## Investment Beliefs Implementation Review Presentation

September 15, 2015



Investment Office Asset Allocation/Risk Management

#### **Overall Implementation Review Findings Summary**

Towers Watson assessed CalPERS' implementation of Investment Beliefs and found:

- CalPERS' adoption and implementation as "above average" overall compared to a peer reference group of 15 funds
- Strong Board and staff values and talent are driving the organization forward
- CalPERS has the ability to undertake complex change processes successfully
- Even on comparatively "unsettled issues" Board and staff are, as a whole, united on many issues.



### July Offsite Starting Point - May Recap

#### May 2015 Presentation Recap

- Towers Watson presented findings of their Implementation Review
- Included a recommendation to conduct a session focusing on areas where the Beliefs were not leading to settled positions
- July Offsite session structured to support strategic dialogue though interactive voting and small group discussion



#### **July Offsite Voting Results**

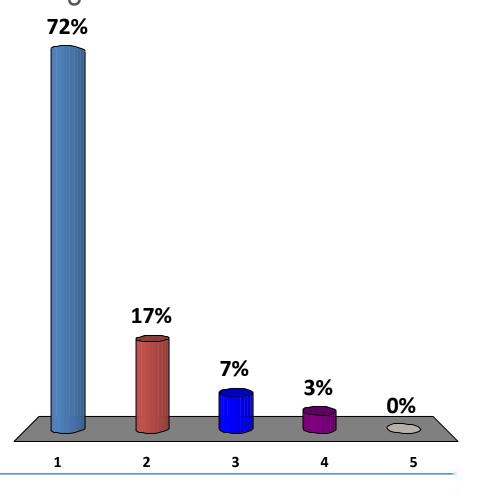
#### -Risk Related Beliefs Section

-ESG Related Beliefs Section



#### Offsite Session Voting Results – Risk Section 1. A future global financial crisis is a significant risk to the fund

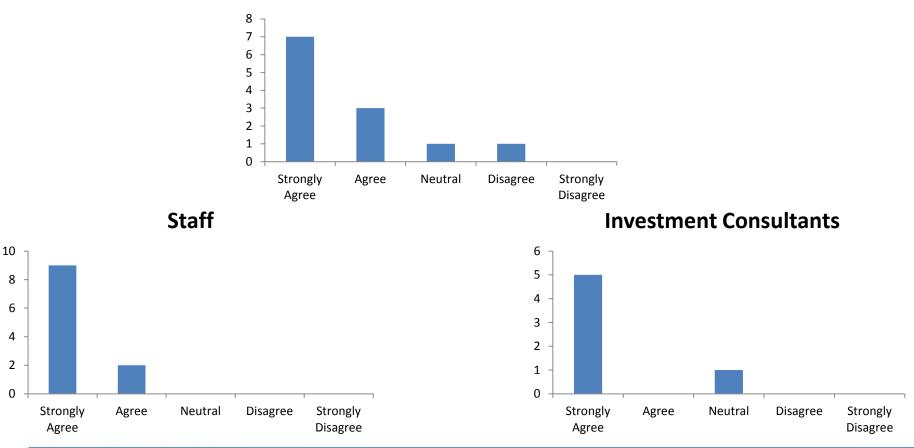
1.Strongly Agree2.Agree3.Neutral4.Disagree5.Strongly Disagree





Source: Towers Watson July 2015 Offsite Presentation – Risk Session

#### 1. A future global financial crisis is a significant risk to the fund

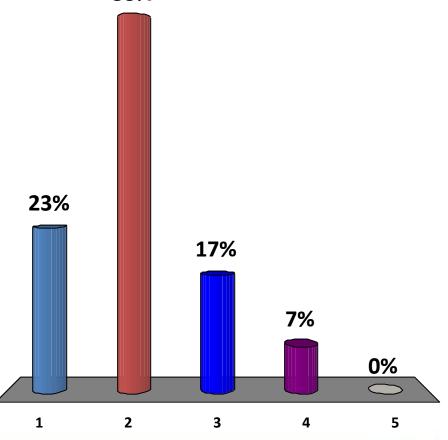






2. Resource constraints/ limits to growth are significant risks to the fund 53%

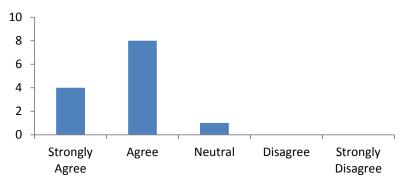
Strongly Agree
 Agree
 Neutral
 Disagree
 Strongly Disagree





Source: Towers Watson July 2015 Offsite Presentation – Risk Session

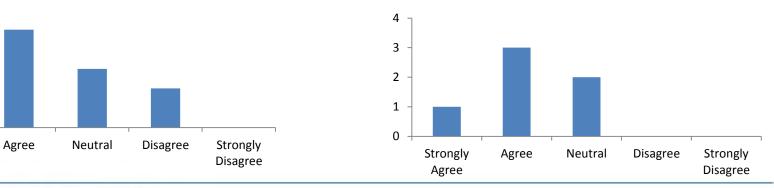
#### Voting Detail 2. Resource constraints/ limits to growth are significant risks to the fund



