

Biography

Dr Robin Keyte

Director of Towers of Taunton (Financial Services) Ltd

Co-founder of the Ethical Investment Association (EIA)

Director & co-founder of Community Land & Finance Ltd

Robin Keyte has been a director of Towers of Taunton (FS) Ltd since 1997, and joined the company after completing a PhD in chemistry. He is fee-based and is both a Chartered Financial Planner and a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER^{CM} certificant, and has been certified to ISO 22222 for Personal Financial Planning.

Robin won two categories at the Money Management Financial Planner of the Year Awards 2009, namely **‘Cautious Investment Planner of the Year’** and **‘Wealth Management Planner of the Year’**.

He has featured in several magazines and newspapers including Which? Magazine, the Investor’s Chronicle and the Independent on Sunday, as well as again featuring on Radio 4’s Money Box Live on 24 June 2009 as one of the panel of specialists.

Robin has represented the interests of UKSIF/ EIA in:

- the Financial Services Authority financial adviser exam review, ultimately getting ethical / socially responsible investment included in the syllabus content, such that now new financial advisers have to study an entire chapter on the subject.
- the International Standard for the Competencies of a Personal Financial Planner. He sits on a BSI Technical Committee and has got ethical / socially responsible investment included in the wording of the draft standard.
- the National Occupational Standard for Generic Financial Advice. He sat on the Financial Services Skills Council working group that drafted the standard.
- correspondence with HM Treasury, the Financial Ombudsman Service and the Financial Services Authority, with a view to raising awareness of ethical investment amongst the financial advisory community.

More locally Robin sat on the Financial Mechanisms Working Group of the Wessex Reinvestment Trust, a local Community Development Finance Institution (CDFI), and is also working with Investing for Good and the Social Stock Exchange and other stakeholders in the establishment of an exchange for unquoted social investments.

Some of the learning outcomes from this work are being usefully applied to Community Land & Finance Ltd who support and assist the development of Community Land Trusts so help deal with the shortage of affordable homes in rural areas.

Robin has also worked with the Community Finance Solutions section in the Department of ESPaCH at Salford University on the creation of a Masters Course for Community & Ethical Finance and the running of a Michaelmas school on the subject in 2006.