sps CONFERENCES
Informing Pension Funds

# ESG & Impact Investing
## for Pension Funds

**Thursday 3 December 2020 (rescheduled date)**
**at Le Meridien, Piccadilly, London**

**Sponsored by:**

Aberdeen Standard Investments
Amundi Asset Management
Cambridge Associates
Hamilton Lane
Kames Capital
Newton Investment Management
Pictet Asset Management

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# Programme

08.30 **Registration and coffee**

09.00 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
**Trevor Cook**, Managing Director,
**Specialist Pension Services**

09.05 *Session 1:* ***Defining ESG and considerations for Equity investing***
Moderator: **Howard Tisshaw,** Director,
**Sundial 2000**

**Defining ESG and Integrating within the Investment Process**
This presentation will discuss how to define sustainable investing, including sustainable themes and considerations. It will also focus on how Trustees can think about integrating ESG considerations and sustainability into an investment process.
**Andrew Parry,** Head of Sustainable Investing,
**Newton Investment Management**

**Tipping Points for Sustainable Investing**
**Neil Goddin,** Head of Quantitative Equity Research, **Kames Capital**

**Thanks to the emergence of a thriving environmental products industry investing to safeguard the planet no longer means sacrificing returns**

- Sustainable investments: not only good for protecting the world for tomorrow's generations; it can also be a route to superior portfolio returns
- Role of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in investments and how do you measure your exposure to the SDGs?
- Planetary Boundaries Concept: A ground-breaking scientific model developed by the Stockholm Resilience Centre which identifies nine of the most critical environmental challenges including carbon emissions, fresh water, land use and biodiversity.
- Investment example SmartCity: Investments in companies that provide solutions to urbanisation challenges and improve the quality of life of city dwellers

**Dr Stephen Freedman**, Senior Product Specialist, Thematic Equities Team,
**Pictet Asset Management**

10.50 **Coffee / Tea**

11.20 *Session 2:* ***Climate Change***

**Climate Risk & Asset Allocation**
New paper from Cambrdige Associates on Climate Risk & Asset Allocation.
**Chris Varco**, Managing Director,
**Cambridge Associates**

**Climate Action**
Active investing to become Carbon Netural in 2050.
**Catherine Crozat**, Head of ESG projects,
**CPR Asset Management**

12.30 **Drinks and Lunch**

13.45 *Session 3:* ***ESG in Private markets and Credit***
Moderator: **Andrew Warwick-Thompson,**
Professional Trustee, **Capital Cranfield**

**The Current State of Impact Investing in Private Markets - the good, the bad and the ugly**
There has been a significant increase in both demand for, and supply of, impact investing opportunities in the private markets. Mainstream managers have moved into the space, while specialist managers have expanded their scope and sophistication. With such a proliferation of options, how are LPs to navigate? We'll explore both the opportunities and challenges this interest and activity brings to the market and investors.
**Jacqueline Rantanen**, Managing Director,
**Hamilton Lane**

**Embedding ESG into Credit Research and its implications for Portfolios and Investors**
Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) is very much at the top of many investor and regulators agendas. But what does this increased focus on ESG risks actually mean in the context of Credit investing? How are Credit fund managers adapting their investment processes to incorporate ESG considerations, and how can they assist pension schemes and trustees to discharge their growing responsibilities in this area? In this session we will focus on how to consider ESG, how it influences the research process and how it can have an impact on both active and buy & maintain credit portfolios.
**Nick Kordowski**, Head of Non-Financial Standard Investments, **Aberdeen Standard Investments**

14.55 **Coffee / Tea**

15.15 *Session 4:* ***Practical Session & Pension Fund Insights***

**ESG: Practical Options**
**Speaker to be confirmed**

**Pension Fund Panel**

A panel of pension scheme executives will talk about where ESG fits in their investment process. Panelists to include:

**Marion Maloney**, Policy Governance and Risk Manager, **Environment Agency**

16.30 **Drinks reception followed by Close of Conference**

# Speaker bios

**Stephen Freedman** joined **Pictet Asset Management** in 2019 as Senior Product Specialist in the Thematic Equities team. Before joining Pictet, Stephen was at UBS Wealth Management, where he most recently served as head of Sustainable Investing Solutions for the Americas, based in New York. Prior to that he served in various Investment Strategy roles, including head of Thematic Investing Strategy and head of Tactical Asset Allocation. He started his career with UBS in Zurich in 1998 as an economist and public policy analyst. Since 2019, he has been teaching environmental finance at New York University. Stephen holds a PhD and a Master in economics from the University of St. Gallen. He is a CFA charterholder and earned the FRM designation from the Global Association of Risk Professionals.

