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PRESS RELEASE

28 September 2023

Sackers expands team with appointment of Gittins and Oakley

Sacker & Partners LLP (Sackers), the UK's leading specialist law firm for pensions and retirement savings, today announced two new appointments – Hugh Gittins as senior counsel and Susan Oakley as associate, taking the total number of qualified lawyers to 66. Hugh returns to Sackers after 19 years, having left in 2004.

David Saunders, senior partner, said: "We continue to recruit at all levels of seniority in order to be able to meet our clients' need for high quality advice and service. We are delighted that Hugh has decided to return to Sackers, where he will further extend our market-leading derisking practice. Both he and Susan bring hugely valuable experience and diversity of thought and will further strengthen our team of talented lawyers."

Hugh Gittins is a highly experienced senior lawyer who joins from Slaughter and May and, before that, Eversheds. At Sackers, he will be advising trustees, employers and insurers on all aspects of pensions law and practice. Hugh has particular experience of derisking transactions, GMP equalisation and corporate projects affecting DB schemes involving funding, investment and covenant support structures.

Susan Oakley joins from Squire Patton Boggs where she had been advising clients since 2018. At Sackers, she will be advising clients on a broad range of DB and DC issues, including risk transfer projects, benefit changes, mergers and scheme closures.

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Notes to Editors:

Sacker & Partners LLP (Sackers) is a top tier commercial law firm specialising in advising pension scheme trustees, employers, providers and corporate investors on all aspects of their pension arrangements.

Widely viewed as leaders in the field, Sackers advises more of the UK's top 200 pension funds than any other law firm. Sackers is consistently ranked in the top tier for pensions by both leading UK legal directories (Chambers UK and the Legal 500) and has been for over twenty years.

Based in London, Sackers provides support to trustee boards, sponsoring employers, providers and Government bodies across a range of areas, including day to day scheme management, funding and investment, projects, risk and litigation.

Sackers is an active member of the Pensions and Lifetime Savings Association, The Association of Pensions Lawyers and the Society of Pension Professionals and is technical legal expert partner to the Pensions Management Institute.

In 2023 Sackers won all three of the industry's top awards in pensions:

- UK Pensions Awards - Pensions Lawyers of the Year
- Pensions Age Awards – Pensions Law Firm of the Year
- Corporate Adviser Awards – Best Pensions Law Firm

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