#### **Board Members**









Strongly

Agree

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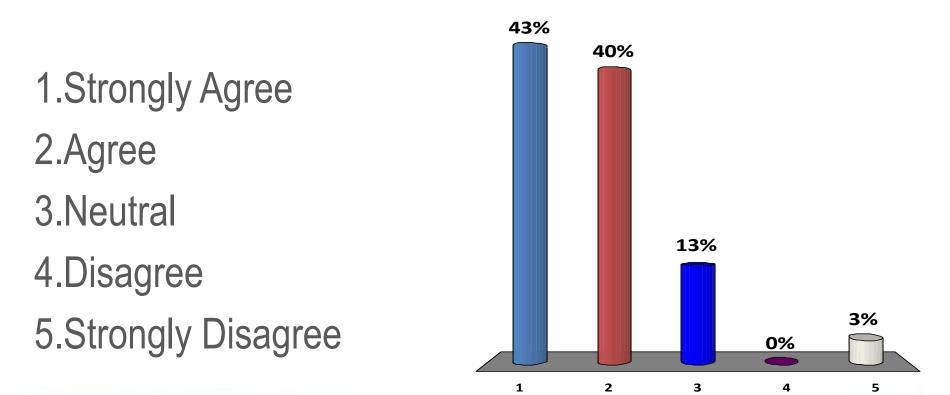
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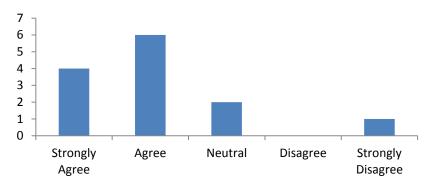
5. CalPERS will find it difficult to attain the actuarially required rate of return on its PERF\* assets in the next decade or so





Source: Towers Watson July 2015 Offsite Presentation – Risk Session \* Public Employees' Retirement Fund (PERF)

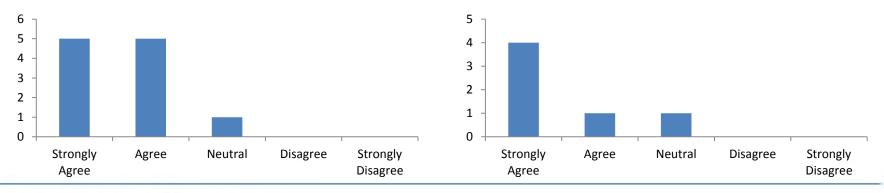
#### Voting Detail 5. CalPERS will find it difficult to attain the actuarially required rate of return on its PERF assets in the next decade or so



**Board Members** 



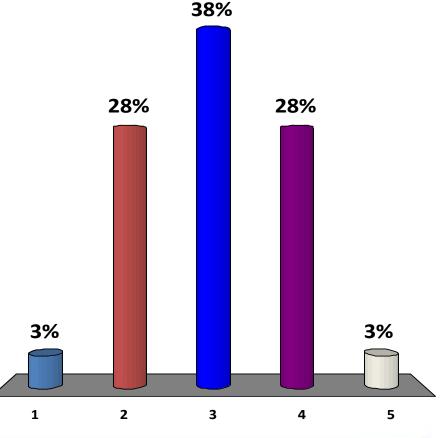
**Investment Consultants** 





Investment Office Asset Allocation/Risk Management

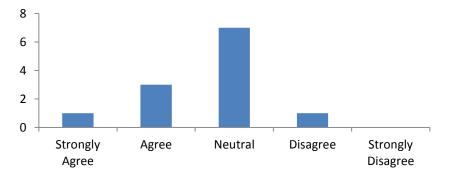
- 6. The Board receives an appropriate and effective feed of risk information on CaIPERS funds
- 1.Strongly Agree2.Agree3.Neutral4.Disagree5.Strongly Disagree





Source: Towers Watson July 2015 Offsite Presentation – Risk Session

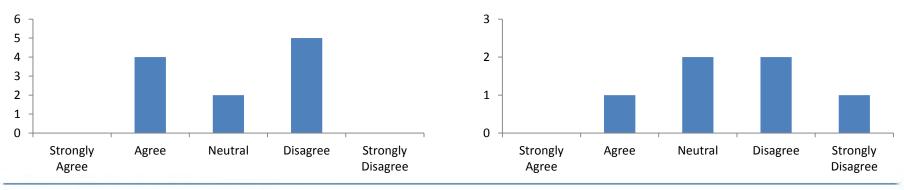
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**Board Members** 



Investment Consultants

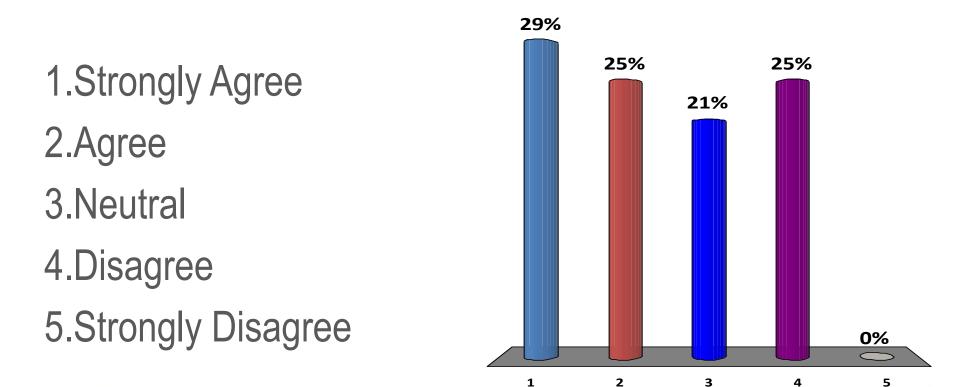




Investment Office Asset Allocation/Risk Management

#### Offsite Session | Voting Results – Risk Section 7. The probability of mission impairment is a more helpful risk for

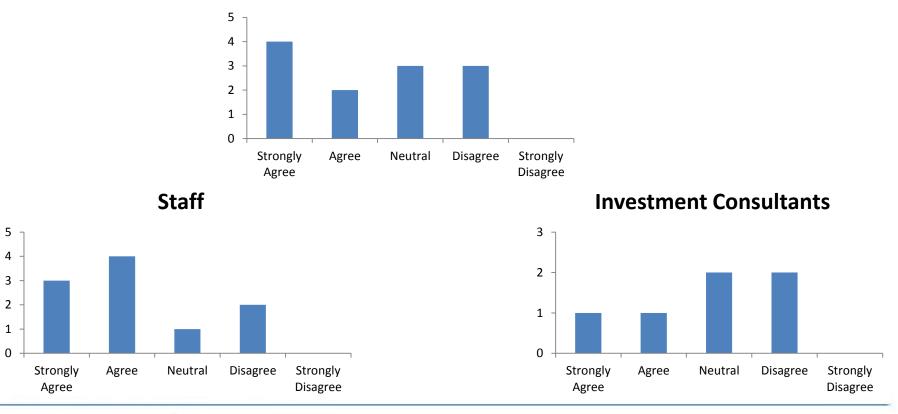
the fund to focus upon than other measures of risk





