

**P R E S S   R E L E A S E**

**16 January 2017**

**For immediate release**

**HERMES ANNOUNCES £60M INVESTMENT IN CENTRE:MK  
TO RE-IMAGINE AN ICON**

Hermes Investment Management, the £28.6 billion manager focused on delivering superior, sustainable, risk adjusted returns to its clients – responsibly and AustralianSuper, co-owners of centre:mk, have today announced plans for a £60 million investment in the centre.

Over the next three years, the grade two-listed building will undergo a series of enhancements focused on re-imagining the iconic principles that led to the creation of one of the UK's most dominant UK regional shopping centres. The £60 million investment programme includes the recently completed £10m refurbishment of Sunset Walk, designed by architecture and design company, Rawls. The next phase will see the development of new state of the art customer facilities on Deer Walk, including a customer service lounge, family facilities and WCs, together with work beginning this spring on a new 1,400 space multi-storey car park adjoining John Lewis.

Other initiatives will embrace the latest digital technology with a new centre:mk app, website, social media platform, signage and wayfinding, focused on providing visitors with information and inspiration to help them get the most from their visit.

**Ed Sellick, on behalf of centre:mk's joint owners, Hermes Investment Management and AustralianSuper, commented:** " Our £60 million programme of investment is designed to enhance the experience for visitors, leading to increased sales for our retailers and restaurants. As the town of Milton Keynes enters its 50<sup>th</sup> year, at centre:mk, 'Re-Imagining an Icon' is seeking to re-equip the UK's first listed shopping mall for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It is about reflecting and paying homage to the building's iconic status, whilst at the same time reappraising what happens inside and, finally, the role centre:mk plays in Milton Keynes."

**Kevin Duffy, Centre Director added:** “centre:mk plays a significant role regionally as we provide a critical mass and diversity of offer unavailable elsewhere. The investment in the malls, wayfinding, facilities and customer service will collectively allow us to build upon the place making we have created and further improve the space. These plans ensure centre:mk is always relevant for the consumer and retailers and will create a refreshing, exciting and modern look and feel within the iconic destination.”

The ‘Re-Imagining an Icon’ strategy builds on the significant enhancements made to centre:mk’s brand line-up over the last 18 months. Jigsaw, Hobbs, Joules, Cath Kidston, Kiehl’s, Molton Brown, The White Company and Pandora have all opened new stores on Sunset Walk, concentrated around House of Fraser, to create a critical mass of premium brands. In addition, Smiggle, T2 and Flying Tiger have all launched successful stores and Ask has recently opened its new restaurant opposite John Lewis.

## **ENDS**

### **For further information, please contact:**

- Nick Thornton at Aver on 07808940208, or via [nickthornton@aver.uk.com](mailto:nickthornton@aver.uk.com)
- Amy Cassidy at Aver on 07786025417, or via [amycassidy@aver.uk.com](mailto:amycassidy@aver.uk.com)

### **Notes to Editors:**

#### **Hermes Investment Management**

Hermes is focused on delivering superior, sustainable, risk adjusted returns for our clients – responsibly.

Hermes manages assets on behalf of more than 330 clients\* across equities, fixed income, alternatives and real estate, with £28.6 billion\* assets under management. In Hermes EOS, we have the industry’s leading engagement resource, advising on £237 billion\* of assets.

#### We believe in **Excellence, Responsibility** and **Innovation**

- **Excellence:** We aspire to excellence in everything we do. This manifests itself most visibly in our investment performance. We will only offer products to our clients where we believe there is a strong investment thesis and where we can deliver sustainable alpha.
- **Responsibility:** We believe it is our responsibility to lead discussion and debate about the fiduciary responsibilities of fund managers to our clients, their stakeholders and, ultimately, society at large. We have always sought positive engagement with the firms in which we invest.
- **Innovation:** We have the entrepreneurial culture to identify forward-looking products that meet those needs, along with the resources and speed-to-market mentality to develop them rapidly.

Our structure gives clients globally the benefit of access to a broad range of specialist, high conviction investment teams operating within an established and robust operating platform.

Hermes’ investment solutions include:

- **Private markets** - International real estate, UK commercial real estate, UK private rental sector real estate, infrastructure and private equity
- **High active share equities** - Asia, global emerging markets, Europe, US, global, and small and mid cap

- **Credit** - Absolute return, global high yield, multi strategy, real estate debt, direct lending and global investment grade
- **Multi asset** - Multi asset inflation
- **Responsible Investment Services** -Corporate engagement, intelligent voting and public policy engagement

\*Please note the total AUM figure includes £5.4bn of assets managed or under an advisory agreement by Hermes GPE LLP ("HGPE"), a joint venture between Hermes Fund Managers Limited ("HFM") and GPE Partner Limited. HGPE is an independent entity and not part of the Hermes group. £0.2bn of total group AUM figure represents HFM mandates under advice. Source: Hermes as at 30 September 2016.

#### **About AustralianSuper**

AustralianSuper manages more than \$100 billion of members' assets on behalf of more than two million members from across 220,000 businesses. One in 10 working Australians is a member of AustralianSuper the nation's largest industry super fund.

#### **About CBRE Group, Inc.**

CBRE Group, Inc. (NYSE:CBG), a Fortune 500 and S&P 500 company headquartered in Los Angeles, is the world's largest commercial real estate services and investment firm (in terms of 2014 revenue). The Company has more than 52,000 employees (excluding affiliates), and serves real estate owners, investors and occupiers through more than 370 offices (excluding affiliates) worldwide. CBRE offers strategic advice and execution for property sales and leasing; corporate services; property, facilities and project management; mortgage banking; appraisal and valuation; development services; investment management; and research and consulting. Please visit our website at [www.cbre.com](http://www.cbre.com).