



RateSetter appoints two former-HSBC heavyweights

29 March 2016

Leading marketplace lender RateSetter has made two senior appointments in credit and risk. Jim Gunner has joined the Board as a Non-Executive Director and Chair of the Risk Committee. Nigel Wilkinson has joined as Head of Commercial Credit. Both executives are ex-HSBC.

Gunner has spent his career in banking, most of it specialising in risk management. He was senior executive for group risk at HSBC Holdings plc representing the group in international banking and regulatory forums and was a frequent speaker at industry events worldwide, in particular those hosted by the International Institute of Finance. He also held senior positions in the credit or risk functions in Midland Bank, HSBC (UK) and Merrill Lynch HSBC and represented HSBC at the British Bankers' Association for many years. He was also seconded as a consultant to the Financial Services Authority.

Wilkinson has over thirty years of experience with HSBC and JP Morgan in credit risk management and transaction origination and execution. His career at HSBC included the positions of Global Head of Risk, Corporate Trust and Loan Agency. Wilkinson's role at RateSetter involves ensuring the sustainable growth of RateSetter's commercial lending operation.

***Jim Gunner**, non-executive Director, said: "I am delighted to join RateSetter's Board. The company is forward-thinking, innovative and has great future growth potential. I look forward to working with Rhydian and my colleagues on the Board to bring positive change to the UK's financial landscape."*

***Nigel Wilkinson**, Head of Commercial Credit, said: "It's exciting that RateSetter is stepping up and strengthening its commercial finance operation at a time when banks are still hesitant. I'm looking forward to bringing my experience to bear as RateSetter makes a real difference in the UK's commercial credit market."*

***Rhydian Lewis**, RateSetter's CEO, said: "We are putting in place the governance and risk skills to support our growth ambitions, and it gives me great pleasure to announce that Jim and Nigel have joined our team. Attracting such talented and experienced people underlines the strong and long-term business that we are building at RateSetter."*

Notes to editors

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RateSetter is one of the UK's largest marketplace lenders and has lent more than £1bn to UK individuals, businesses and property developers, including £500m in 2015 alone.

The platform offers a ground-breaking proposition that allows retail, institutional and corporate lenders to invest at interest rates set in an open market. RateSetter is not covered by the FSCS and capital is at risk.

RateSetter's £17m Provision Fund has ensured that no individual investor has lost a penny since RateSetter launched in 2010 - a unique feat amongst major platforms in the industry.

In 2014, RateSetter became the first marketplace lender to launch with a retail license in Australia. In December 2015, the platform won Best Peer-to-Peer Lender in the FT and Investors Chronicle Wealth Management Awards for the second year running. In March 2015 Rhydian Lewis was named *FinTech Leader of the Year*, and in June 2015 RateSetter was the highest-rated platform by Which? readers.

RateSetter is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

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