

14<sup>th</sup> July 2014

## RISK & COMPLIANCE MANAGEMENT BOOST FOR PERSONAL TOUCH

Personal Touch Financial Services, the consumer-focused adviser network, has today announced the appointment of Tony Hurl-Hodges to its board in the role of chief compliance officer.

Hurl-Hodges has over 20 years experience in financial services within the banking and insurance sector with organisations such as Abbey National, Gartmore Investment Management, Mizuho Corporate Bank, Credit Suisse, The Cooperative Bank and Direct Line. He completed an MBA at De Montfort University, a post graduate degree at Harvard University and holds the CF1 and CF10 approved persons' authorities.

Former risk and compliance director of Personal Touch, Helen Gasser, now takes up the new role of chief governance officer and will continue to report in to CEO, Max Wright on the main board. She will retain responsibilities for all legal, professional indemnity and risk management matters but have additional accountability to ensure good governance as part of the Company's commitment to put consumers at the heart of the business.

Max Wright, chief executive officer at Personal Touch, said:

"Our investment in ensuring we have the most experienced and talented people on board to support members and importantly, consumers, is vital to our future strategy and to the protection of the Company in an increasingly litigious and regulated environment. We are absolutely committed to ensuring we manage risks across the company, for our members, staff and clients. Together we believe Tony and Helen make a very impressive team with unparalleled experience and qualifications in this important area."

**ENDS**

**For further information, please contact:**

David Carrington, Marketing Director, Personal Touch      0121 767 1128 / 07711 377 904

Nicola Mitchell, Mitchell Money Penny      01242 703266 / 07980 684240

**Notes To Editors**

About Personal Touch Financial Services

Personal Touch Financial Services is a privately-owned professional adviser network. Established in 1994, the Company is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). Personal Touch Financial Services provides business, technical and regulatory support to a community of highly-qualified member firms, with a focus on the mortgage and protection sector.

Personal Touch is committed to running a consumer-focused organisation with professional standards and service quality at the core of this. In its investment and pensions operation, Personal Touch operates a broad-based, restricted advice proposition with professionally qualified advisers supported by dedicated bespoke technology, compliance and business development resources.

2014 is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the network which is now established as one of the leading mortgage distributors in the UK marketplace.