

# Prime London Real Estate - A flight to quality in uncertain times.

## BLME supports clients looking to invest in Prime London Real Estate

In response to an increased interest in prime London real estate BLME has launched a property advisory service that offers private clients support and advice in sourcing and acquiring property either as an investment or a residence.

Nigel Denison, Head of Treasury and Wealth Management said;

"London remains one of the most desirable destinations in the world and we continue to see an increase in demand for high quality prime residential real estate."

One of the main reasons for this high demand is that London prime real estate has out-performed almost every other asset class over the last 40 years. Knight Frank's May Prime Central London Property Index<sup>i</sup> notes that prices have risen 47.3% since their post-credit-crunch low in March 2009 and rose 0.7% in May alone.

Nigel Denison continued;

"We and can advise clients on the best investment opportunities and help source property. BLME also offers support and advice through the legal and tax hurdles involved in the purchase of a property. We have helped clients find investment property, such as luxury flats or a main residence in one of the 'Golden Postcodes' of London. The service we offer is personalised and tailored for each individual client's requirements and risk appetite."

To complement this service BLME funds property acquisitions and also has a property fund.

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#### NOTES TO EDITORS

### About BLME

Bank of London and The Middle East plc ("BLME") is an independent UK wholesale Sharia'a compliant bank based in London. 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.

BLME is dedicated to offering innovative Islamic investment and financing products to businesses and high net-worth individuals in the European, US, Asian and MENA regions. 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.

<sup>i</sup> Knight Frank Residential Research