What's on in 2016?
Member guide

Happy New Year!

**We have produced this guide to ensure you - our members - know what to expect from us in 2016, how you can get involved and how you can expect to benefit from doing so.**

Each area of activity we feature in this printed desk guide (which we will also email to you) will also specify the responsible UKSIF team member for you to contact. Contact details are on the back page.

We are really looking forward to working with you on the many activities featured on these pages. We’d also like to hear your ideas for other ways we can collaborate with and support you and the UK SRI sector at large.

Best wishes,

**Simon, Charlene, Ellie, Fergus, Lisa and Pamela**
The UKSIF team

**Who are we? A quick recap...**

The UK Sustainable Investment and Finance Association (UKSIF) is the membership association for sustainable and responsible financial services.

We promote responsible investment and other forms of finance that support 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.

To achieve this mission we will...

- **Grow the UK market** for sustainable investment and finance to the benefit of members and asset owners.

- **Be the voice** for responsible investment to inform and influence action by policy makers, the public and other key stakeholders.

- Leverage our member **network** by sharing industry insight and collaborating with sector stakeholders for maximum effect.
We and the wider sector start 2016 with our tails up.

COP21, Mark Carney’s speech and the recent floodings have seen climate change firmly on the mainstream news agenda, with the tone no longer sceptical or even-handed, but far more accepting of the need for action.

There are continuing signs that climate change is working its way up the political agenda with an important Environmental Audit Committee inquiry coming up, featured on page 5. However, we don’t just think about environmental issues. We inform members on a number of social and governance issues as well. Look at page 6 for some topics we shall be exploring in our Analyst Programme over the next few months. There are also elements of market structure which demand attention with particular problems throughout the retail and DC pensions value chain.

We have put in a detailed submission to the recent financial advice market review saying advice should be more available and must respect people’s values. We now turn our focus to the FCA’s call for input into its examination of regulatory barriers to social investment. These two are linked by the aim of letting people invest in areas and ways they choose, and we want to get that freedom in DC too.

We are reviewing The Pensions Regulator’s new draft code of conduct to make sure that the progress made on fiduciary duty in DB pensions and charities is mapped as widely as possible. Much of this will be discussed during Ownership Day as featured on page 4.

We hope you find this guide useful and look forward to working with you this year.

Simon Howard

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Grow the Market

Ownership Day
March date to be confirmed
www.ownershipday.co.uk

Ownership Day is our national initiative to raise awareness of the financial and other benefits of active ownership and to encourage investors to value high-quality active ownership strategies. This year will focus on two core themes i) Fiduciary Duty and ii) Transparency. We will produce a fiduciary duty best practice guide and Transparency report then hold a half-day event to discuss these and other stakeholder efforts in this area.

How members can get involved...
- Get in touch to discuss the importance of Transparency in the context of ESG issues and good stewardship through the investment chain.
- Share examples of best practice and/or any reports and studies or thought leadership highlights.
- Provide case studies of good active ownership (successful engagement case studies would be particularly helpful) to feature on the website and in our media work.

Good Money Week
30 October – 5 November
www.goodmoneyweek.com

This is a collaborative campaign to raise awareness of sustainable, responsible and ethical investment and finance.

How members can get involved...
- Become a Good Money Week sponsor (Detailed sponsorship packages will be publicised soon but please do get in touch early to register your interest or discuss options.)
- Publish a piece of research or launch a new service
- Provide case studies/examples of impact

Other market support

Financial advisers
We support financial advisers of all SRI-knowledge levels and expertise through both our financial adviser chapter - the Ethical Investment Association (EIA) - and other projects, campaigns and conversations with mainstream financial advice associations and networks. Two EIA Conferences will be held in 2016.

Asset owners
We work with our affiliates, and others, to ensure that they are aware of the benefits of adopting more sustainable and responsible investment strategies.

Growth of the impact investment market
We supports all forms of sustainable investment and finance including the growing impact investment market. This year we will hold an impact investment focused event considering the state of the market and key ‘need-to-know’ information. This event is likely to take place towards the end of May.

Contact Lisa Stonestreet to discuss any of the above.
Be the voice

Consultations

You can influence UK public policy and regulation by contributing to consultations that will have a significant impact on the sector. Some open consultations you can help us respond to are:

**The Pensions Regulator’s Defined-Contribution Code of Practice**
The Pensions Regulator is in the process of updating its DC Code of Practice. We would like to influence what it says on investment governance to ensure that all types of DC governance individuals know they can invest responsibly and reflect the values of scheme members.
**Deadline: 29 January**

**Environmental Audit Committee on Sustainability and HM Treasury**
Following on from a letter from UKSIF and a joint letter from Friends of the Earth, Greenpeace UK, New Economics Foundation, RSPB, UKSIF and WWF UK, the EAC announced an inquiry on ‘Sustainability and HM Treasury’ to explore whether HM Treasury is sufficiently committed to Government sustainability targets to achieve them.
**Deadline: 18 February**

**Kerslake Review of the Treasury**
Following an UKSIF letter to the Shadow Chancellor, John McDonnell, the Kerslake Review was set up to consider whether the current role, responsibilities and operating mandate of HM Treasury are appropriate for the task of promoting and managing sustainable growth in a fairer and more equal society. This is another excellent opportunity to examine the role of HM Treasury and its level of support for long-term sustainable growth.
**Deadline: 29 February**

**FCA Call for Input: Regulatory Barriers to Social Investment**
In December, the FCA called for views in relation to the regulatory barriers facing social investors. This consultation provides an excellent opportunity to highlights issues facing the market and invite the regulator to address them.
**Deadline: 24 March**

Policy events

We produce a number of policy events throughout the year. These include general updates covering a number of issues. The next policy event will be on Fiduciary Duty.

