



CHARITIES
RESPONSIBLE
INVESTMENT
NETWORK

2020-21 Year in Review

What was delivered to CRIN in 2020-21?

The CRIN Secretariat co-ordinated 44 activities

- 22 roundtables, working group meetings, webinars and all-member meetings on topics including:
 - Asset Manager Expectations, Best Practice, and Engagement
 - Proxy Voting
 - Paris Aligned Investments, Divestment and Net Zero
 - Client-Directed Voting
 - Responsible Investing in Property
 - Decarbonisation
 - Internal Decision-Making
 - Biodiversity
 - Growth narratives ([‘An inquiry and provocation by charitable investors’](#))
 - Investment consultants (please email us for the confidential findings reports)
- 7 letters
 - Charity Commission: regarding CC14 (two letters sent)
 - Royal Mail: regarding the Living Wage
 - Investment Consultants: regarding access to data around their ESG approach
 - ISS: regarding their proposed benchmark policy changes
 - Pensions Minister: regarding fossil fuel divestment
 - Generation Investment Management: regarding their investment in Informa & the company's defence links

What was delivered to CRIN in 2020-21?

The CRIN Secretariat co-ordinated 44 activities

- 7 reports and written resources for members
 - Asset manager reports (on the Mobilize platform resource centre)
 - Investment risks from the technology sector ([‘Do androids dream of responsible investment?’](#))
 - Exploration of the language of investment ([‘What’s in a definition’](#))
 - Responsible investment policy library
 - Growth Narratives ([‘An inquiry and provocation by charitable investors’](#))
 - Decarbonisation practices
 - Biodiversity questions for asset managers
- 6 press articles
 - ESG Clarity
 - [Economic growth model harms people and planet](#)
 - [Charities urge asset managers to vote in favour of ESG resolutions or be discredited](#)
 - Civil Society – Charity Finance Magazine
 - [Charities demand more progress on responsible investment from asset managers](#)
 - Plus pay walled pieces in Alliance Magazine (engagement); Environmental Finance (growth narratives); FT (resolutions to watch)
- 2 shareholder resolution opportunities offered
 - HSBC
 - Tesco

Summary of actions taken

Beyond work plan delivery, press articles and letters, member engagement and activity can be summarised as follows:

- 95% of members engaged in at least one element of the work plan
- Mobilize communication engagement (annual averages)
 - 53% open/click rate
 - 36% members instigated communications
- Reports and webinars (annual average)
 - 30% of members downloaded reports
 - RI library downloaded by 44% of members
 - 31% of members dialled in to events
 - Divestment roundtable attended by 56% of members
- Two members led working groups on Investment Consultants and Growth Narratives

What challenges were there?

- S of ESG

- Deliverables for this piece of work were difficult to pin down and explore in detail. We endeavoured to share signatory opportunities on topics such as racial justice, COVID-19 responses, and links to events on insecure work.

- Biodiversity

- We undertook a webinar and produced a list of questions for asset managers. The total number, and outcomes, of engagements made by members has been harder to point to. Spring Reviews have provided some clarity, and further asset manager responses, however, measuring engagement outcomes is still a challenge.

Member Feedback

Overall satisfaction with the network averaged 4.3/5

Network

"Feeling of community and collaboration"

"Something that I've really looked forward to and enjoyed participating. It's been a high point."

Events

"I got a lot from it. Even just hearing what everyone is up to and thinking about is invaluable"

"Very practical as well as informed. Thank you for arranging"

"I had very positive feedback from my team on the session"

Reports & Engagement

"I loved the focus on key impacts"

"This is a very helpful document – especially for trustees with a non-financial background"

"Good to feel you are part of a group. Having the opportunity to share ideas / join campaigns / sign letters, which all adds to the value"