Ulster Bank Update on Phased Withdrawal: MOU with AIB Progresses to Legally Binding Agreement

No Immediate Changes for Customers

Today (28 June 2021), Ulster Bank announces an update on its phased withdrawal process, confirmed on 19 February 2021. The previously announced non-binding MOU between Ulster Bank's parent NatWest Group and Allied Irish Banks p.l.c. "AIB", has now moved to a legally binding agreement. This agreement is for the sale of a c.€4.2bn portfolio of performing commercial lending (plus up to €2.8bn of undrawn exposures), and the transfer of colleagues wholly or mainly assigned to this loan book.

This remains subject to regulatory approvals which are likely to take a number of months. There is no immediate change for customers, Ulster Bank remains open for new and existing business for all customers. Commercial banking relationship managers will continue to actively engage with business customers throughout this process. The future transfer will not affect the legal and regulatory protections of impacted customers.

Ulster Bank Chief Executive Jane Howard said:

"Today's binding agreement represents a significant update on our phased withdrawal and although it remains subject to regulatory approvals, I am confident that we are with AIB, delivering a good solution for our performing commercial loan book customers. While we await approval, there remains no change for customers.

"This agreement also includes the proposed transfer of colleagues wholly or mainly assigned to this loan book. We anticipate this to be c280 colleagues and the final number of roles will be confirmed as the deal completes. We will continue to work with our colleagues and their representatives to manage this process in a fair and responsible manner.

"Talks continue with Permanent TSB Group Holdings plc among other strategic banking counterparties on other elements of the phased withdrawal. I remain committed to managing our withdrawal carefully and responsibly over time, to deliver constructive solutions for our customers and their banking services within the Republic of Ireland."

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