



Our Responsible Investment Advisory Council

Meet the council

Our Responsible Investment Advisory Council is an external group of responsible investment experts who meet quarterly to provide advice on our approach to responsible investment, including on material ESG themes, stewardship activity, ESG-related fund design and market positioning, and with particular focus on the Responsible range of funds.



Will Oulton, Chair

In addition to his role as Chair of the RIAC, Will is Chair of EdenTree Investments' RI Expert Panel, a Non-Executive Director and Board Champion for Ocean Recovery at the UK Marine Conservation Society, Chair of King Charles III's Accounting for Sustainability (A4S) Expert Panel and a Non-Executive Director and Chair of the Investment Committee at wealth advisor, Harmonic Financial Planning. Will previously spent eight years as Chair of the European Sustainable Investment Forum (Eurosif), and a decade as the Global Head of Responsible Investment at First Sentier Investors where he founded the FSI MUFG Sustainable Investment Institute. Will began his career in RI as RI Director at FTSE in 2009, before joining Mercer as Head of RI, EMEA prior to joining First Sentier Investors.



Simon Bond

Simon Bond brings extensive experience in corporate credit and the social investment space, specifically the social bond market, which seeks to raise funds for new and existing projects addressing or mitigating a specific social issue and/or seeking to achieve positive social outcomes. Simon retired from Columbia Threadneedle Investments in March 2023 after 20 years at the firm. He was a Senior Fund Manager specialising in institutional Investment Grade Credit Funds and conceived of, launched and managed the CT UK Social Bond Fund (launched in 2013) and the Threadneedle (Lux) European Social Bond Fund (launched in 2017); he also supported the development of other responsible investment strategies across the firm. Prior to joining Columbia Threadneedle Investments, Simon was a Fund Manager at AXA and GE Insurance, and worked at Provident Mutual as a Fixed Income Analyst and Hambros Bank as an Investment Accountant and Pension Fund Investment Administrator.

Besides his role in the Responsible Investment Advisory Council, Simon sits as an independent member on the Advisory Committees for each of the Columbia Threadneedle Social Bond Funds. He is also a board member and Lead Expert at the Impact Investing Institute and continues to partner with Big Issue Invest as an advisor on Impact. He has also agreed to become a Senior Visiting Fellow at the Grantham Research Institute (London School of Economics).



Elizabeth McGeveran

Elizabeth McGeveran is Director of Investments at the McKnight Foundation. She is responsible for the long-term health and growth of the Foundation's \$2.2 billion endowment. McGeveran led a new

board-initiated impact investing programme that reshaped endowment priorities. McKnight has since invested 10 percent of its endowment in businesses and funds that are building the low-carbon economy, improving water quality, and contributing to a thriving, sustainable Minnesota.

Prior to McKnight, McGeveran was senior vice president for Governance and Sustainable Investment at F&C Asset Management, a London-based commercial asset manager (now Columbia Threadneedle Investments). From 1999, McGeveran built F&C's market-leading socially responsible investment business and served as a senior manager to one of the industry's largest teams. She was previously managing director of Green America, a national non-profit consumer and investor education organisation.

McGeveran is an independent trustee of the Boston Trust & Walden Funds, a longtime leader in incorporating environmental, social, and governance priorities into its investment approach. She has also served on advisory committees for companies such as ExxonMobil and General Electric and was an original member of the US Advisory Committee for the FTSE4Good indexes. McGeveran grew up outside Boston and graduated from Carleton College.



Rosey Hurst

Rosey brings deep expertise in labour standards and supply chains to the Council. She has driven some of the most significant innovations in this area as a founding director of Impactt, a leading

consultancy specialising in improving labour practices in the supply chain, and 'Sedex', the Supplier Ethical Data Exchange, dedicated to driving improvements in responsible and ethical business practices in global supply chains.

Rosey has wide on the ground experience, particularly in Asia, travelling regularly to meet Impactt clients as well as supporting teams in the field to implement changes in workplaces and engage with workers and employers locally. Impactt operates in the UK, India, China and Bangladesh with a global network of associates, and Rosey has built the organisation from its inception. The firm was named

Consultancy of the Year at the 2014 Guardian Sustainable Business Awards.

Rosey has wide executive, researcher and board level experience in organisations that sit at the nexus of business and sustainable development.

Dr Ben Caldecott



Dr Ben Caldecott is the founding Director of the Oxford Sustainable Finance Programme at the University of Oxford Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment. He is the inaugural holder of the Lombard Odier

Associate Professorship and Senior Research Fellowship of Sustainable Finance; a Supernumerary Fellow at Oriel College, Oxford; and a Visiting Scholar at Stanford University. Ben is also the COP26 Strategy Advisor for Finance based out of the UK Cabinet Office.

Ben founded and co-chairs the Global Research Alliance for Sustainable Finance and Investment (GRASFI), an alliance of global research universities promoting rigorous and impactful academic research on sustainable finance. He established and leads the Sustainable Finance Theme at The Alan Turing Institute and initiated the Spatial Finance Initiative, which aims to mainstream geospatial capabilities enabled by space technology and data science into financial decision-making globally. He also co-founded the Commonwealth Climate and Law Initiative (CCLI), which is examining the legal basis for directors and trustees to consider, manage, and report on climate change-related risk.

Ben currently serves on the US Commodity Futures Trading Commission's Climate-Related Market Risk Subcommittee and the UK Department for International Trade's Export Guarantees Advisory Council. In his capacity as a Member of the UK Green Finance Taskforce, he chaired its Workstream on Task Force on Climate-related Disclosures (TCFD) Implementation.

Contact us

 columbiathreadneedle.com

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