



**1<sup>st</sup> September 2008**

**Helen Wildsmith to head up CCLA's Ethical & Responsible Investment Team**

Helen Wildsmith, formerly Executive Director of the UK Social Investment Forum (UKSIF), joined CCLA in August.

She will focus on developing and implementing CCLA's new Ethical & Responsible Investment (E&RI) strategy, including addressing the increasing challenges of operating in a global and increasingly sophisticated market.

Helen was Executive Director of UKSIF from 2002 to 2005, and has recently worked as a consultant to the sector. Prior to this she was Assistant Director of the Centre for Business & Society at Ashridge Business School.

She says: "What attracted me most to CCLA is that it is a client driven and client owned, third sector specialist. Our customers really do drive our strategy – there are no conflicts of interest.

"It's great to be surrounded by such an inspiring team of top investment and sector specialists, and I'm looking forward to implementing the exciting products and services we are developing as a result of our recent client survey."

Helen's appointment highlights CCLA's ongoing commitment to a constructive engagement with companies and other organisations to achieve a positive agenda for change.

CCLA's CEO Michael Quicke said, "We're delighted to have Helen Wildsmith join our award-winning team. Our strategy is to build the best charity investment management team in the UK, and Helen's expertise and skills in

the field of ethical and responsible investment will play a major role in ensuring that all our clients receive the best possible service and advice.”

In 2006, Michael Quicke was appointed by CCLA’s board with a mandate to improve the products and services for customers and develop CCLA’s position within the market place. Senior management appointments, such as James Bevan as Chief Investment Officer and Andrew Robinson MBE as Director of Market Development, are providing the skills and resources to successfully develop and direct CCLA’s business.

## **Ends**

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### **Notes:**

CCLA is an independent company owned by its charity, faith group and local authority clients. It provides the widest range of common funds designed specifically for the charity market and looks after more charity clients than any other UK investment manager.

CCLA’s Ethical & Responsible Investment Team is:

- Helen Wildsmith, Head of Ethical & Responsible Investment
- Neville White, Manager of Governance & Ethical Investment, and Secretary to the Church Investors Group
- Line Oquab, Responsible Investment & Financial Analyst

Helen started her career at the NatWest Group in 1990. She has a first class degree in Management Science and a masters degree in Voluntary Sector Organisation from the London School of Economics.