

Sustainable Financial Markets participants Cynthia Williams, Keith Johnson and Raj Thamotheram are very saddened to announce the death from cancer on November 30 of Ebba Schmidt, our friend and (N)SFM board member from 2010, when SFM was first legally established, through 2013. Ebba was particularly instrumental in developing and implementing the idea of designing mandates for asset managers that emphasize longer-term risks and opportunities, which influenced actions taken to promote long-term ESG integration investment approaches by the ICGN and other entities. In addition, she was part of a core team of (N)SFM members who contributed to Prof. John Kay's inquiry into short-termism in the capital markets.

Ebba Schmidt came to (N)SFM when she was the Responsible Investment Manager at the UK Pension Protection Fund (PPF), which protects members of eligible defined benefit pension schemes if the plan sponsor becomes insolvent. As is typical of her leadership in other projects, Ebba was willing to join (N)SFM despite her staff role in the field – something which many practitioners were not willing to do at that time. She soon became an Alternative Investments Investment Manager at the PPF, responsible for integrating sustainable investment practices across all asset classes. Prior to joining the PPF, she worked at the Pensions and Investments Research Centre (PIRC), where she advised pension funds and other institutional investors in the UK and elsewhere on ESG engagement and research projects. She had also worked on the analysis and quantification of environmental impacts at Trucost plc, an environmental research organisation.

Ebba began her career as a Geophysicist, researching climate history in the Arctic and Antarctic, and later working in oil and gas exploration. She also managed the training and development programmes for 3000 learners over three continents at Schlumberger, a multi-national oilfield services company.

Ebba's insights, energy, determination, wit and great warmth will be sorely missed. She leaves a young daughter, Lene; a sister, her mother and father.

A service organised by the responsible investment community will be held to remember Ebba's life and legacy on 27th January at 4.30pm at St Mary-le-Bow Church in London. For those wishing to attend please contact ebbaslegacy@gmail.com for further information.