## **BBA Income and Protection Plan**

### Statement of Investment Principles ("SIP")

#### **Purpose of this Statement**

This SIP has been prepared by the Trustee of the BBA Income and Protection Plan (the "Plan"). This statement sets out the principles governing the Trustee's decisions to invest the assets of the Plan.

The Plan's investment strategy is derived from the Trustee's investment objectives. The objectives have been considered at all stages of planning, implementation and monitoring of the investment strategy.

More details on the Plan's investment arrangements can be found in Appendix C.

#### **Adhering to Industry Standards**

In relation to the Myners Code of Conduct for Investment Decision Making, the extent of the Trustee's adoption of the Myners Code is provided in a separate document named the Myners Code Adherence Document.

The Trustee is supportive of the UK Stewardship Code which seeks to improve the quality of engagement between institutional investors and investee companies. Where appropriate, the Trustee expects investment managers to comply with the Stewardship Code and to produce a statement of their commitment to the Stewardship Code.

In formulating this Statement of Investment Principles, the Trustee has taken into account the main principles that trustees of pension schemes are expected to comply with per the Pensions Act 1995; regulatory guidance issued by The Pensions Regulator (the "Regulator") on the conduct and practice that trustees should meet to comply with their duties in pensions legislation; as well as the expectations set out in the Regulator's General Code of Practice (the "Code").

#### **Employer-Related Investments**

The policy of the Trustee is not to hold any employer-related investments as defined in the Pensions Act 1995 and the Occupational Pension Schemes (Investment) Regulations 2005 except where the Plan invests in collective investment schemes that may hold employer-related investments. In this case, the total exposure to employer-related investments will not exceed 5% of the Plan's total value. The Trustee will monitor this on an ongoing basis to ensure compliance.

#### **Direct Investments**

Direct investments, as defined by the Pensions Act 1995, are products purchased without delegation to an investment manager through a written contract. When selecting and reviewing any direct investments, the Trustee will obtain appropriate written advice from its investment advisers.

#### Compliance

This Statement has been prepared in compliance with the Pensions Act 1995, the Pensions Act 2004, and the Occupational Pension Schemes (Investment) Regulations 2005. Before preparing or subsequently revising this Statement, the Trustee took appropriate written advice from its expert investment advisers, and also consulted the Sponsoring Employer of the Plan. The Statement is reviewed at least every three years, and without delay after any significant change in the investment arrangements.

## **Investment Governance Structure**

The Trustee of the Plan makes all major strategic decisions including, but not limited to, the objectives of the investment portfolio, the Plan's asset allocation and the appointment and termination of investment manager appointments. When making such decisions, and when appropriate, the Trustee takes proper written advice. The Trustee is responsible for monitoring the agreed strategy to ensure the Plan meets its long-term objectives. The Trustee receives a quarterly monitoring report outlining performance of the Plan's investments versus the investment objective, and more frequent reports outlining the evolution of the funding position of the Plan and the trajectory of the Plans towards its long-term objective.

It is the Trustee's investment advisers' responsibility to provide strategic and implementation advice in relation to the Plan investment. The investment advisers are qualified by their ability in and practical experience of financial matters and have the appropriate knowledge and experience. The Trustee monitors the investment advisers annually against a set of objectives agreed between both parties at the start of the period. The investment advisers' remuneration may be a fixed fee or based on time worked, as negotiated by the Trustee in the interests of obtaining best value for the Plan. The Trustee's appointed investment advisers are Isio.

#### **Investment Objectives**

The Trustee invests the assets of the Plan with the aim of ensuring that all members' accrued benefits can be paid. The Plan's funding position will be reviewed on an ongoing basis to assess the position relative to the funding target and whether the investment arrangements remain appropriate to the Plan's circumstances.

The Trustee has agreed that it was appropriate to target 100% funding on a buyout basis on or before 31 December 2030. The Plan's funding target is specified in the Statement of Funding Principles.

The Plan's present investment objective of the portfolio, excluding the two buy-ins, is to achieve a return of 2.2% above the return on a liability matching portfolio of UK Government bonds. The Plan has a de-risking framework such that, as the funding level improves, this investment objective will reduce over time towards 1.1% above the return on a liability matching portfolio of UK Government bonds. These expected returns reflect Isio's asset class return assumptions as at 31 March 2024.

#### **Investment Strategy**

The Trustee takes a holistic approach to considering and managing risks when formulating the Plan's investment strategy.

