

## **KKV strengthens team with appointment of Ken Hillen as Executive Chairman and two experienced Investment Managers**

- KKV announces key hires as it formally commences management of the SQN Asset Finance Income Fund and SQN Secured Income Fund

**London, 8 June 2020**, KKV Investment Management Ltd., announces the appointment of Ken Hillen as Executive Chairman, effective immediately. BlackRock alumni Chris Greener and Christian Holder have also joined the firm as Investment Managers.

Ken joins KKV having held a number of non-executive and senior roles within financial services over the last four decades, most notably as senior corporate director at RBS, managing director for Scotland and Northern Ireland at Anglo Irish Bank and head of commercial and corporate banking for Scotland at Bank of Ireland. In his new position, Ken will take a significant leadership role within the business and will chair the management committee of KKV with the CIO and COO reporting to him.

Also joining the firm are Chris Greener and Christian Holder as Investment Managers, expected to further strengthen the firm's SME and asset backed lending strategies. Both Chris and Christian join from White Circle Capital, the business they founded in 2017.

Chris has 22 years' experience working within the fixed income sector. Prior to founding White Circle, he managed over €8bn of European asset backed credit at BlackRock. Under his tenure, the asset backed team provided strong returns in the flagship European multi-strategy fixed income fund. Prior to joining BlackRock, Chris was responsible for covering asset backed credit in Europe and Asia with Société Générale. He has also held roles at RBS and UBS, where he began his career in 1998.

Prior to co-founding White Circle, Christian worked at Jupiter Asset Management as a Senior Credit Analyst covering securitised and corporate credit. Before this he worked at BlackRock for over 11 years as a lead Investment Manager in the European asset backed credit team. Christian also brings extensive experience working alongside private equity firms.

KKV also announces that it has assumed the official position as portfolio manager of the SQN Asset Finance Income Fund following the outcome of a competitive manager selection process last month, as well as the SQN Secured Income Fund, bringing the firm's AUM to £425 million.

KKV was advised by Douglas Armstrong and his team at Dickson Minto on matters relating to the transaction.

**Marino Orn Tryggvason, CEO of Kvika banki hf. commented:** "Kvika launched operations in the UK in early 2017. We have seen many successes to date and are pleased to see KKV secure mandates to manage two listed UK funds, which is an important step in our development in the UK whilst aligning well with Kvika's strategic focus on asset and fund management. We



are fortunate to be joined by Ken, who will bring decades of experience and deep knowledge of credit markets to the leadership of KKV.”

**Ken Hillen, Executive Chairman of KKV commented:** “It gives me great pleasure to join KKV as Executive Chairman, having worked on the successful turnaround of the SQN Secured Income Fund mandate with Dawn for the past four years. I look forward to the future growth and development of the business, working alongside senior management and the broader team.”

**Dawn Kendall, CIO of KKV commented:** “We are delighted to announce these senior appointments today, enhancing the depth and breadth of KKV’s experience within the sector. Chris and Christian bring with them an unrivalled track record in fixed income and we look forward to working together over the coming years.”

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### **About KKV**

KKV is a newly formed investment management company, majority owned by Kvika Securities Ltd., the UK operating subsidiary of Kvika Banki hf., a Nordic publicly traded commercial bank focusing on asset management and investment services. Kvika has led a consolidation in the asset management space in the Icelandic financial market. The strategic focus of the business is on growing the asset management operations, making it now the second largest asset manager in the domestic market with £3.0bn in assets under management. For further information please contact: [investor.communications@kkvim.com](mailto:investor.communications@kkvim.com)

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