



## Corona Virus Statement

**18 March 2020**

In these unprecedented and uncertain times Ethical Investors, like all other businesses and organisations, have developed a strategy for managing this uncertainty. To this end, we have prepared this short statement to reassure our clients that we remain here to provide ongoing advice and support, albeit with some changes.

Until further notice we propose the following changes to working practices:

- Financial advisers will not conduct face-to-face meetings with clients, fund managers etc. Where possible, meetings will move to an exchange of emails for simple matters or a telephone meeting where more personal interaction is required.
- We will operate a policy of 50% staff working from home and 50% in the office. This policy will operate with a weekly changeover for those who remain unaffected by the virus and not required to self-isolate.
- By maintaining a consistent, although reduced, office presence we will be able to deal with telephone calls and post. Post will be scanned so all those working from home will have access to these documents.

We can't claim that the above will have no impact on our ability to look after clients, but we believe that this rotation system provides the best opportunities to meet the needs of our clients whilst protecting the health of our staff at the same time.

The fund and portfolio managers that we deal with are adopting similar policies and we will be maintaining close contact with those responsible for managing the funds of our clients. All of these managers are advising us to ride-out this period of market uncertainty and to wait for things to settle down. During significant periods of uncertainty stock markets become extremely volatile and, where there is fear of economic impact on companies the volatility leads to falls in the market.



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