

Mercer Global Investment Forums 2026

Post consensus

Europe | 23-25 February | London

Monday 23 February

Time	Session/speakers
1:00–6:00 pm	Asset Manager Briefing
6:00–8:00 pm	Welcome reception and networking All attendees

Tuesday 24 February

Time	Session/speaker(s)
8:00–9:15 am	Welcome desk and breakfast
9:15–9:25 am	Our day ahead Helen Hope, UK Investments Leader
9:25–9:55 am	Post consensus — Themes and opportunities for 2026 Alex Geere, UK Consulting Director Garvan McCarthy, Chief Investment Officer, EMEA and Asia
9:55–10:45 am	Keynote conversation — Global risks, geopolitics, and investment outcomes General Sir Patrick Sanders, Former Chief of the General Staff, British Army Deb Wardle, Head of Portfolio Management
10:45–11:15 am	Coffee break and networking

Time	Session/speaker(s)			
	Client focus	Alternatives	Debate	A fresh look
11:15–11:45 am	<p>Private credit for insurers — Investing in an uncertain market</p> <p>Michael Butler, Alternatives Investment Director Leader Europe and IMETA</p> <p>Nuwan Goonetilleke, Head of Capital Markets, Phoenix Group</p> <p>Huw van Steenis, Vice Chair, Oliver Wyman</p>	<p>Nature, impact, and returns — Can private market investors have it all?</p> <p>Hill Gaston, Sustainable Investment Specialist</p> <p>Mona Huys, Impact Solutions Specialist</p>	<p>Culture not quotas</p> <p>Alexander Bast, Director, Workforce Transformation and Employee Experience</p> <p>Sarika Goel, Global Head of Sustainable Investments Research</p> <p>Mandy Kirby, Co-Chief Executive, City Hive</p>	<p>Lessons on collective DC</p> <p>JP Crowley, DC Senior Investment Consultant</p> <p>Roel Mehlkopf, Senior Client Advisor, Cardano</p> <p>Fred Nieuwland, Chief Investment Officer, Mars, Incorporated</p>
11:55 am–12:25 pm	<p>Innovation in DC</p> <p>Tess Page, UK Wealth Strategy Leader</p> <p>Rene Poisson, Chair of Trustees, J.P. Morgan UK Pension Plan</p> <p>Adele Ray, Head of DC Client Development</p>	<p>How not to do private markets</p> <p>James Brundrett, Senior Investment Consultant</p> <p>Javier Feliu Martín, Alternative Investments Director, VidaCaixa</p> <p>Mike Forestner, Global CIO, Private Markets</p>	<p>Net zero — Where next for investors in an uncertain climate?</p> <p>Rich Dell, Global Head of Equities</p> <p>Annabell Siem Mathiesen, Global Head of Sustainable Investment</p>	<p>The good, the fad, and the snugly part two — A fistful of (thematic) dollars</p> <p>Helen Prior, UK Client Director</p> <p>Nick White, Global Strategic Research Director</p>
12:35–1:05 pm	<p>Mission possible — Aligning portfolios for endowment and foundations</p> <p>Deborah Cairney, Senior Investment Consultant</p> <p>Keith Guthrie, Head of Sustainability UK</p> <p>Vanessa Hodge, UK Sustainability Integration Lead</p>	<p>Beyond beta — Unlocking liquidity, diversification, and capital-efficient alpha</p> <p>Penny Aitken, European Head of Hedge Fund Research</p> <p>Tom Rivers, Head of Investment Strategy</p>	<p>What needs to happen for digital assets to be institutionally friendly?</p> <p>Fahad Badar, Senior Multi-Asset Analyst</p> <p>Julius Bendikas, European Head of Macro</p>	<p>How to source value when credit spreads are tight</p> <p>Paul Cavalier, Global Head of Fixed Income</p> <p>Noel Collins, European Head of Fixed Income Research</p> <p>Lewis Emmons, Investment Research Director</p>
1:05–2:30 pm	Lunch			

