ACCORD INITIATIVE

providing financial advisers with suitability solutions

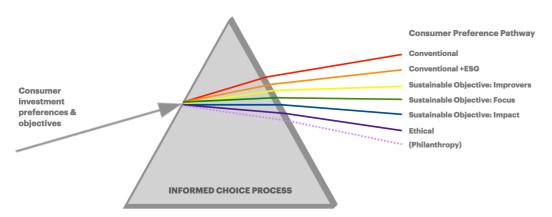
What is the Accord Initiative?

The Accord Initiative is a suite of compliance, education, CPD and Regulatory analysis services, all delivered via a **free to access** website - live from **Summer 2023!**

The site will incorporate everything financial advisers need to build ESG and Sustainability into their advice process and is being designed to give advisers the confidence to deliver enhanced client outcomes.

The underlying theme is increasing knowledge of ESG and Sustainability (as part of the full spectrum of capital) amongst financial advisers, compliance consultants and paraplanners, enabling them to give compliant advice in a way that delivers good client outcomes whilst meeting **Consumer Duty, PROD, COBS** and the **Sustainable Disclosure Requirements** (SDR) and **investment labels**.

THE ACCORD INITIATIVE WILL DELIVER A SUITABILITY FRAMEWORK FOR ALL CLIENTS & ALL FUNDS





CLICK HERE TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST

For advisers, for fund managers, for the industry. The site will incorporate everything advisers need to build ESG/ Sustainability into their advice processes and more



PARTNERED BY THE INDUSTRY

The Accord Initiative has been supported by a range of **market leading Partners** who share an ethos for transparency and education



DELIVERED BY ESG ACCORD

ESG Accord is an independent technical compliance firm specialising in ESG and sustainability as part of the spectrum of capital



SUITABILITY FRAMEWORK

At the core of the site is free to access suitability framework that spans the spectrum of capital -Consumer Duty, PROD, COBS and SDR friendly



INFORMED CHOICES

A Consumer Duty
requirement, the suitability
framework helps and
records clients making an
informed choice



SUITABLE OUTCOMES FOR CLIENTS

Helping firms to deliver repeatable and auditable best practice outcomes across the full ESG & Sustainable spectrum



CONFIDENCE

A one-stop gateway; advisers and industry manufacturers can be confident that advice is delivered in line with the Regulator's crosscutting regime



CONSISTENT

Suitable advice means consumers making informed financial choices, they understand the products and the adviser can ensure that the advice process considers each consumer's investment and mortgage preferences and objectives



EDUCATION

Product agnostic
knowledge & education; an
underlying theme to
increase knowledge across
the spectrum of capital,
practical training and CPD
on all aspects of advice
concerning ESG &
Sustainability and the
spectrum of capital

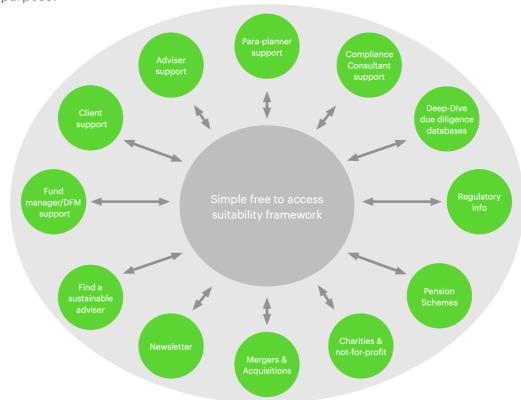
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Why the Accord Initiative?

The Accord Initiative recognises first and foremost that processes within advice firms need to adapt to new regulatory challenges; gathering information on client preferences, improving education and ensuring processes are robust and fit for purpose.



Based on recent analysis of financial advice firms, we have found that firms generally fall into one of the following groups in respect of their preparedness to deliver advice on ESG & Sustainability:

An interest with sufficient knowledge: A cross check to suitability framework, gap analysis, adviser training, all advisers using same process, mapping spectrum of capital, CPD

An interest with insufficient knowledge: Addressing knowledge gaps, cross check to suitability framework - update processes, gap analysis, adviser training, all advisers using same process, mapping spectrum of capital

No interest with sufficient knowledge: Understand the suitability process, crosscutting to Consumer Duty, utilise suitability framework templates, training for advisers

No interest with insufficient knowledge: Consumer Duty implications, defending complaints, FCA intervention (desk-based monitoring), PI Insurance



INTEGRATED

A unique position in the market between distributors, manufacturers and clients highly valuable for enhanced market participation at this critical time for sustainable change



KEY ROLE

Financial services play a key role in the transition to a more sustainable world; pressure is rising to be more purposeful and responsible in supporting the Government commitments to net zero



OVERSIGHT

An Advisory Group aims to ensure that the Accord Initiative supports the industry with solutions to regulatory change, drivers for transparency and trust and delivery of education and robust compliance