Source: Towers Watson July 2015 Offsite Presentation – Risk Session

7. The probability of mission impairment is a more helpful risk for the fund to focus upon than other measures of risk

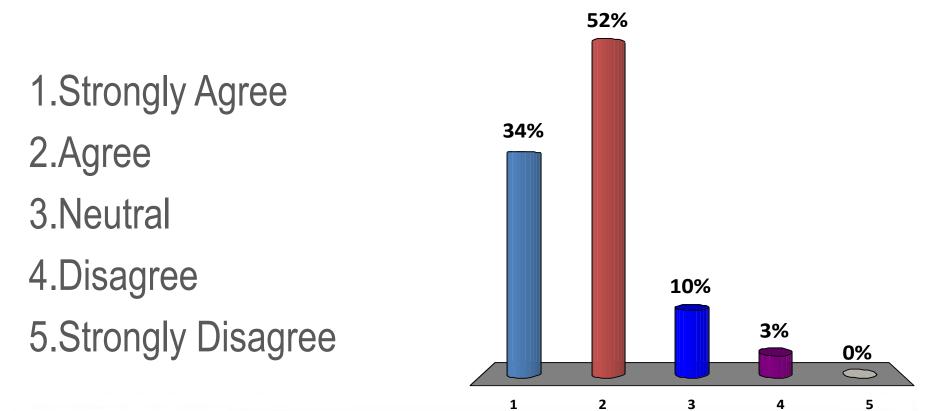


**Board Members** 



Investment Office Asset Allocation/Risk Management

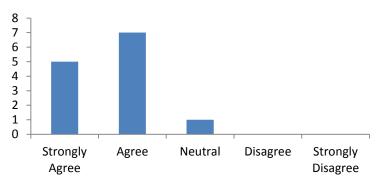
8. Risk factors and return drivers provide a better investment framework for the fund than do asset class divisions





Source: Towers Watson July 2015 Offsite Presentation – Risk Session

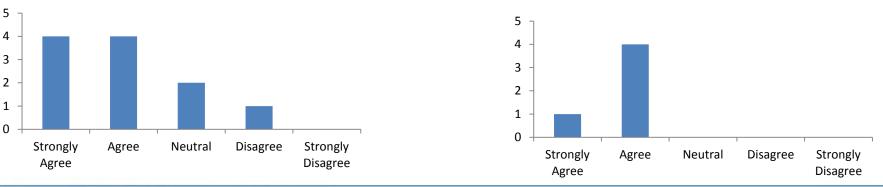
# 8. Risk factors and return drivers provide a better investment framework for the fund than do asset class divisions



**Board Members** 

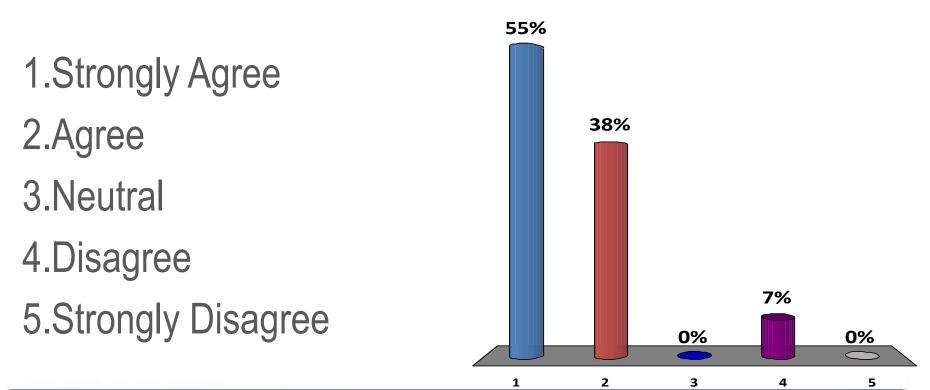








Offsite Session Voting Results – Risk Section 9. The long-term is materially different to the sum of multiple short-term periods, and therefore long-term risk management requires a different focus and set of measures

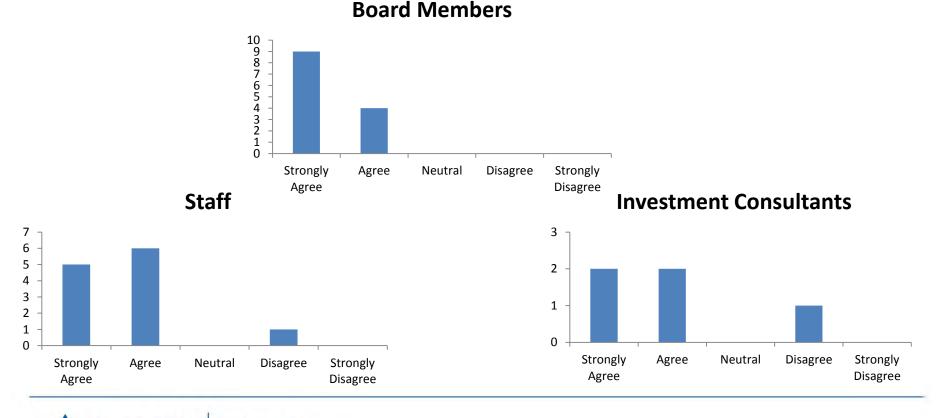




Source: Towers Watson July 2015 Offsite Presentation – Risk Session

PER

9. The long-term is materially different to the sum of multiple short-term periods, and therefore long-term risk management requires a different focus and set of measures