	Client focus	Alternatives	Debate	A fresh look
2:30–3:00 pm	<p>The future of wealth management</p> <p>Georgia-Rae Fry, Head of Business Development, Fundhouse</p> <p>Rory Maguire, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Fundhouse UK</p>	<p>Liquidity in private markets</p> <p>Benjamin Baumman, Global Head of Secondaries</p> <p>Teena Jilka, Senior Investment Advisor</p> <p>Markus Smettan, Lead Global Pensions Investment, Siemens Energy</p>	<p>The AI debate</p> <p>Rupert Watson, Global Head of Economics and Dynamic Asset Allocation</p>	<p>More juice, less squeeze — How derivatives can help amplify returns and cushion risk</p> <p>James Lewis, UK Chief Investment Officer</p> <p>Kerrin Rosenberg, Global Head of Direct Investing</p>
3:10–3:40 pm	<p>Pivot point — From cost to opportunity</p> <p>Nathan Baker, Head of UK Client Solutions</p> <p>Patrick Cunningham, Co-Head of Commercial, UK Investments</p>	<p>Worth every penny? The cost of alpha</p> <p>Ben Cooper, Senior Director, Investment Research</p> <p>Elizabeth Fernando, Chief Investment Officer, NEST</p> <p>Hermione Robinson, Investment Manager, Wellcome Trust</p>	<p>Demystifying the total portfolio approach</p> <p>John Greaves, Director of Total Portfolio Investments, Railpen</p> <p>Andrew McDougall, Global Head of Multi-Asset</p> <p>Joe Morrissey, Head of Portfolio Intelligence, EMEA</p>	<p>Do you like what you see in the mirror?</p> <p>Sinead Clark, International Head of Clients, Investment Solutions</p> <p>Scott Freemon, Global Investment Partnerships Group</p>
3:40–4:25 pm	Coffee break and networking			
4:25–5:10 pm	<p>The future of asset management — Reinvention, evolution, or more of the same?</p> <p>Mick Dempsey, President, Investments and Retirement</p> <p>Jo Holden, Global Head of Investment Research and Consulting</p> <p>Patrick Thomson, CEO for EMEA, JP Morgan Asset Management</p> <p>Tristan Tully, Managing Partner, Brookfield Private Equity Group</p>			
5:10–6:00 pm	<p>Keynote conversation — Leadership and resilience</p> <p>Dame Laura Kenny, Four-time Olympic Gold Medalist, Cycling; Most Decorated British Female Olympian</p> <p>Phil Parkinson, UK Wealth Leader</p>			
6:30–10:30 pm	Forum dinner reception			

Wednesday 25 February

Time	Sessions/speaker(s)
8:30–9:30 am	Welcome desk and breakfast
9:30–9:40 am	Welcome back Michael Lernihán, Global Commercial Leader, Investments
9:40–10:35 am	The rest is investments — A conversation with Dominic Sandbrook Dan Melley, Co-Head of Commercial, UK Investments Dominic Sandbrook, historian, broadcaster and columnist

10:35–11:00 am	Coffee break and networking
11:00–11:30 am	Would you trust AI to do manager research? Gareth Anderson, Senior Equity Research Specialist Daniel Balthasar, Co-Chief Investment Officer Active Strategies, Norges Bank Investment Management Bev Sharp, Manager Research Leader
11:30 am – 12:00 pm	Unlocking the value of data with AI Rob Ansari, Global Head Mercer Analytics and Portfolio Solutions Byron Evans, Wealth Data and Digital Lead Bryan O’Higgins, Wealth Product Leader
12:00 pm	Domestic bliss? Assessing the opportunities and risks when investing in your home market Tony English, Head of LGPS Investment Greg Jackson CBE, Co-Founder and CEO, Octopus Energy Group George Osborne, Managing Director and Head of OpenAI for Countries at OpenAI Niall O’Sullivan, Global Investment Solutions Chief Investment Officer
13:00 pm	Lunch