**Andrew Parry** is Head of Sustainable Investment at **Newton Investment Management**. He oversees the sustainable investment business at Newton, as well as communicating the firm's approach to purposeful ownership to its global client base. He joined Newton in 2019, prior to which he was head of sustainable investing at Hermes Investment Management where he gained a deep knowledge of responsible investment, sustainability and impact investing. Andrew has over 30-years of investment experience operating at a senior level previously working at Northern Trust, Julius Baer Investment Management, Lazard Brothers Asset Management and Baring Asset Management. He is also a member of the investment committee of the Trafalgar House Pension Trust and has had a variety of external advisory roles, including mentoring of individuals.

**Chris Varco** is a Managing Director in the ESG and Impact Investing Group of **Cambridge Associates**. He works on investment research and implementation in client portfolios across the ESG, sustainable investing and impact spectrum. Prior to joining Cambridge, Chris was the Programme Director at Montpelier Foundation in London, making impact in emerging countries, the UK and USA. He remains a Trustee on the foundation board. The foundation was set up by Montpelier Investment Management, Chris was a Partner and the senior analyst in the firm, heading up investment research across asset classes, examining listed and private opportunities in equity and debt. Chris began his investment career in 2003 at Threadneedle Investments in London, as an emerging markets equities analyst and fund manager, alongside broader global sector responsibilities. He has an MSc in International Management, King's College London and a BA in Biological Sciences, Oxford University. He is a CFA Charterholder and holds the Investment Management Certificate (IMC).

## Conference Notes

**Purpose:** This conference aims to explore a range of investment strategies that pension funds can use to integrate ESG & impact strategies into their everyday investment management processes designed to provide a positive societal or environmental impact or designed to reduce carbon risk without reducing returns. We also aim to examine practical issues such as governance, regulatory, political and geopolitical pressures, transparency, fees, manager selection, implementation, benchmarks, reporting as well as ways of measuring the success and performance of managers and of the impact and sustainability of strategies..

**Date:** Thursday 14 May 2020 **Venue:** Le Meridien, 21 Piccadilly, London, W1J 0BH. Tel: 020 7734 8000.

**Cost:** There is no cost to you to attend this event and your conference documentation, drinks, lunch, tea and coffee breaks will all be provided free of charge. If you would like to nominate a colleague to attend please ask them to contact us so we can ensure they are eligible for a free place. SPS events are exclusively aimed at genuine pension fund executives, trustees and their advisers, who may qualify for free entry. SPS Conferences reserves the right of admission (free or paid) and our decision is final.

**Amendments:** SPS reserves the right to amend or cancel the conference at any time but will always attempt to give prior notice. Cancellation by SPS will result in a full refund of delegate fees paid but no other expenses incurred.

**Data Protection:** Personal data is gathered in accordance with GDPR. Your details will be shared on an attendance list with other attendees including the conference sponsors who may wish to provide you with information. If you **do not** want to share details with other attendees please **tick the box** ☐

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**Queries:** please contact: Belinda Walsh at Specialist Pension Services Limited. Telephone +44 (0)1438 712345 Telefax +44 (0)1438 718883 Email: **belinda@spsconferences.com**

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## Booking Form

**Please read the Conference Notes, then complete the details below.**

Please reserve ......... place(s) at The **SPS ESG & Impact Investing for Pension Funds** taking place on **14 May 2020**.

Free guest places are offered to genuine pension and institutional investor attendees. Please contact us to confirm you qualify. A limited number of provider places at a cost of £1750 + VAT may be available. Please enquire to Belinda Walsh belinda@spsconferences.com

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