

PRESS RELEASE

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HERMES EXPANDS REAL ESTATE DEBT TEAM

Hermes Investment Management, the £28.6 billion manager focused on delivering superior, sustainable, risk adjusted returns to its clients – responsibly, has today announced the appointment of Ben Patton as Associate Director to the Real Estate Debt team.

Based in London, Ben will be responsible for the origination and execution of commercial real estate debt transactions reporting directly into Vincent Nobel, Head of Hermes Real Estate Debt. Launched in 2013, the Hermes Real Estate Debt Fund invests in UK commercial real estate (CRE) loans and was seeded with a £400 million cornerstone investment. Prior to joining Hermes, Ben was Vice President in the Barclays Real Estate, Corporate Banking team at Barclays Bank PLC.

Chris Taylor, Chief Executive, Hermes Real Estate, said: “Ben’s appointment to the Hermes Real Estate team highlights the quality of experienced individuals that Hermes continues to attract. We feel that Ben’s expertise and industry knowledge will be of great value to the team and our investors.”

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Notes to Editors:

Hermes Investment Management

Hermes is focused on delivering superior, sustainable, risk adjusted returns for our clients – responsibly.

Hermes manages assets on behalf of more than 200 clients* across equities, fixed income, alternatives and real estate, with £28.6 billion* assets under management. In Hermes EOS, we have the industry’s leading engagement resource, advising on more than £134.0 billion* of assets.

We believe in **Excellence, Responsibility** and **Innovation**

- **Excellence:** We aspire to excellence in everything we do. This manifests itself most visibly in our investment performance. We will only offer products to our clients where we believe there is a strong investment thesis and where we can deliver sustainable alpha.
- **Responsibility:** We believe it is our responsibility to lead discussion and debate about the fiduciary responsibilities of fund managers to our clients, their stakeholders and, ultimately, society at large. We have always sought positive engagement with the firms in which we invest.

- **Innovation:** We have the entrepreneurial culture to identify forward-looking products that meet those needs, along with the resources and speed-to-market mentality to develop them rapidly.

Our structure gives clients globally the benefit of access to a broad range of specialist, high conviction investment teams operating within an established and robust operating platform.

Hermes' investment solutions include:

- **Equities:** Global, Emerging Markets, Small & Mid Cap, Europe, Asia Ex Japan, Greater China
- **Fixed Income:** Inflation-Linked, Government Bonds, Investment Grade, High Yield
- **Real Estate:** Segregated, Unitised, Debt, UK, US Residential, European, UK PRS
- **Alternatives:** Multi Asset, Infrastructure, Private Equity

*Please note the total AuM figure includes £3.7bn of assets managed or under an advisory agreement by Hermes GPE LLP ("HGPE"), a joint venture between Hermes Fund Managers ("HFM") and GPE Partner Limited. HGPE is an independent entity and not part of the Hermes group. £0.4bn of total group AuM figure represents HFM mandates under advice. Source: Hermes as at 31 December 2014.