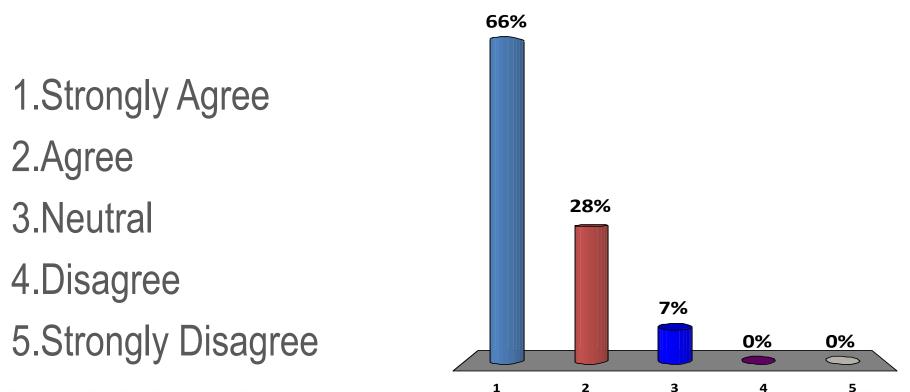
#### **July Offsite Voting Results**

-Risk Related Beliefs Section

#### -ESG Related Beliefs Section



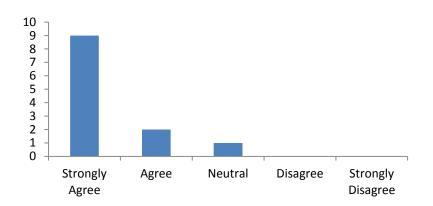
1. There is evidence that carbon is causing material climate change





Source: Towers Watson July 2015 Offsite Presentation – ESG Session

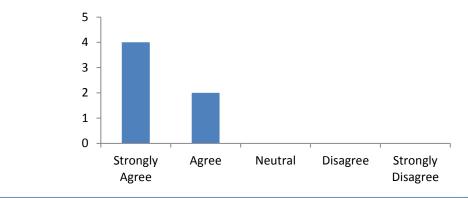
# 1. There is evidence that carbon is causing material climate change Board Members



Staff

Neutral







Agree

Strongly

Agree

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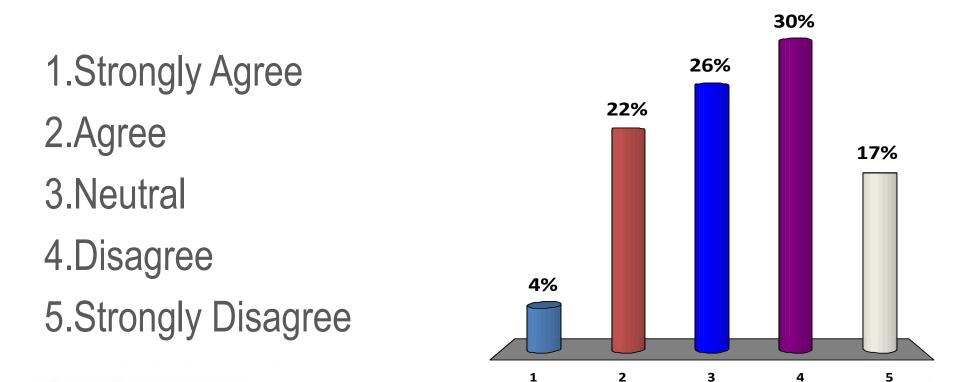
Investment Office Asset Allocation/Risk Management

Disagree

Strongly

Disagree

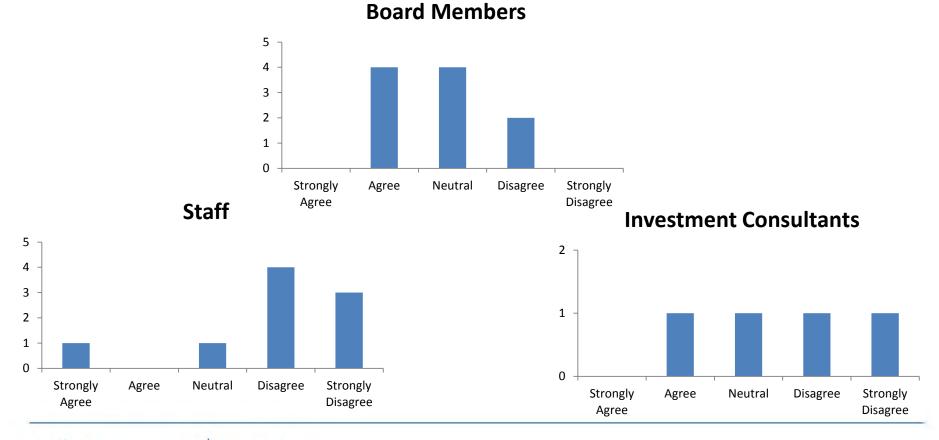
2. There is evidence that high carbon/fossil fuel companies are structurally overpriced





