



UK Sustainable Investment
and Finance Association

“Despite President Trump’s foolishness, the UK responsible finance sector will continue to preserve and create value for savers of all kinds”

London, June 1 2017 – In response to the news that the United States Government will pull out of the Paris Agreement Simon Howard, CEO of UKSIF (the UK Sustainable Investment and Finance Association) said:

“The science is overwhelming: climate change is the gravest threat to mankind’s future and the Paris Agreement is the best hope for global mitigation. By withdrawing from the Paris Agreement the US Government will slow progress, but it will not stop it: despite President Trump’s foolishness our members will continue to take the sensible, practical steps that are seeing finance play a growing role in fighting the crisis. On Wednesday UK asset owners and fund managers played a leading role in helping vote through a measure on climate change at the ExxonMobil AGM against the company’s opposition.

In banking, in fund management and in the provision of advice to owners and savers of all kinds, UKSIF members will continue both to reduce the risks to capital and to exploit the opportunities the need for a new kind of economy presents.

President Trump’s actions may slow global progress for a while, but it will give the issue an even higher profile and may end up accelerating change. In the UK, The Pensions Regulator recently said that pension funds were “required” to consider financially material issues such as climate change. President Trump has made it impossible for anyone to say they didn’t realise the issue was important”.

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Notes to Editors:

About UKSIF:

UKSIF is the membership network for sustainable and responsible financial services in the UK. We promote and support responsible investment and other forms of finance that advance sustainable economic development, enhance quality of life and safeguard the environment. We also seek to ensure that individual and institutional investors can reflect their values in their investments.

UKSIF was created in 1991 to bring together the different strands of sustainable and responsible finance nationally and to act as a focus and a voice for the industry. UKSIF’s 240+ members and affiliates include financial advisers, institutional and retail fund managers, pension funds, banks,



research providers, consultants and NGOs with assets under management of over £5trn. For more information about UKSIF, please visit www.uksif.org.