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HSBC UK STRENGTHENS COMMERCIAL BANKING TEAM IN BIRMINGHAM, WARWICKSHIRE AND COVENTRY

HSBC UK announces key appointments in its Commercial Banking Team across the West Midlands.

Suzy Verma has been appointed Area Director of Corporate Banking, Birmingham, Warwickshire and Coventry. In her new role, Suzy will be supporting a 30 strong team and working with businesses with a turnover of between £10million to £350 million.

Suzy joined HSBC in 2015 as Head of Public Sector and Education. Prior to this she spent 8 years at Santander as one of the founding members of the Education, Health and Charities team as well as setting up a new International team in Brazil supporting FTSE 250 companies. She started her career as a graduate at AIB. Outside of HSBC UK, Suzy also sits on the Mayor of Birmingham's leadership commission.

Joining her team are; Tom Clamp as Deputy Area Director and Bill Dwight, as Relationship Director. Tom has a corporate finance background and joined HSBC UK from Smith and Williamson, where he worked with clients across the Midlands. Prior to that, he worked for HSBC and Deloitte. Bill has joined HSBC UK from Santander where he held a variety of roles across the Midlands serving large corporates. Prior to that, he worked in Syndicated Lending at AIB Capital Markets.

Clare Walker has also joined the Corporate team in the Midlands as Deputy Area Director, North and South West Midlands. Clare is an experienced global banker and has worked in a variety of roles in HSBC In the UK and France including relationship management, leveraged finance, debt finance origination & M&A.

HSBC UK has a £2 billion lending fund to support small and medium-sized enterprises across the Midlands, as part of its broader £14 billion commitment to help British businesses realise their ambitions for growth. The newly strengthened team will play a key role in helping customers access the fund.

Frances Howell, Head of Corporate Banking, Midlands Region, HSBC UK said: "We are delighted to have strengthened the Midlands team. A thriving Midlands is essential to a successful UK economy.

"Suzy has an excellent track record within HSBC UK and I look forward to the role the team can play in supporting businesses across the Midlands access HSBC's £2 billion lending fund, which supports small and medium-sized enterprises realise their ambitions for growth."

Suzy Verma, Area Director for Birmingham, Warwickshire and Coventry, HSBC UK said: "I am delighted to move back to Birmingham after 20 years living away to take the role of Area Director. HSBC UK has generated more than £540 million of wealth for the region since the new Birmingham head office¹ was established and is committed to supporting businesses in the West Midlands. I am looking forward to leading the newly strengthened team to provide support and guidance to growing businesses. Connecting our customers to opportunities in both the local and international market."

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<https://www.about.hsbc.co.uk/news-and-media>**Note to editors:**

¹Research from West Midlands Growth Company - <https://wmgrowth.com/article/why-the-west-midlands-business-professional-and-financial-services-sector-is-giving-london-a-run-for-its-money>

HSBC UK

HSBC UK serves around 14.5 million customers across the UK, supported by 32,000 colleagues. HSBC UK offers a complete range of retail banking and wealth management to personal and private banking customers, as well as commercial banking for small to medium businesses and large corporates.

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.

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