

Sesame Bankhall Group Ltd

Registered Office: Pixham End, Dorking, Surrey RH14 1QA

Registered in England No. 3573352

www.sesamebankhall.co.uk

PRESS RELEASE

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Sesame Bankhall Group announces partnership with Connells

Sesame Bankhall Group has entered into a long-term partnership with Connells involving a range of services including protection for Connells' 450 mortgage consultants operating across its UK estate agency offices.

George Higginson, Chief Operating Officer at Sesame Bankhall Group said: "As the UK's largest intermediary support services group we have a broad base of adviser customers. Our partnership with Connells is another example of how we are able to offer different solutions to suit intermediaries' individual needs.

"Interest in offering protection cover is increasing, particularly amongst mortgage advisers who are looking to enhance their service to clients. This is good news for consumers and we look forward to working closely with Connells on this exciting new initiative. This partnership clearly demonstrates that our recent expansion in the mortgage market, with the successful launch of our new valuation and legal services, has gained real traction."

Connells is one of the UK's largest and most successful estate agency and property services groups. Its mortgage consultants will be able to access a full range of protection products from Friends Life, including term assurance, critical illness and income protection.

David Livesey, Group Chief Executive for Connells, commented: "This is a strategic partnership for Connells based upon the synergies between ourselves and Sesame Bankhall Group. Our partnership will go beyond protection products by utilising other Connells Group services and making the most of mutual benefits that a long-term affiliation will provide.

"Connells' national Mortgage Services business delivers a robust and quality controlled mortgage distribution service to our restricted panel of lenders," David continued. "This new collaboration will enable our Mortgage Service Consultants to offer best-in-class protection products alongside our award-winning mortgage advice and incentives."

- Ends -

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About Sesame Bankhall Group

Sesame Bankhall Group operates three distinct distribution brands.

- Sesame is the UK's largest appointed representative (AR) network with 1,400 member firms.
- Bankhall is the market-leading support services business for 1,900 directly regulated IFAs.
- PMS operates the largest mortgage club for directly regulated mortgage brokers in the UK.

Services provided include compliance and regulatory support, access to one of the UK's most comprehensive training and development programmes, in-depth product research, preferential PI terms and access to the latest technology to enable advisers to write business more efficiently.

About the Connells Group Mortgage Services

The Connells Group includes one of the largest national estate agency networks, with 471 branches, and is on track to deliver £4bn worth of mortgages per annum through 450 employed mortgage consultants. A diverse group providing multiple services to consumers and financial service businesses, including controlled mortgage and insurance distribution, conveyancing and valuation services:

- CII qualified mortgage consultants
- Tightly controlled mortgage distribution
- Technology enabled business from pre-to-post sale delivering compliant, efficient and streamlined customer journey
- Innovative customer solutions including pioneering the re-entry of 95% LTV mortgages and development of electronic tranche management systems for lenders
- Quality, 'Treating Customers Fairly' and governance embedded throughout the business

The Connells Group is consistently recognised at the Estate Agency of the Year awards winning Gold in the Best Financial Services category twice in the last three years, and Gold in the Best UK Large Agency three times in the last four years.