

BLME PROVIDES £12M LOAN TO CARE HOME SPECIALIST SIGNATURE SENIOR LIFESTYLE

BLME provides liquidity to the under-banked Healthcare Sector

London, 25 July 2012: Bank of London and The Middle East (“BLME”), the largest Islamic wholesale investment bank in Europe, has agreed a £12 million loan to care home specialist, Signature Senior Lifestyle, as part of a wider £22m development project.

The facility is for five years and is structured to fund the development and operation of a new 83-bed residential and nursing care home in Epsom, Surrey, which will include a dedicated 24 unit dementia care provision.

Massoud Janekeh, Head of Islamic Capital Markets, said: “There’s an increasing need to meet demand for premium retirement facilities, particularly in the South East of England. The current property cycle allows strong investors like Signature to acquire and develop well-located plots. We are pleased to be supporting Signature’s continued growth in the provision of quality senior care through BLME’s combined expertise in Healthcare and Property Finance.”

This project in Epsom will be the fifth community operated by Signature Senior Lifestyle. Signature communities offer a range of apartment sizes, a fully catered service, activity programmes and person centred care “as and when required”. Signature currently employs over 300 people who care for over 230 elderly residents.

Aidan Roche, Chief Financial Officer at Signature Senior Lifestyle, said: “BLME has provided Signature with an additional line of funding that is essential as we work to open new homes and meet the growing need for quality care provision in the UK. We are delighted to have agreed the Epsom funding and look forward to successfully completing the project and welcoming residents to their new home at Signature”.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

About BLME

Bank of London and The Middle East plc (“BLME”) is an independent UK wholesale Islamic bank based in London, with a strong and established reputation as a quality provider of specialised financing solutions to institutions and high net-worth individuals across Europe and the GCC regions. BLME received FSA authorisation in July 2007 and is the largest of its peers in Europe. It is led by a management team that brings together a combination of experienced international bankers and leading experts in Islamic finance.

BLME has three key business areas; Corporate Banking, Treasury and Wealth Management that includes Asset Management and Private Banking.

To ensure that BLME’s services and operations are wholly Sharia’a compliant, the Bank has a dedicated Sharia’a Supervisory Board (“SSB”). The SSB’s role is to review contracts and agreements relating to all transactions ensuring that they are consistent with the principles of Islamic jurisprudence.

About Signature

Signature Senior Lifestyle was established in 2006 and develops and operates high quality Nursing Homes intended to offer an alternative to conventional homes by integrating community facilities and high quality services and care within a homely environment. Signature combines a product concept developed in-house specifically for the UK customer with a unique resident-by-resident ‘bespoke’ approach to the provision of quality care with empathy, dignity and freedom of choice. Based in Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, Signature will have four homes under construction by the end of 2012 in addition to the four homes it currently operates with an emerging pipeline of future developments within prime south east markets.