

JUST.

NEWS RELEASE

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Spire Financial and Just Group plc in joint venture to create Spire Platform Solutions

Just Group plc, the leading provider of retirement income products and services, and Spire Financial, the business consultancy and technology firm, have launched a new joint venture – Spire Platform Solutions.

The new business will focus on modernising financial services propositions for the rapidly changing marketplace of retirement income. Spire Platform Solutions combines the skills and expertise from both companies and will deliver the next generation of in-retirement income products.

Hugh McKee, managing director, UK retail business, Just Group, commented:

“The retirement income market is ready for some fresh thinking and change. We’re confident Spire Platform Solutions will enable innovative financial solutions to be delivered to the market. At Just Group we have a history of using digital technology to disrupt and simplify the way retirement income markets work. Our investment in Spire Platform Solutions will accelerate its market entry; helping financial advisers deliver a range of new financial planning solutions to their clients through existing platform technology.”

Peter Ellis, chief executive, Spire Platform Solutions, commented:

“At Spire Platform Solutions we are challenging some of the traditional thinking that has restricted innovation in the retirement space. We believe that imaginative uses of technology can help advisers create bespoke solutions for their clients by integrating product components that have not previously been compatible. The solutions we are building help recognise how advisers run their businesses and where they hold their clients’ assets; solutions for today not yesterday.”

Spire Platform Solutions Ltd is a subsidiary of Spire Financial Ltd. Just Group plc has made a strategic investment into Spire Platform Solutions Ltd and are one of a number of product providers exploring how to deliver product solutions via Spire Platform Solutions Ltd.

Notes to Editors:**About Just**

Just (Just Group plc) is a FTSE-listed specialist UK financial services company created by the merger of Just Retirement Group and Partnership Assurance Group.

A leader in the individual retirement income, care and defined benefit de-risking markets, Just has been trusted to manage over £15 billion of customers' retirement savings and has helped customers release over £3.5 billion from their properties.

Just provides the following wide range of products, advice and professional services to individual customers, financial intermediaries, corporate clients and pension scheme trustees:

Marketed Products:

- De-risking solutions for pension scheme trustees who want to remove the financial uncertainty of operating defined benefit pension schemes;
- Individually underwritten retirement income products delivering a guaranteed income for life and flexible pension plans offering customers the options to blend secured and unsecured income;
- Long term care plans that provide those people moving into residential care with peace of mind by knowing a regular payment will be made to the care provider for the rest of their life;
- Lifetime mortgages for people who want to safely release some of the value from their home.

Professional services:

- Regulated financial advice and guidance services for individuals wanting help in using their pension savings and/or releasing some of the value from their home; and
- A range of business services tailored for our corporate clients, ranging from consultancy and software development to fully outsourced customer service delivery and marketing services.

Developed through the use of its specialist underwriting systems, Just boasts unrivalled intellectual property ("IP") which provides it with competitive advantage in the markets in which it operates. We utilise this IP, alongside a capital efficient business model, to develop products and services to provide customers with better outcomes and to drive profitable growth.

Our scalable and responsive operating systems allow us to provide automated underwriting for the vast majority of cases, giving financial intermediaries confidence that they can rapidly get real-time guaranteed prices for their clients. This commitment to helping customers is reflected in our proud record of awards for innovation and service.

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