



Allied Irish Bank (GB) appoints Stephen Breen as Regional Manager, Midlands Corporate Banking

22nd December 2003

Allied Irish Bank (GB), voted Britain's best business bank for the fifth consecutive time*, is delighted to announce the opening of a new business office in the Oxford Science Park, Oxford. This formally opened for business last month with the appointment of a new senior business development manager.

Allied Irish Bank (GB), recently voted Britain's best business bank for the fifth consecutive time*, is delighted to announce the appointment of Stephen Breen as the Regional Manager for Corporate Banking in the Midlands. He will be based in the heart of Birmingham at the Bank's Waterloo Street Office.

Stephen started his banking career at the Royal Bank of Scotland. Over a 20 year period he held a number of prestigious positions, culminating in the role of Director, Commercial Banking for Coventry and Warwickshire in 1999.

Commenting on his appointment, Stephen Breen said: "Allied Irish Bank (GB) has a formidable reputation within the world of business banking and indeed beyond. I am delighted to be joining a bank of such calibre and look forward to working with the first class team I know to be in place.

"Working for a bank which places the business customer first, provides unstinting customer service and has a rapid decision making process was an absolute priority for me. This is precisely what Allied Irish Bank (GB) does and I believe this is exactly what those running SME or larger Corporate companies need."

Bob Baldock, Head of Corporate Banking at Allied Irish Bank (GB), commented: "We are delighted to attract an individual of Stephen's calibre to our bank, which is testament to our commitment of providing only the best quality of leadership for both our clients and our employees. We look forward to Stephen playing an integral role in building and sustaining long-term relationships with our customers and growing the business throughout the Midlands."

His appointment is part of Allied Irish Bank (GB)'s ongoing nation-wide recruitment drive aimed at attracting experienced business bankers to work for Britain's best business bank. Those interested in a career with Allied Irish Bank (GB), who can demonstrate a successful track-record in helping small and medium-sized companies achieve their potential, should contact our Human Resources department or go to the careers section of our website, www.aibgb.co.uk/careers for further details.

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Notes to editors

About Allied Irish Bank (GB)

Allied Irish Bank (GB) is a trade mark used under licence by AIB Group (UK) plc, a wholly owned subsidiary of Allied Irish Banks plc, which has one of the strongest capital bases of any bank in Britain and Ireland.

*It has five times been voted "Best Business Bank" - 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000 and 2002 by the Forum of Private Business. This biennial survey looks at the relationship between businesses and their banks, in particular the quality of their people and their operational efficiency. The survey clearly demonstrates that successful businesses need a good bank and a good manager. Allied Irish Bank (GB) has proved best in both categories.

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