

18 March 2014  
For immediate release

**Hanneke Smits, CIO of Adams Street Partners, joins Impetus-PEF Board**

**18 March 2014, London, UK** – Impetus – The Private Equity Foundation (Impetus-PEF), the pioneer of venture philanthropy in the UK, today announces the appointment of Hanneke Smits, Chief Investment Officer of Adams Street Partners, to its Board of Trustees. Hanneke takes up her position with immediate effect.

Impetus-PEF brings strategic resources to high-potential charities and social enterprises working to improve the lives and prospects of children and young people living in poverty in the UK. It uses a highly effective venture philanthropy model, consisting of management support from the Impetus-PEF Investment Team, pro bono business expertise and long-term funding, to support and then improve the capacity of charities in the areas of educational attainment and work readiness.

Hanneke is responsible for formulating the global investment strategy for Adams Street Partners, one of the world's leading private equity funds of funds. She also chairs its primary and secondary investment committees. Hanneke is a member of the firm's executive committee, having been part of the leadership since Adams Street Partners was formed in 2001. She joined Adams Street Partners' predecessor organisation in 1997 to establish the firm's presence outside the United States. Hanneke has held prior roles at Pantheon Ventures, Philips China Hong Kong Group, Orange Nassau Asia and Knight Wendling. She was a former Chair of the EVCA Investor Relations Committee and has an MBA from the London Business School.

**Impetus-PEF Chief Executive Officer Daniela Barone Soares said of the appointment:** "I am delighted to welcome Hanneke as a trustee to the Impetus-PEF Board. She will bring a wealth of experience and insight to the Board. Hanneke joins a group of active and highly experienced trustees whose oversight of our organisation and support for our work is so important."

**Commenting on her appointment, Hanneke Smits said:** "I am pleased to join the Impetus-PEF Board as a trustee and look forward to contributing my expertise in supporting the organisation's aim to ensure the most disadvantaged children and young people in the UK get the help they need to achieve their potential."

**ENDS**

**Media Enquiries**

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**Notes to the editors**

- **About Impetus – The Private Equity Foundation** ([www.impetus-pef.org.uk](http://www.impetus-pef.org.uk))  
Impetus-PEF brings strategic resources to high-potential charities and social enterprises working to improve the lives and prospects of children and young people living in poverty in the UK. It aims to ensure that these organisations are effectively delivering targeted outcomes... and then achieving scale in the areas of

educational attainment and work readiness. It uses a highly effective venture philanthropy model, consisting of management support from the Impetus-PEF investment team, pro bono business expertise and long-term funding, to support and improve the capacity of these charities. Impetus-PEF was formed from the merger of Impetus Trust and the Private Equity Foundation in 2013. With over a decade of experience of supporting more than 50 charities and social enterprises, Impetus-PEF is the pioneer of venture philanthropy in the UK. It currently has 28 organisations in its active portfolio.