

HSBC TO USE MORTGAGE BROKER FOR THE FIRST TIME

- *Lender to enter mortgage intermediary market*

From today, HSBC will start to offer its mortgages through a broker. This new service will provide residential mortgages for properties around the UK, and will be run in partnership with Countrywide Mortgage Services.

It will continue to be HSBC's responsibility to assess customers' affordability. Each application will be underwritten by HSBC to ensure the borrower's individual circumstances are fully considered. The 'Best High Street Mortgage Provider'¹ will provide mortgages up to a maximum of 80% LTV (loan-to-value) through Countrywide.

Antonio Simoes, CEO HSBC UK said: "From today, we're offering customers even more choice and convenience when it comes to arranging their mortgage. This is a natural step for us after the launch of our online mortgage service earlier this year and means our award-winning mortgages will be even more widely available to people around the UK."

Nigel Stockton, Financial Services Director at Countrywide plc, said: "HSBC has an appetite for high quality lending and we are delighted and proud that HSBC has chosen Countrywide to work with them as they look to provide mortgages through intermediaries for the first time in the UK. Our focus is on maintaining excellent standards and speed of service. We are in no doubt that we will prove Countrywide can provide HSBC with more clients for their market leading products and we look forward to working together."

Ends

Notes to Editors

¹HSBC have been awarded Best High Street Mortgage Provider at the Consumer Moneyfacts Awards for the past four years (2009-2013).

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HSBC Bank plc

HSBC serves 16.1 million customers in the UK and employs approximately 43,500 people. In the UK, HSBC offers a complete range of personal, premier and private banking services including [bank accounts](#) and [mortgages](#). It also provides commercial banking for small to medium businesses and corporate and institutional banking services. HSBC Bank plc is a wholly owned subsidiary of HSBC Holdings plc.

The HSBC Group

HSBC Holdings plc, the parent company of the HSBC Group, is headquartered in London. The Group serves customers worldwide from over 6,200 offices in 74 countries and

territories in Asia, Europe, North and Latin America, and the Middle East and North Africa. With assets of US\$2,754bn at 30 June 2014, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations.