

# Co-operative Financial Services



*The* COOPERATIVE BANK



---

31<sup>st</sup> January 2008

## News Release

### CO-OP BANK EXPANDS TEAM FOLLOWING SUCCESSFUL YEAR

#### South Yorkshire Corporate Banking Centre moves into new city centre offices

The Co-operative Bank's South Yorkshire Corporate Banking Centre is moving up in the world into new offices on the second floor of the Fountain Precinct, having enjoyed a successful 2007.

Throughout last year, senior corporate manager John Franklin and his team provided funding for several high-profile deals – including a £6.25m package to SYPTA for their new Park Square offices in Sheffield.

The South Yorkshire CBC team is also being strengthened further by the arrival of John Asplin as Relationship Manager. John returns to South Yorkshire having worked at The Bank for 28 years, including a six-year period previously in Sheffield.

John Franklin said: "Last year was an excellent year for our team, and we are pleased to be reaffirming our commitment to South Yorkshire as we move into our new offices. It is great to be involved and working in such a vibrant city as Sheffield – and I am looking forward to playing a part in the city's continuing growth.

"It is also great to welcome John Asplin back to Sheffield and his arrival will allow us to continue our hard work across the region."

John Asplin added: "I'm pleased to be returning to Sheffield and am looking forward to meeting up with some familiar faces, as well as helping to continue the good work carried out by John Franklin and the team here over the past 12 months."

The South Yorkshire Corporate Banking Centre provides banking services for SMEs and MEs within the mid corporate market including acquisitions, refinancing and property transactions. The Bank is keen to build on existing relationships in addition to establishing contact with those Companies in the £1m - £50m turnover bracket who feel they are not being provided with the service they deserve.

The continued success of The Co-operative Bank's Corporate Banking Division has resulted in a planned expansion that will see the number of Centres double across the next three years.

**- ENDS -**

**For further information contact:**

Daniel Kennedy, Pete Wrathmell, Adele Mandy, Justin Strong at  
SKV PR  
Tel: 0161 838 7770  
Fax: 0161 839 2904  
Email: [daniel.kennedy@skvpr.co.uk](mailto:daniel.kennedy@skvpr.co.uk)

Duncan Bowker  
Co-operative Financial Services Press Office  
Tel: 0161 827 5617  
Fax: 0161 832 2751  
E-mail : [duncan.bowker@co-op.co.uk](mailto:duncan.bowker@co-op.co.uk)