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HSBC SUPPORTS ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL WITH LATEST REFURBISHMENT PROJECT

*****£5.7 million finance package part-funds major refurbishment project and
state-of-the-art equipment***
Refurbishment has created 70 new jobs**

St. Joseph's Hospital, a leading private healthcare provider in Newport, South Wales, has completed a major refurbishment project after securing a £5.7 million finance package from HSBC. The funds played a pivotal role in the overall £10 million project, with the remainder funded by the hospital and its shareholders.

The funding has helped the hospital build six new 'Centres of Excellence' for health assessments, urgent care, breast care, private GP care, cardiology and corporate wellbeing. The deal has also enabled St. Joseph's to purchase advanced diagnostic imaging equipment.

Since beginning the refurbishment project, St. Joseph's has created more than 70 new jobs including specialist nurses, theatre staff, radiographers, consultants and administration staff.

Brian Staples, Executive Chairman of St. Joseph's Hospital, said: "The funding package from HSBC has enabled us to transform St Joseph's from a good regional independent hospital into one of the very best in the UK able to provide high quality patient care. The bank's positive and tailored approach to our business is exactly what we needed."

Warren Lewis, HSBC's Head of Corporate Banking in Wales, added: "The funding by HSBC has supported St. Joseph's ambition to build a state-of-the-art facility with world-leading equipment, giving the hospital unrivalled healthcare capabilities. The refurbishment will enable St Joseph's to achieve its aim to become one of the UK's leading independent hospitals."

Founded in 1946, over 160 leading consultants covering a wide range of specialties practice at St Joseph's supported by a dedicated nursing team and state-of-the-art diagnostic capabilities.

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Notes to Editors:

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