The Plan's investment strategy was derived following careful consideration of the factors set out in Appendix A. The considerations include the nature and duration of the Plan's liabilities,

the risks of investing in the various asset classes, the implications of the strategy (under various scenarios) for the level of contributions required to fund the Plan, and also the strength of the Sponsoring Employer's (Signature Aviation plc) covenant.

The Trustee recognises that the investment strategy is subject to risk, in particular the risk of a mismatch between the performance of the assets and the calculated value of the liabilities. This risk is monitored by regularly assessing the funding position and the characteristics of the assets and liabilities. The risk is managed by investing in assets which are expected to perform in excess of the liabilities over the long term, and also by investing in a suitably diversified portfolio of assets with the aim of minimising (as far as possible) volatility relative to the liabilities.

The assets of the Plan consist predominantly of investments which are traded on regulated markets.

The Trustee believes in a responsible investment approach, which considers that Environmental, Social and Governance ("ESG") factors will add value to the overall investment arrangements in terms of managing risk, realising returns, and unlocking opportunities. The Trustee considers ESG factors in the decisions it takes regarding the investment strategy and the allocation and management of the Plan's assets. The Trustee's investment advisers integrate ESG factors throughout their advice, from setting the strategy to manager selection and the monitoring funds. The Trustee and its advisers are aligned in their beliefs that ESG factors are relevant across all asset classes when targeting long-term sustainable returns, and that investors should be good stewards of their assets.

#### **Investment Management Arrangements**

The Trustee has appointed several investment managers to manage the assets of the Plan as listed in the SIP. The investment managers are regulated under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.

All decisions about the day-to-day management of the assets have been delegated to the investment managers via a written agreement. The delegation includes decisions about:

- Selection, retention and realisation of investments including taking into account all financially material considerations in making these decisions.
- The exercise of rights (including voting rights) attaching to the investments.
- Undertaking engagement activities with investee companies and other stakeholders, where appropriate.

The Trustee takes its investment managers' policies into account when selecting and monitoring managers. The Trustee takes into account the performance targets on which the investment managers are evaluated. The investment managers are expected to exercise their powers of investment with a view to giving effect to the principles contained within this Statement, so far as is reasonably practicable.

As most of the Plan's assets are invested in pooled vehicles, the custody of these holdings is arranged by the investment manager.

The Trustee has appointed a custodian to operate alongside the segregated LDI mandate in place. The custodian provides safekeeping for the assets and performs all associated administrative duties such as the collection of dividends.

In April 2008, the Trustee purchased a matching asset for the then current pensioner liabilities via a "buy in" transaction, i.e. the purchase of a bulk annuity policy with Legal & General Assurance Society ("LGAS"). The annuity is an asset of the Plan and the corresponding pensioner obligations also remain as liabilities of the Plan. On a quarterly basis, until March 2010, the Trustee paid an additional premium to LGAS to secure matching assets for further retirement pensions as they came into payment.

In February 2020, the Trustee purchased a further matching asset for the remaining pensioner liabilities not covered by the 2008 buy in via a second buy in transaction with LGAS.

## **Investment Manager Monitoring and Engagement**

The Trustee monitors and engages with its investment managers and other Plan stakeholders on a variety of issues. Below is a summary of the areas covered and how the Trustee seeks to engage on these matters with its investment managers.

Areas for	Method for monitoring and	Circumstances for additional
engagement	engagement	monitoring and engagement
Performance, Strategy and Risk	<ul> <li>The Trustee receives a quarterly monitoring report which details information on the underlying investment performance, strategy and overall risks, which are considered at the relevant Trustee meeting.</li> <li>The Trustee's investment managers are invited, in person, to present to the Trustee on their performance, strategy and risk exposures.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>There are significant changes made to the investment strategy.</li> <li>The risk levels within the assets managed by the investment manager have increased to a level above and beyond the Trustee's expectations.</li> <li>Underperformance vs the performance objective over the period that this objective applies.</li> </ul>
Environmental, Social, Corporate Governance factors and the exercising of rights	<ul> <li>The Trustee's investment managers provide annual reports on how they have engaged with issuers regarding social, environmental and corporate governance issues.</li> <li>The Trustee receives information from its investment advisers on the investment managers' approach to engagement.</li> <li>The Trustee will engage, via its investment adviser, with investment managers and/or other relevant persons about relevant matters at least annually.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The manager has not acted in accordance with their policies and frameworks.</li> <li>The manager's policies are not in line with the Trustee's policies in this area.</li> </ul>

Through the engagement described above, the Trustee will work with the investment managers to improve their alignment with the above policies. Where this improvement is not forthcoming, the Trustee will review the investment manager's appointment and will consider terminating the arrangement.

