



UK Social Investment Forum

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Patrick Erwin / James Hardy
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Dear Patrick Erwin and James Hardy

Response of the UK Social Investment Forum (UKSIF) to Defra's Consultation on the Draft Climate Change Bill

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Climate Change Bill.

The UK Social Investment Forum (UKSIF) welcomes the government's decision to bring forward a Climate Change Bill.

We are grateful to Defra officials for kindly presenting to a seminar organised jointly by UKSIF and the Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change (IIGCC) during the consultation period and for discussing the proposals in the Bill with our members there. This seminar was held at F&C on 14 May and attended by representatives of a range of leading investors that are members of UKSIF and/or IIGCC.

We hope that Defra will take account of the investor views expressed at that meeting and those in IIGCC's more detailed written submission.

Issues raised at the seminar included:

- Q1-4: While we welcome the concept of statutory targets, the seminar highlighted that investment decisions were driven by specific policies not by the national targets themselves. Investors emphasised the need for individual policies to be clear, long-term and predictable as well as the overall framework.
- Q15/16: The seminar highlighted the importance of the Committee on Climate Change having a level of influence and credibility equivalent to the Monetary Policy Committee. In this respect, the role of the Chair is particularly key.

UK Social Investment Forum (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. We also seek to ensure that individual and institutional investors can reflect their values in their investments.

The Forum was launched 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 200+ members and affiliates include retail and institutional fund managers, pension funds, banks and building societies, financial advisers, research providers, consultants, trade unions and NGOs. Information on UKSIF is available at www.uksif.org.

With best wishes

Penny Shepherd MBE
Chief Executive