

23 January 2020

James Lass joins Mayfair Capital as Head of Special Transactions and Fund Manager

Mayfair Capital, the specialist UK real estate investment manager wholly owned by Swiss Life Asset Managers, has appointed James Lass as head of special transactions, with a focus on central London, and fund manager for its UK Thematic Growth Fund.

Lass joins from Trilogy and was previously at Schroders for 12 years. He managed the Schroder UK Real Estate Fund, which during the time he was fund manager delivered top quartile outperformance over one, three and five years and won the MSCI 2018 Investment Award for the Best Unlisted Fund over £1.5bn over three years. Lass brings a strong track record of generating performance by identifying and investing in growth trends, such as emerging London submarkets and self-storage. He also has experience managing assets on a propco/opco model.

As the London property market displays renewed potential for investors, Lass' expertise reinforces Mayfair Capital's ability to tap into strong thematic characteristics – including connectivity, networks and demographics – which bode well for long-term occupational demand.

Lass is the latest to join Mayfair Capital as the business continues to grow its investment team, product offering and client base. Mayfair Capital has recently announced the appointment of Tim Munn, who will join in March 2020 as CIO. This follows senior hires to the fund management and business development teams over the last 18 months.

James Thornton, chief executive of Mayfair Capital, said: "We are thrilled to have attracted someone of James' calibre to join our expanding team. Swiss Life ownership has been transformational for our business, with a deep appetite for investing in real estate from the Group. In addition to fund specific roles, we are confident James will deliver on joint ventures and other special opportunity transactions utilising Swiss Life capital in conjunction with third party investors."

James Lass said: "I am delighted to be joining Mayfair Capital at such an exciting time in its evolution. With a focus on thematic investing and a first class, experienced team, Mayfair Capital is well placed to capitalise on structural changes within the real estate sector, driven by demographic shifts and technological advances. I look forward to working with the team and continuing the excellent performance track record Mayfair Capital has consistently delivered for investors."

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Notes to Editors:

Mayfair Capital Investment Management Limited (MCIM)

MCIM is a UK real estate investment management business and a member of Swiss Life Asset Managers. Founded in 2002 and headquartered in London, Mayfair Capital is authorised and regulated by the FCA. Its management board includes William Hill (non-executive director), James Thornton (chief executive officer) and Robert Palmer (chief investment officer).

Mayfair Capital serves a diverse client base, through its discretionary and advisory funds, which include The Property Income Trust for Charities, Mayfair Capital Property Unit Trust, Mayfair Capital Commercial Property Trust, Mayfair Capital Residential 2, Mayfair Capital UK Thematic Growth Fund and Cadogan Income Properties. As a Member of Swiss Life Asset Managers, MCIM is the UK real estate investment manager investing for Swiss Life's diversified pan-European Funds.

mayfaircapital.co.uk