

HSBC UK appoints new Head of Agriculture to support customers through Brexit and beyond

HSBC UK has appointed Martin Hanson to the key role of Head of Agriculture to provide specialist support to UK customers.

In his new role, Martin will lead a team of more than 90 agricultural banking specialists focused on supporting customers through Brexit and helping them to identify opportunities for future growth.

In September last year, HSBC UK launched a £1 billion lending fund to support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the agriculture sector, as part of its commitment to help businesses realise their ambitions for growth. The fund, which increased to £1 billion from £300 million in 2018, is part of a wider £14 billion fund for SMEs across the UK.

Martin joined HSBC in 2010 having begun his financial services career in 1986. His agriculture experience stretches back more than 25 years to when he was a rural Relationship Manager in Yorkshire and he has worked with farming clients and the wider agricultural community ever since.

David Beaty, HSBC UK Head of Business Banking, said: “Martin is a highly experienced and respected figure in the financial services sector and I have no doubt he will continue to be a great asset to us and our customers in his new role.

“Martin will lead a team of skilled and knowledgeable experts in the sector who will continue to provide support and guidance to agriculture customers when they need it most.”

Martin Hanson, HSBC UK’s Head of Agriculture, said: “Right now we’re focused on helping our customers, many of whom have been affected by the weather and recent flooding and may need extra support from us in the weeks and months ahead.

“I’m excited to be taking on this new role and, with Brexit on the horizon, I know we will need to support our customers with the challenges ahead. I’m looking forward to helping our farmers find new ways to grow and, through our increased lending fund and expertise, I feel that we can make a positive difference to the wider agricultural community in the UK.”

Ends

Note to editors

Photo caption – HSBC UK Head of Agriculture Martin Hanson.

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HSBC UK

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HSBC Holdings plc

HSBC Holdings plc, the parent company of the HSBC Group, is headquartered in London. HSBC serves customers worldwide from offices in 64 countries and territories in our geographical regions: Europe, Asia, North America, Latin America, and Middle East and North Africa. With assets of US\$2,715bn at 31 December 2019, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations.