

Co-operative Financial Services



The COOPERATIVE BANK



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News Release

Acquisition accelerates Halliwell Jones Group's drive into North Wales

North West car retailer Halliwell Jones Group has acquired Premier Cars Limited, a BMW and MINI car dealership in Llandudno in a £6.7m deal funded by The Co-operative Bank's Corporate Banking Centre in Manchester.

With the purchase of Premier's share capital, the acquisition has secured the jobs of over 40 employees at the luxury car facility at Llandudno Junction.

The Halliwell Jones Group is an independent car retailer with dealerships located in Southport, Chester, Warrington and The Wirral – the Warrington site being one of the largest motor dealership sites in the UK.

The company is ranked third in the industry in terms of profit per employee according to a survey of the UK's 100 biggest retailers by Automotive Magazine. This latest acquisition is part of Halliwell Jones Group's ongoing expansion and growth strategy plans.

Cheryl Gillings, Senior Corporate Manager at The Co-operative Bank said: "This acquisition has major benefits for both parties concerned and the Premier dealership will receive increased investment in its employees and sales processes. Premier will certainly be a valuable addition to the Halliwell Jones Group portfolio."

“Since opening their first dealership in Southport 20 years ago, the group has grown significantly. Initial first year turnover of £20m increased to a turnover last year in excess of over £130m, with staff levels at inception of 20 now at over 300.”

- Ends -

Photo captions:

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Image 1- Jim Houghton- Halliwell Jones Group Sales Director, Glyn Howes- Halliwell Jones Group Finance Director, Phillip Jones- Halliwell Jones Managing Director, Cheryl Gillings- Senior Corporate Manager at The Co-operative Bank, Scott Barber- Senior Corporate Adviser at The Co-operative Bank

Image 2- Jim Houghton, Glyn Howes, Phillip Jones, Cheryl Gillings, Scott Barber

Image 3 – Phillip Jones, Jim Houghton, Cheryl Gillings, Glyn Howes, Scott Barber.

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