Source: Towers Watson July 2015 Offsite Presentation – ESG Session

## 2. There is evidence that high carbon/fossil fuel companies are structurally overpriced

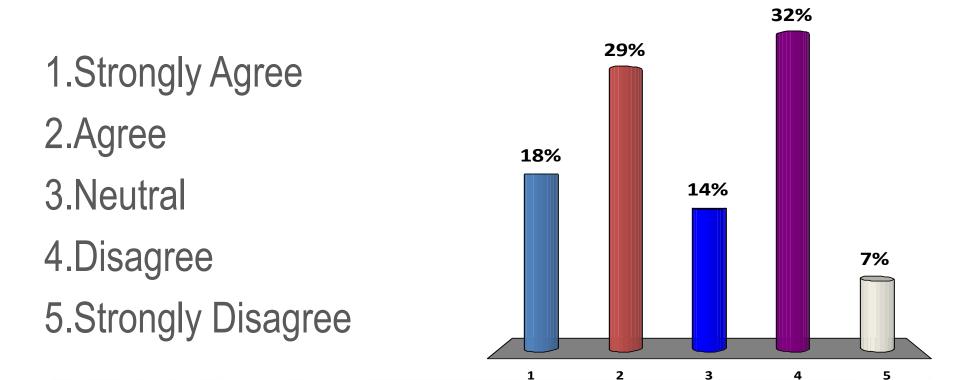




Investment Office

Asset Allocation/Risk Management

3. It is likely that ESG factors have been priced into assets by the market (whether accurately or not)

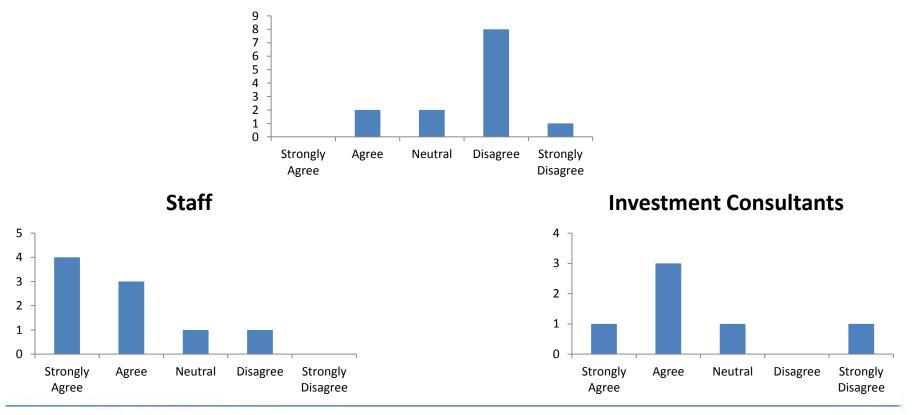




Source: Towers Watson July 2015 Offsite Presentation – ESG Session

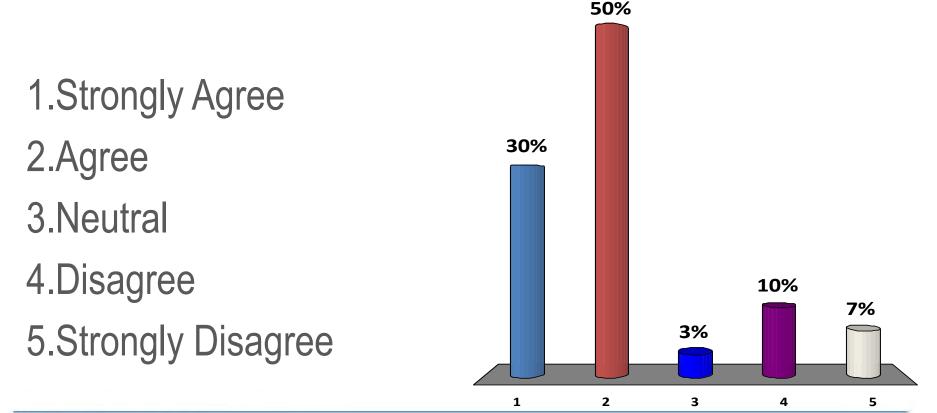
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**Board Members** 





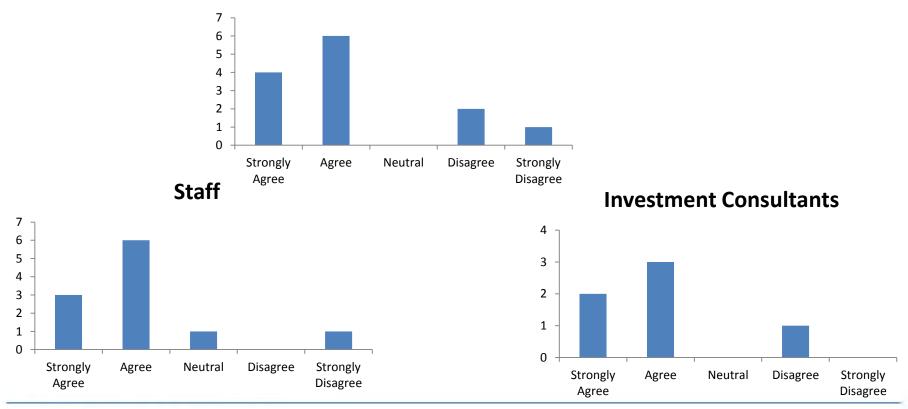
4. The lack of performance evidence is a limitation for the fund to take any systematic positions to ESG factors





Source: Towers Watson July 2015 Offsite Presentation – ESG Session

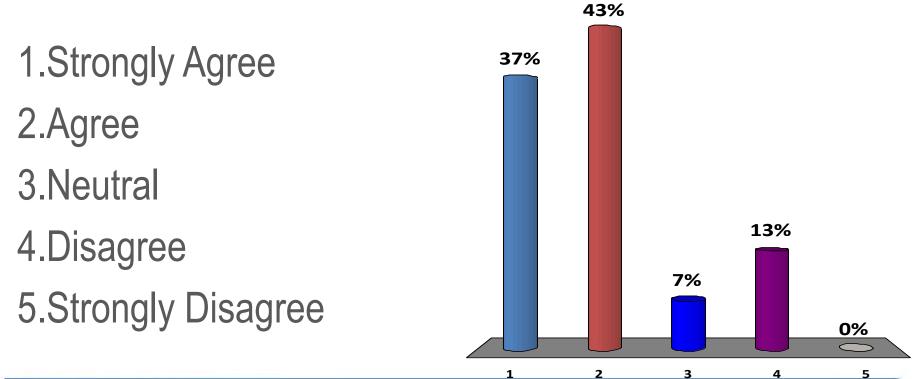
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**Board Members** 



