

## UKSIF welcomes launch of the Green Finance Institute and the Government's Green Finance Strategy

*Further commitments by the UK Government and the City to secure UK's  
leading role in green finance*

**London, 02 July 2019** – The UK Sustainable Investment and Finance Association (UKSIF) is delighted to welcome the launch of the Green Finance Initiative.

Simon Howard, CEO of UKSIF said:

*“The Green Finance Institute’s overarching mission is to accelerate the domestic and global transition to a zero-carbon and climate-resilient economy through mobilising capital, and this aim is shared by all UKSIF members.*

*We welcome the launch of the Institute as a practical example of the City and Government combining to ensure delivery of the national net zero carbon target. The ‘greening of finance’ and the ‘financing of green’ are essential for the delivery of that ambition. We are especially happy to be working with the GFI on UK pensions and climate, an area directly exposed to the opportunities and risks stemming from the carbon challenge. Together with the monitoring of investment disclosure practices announced by John Glenn MP today, the UK is well-positioned to maintain leadership in this crucial field.”*

Commenting on the UK Government’s Green Finance Strategy, which is also launched today, Ben Nelmes, Head of Public Policy at the UK Sustainable Investment and Finance Association, said:

*“Investors have a vital role to play in the low-carbon transition, whether financing the new clean energy, transport, heating and industry or managing the financial risks of climate change for savers.*

*“The Government’s Green Finance Strategy is a good first step in setting out how the UK will play to its strengths as a global financial centre in leading a global response to climate change.*

*“But as we enter the age of climate consequences, the strategy is just the beginning, and we look forward to working with the government to make all of finance sustainable.”*

### **Contact**

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*Interviews with Simon Howard are available on request.*

### **Notes to Editor**

**Simon Howard**

Simon Howard joined UKSIF as Chief Executive in May 2013. Simon is a former Group Chief Investment Officer who has over twenty years of investment management experience.

During a City career that started in 1990, he has been Group Chief Investment Officer at Liverpool Victoria, Head of Investments at Friends Provident and Managing Director at 3i Asset Management. Prior to joining UKSIF, Simon was Head of Sustainable Financial Markets at the charity Forum for the Future.

**About the UK Sustainable Investment and Finance Association (UKSIF)**

We are a membership organisation for those in the finance industry committed to growing sustainable and responsible finance in the UK.

Our vision is a fair, inclusive and sustainable financial system that works for the benefit of society and the environment.

UKSIF was created in 1991 and has 240+ members and affiliates include financial advisers, institutional and retail fund managers, pension funds, banks, research providers, consultants and NGOs. For more information about UKSIF, please visit [www.uksif.org](http://www.uksif.org).