



ESG ACCORD

●●● YOUR COMPLIANCE, ESG & SUSTAINABILITY IN ACCORD

Was this newsletter forwarded to you?
Email to sign up admin@esgaccord.co.uk

Newsletter 1st April 2022

Hello from ESG Accord & welcome to this Special MPS Launch edition of our Newsletter:

We are excited to share that our groundbreaking deep-dive industry report for ESG & Sustainable MPS is now LIVE!

As you all know from our usual updates we have been working hard over the last few months for this launch and so we thought we'd share the news in this 'special edition' of our Newsletter!

We are happy to confirm that:

- The Report Foreword has been written by the FCA
- The Report is free for Financial Advisers to access
- It contains over 45 MPS providers and shows the answers to over 70 ESG & Sustainable questions
- The Due Diligence Questions span across 8 headings which cover the full ESG & Sustainable spectrum
- The report has been designed for functionality and it helps advisers match the most appropriate MPS to each client's ESG & Sustainability objectives and preferences

A quote from Lee Coates OBE, ESG Accord Co-Founder & Director;

"Advisers are facing regulatory and reputation drivers for transparency and trust. Our Report is the first of its kind and contains valuable, comparable and timesaving information for UK Financial Advisers and Para-planners."

A quote from Elly Dowding ESG Accord Co-Founder & Director;

"'Good' compliance can give advisers peace of mind via independent, reportable & granular processes. Sound due diligence can help to reduce greenwashing as it enhances transparent communication. Granular questioning of funds raises market participation and the flow of information. These solutions help to deliver best practice outcomes across the full ESG & Sustainable spectrum."

Extracts from the Foreword written by Gwil Mason Senior Associate, ESG Policy and Advisory, FCA:

"Advisers, acting as the interface between consumers and products, have a particularly important function in ensuring that the sustainability preferences expressed by consumers are reflected in the advice given to, and ultimately the products bought by, consumers."

"But it could also be reasonably argued that ESG is already in scope when giving investment advice. Advisers must act in a client's best interest and collect all necessary information when providing advice to understand their investment objectives. The suitability rules within our Conduct of Business Rules (COBS 9A) already require firms that provide advice to consider, among other things, a client's investment objectives. The rules set out certain information on objectives that firms are required to consider – but this is not intended to be an exhaustive list."

"In this context, and as advisers increasingly recognise the need to include consideration of ESG matters in their suitability assessments, we welcome this publication from ESG Accord. This will help advisers continue to build capacity in this area, in line with both their existing obligations and the FCA's developing work in this area."

You can read the Executive Summary & Foreword in full from here:
https://esgaccord.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/MPS-Executive-Summary-Foreword-01_04_2022.pdf

Financial Advisers can register for FREE access to the Report from here: <https://esgaccord.co.uk/esg-sustainable-mps-report/>

ESG Accord is in a position to be able offer the Report for free because the Report has been sponsored. **Please view the sponsors here** <https://esgaccord.co.uk/esg-sustainable-mps-report/>

So, what's next for us now the MPS Report is LIVE?

We now start work bringing our ESG Accord Due Diligence specialism to two further deep-dive ESG & Sustainable Industry Reports:
1/ Tax Efficient EIS/VCT/SEIS/BPR Report - ETA Q3 2022 and
2/ Multi-Asset Funds - ETA 'later' 2022!

Our focus continues with our ESG & Sustainable compliance framework for advisers and we look forward to the incoming Consultation Paper for DP21/4 on the sustainable labels for investments products and new sustainability disclosures (and our ongoing work as part of the DLAG).

Plus... you'll be happy to hear that the MPS Report is annual!

We'd love to hear from you! Please get in touch via admin@esgaccord.co.uk if you have any topics or questions you'd like covered in our newsletter.