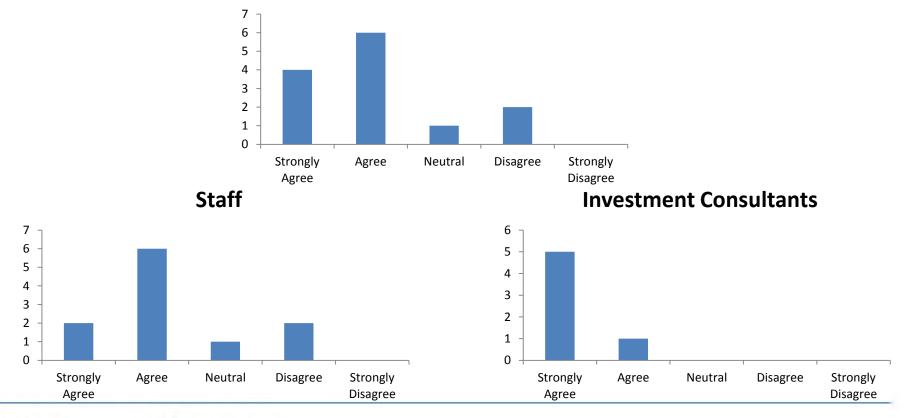
5. ESG metrics are relatively untested/ can be subjective and this acts as a limitation to ESG factors being significant in investors' decisions





Source: Towers Watson July 2015 Offsite Presentation – ESG Session

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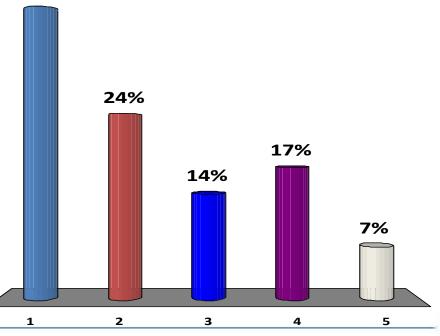
**Board Members** 



Investment Office

Asset Allocation/Risk Management

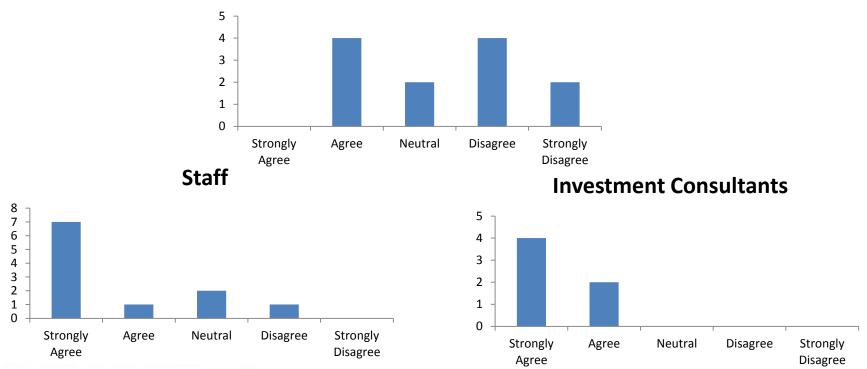
- 12. Any Board-directed policies should be captured in the CaIPERS "reference portfolio" so that performance impacts of that stance can be isolated and attributed to the Board's decision
- 1.Strongly Agree
  2.Agree
  3.Neutral
  4.Disagree
  5.Strongly Disagree





Source: Towers Watson July 2015 Offsite Presentation – ESG Session

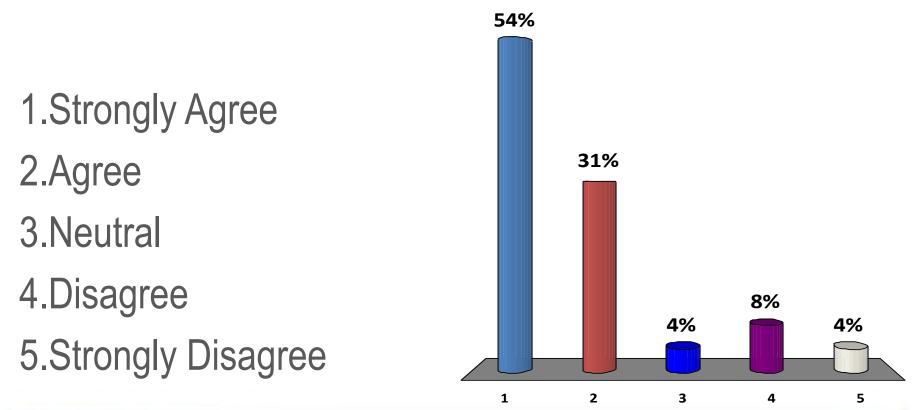
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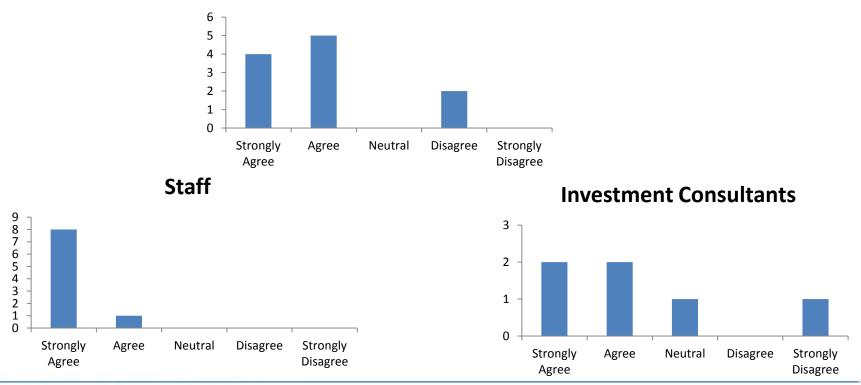
13. CalPERS' current ESG positions on active ownership/global governance are appropriate for CalPERS' future plans





