



DEUTSCHE FINANCE INTERNATIONAL

DEUTSCHE FINANCE INTERNATIONAL HIRES OLIVER GARDINER AS DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR TO DELIVER PORTFOLIO OPPORTUNITIES INCLUDING THE OLYMPIA LONDON MASTERPLAN

-Former Head of Development - London at Land Securities joins from Mace Developments-

9 December 2019, London. Deutsche Finance International (“DFI”), the London based pan-European private equity real estate investor specialising in operational real estate, has hired Oliver Gardiner as Development Director as it continues to expand its team of experts in line with the firm’s ambitious growth plans and investment strategy. In his new role, Oliver will lead on the development aspects within DFI’s current pan-European portfolio and assist in sourcing and executing new investment and development opportunities.

Oliver has over 18 years of development experience and joins DFI after two and a half years at Mace Developments where he was Development Director leading the Westferry Printworks project, a planned 1,500-unit residential development on the Isle of Dogs in East London. At Mace he was also responsible for the delivery of large purpose-built student accommodation projects in Cardiff, Exeter and Sheffield.

Prior to Mace, Oliver spent 14 years at Land Securities, including two years as Head of Development for its London Portfolio, where he was significantly involved in the regeneration of Victoria and the delivery of over 3 million sq ft of mixed use developments across London. Oliver is a FRICS qualified Chartered Surveyor and is a member of the British Council of Offices.

A key area of focus for Oliver in his new position, will be assisting with the transformation of London’s iconic 133 year old Olympia Exhibition Centre and the surrounding 14 acre, prime central London site, which DFI and YOO Capital acquired from Capital & Counties plc in April 2017 for £296 million. Since acquisition, planning approval has been secured for a significant masterplan and restoration project that will allow the asset to capitalise on its prime location and strong heritage to create a new mixed-use cultural and business quarter for London. The project will be delivered in phases to ensure that exhibitions can continue to be held while development is ongoing.

Gavin Neilan, Co-Founder and Co-Managing Partner at DFI said: *“This latest appointment further progresses our strategy of supporting the growth of DFI by attracting exceptional talent. Oliver brings*

over 18 years' of high calibre and relevant development experience to our team, which will help us drive value and manage risk within our extensive portfolio. As well as his notable project leadership and sector knowledge credentials, Oliver's impressive track record of delivering large, world class mixed use schemes in the London market will be vital for the successful completion of our ambitious masterplan at Olympia."

Oliver Gardiner, Development Director at DFI added: *"This is a great opportunity to join an ambitious and talented team with an impressive portfolio across a range of sectors. I am looking forward to helping advance the development plans for assets across DFI's entire portfolio, as well as helping the company enter new markets and source new opportunities across Europe."*

DFI's inaugural fund, DFI European Value-Add Fund ("DFI EVAF"), closed earlier this year with €436 million of equity, including co-investment. On behalf of DFI EVAF and its co-investors, DFI has already assembled a portfolio of €856 million of assets, including London's Olympia Exhibition Centre, diversified across five European markets.

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About DFI:

DFI is a London based pan-European private equity firm with over €1.8 billion of assets under management, which specialises in operational real estate. It pursues value add, research-driven investment strategies, transforming under-managed and under-valued assets and operating companies through proactive asset management. The firm acts as the investment adviser to its discretionary funds and co-investment partners, and has a global institutional client base that includes pension funds, insurance companies, financial institutions and family offices.

DFI is independently managed by its founding partners with a dedicated best-in-class team and robust corporate infrastructure. It benefits from being part of the Deutsche Finance Group ("DFG"), a global investment management firm that specialises in private market real estate and infrastructure investments. DFG currently has over €5 billion of assets under management and is headquartered in Munich with offices in London, Denver, Zurich and Luxembourg. DFG is privately owned and regulated by the Federal Financial Supervisory Authority of Germany, BaFin.

For additional information see www.deutsche-finance-international.com

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