



For Immediate Release

CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT IS THE KEY TO ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE FINANCIAL SYSTEM

London, November 10th 2008 — Matthew Taylor, RSA Chief Executive, delivered the UKSIF Annual Lecture on Wednesday, emphasising the need for greater citizen engagement as a key part of solving the financial crisis.

He spoke about the RSA project 'Tomorrow's Investor', which looks at the financial system from the perspective of ordinary citizens. The Tomorrow's Investor report will present research showing that any long-term solution to the current financial crisis must aim to ensure citizens as well as financial institutions are able to take more responsibility for the management of investments

Taylor cited public involvement as a key solution to the lack of accountability in financial markets, for three reasons:

- 1) Citizen engagement works. The market and government will not be able to solve major societal challenges alone; nor will people commit to new policies if they have not been involved in their creation.
- 2) Public engagement is the only way organisations can give their activity real legitimacy.
- 3) The problems in the financial system reflect our interdependence; solutions to the current crisis must take that into account.

In his speech, Taylor said: "Bubbles are endemic to the capitalist economy. We cannot design them out. Any reworking of capitalism should take this into account and aim to make sure that the whole cost of the economic cycle is

funded, including the inevitability of any future bust. A reworking of capitalism should also make sure that investors are more involved in the management of their money. Not in a way that exacerbates boom and bust economics; in a way that enhances accountability.”

Penny Shepherd, UKSIF Chief Executive said:

“The financial services industry should listen seriously to Matthew Taylor’s call for a new approach. Rebuilding trust will require not just treating customers fairly but also engaging them as responsible savers and investors.”

The lecture followed the organisation’s AGM, at which four new Directors were elected to the UKSIF board:

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|------------------------|---|
| Edmund Blamey | Research Manager, SRI & Governance Team,
Jupiter Asset Management |
| Aled Jones | Manager, Responsible Investment, Pension
Protection Fund |
| My-Linh Ngo | Associate Director SRI Research, Sustainable &
Responsible Investment (SRI), Henderson Global
Investors |
| Helen Wildsmith | Head of Ethical & Responsible Investment, CCLA
Investment Management |

Please note that directors serve in a personal capacity. Organisational affiliations are given for information only.

The UKSIF Annual Lecture was sponsored by Aviva Investors.

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Contacts

Stephanie Walker, UKSIF Communications Executive, tel. 020 7749 9953.
stephanie.walker@uksif.org.

Luke Robinson, RSA Head of Media, tel. 020 7451 6893.
luke.robinson@rsa.org.uk

Editors Notes

About UKSIF

UKSIF is the membership network for sustainable and responsible financial services. UKSIF promotes responsible investment and other forms of finance that support sustainable economic development, enhance quality of life and safeguard the environment. It also seeks to ensure that individual and institutional investors can reflect their values in their investments. UKSIF's 200+ members include fund managers, investment banks, pension funds, consultants, research providers and financial advisers.

To obtain copies of Matthew Taylor's lecture, or for more information on new UKSIF board members, please contact Stephanie Walker (details listed above).

About RSA

The RSA combines thought leadership with social innovation to further human progress. Building on our 250 year history as a beacon for enlightenment values, we undertake influential and varied research projects and host the UK's most ambitious free lecture series. Our work is supported by 27,000 Fellows, an international network of influencers and innovators from every field and background.