

Review of voting record at TMI - July 2019 to July 2020

Voting for the year ended July 2020 was heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic as the number of resolutions at AGMs were lower while resolutions added by shareholders all but disappeared.

We voted on 1,569 shareholder resolutions and voted in line with management on all resolutions. The number of resolutions was lower than last year following the sale of the private wealth business and the lower number of direct US equity holdings held by TMI and gradual move towards using Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) and other collectives for equity exposure.

In comparison to last year we did not see any shareholder resolutions for our investee companies addressing such issues as differences in gender pay disclosure.

Looking forward we can expected to see further focus on companies addressing ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) issues which has become more popular, especially among institutional investors, over the past year.

While ESG metrics are becoming more popular there still remain issues as to how to incorporate these, while there are many providers of ESG data there is little consistency between the various measures as this component of investing is still very much in it's infancy.

As part of our commitment to sustainable investing Thomas Miller Investment has recently become a signatory to the United Nation's supported Principles for Responsible Investment, a voluntary and aspirational set of investment principles that offer a menu of possible actions for incorporating ESG issues into investment practice. We believe this will improve our ability to meet commitments to beneficiaries as well as better align our investment activities with the broader interests of society.