



Merchant Securities Group

AIM: MERC

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Merchant Securities Group plc ("Merchant Securities" or "the Group")

Appointment of Sales Director

Merchant Securities, the financial services group, is pleased to announce the appointment of Lindsey Hamilton as Sales Director of the Group's wealth management division, Merchant Securities Wealth Management Limited ("MSWM"). Lindsey's appointment takes immediate effect.

Lindsey has over 20 years' experience within wealth management and particular experience of designing and developing full advisory services for the retail marketplace. She joins Merchant Securities from WH Ireland Group plc, where she was Head of Wealth Management. Prior to that, she held senior roles at Allied Irish Bank (GB) and Barclays Wealth. At Allied Irish Bank (GB), Lindsey was responsible for implementing a new structure for the bank's wealth management activities, designed to generate new revenues and broaden the bank's offering to high net worth individuals.

MSWM offers a broad range of wealth management services and provides tailored financial planning advice to individuals and small to medium size businesses.

In February 2011, the Group's wealth management activities were significantly increased with the acquisition of GT Independent Financial Advisers Limited, an independent wealth management firm, which more than doubled the Group's assets under advisory and discretionary management to approximately £485 million. Lindsey's appointment is in line with the Board's strategy to continue expanding these operations.

Commenting on the appointment, Chief Executive of Merchant Securities, Patrick Claridge, said,

"I am very pleased to welcome Lindsey to the Group. As we have previously highlighted, we have ambitions to build our wealth management offering and Lindsey's appointment strengthens our team as we seek to achieve these plans."

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