ES Municipal Division of the Veolia UK Pension Plan (the Plan)

### Summary Funding Statement to all Members – June 2023

#### Why have you issued this Statement?

Veolia UK Pension Trustees Limited (the Trustee) must, by law, provide you with an annual statement of how the Division is funded and remind you of the results of the last formal actuarial (funding) valuation and any plans in place to improve the funding position. This is known as the Summary Funding Statement (the Statement).

The Statement relates solely to the Veolia ES Municipal Division of the Plan (“the Division”).

#### Do I need to do anything because of this Statement?

No. You do not need to take any action as a result of this Statement, but I do recommend that you take time to read it and raise questions with the appropriate contact if there is anything you do not understand – see the “Where can I get more information?” section at the end of this Statement. You may wish to keep a copy of this Statement together with any other papers that you have received in connection with the Plan.

If you are considering leaving the Division for any reason you should first consider obtaining independent financial advice. Please note that the Trustee is not able to give you any financial advice.

#### How is my pension funded?

The Division aims to provide members and their dependants with defined pensions and lump sums when members retire or die. Those benefits are provided by the assets of the Division allowing for investment income as well as contributions paid into the Division.

The assets of the Division are invested for the benefit of all members in a communal fund which is completely separate from the Company (Veolia ES (UK) Limited). It would be very unusual for any of the assets to be paid from the Division to the Company and we are required to confirm that no such payment was made since we last issued a funding statement.

**Investments:** The Trustee currently employs Schroders to manage the Division’s assets and Schroders invest in a wide range of asset classes aiming for a target level of return within the risk profile set by the Trustee. There is no separate earmarking of funds for individuals (other than for Additional Voluntary Contributions which are earmarked for the benefit of the member who paid them).

A copy of the Statement of Investment Principles and Implementation Statement regarding the Division can be found at <https://pensions.veolia.co.uk/explore> (please scroll down to the Infosheets section).

**Funding assessment:** The Trustee obtains formal actuarial valuations every three years from the Scheme Actuary which provide an estimate of the monies needed today to meet the payment of benefits as they fall due, allowing for future investment returns. Actuarial update reports are prepared in the two intervening years between triennial valuations.

The actuarial valuations include two main tests, both of which are summarised in the remainder of this statement:

- i Does the Division have enough money assuming that it carries on in the long term, as intended? This is known as the long-term position.
- ii Does the Division have enough money if the Division were to wind up? This is known as the solvency position.

**Company contributions:** Based on the actuarial valuations, the Trustee comes to an agreement with the Company on how much it should pay to keep the Division’s funding on track against this target.

#### **Veolia UK Pension Trustees Limited**

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London, N1 9JY  
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[www.veolia.co.uk](http://www.veolia.co.uk)

#### *Registered Office:*

210 Pentonville Road, London N1 9JY  
Registered in England & Wales: 2957327

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## Summary of the Long-Term Funding Position

The last full actuarial valuation was carried out as at 31 December 2019 and updated actuarial reports have been prepared as at 31 December 2020 and 31 December 2021. In summary:

£m as at 31 December	2019	2020	2021
Liabilities	123.2	138.0	136.3
Assets	124.1	140.1	145.2
Funding level	101%	102%	107%
Surplus / (Deficit)	0.9	2.1	8.9

**31 December 2019 valuation:** The 101% funding level at the 31 December 2019 triennial valuation was an improvement on the 94% position as at the previous 31 December 2016 triennial valuation. In the main, the improvement reflected better than expected investment performance as well as Company contributions which helped to offset the negative impact of falling yields which pushed up the value of the liabilities.

**Year to 31 December 2020:** The funding level improved over the year to 31 December 2020 reflecting Company contributions and better than expected asset returns. These benefits were partially offset by the fall in market yields which increased the value placed on the liabilities.

**Year to 31 December 2021:** The funding level further improved over the year to 31 December 2021, reflecting positive investment returns. The increase in market yields reduced the value placed on the liabilities although this was partially offset by increased inflation expectations.

**Funding the Division:** As noted in the summary results above, the Division did not have a funding shortfall on the long-term funding basis as at the last valuation (31 December 2019). Accordingly no Recovery Plan was required although the Company agreed that the contributions to be paid in respect of 2020 from the 2016 valuation would continue to be paid. The contributions in respect of 2020 amounted to £2.87 million.

The contributions are being reviewed again as part of the 31 December 2022 triennial valuation. The Company also meets all Division expenses and levies and pays further contributions in respect of benefit accrual for active members. The Scheme Actuary, Trustee and Company are currently considering the 31 December 2022 valuation and we will provide details on that valuation within the next summary funding statement.

As well as the significant contributions that have been paid to the Division, a guarantee of support has also been provided within the wider Veolia group to assist the Company in meeting the pension obligations. The Trustee appreciates the continued support of the Company and the guarantee arrangement.

With the continued support of the Company, the funding level does not affect the pensions being paid even if at times the funding level may be below 100%.

The Trustee is required to confirm to members that the Division is not subject to any modifications or directions imposed by The Pensions Regulator.

## Summary of the Solvency Position

The extent to which a Division can pay for pension rights which have built up if the Division were to wind-up is known as its solvency position. The valuation includes a test of the Division's solvency position. **This does not mean that the Company is thinking of winding-up the Division.**

The solvency position is a much harsher test than the long-term funding plan because it takes into account the prudent terms imposed by insurance companies. Virtually all pension schemes have substantial shortfalls based on insurance company terms.

At 31 December 2019 the actuary had estimated that there would have been enough money to secure about 79% of the members' benefits earned up to that date with an insurance company, representing a shortfall of around £32.9 million based on insurance company terms. The solvency position is being reviewed again as part of the triennial actuarial valuation as at 31 December 2022.

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## What happens if the Division winds up?

If the Division were to wind-up, the Trustee would try to recover as much of this amount from the Company as possible. If the Company was unable to provide these funds and there is insufficient money in the Division, the Pension Protection Fund may be able to take over the Division and pay compensation to members.

The Pension Protection Fund does not provide full protection, so members would still see a reduction in benefits even if the Pension Protection Fund provides compensation.

A summary of the compensation available from the Pension Protection Fund is available on their website at [www.ppf.co.uk](http://www.ppf.co.uk)

## Where can I get further information?

If you are a deferred member or a pensioner member and you have any queries, you may contact the Scheme Administrator, Premier Pensions Management Limited on:

Telephone: 0800 122 3590

Email: [veolia@premiercompanies.co.uk](mailto:veolia@premiercompanies.co.uk)

Please remember to quote your name or National Insurance Number and the name of the Division in full when contacting Premier to help them deal with your call more quickly.

However, if you are an active member then you may contact the Veolia Pensions Department at:

Email: [pensions.vesuk@veolia.com](mailto:pensions.vesuk@veolia.com) or via the Shared Service Centre by telephone: 0800 028 7000

Additional formal Division documents such as the full Actuarial Valuation Report and Annual Report and Accounts, are available on request. Please note that a small fee for copying may apply.

Thank you for taking time to read this Statement.

**Phil Chattle,**

**Trustee Chair on behalf of the Veolia UK Pension Plan**

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