Source: Towers Watson July 2015 Offsite Presentation – ESG Session

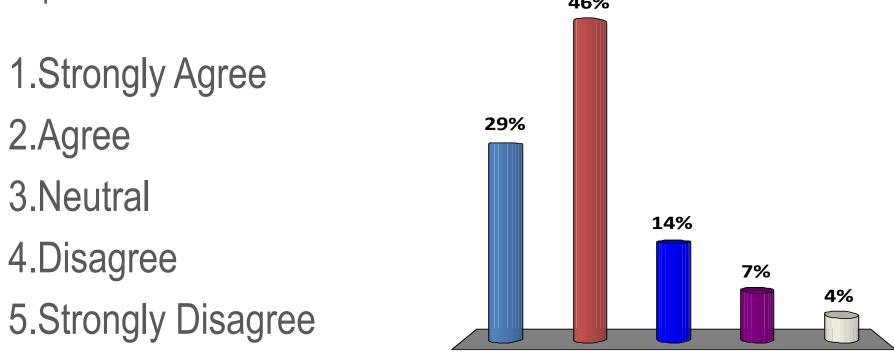
## 13. CalPERS' current ESG positions on active ownership/global governance are appropriate for CalPERS' future plans



**Board Members** 



14. CalPERS' current positions on integrated ESG/ ESG manager expectations are appropriate for CalPERS' future plans



1



Source: Towers Watson July 2015 Offsite Presentation – ESG Session

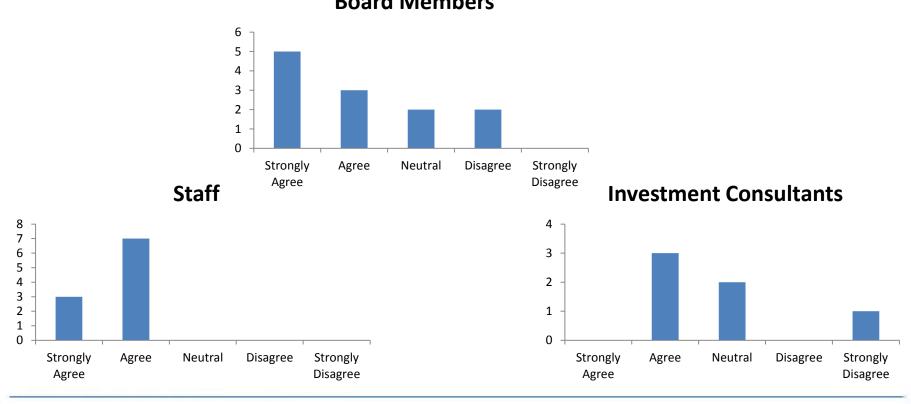
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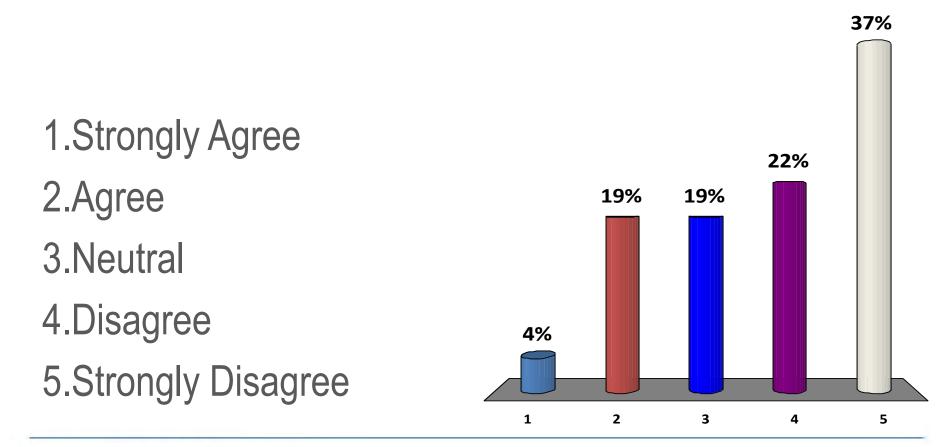
2

#### 14. CalPERS' current positions on integrated ESG/ ESG manager expectations are appropriate for CalPERS' future plans Board Members





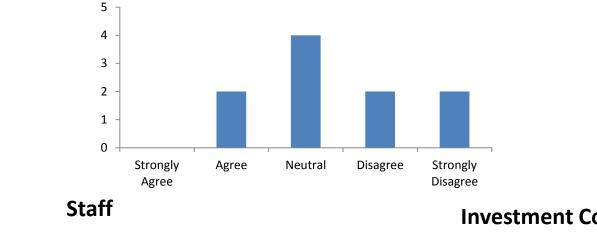
15. CalPERS should do more with divestments



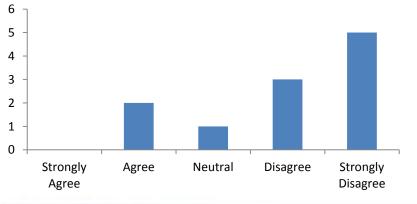


Source: Towers Watson July 2015 Offsite Clicker Results Summary

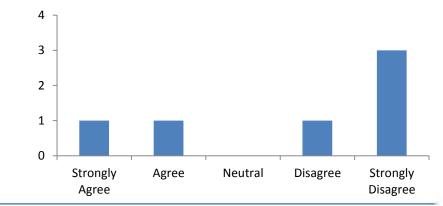
#### 15. CalPERS should do more with divestments



#### **Board Members**



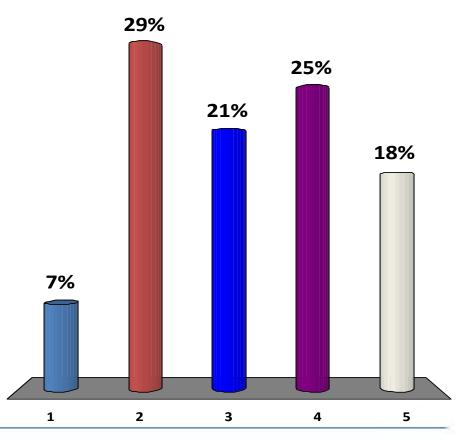






#### Offsite Session Voting Results – ESG Section 16. CalPERS should do more on targeted ESG/ targeted capital/ strategic tilting

