

BMO Real Estate Partners strengthens Fund Management team with appointment of Matthew Howard

LONDON, 29 August, 2017 – BMO Real Estate Partners ('BMO REP'), the Real Estate investment and asset management arm of BMO Global Asset Management with £6.7 billion* of assets under management, announces the appointment of Matthew Howard as Director, Property Funds.

Following the decision by Julian Smith to step down at the end of this year, concluding an impressive 34 year career with the business, Matthew will assume responsibility for the Royal Sun Alliance ('RSA') Shareholders Fund while also supporting Richard Kirby on the smooth management of BMO REP's flagship vehicle, F&C Commercial Property Trust. Matthew's role will encompass the formulation and implementation of property investment strategies and the execution of transactions and asset management initiatives with the aim of delivering enhanced fund performance.

Matthew joins BMO REP from Hermes Investment Management where he spent the past six years, most recently as Deputy Fund Manager for its Vista UK Build To Rent/PRS Fund, which he was integral to the launch of in 2014, and was responsible for the day to day fund operations, strategy, investment and client liaison. Prior to this, Matthew was an Investment Manager for Hermes' flagship British Telecom Pension Fund, where he gained a wide breadth of investment and fund management experience. Previous positions encompass real estate asset management and investment roles at DTZ in London and, more recently, Develica, where he managed an AIM listed German real estate fund with an €800 million investment portfolio of 90 assets.

Matthew is a qualified member of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, and also holds a Certificate in Investment Management.

Richard Kirby, BMO Real Estate Partners, said: "Matthew joins us with highly relevant sector experience and a strong track record that will be instrumental as we seek to further enhance the value we offer our clients. He joins us at a pivotal time for the business with an exciting pipeline of opportunities on the horizon and we look forward to working with him to deliver continued outperformance over the long-term."

* As at 30 June 2017

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Media Contacts:

Campbell Hood
BMO Global Asset Management (EMEA)
campbell.hood@bmogam.com
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7011 4243
Mob: +44 (0) 786 091 1622

FTI Consulting
BMOREP@fticonsulting.com
Tel: +44 (0) 20 3727 1000

About BMO Global Asset Management

BMO Global Asset Management is a global investment manager with offices in more than 25 cities in 14 countries, delivering service excellence to clients across five continents.

Our four major investment centers in Toronto, Chicago, London and Hong Kong are complemented by a network of world-class boutique managers strategically located across the globe: BMO Real Estate Partners, LGM Investments, Pyrford International Ltd., and Taplin, Canida & Habacht, LLC. BMO Global Asset Management is a signatory of the United Nations-supported Principles for Responsible Investment initiative (UNPRI).

BMO Global Asset Management is a part of BMO Financial Group, a highly diversified financial services provider based in North America with total assets of CDN \$719 billion, as of April 30, 2017, and over 45,000 employees. BMO Wealth Management has worldwide assets under management of CDN \$430 billion as of April 30, 2017.