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HSBC APPOINTS NEW AREA COMMERCIAL DIRECTORS ACROSS NORTH WALES

HSBC has bolstered its Commercial banking presence in North Wales with the appointment of Barry Millar and Martin Lyons as Area Commercial Directors (ACD). Barry is the new ACD for HSBC's North East Wales Commercial team, covering Deeside, Flintshire, Wrexham and Powys, with Martin taking the role for North West Wales, which encompasses Anglesey, Gwynedd, Denbighshire and Aberconwy.

Both Barry and Martin will focus on supporting businesses with a turnover between £500,000 and £30 million, in addition to ensuring that HSBC continues to meet the needs of its Commercial clients.

Barry joins HSBC from RBS, where he spent 16 years, most recently as Director of Commercial Banking for NatWest in Cheshire. Prior to that he spent 10 years within RBS's invoice finance division. Barry's team consists of nine Commercial Managers, incorporating specialists in international business, UK business and agriculture.

Martin Lyons has been with HSBC for 30 years, most recently as North Regional Manager for Business Banking, and prior to that an ACD role in North Lincolnshire. Martin is originally from Deeside and started his HSBC career in North Wales, working in Shotton. He replaces Nigel Kay, who is due to retire from the bank after 36 years' service. The North West Wales team consists of 12 Commercial Managers, again incorporating a range of specialists in international and domestic business, as well as agriculture.

Barry Millar said: "One of the key drivers behind moving to HSBC was the bank's international capabilities. Business today is not confined to these shores and businesses take a global outlook and HSBC has the structure, expertise and product

suite to enable them to finance their international trade. That capability sets us apart from the marketplace.”

Martin added: “It is great to be heading back to North Wales. I have fond memories of growing up here and taking my first steps into the world of work. The region boasts a large number of top class businesses and we want to work with forward-thinking, innovative companies. I look forward to getting out and meeting the professional and business community.”

Gary Burton, HSBC’s South West and Wales Regional Commercial Director, said “I am thrilled to welcome Barry and Martin to these important roles. North Wales is a key area for HSBC so I am pleased to have two highly experienced individuals in the ACD positions. It is important that we are able to invest even more time talking to our customers so we can better understand their business, the issues they face and their ambitions, and appointments such as these enable us to do that.”

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Notes to Editors:

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HSBC Holdings plc

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