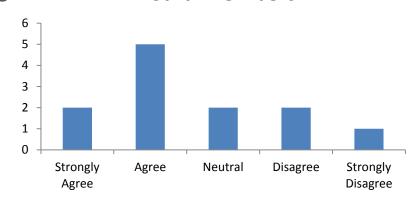
1.Strongly Agree2.Agree3.Neutral4.Disagree5.Strongly Disagree





Source: Towers Watson July 2015 Offsite Clicker Results Summary

#### 16. CalPERS should do more on targeted ESG/ targeted capital/ strategic tilting Board Members



Staff

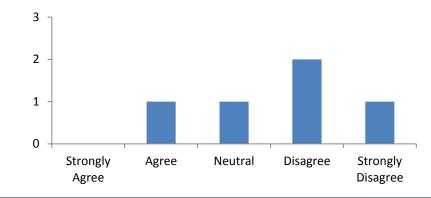
Neutral

Disagree

Strongly

Disagree







Agree

Strongly

Agree

4

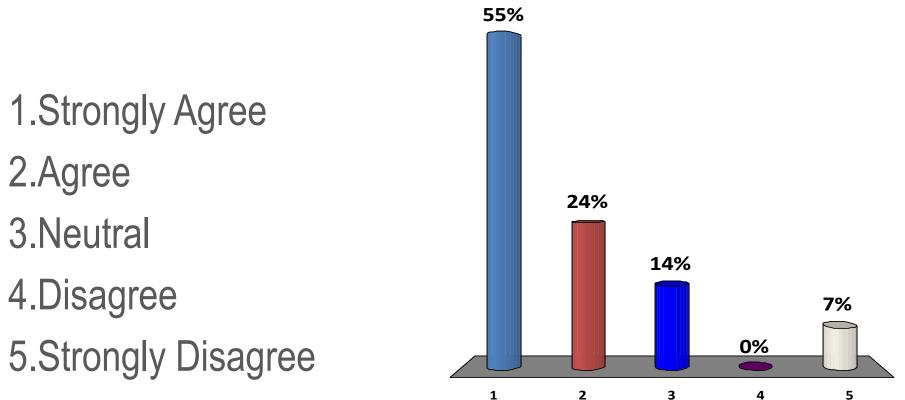
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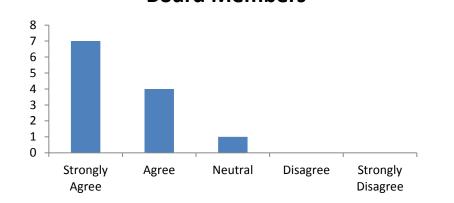
17. CalPERS should do more on wider engagement/ working with others/ collaboration





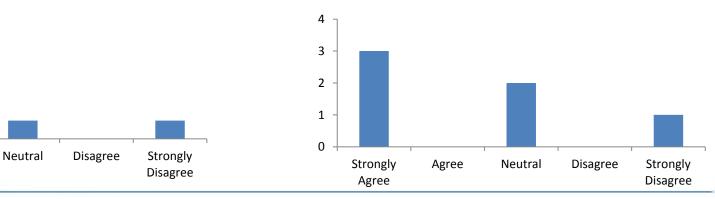
Source: Towers Watson July 2015 Offsite Clicker Results Summary

# 17. CalPERS should do more on wider engagement/ working with others/ collaboration



Staff

**Investment Consultants** 





Agree

Strongly

Agree

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> Investment Office Sol Asset Allocation/Risk Management

## July Offsite Summary | Risk Session

- Staff and the Board were generally in agreement
- Further evaluation of "mission impairment" as a way to frame risk will add value
- Enhancing our understanding of risk is a key priority for the enterprise
  - Enhanced risk and performance reporting is a priority initiative for the Investment Office 2020 Vision
  - Further exploration of risk factor concept and ongoing enhancement of ALM process



## July Offsite Summary | ESG Session

- Board and staff results indicated:
  - Moderately different stances on targeted ESG investing and divestment
  - Different opinions on "pricing evidence"
  - Agreement that additional data and evidence are needed and wanted
  - The issue of accountability for Board-directed investment policy stances deserves additional discussion
- Further dialogue on accountability for policy stances and performance attribution will strengthen governance



#### Proposed Path Forward

- While CalPERS has successfully embedded and applied the Investment Beliefs since adoption, as expected in this type of process there continues to be room for improvement.
- Many of Towers Watson's recommendations are in alignment with existing initiatives and workstreams, some in the near-term, and others which are undoubtedly multi-years efforts.
- Attachment 2 provides a summary of the key recommendations identified in the course of the Review.



#### Proposed Path Forward Highlights | Unsettled Issues

Area	ltem	Near-Term Path Forward
Risk Related Beliefs	<ul> <li>Further explore concept of "probability of mission impairment" as an area to focus on for the fund</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Dedicated Investment Office 2020 Vision Initiative to enhance risk, performance and exposure reporting for the fund</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Continued focused discussions in ALM Workshops and Special Sessions</li> </ul>
ESG Related Beliefs	b. Question 12- Disparity of opinion on attribution of	b. Staff supports additional discussion to address this issue
	Board-directed policies	Upcoming Committee agenda items regarding divestments may provide opportunities for additional dialogue (2015)



#### Proposed Path Forward Highlights Unsettled Issues Continued

Area	ltem	Near-Term Path Forward
ESG Related Beliefs	<ul> <li>Board and staff desire additional data, evidence, and information on ESG issues</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>c. Establish a dedicated subcommittee to staff's internal Investment Strategy Group focusing on governance and sustainability issues</li> <li>Continue efforts to gather additional research and evidence, such as:         <ul> <li>The environmental investment strategy underway in Global Equity</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Phase 2 of the Sustainable Investment Research Initiative (2015-16)</li> </ul>

• Manager ESG Expectations Pilot (2015-16)

Build opportunities for further discussion into Committee calendar - Focus on carbon/fossil fuel footprint and views on pricing at January 2016 Offsite Session



#### **Questions & Comments**

