

Cocoon Green Energy Solar Fund Available on Novia Platform

Private investment business, Cocoon Wealth, has entered into an agreement with established wrap operator Novia to offer the *Cocoon Green Energy Solar Fund* on its platform. The new arrangement will bring the Fund to a much wider audience across the UK, including the ability to invest in an ISA

The Fund, launched in September 2014 in direct response to the growing demand from investors for inflation proofed, flexible savings and Estate planning. The product expects to deliver an inflation proofed return of RPI¹ + 2.5% annually, paid quarterly. Investors in the Fund may also benefit from Business Property Relief (BPR), which removes the investment from their Estate for inheritance tax purposes after two years.

Commenting on the new distribution partnership Glen Stewart, Head of Capital Raising at Cocoon Wealth, said:

"This new arrangement with Novia is one of a series of strategic developments that Cocoon Wealth will deliver in the coming months. Our new Cocoon Green Energy Solar Fund is an effective way for investors to reduce or eliminate exposure to inheritance tax through an investment in solar assets whilst delivering returns which are underpinned by long term, Government guaranteed, inflation linked subsidies. With no initial fees, investors can be confident all the money they invest will be working hard for them straight away We are thrilled that advisers and their clients will now have access to our fund through the award winning Novia platform.

Inheritance tax and Estate planning is no longer the preserve of the wealthy with more and more investors' estates falling within the inheritance tax threshold and looking for effective solutions. This new partnership will help meet this demand by increasing the Funds availability This is especially exciting as it can be held within the Novia ISA enjoying all of the previous benefits now combined with the ISA benefits, free of Income Tax, free of CGT and free of IHT², whilst offering easy access to the investment, with 30 days notice³."

Paul Boston, Sales Director at Novia said:

"Our focus at Novia has been on providing an administration platform that enables the adviser to build and maintain investment portfolios in a way that makes full use of the clients' tax allowances. The natural progression from this was to develop functionality that enabled us to hold more complex assets, such as BPR qualifying investments. These schemes enable the investor to retain more control than some trust arrangements and reduce IHT, assuming the investment is held for a minimum of two years.

Boston continued: "We are delighted to announce that we have now loaded the Cocoon Green Energy Solar Fund. This BPR qualifying investment takes advantage of government guaranteed subsidies and produces an income of 2.5% above RPI making it a very attractive option for clients requiring secure inflation linked income that helps to mitigate 40% inheritance tax. We anticipate strong adviser and client demand for this on the platform."

The Fund will generate returns through the acquisition and operation of UK solar farms which will enjoy a government backed subsidy each year, guaranteed for 20 years and linked to the Retail Price Index.

1 1 RPI is the rolling 12 month average ONS published figure

2 After 2 years

3 Subject to a 3% charge

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Notes to Editors

Novia Financial plc launched to market in October 2008 to provide a comprehensive wealth management service or 'full wrap platform' for investment advisers and their clients. Novia provides a transparent pricing structure as well as access to a wide range of product wrappers each with their own Cash Facility, an extensive suite of portfolio management tools, and access to an extensive range of investment classes including shares, bonds, traditional authorised funds, ETFs and alternative investments.

The core operating system is provided by Australian based GBST who have been developing software solutions for fund administration and financial services since 1996, and for wrap solutions since 1999, amassing \$186bn (AU) in assets under management on their systems. The comprehensive suite of portfolio management tools is powered by Financial Express, who also provide the data for the platform, and the illustrations are provided by Dunstan Thomas.

The Novia team, based in Bath, is led by Bill Vasilieff ex Sales and Marketing director and joint cofounder of Selestia. Novia as an independent proposition has substantial financial backing from a combination of private individuals and corporate organisations. The board is chaired by Sir Anthony Cleaver (former chairman and chief executive of IBM in the UK). Other members include John Beaumont, non executive, who has held a number of non executive roles in major public organisations and several technology startups, Tim Levy (non executive and investor), Chief Executive of Cocoon, David Royds (ex Chairman of Matrix group) and Bill Vasilieff as CEO.

Novia Financial plc is authorised and regulated by the FCA Register Number 481600.

Cocoon is a private investment company that invests in developing businesses they are passionate about and where they can play a key role in shaping their success. Through a combination of Cocoon's own investment, enthusiasm for developing great businesses and proven ability to transform opportunities, they often attract private and professional investors to invest alongside them. Cocoon has particular expertise in renewable energy development project and asset management. Key personnel include Tim Levy as Managing Partner with Neil Manaley and Peter Conway driving new product design and renewable energy expertise respectively. Tim has been involved in the project and venture investing market since 1997 and has originated, marketed, raised and executed over £7 billion of projects and venture investments, including over £500 million of renewable energy projects.