Signed:

#### Date:

On behalf of the Trustee of the BBA Income and Protection Plan

## Appendix A – Risks, Financially Material Considerations and Non-Financial matters

A non-exhaustive list of risks and financially material considerations that the Trustee has considered and sought to manage is shown below.

Risks	Definition	Policy
Investment	The likelihood of the Plan's assets achieving losses relative to an expected rate of return.	<ul> <li>Selecting an investment objective that is achievable and is consistent with the Plan's funding basis and the Sponsoring Employer's covenant strength.</li> <li>Investing a diversified portfolio of assets.</li> </ul>
Funding	The extent to which there are insufficient Plan assets available to cover ongoing and future liability cash flows.	<ul> <li>Funding risk is considered as part of the investment strategy review and the actuarial valuation.</li> <li>The Trustee will agree an appropriate basis in conjunction with the investment strategy to ensure an appropriate journey plan is agreed to manage funding risk over time.</li> </ul>
Covenant	The risk that the Sponsoring Employer becomes unable to continue providing the required financial report to the Plan.	• When developing the Plan's investment and funding objectives, the Trustee takes account of the strength of the covenant ensuring the level of risk the Plan is exposed to is at an appropriate level for the covenant to support.

The Trustee adopts an integrated risk management approach. The three key risks associated with in this framework and how they are managed are stated below:

The Plan is exposed to a number of underlying risks relating to the Plan's investment strategy, these are summarised below:

Risk	Definition	Policy
Interest rates and	The risk of mismatch	To target a percentage of hedging relative to the
inflation	between the value of the Plan	Plan's liabilities on a Managed Buyout basis
	assets and present value of	approximately in-line with the funding level on
	liabilities from changes in	the same basis.
	interest rates and inflation	
	expectations.	
Liquidity	Difficulties in raising	To maintain a sufficient allocation to liquid
	sufficient cash when	assets so that there is a prudent buffer to pay
	required without adversely	members benefits as they fall due (including
	impacting the fair market	transfer values), and to provide collateral to the
	value of the investment.	LDI/synthetic equity manager.
Market risk	Experiencing losses due to	To hold assets such as bonds which deliver a
	factors that affect the overall	return through contractual income, which limits
	performance of the financial	the exposure to market risk.
	markets.	
		To appoint investment managers who diversify
		market risk by region and sector.

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Credit Environmental, Social and Governance	Default on payments due as part of a financial security contract. Exposure to Environmental, Social and Governance factors, including but not limited to climate change, which can impact the performance of the Plan's investments.	To diversify this risk by investing in a range of credit markets across different geographies and sectors. To appoint investment managers who actively manage this risk by seeking to invest only in debt securities where the yield available sufficiently compensates the Plan for the risk of default. To appoint managers who satisfy the following criteria (and monitor these managers on an ongoing basis), unless there is a good reason why the manager does not satisfy each criteria: 1. Responsible Investment ('RI') Policy / Framework 2. Implemented via Investment Process 3. A track record of using engagement and any voting rights to manage ESG factor to improve medium to long-term performance 4. ESG specific reporting 5. UN PRI Signatory Further details on ESG policy can be found in the ESG Policy Statement which sets out the Trustee's policy on integrating ESG factors into the investment decision-making process.
Currency	The potential for adverse currency movements to have an impact on the Plan's investments.	Hedge 100% currency risk on the credit mandates. For the equity mandate 100% of the USD exposure is hedged which is c. <sup>2</sup> / <sub>3</sub> of the total currency exposure.
Non-financial	Any factor that is not expected to have a financial impact on the Plan's investments.	Non-financial matters are not taken into account in the selection, retention or realisation of investments.

# Appendix B

The Trustee has the following policies in relation to the investment management arrangements for the Plan:

