

**BLME provides £21.75 million for Tobacco Dock****30/08/23**

Bank of London and The Middle East plc (BLME) has provided a £21.75 million refinancing facility against Tobacco Dock, a multi-purpose events venue in Central London. Situated in the prime location of Wapping, Tobacco Dock is a state of the art commercial and entertainment complex within walking distance of the City of London.

The sponsor, Fawzia Mubarak Al Hassawi, is a Kuwaiti national named one of the Arab world's most influential women by Forbes Magazine. The transaction illustrates the continuing attraction of London real estate to high-net-worth GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) investors for the purpose of wealth preservation.

**James Procter, Director, Real Estate Finance at BLME, said:** "This transaction demonstrates the continued strong appetite for prime assets in central London among high-net-worth investors from the GCC region.

As noted in our Built to Last thought leadership report, the UK provides investors with strong regulatory and legal protection, has longstanding international desirability, and is seen by investors from the Middle East as a stable market. As a state of the art venue in a historic location, Tobacco Dock is seen as a prime asset with significant potential".

**Yuri Kantebeen, Head of Finance at Al Mubarakia Ltd, said:** "Tobacco Dock is a perfect fit for our investment portfolio, as an iconic asset in the heart of London, hosting a variety of world-class events. The BLME team are fully aligned with our values and principles, so it was a pleasure to work alongside them again."

**ENDS****About Bank of London and The Middle East (BLME)**

BLME is a Sharia'a compliant bank based in London. Led by a management team that brings together a combination of experienced international bankers and leading experts in Islamic finance, BLME's key business areas include: Private Banking, Mortgages, Commercial Real Estate Finance, and savings products.

BLME is authorised by the PRA and regulated by the FCA and PRA. For more information, please visit our website [www.blme.com](http://www.blme.com).