**Fiduciary Duty**
The DWP’s decision not to clarify the concept of fiduciary was extremely disappointing. We will hold a session at our Edinburgh conference in April to examine the decision by DWP not to make changes to the Investment Regulations and to discuss our work influencing The Pensions Regulator’s new DC code of practice. We will also discuss and invite feedback on other routes through which we can clarify the duties and responsibilities of pension fund trustees and raise the bar in terms of sustainable and responsible investment.

Contact Fergus Moffatt to discuss any of the above.
Network

**Analyst Events**

Our programme of analyst events catalyses debate on emerging environmental, social and governance issues and assist our members to develop their practices.

Past topics have included fracking, ESG integration techniques, tax responsibility and sustainable investing in China.

**How members can get involved...**

We have events on cyber security, geopolitics and human rights, gender equality and measuring social risk in the pipeline. Get in touch with speaker suggestions, relevant research and new topic suggestions.

Contact Charlene Cranny on programme content and Ellie Stewart for general events information.

**Collaborative campaigns**

We co-operate and work with members and other supportive stakeholder organisations for maximum impact on issues that will expand the sector.

Last year these included the Red Lines Initiative, the Paris Pledge for Action and other action around COP21 which we featured on a simple infographic for investors.

**How members can get involved...**

If you have ideas for a collaborative project get in touch with Simon Howard.

**Edinburgh Conference**

19 April

This is UKSIF’s third annual one-day conference to debate and discuss the latest cutting edge issues facing sustainable investment and finance in the UK and beyond.

This year the conference will be held in Edinburgh on 19 April. Registrations doubled in 2015 compared with 2014 with 95% of those registered in 2015 attending. 75% of attendees (last year) said the likelihood of them recommending the event to others would be 8 out of 10 or more.

**How members can get involved...**

- Stand out as a leader and promote your sustainable investment and finance products and services to key audiences as a partner.
- We are also looking for your discussion topics and workshop proposals.

Contact Charlene Cranny.
General

Communications and media

UKSIF shares sector information by issuing a monthly newsletter to members and supporters, engages with traditional media on breaking news and research, promotes sector jobs and events and is active on social media.

How members can get involved...
- Share your news, events and jobs with us.
- Follow us on: @UKSIF @UKSIFSimon @UKSIFFLisa @UKSIFFergus @goodmoneyweek and find us on LinkedIn.

Contact Charlene Cranny (general) and Ellie Stewart (jobs and events).

Influence future UKSIF activity

We welcome and encourage members feeding into our work in order to maintain its value and relevance. We conduct an annual member survey and regularly meet with expert advisory group members for guidance. You can find a list of our committee members on our website.

How members can get involved...
- Complete our online member survey (coming in February) or contact us with questions, concerns and ideas at any time.
- Find out about and contribute to our committees’ guidance.

Contact Charlene Cranny (Member Survey and Analyst Committee), Fergus Moffatt (Leadership Committee) and Lisa Stonestreet (Market Committee and EIA Advisory Board)

“[UKSIF is different because] it is well governed and reflects members’ views well”

Member Survey 2015
The team

**Simon Howard**
Chief Executive
- Collaborative opportunities
- Commentary and analysis
- Red Lines Initiative
- Speaking opportunities
- Strategy and mission enquiries

**Charlene Cranny**
Programme Manager and communications
charlene.cranny@uksif.org
- Analyst Committee
- Edinburgh Conference
- General communications, marketing and media
- Member and stakeholder engagement and feedback (inc. member survey)
- Thematic and self-development events

**Lyn Fihlebon**
Accounts
accounts@uksif.org (one day a week only)
- Billing and payment enquiries

**Pamela Lindegaard**
PA to Simon Howard and Company Secretary
pamela.lindegaard@uksif.org (Tues-Thurs only)
- AGM and board elections
- Board meetings and other general governance queries
- Membership applications and approvals

**Fergus Moffatt**
Programme Director and Head of Public Policy
fergus.moffatt@uksif.org
- Leadership Committee
- Policy events
- Policy consultation responses and updates
- Policymaker and regulatory engagement

**Ellie Stewart**
Office and Events Administrator
eleanor.stewart@uksif.org
- Ethical Investment Association
- Event logistics and information
- Good Money Week
- Marketing partnerships
- Member contact updates
- Website content and social media (inc. jobs board)

**Lisa Stonestreet**
Programme Director
lisa.stonestreet@uksif.org
- Asset owner and financial adviser engagement
- Best practice reports and guides
- Ethical Investment Association
- European SRI Survey
- Good Money Week
- Market Committee
- Ownership Day

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Please note that we will be moving office at the end of March so these details will change.