How the investment managers are incentivised to align their investment strategy and decisions with the Trustee policies.	<ul> <li>As the Plan is mostly invested in several pooled funds, there is not scope for these funds to tailor their strategy and decisions in line with the Trustee policies. However, the Trustee instructs its investment advisers to engage with their managers in order to outline the Trustee's policies and influence future decision making to align to these.</li> <li>The Trustee has invested in a segregated LDI arrangement, thereby allowing the investment manager to align their strategy with the Trustee policies. This is reviewed on an ongoing basis to ensure that the manager's strategy and decisions are in line with</li> </ul>
How the investment managers are	• The Trustee reviews the investment managers'
incentivised to make decisions	• The Trustee reviews the investment managers performance relative to medium and long-term
based on assessments of medium	objectives as documented in the investment
to long-term financial and non-	management agreements.
financial performance of an issuer	• The Trustee monitors the investment managers'
of debt or equity and to engage	engagement and voting activity on an annual basis
with them to improve	as part of their ESG monitoring process.
performance in the medium to	• The Trustee does not incentivise the investment
long-term.	managers to make decisions based on non-
	financial performance.
How the method (and time	• The Trustee reviews the performance of all of the
horizon) of the evaluation of	Plan's investments on a net of cost basis to ensure
investment managers'	a true measurement of performance versus
performance and the	investment objectives.
remuneration for their services	• The Trustee evaluates performance over the time
are in line with the Trustee	period stated in the investment managers'
policies.	performance objective, which is typically 3 to 5 years
The method for monitoring	<ul> <li>The Trustee does not directly monitor turnover</li> </ul>
portfolio turnover costs incurred	• The Trustee does not directly monitor turnover costs. However, the investment managers are
by investment managers and how	incentivised to minimise costs as they are
they define and monitor targeted	measured on a net of cost basis.
portfolio turnover or turnover	
range.	
The duration of the Plan's	
arrangements with the investment	the context of the type of fund the Plan invests in.
managers	• For closed ended funds or funds with a lock-in
	period the Trustee ensures the timeframe of the
	investment or lock-in is in line with the Trustee
	objectives and Plan's liquidity requirements.

	<ul> <li>For open ended funds, the duration is flexible and the Trustee will from time-to-time consider the appropriateness of these investments and whether they should continue to be held.</li> </ul>	
Voting Policy - How the Trustee expects investment managers to vote on their behalf	• The Trustee has acknowledged responsibility for the voting policies that are implemented by the investment managers on their behalf.	
Engagement Policy - How the Trustee will engage with investment managers, direct assets and others about 'relevant matters'	<ul> <li>The Trustee has acknowledged responsibility for the engagement policies that are implemented by the investment managers on its behalf.</li> <li>The Trustee, via its investment advisers, will engage with managers about 'relevant matters' at least annually.</li> <li>Example stewardship activities that the Trustee has considered are listed below.</li> <li>Selecting and appointing asset managers – the Trustee will consider potential managers' stewardship policies and activities</li> <li>Asset manager engagement and monitoring – on an annual basis, the Trustee assesses the voting and engagement activity of its asset managers. The results of this analysis feeds into the Trustee's investment decision making.</li> <li>Collaborative investor initiatives – the Trustee will consider joining/ supporting collaborative investor initiatives.</li> </ul>	

## Appendix C

## **Manager Arrangements**

Details of the Trustee's investment strategy and structure are provided in the tables below. Any change in investment structure may require a corresponding change in the statement.

Asset Class	Target Proportion (%)	Benchmark
Return Seeking	56%-76%	
Synthetic Equity	0%-15%	MSCI World ESG Leaders (100% USD hedged to GBP)
Asset Backed Securities	36%-56%	SONIA
Illiquid Credit	0-20%	SONIA
Liability Matching	44%	
Liability Driven Investment (LDI)	44%	Funding level on a Managed Buy-out Basis
Total	100%	

Note: The actual weightings fluctuate with the holdings in both respective benchmark indices.

The strategy shown in the table above is subject to ongoing review by the Trustee. As the funding position of the Plan continues to improve, the synthetic equity allocation will be reduced as part of the Plan's de-risking journey. Additionally, the allocation to the private credit mandate with Partners Group will continue to reduce as the Partners Group Fund matures with a current contractual liquidation date of 31 December 2025.

The Plan's assets (excluding the portion allocated to the buy-in policies) are managed by the following managers, all of whom are authorised under the Financial Services Markets Act 2000 to undertake investment business.

Mandates	Target Proportion (%)
Return Seeking	56%-76%
Schroders Synthetic Equity	0%-15%
Schroders Asset Backed Securities	36%-56%
Partners Group - Private Market Credit Strategies Fund (2018)	0%-20%
Liability Matching	44%
Schroders Liability Driven Investment (LDI)	44%
Total	100%

The Trustee considers rebalancing the Plan's assets on a quarterly basis. The typical objective will be to ensure the allocation to "growth" and "matching" assets will remain within the bounds of +/-5% of target. Any rebalancing switches required will be used to bring investment manager weightings back towards target allocations. The Trustee also uses any monthly surpluses or deficits arising from the administrator's cashflow to rebalance.