

## **Matt McLoughlin joins Foresight to support the £100 million Foresight East of England Fund**

**Cambridge, 11 November 2019:** Foresight Group (“Foresight”), a leading independent private equity and infrastructure investment manager, is pleased to announce that Matt McLoughlin has joined the Private Equity Team. Based in Cambridge, Matt will support the deployment and management of the recently launched Foresight East of England Fund.

Matt brings over 15 years’ deal experience and joins Foresight from Grant Thornton, where he led the Transaction Services Team in the Central and East of England region, advising mid-market corporates, lenders and equity investors across a range of transaction types and sizes. Prior to Grant Thornton, Matt spent 11 years in corporate finance at Deloitte.

The Foresight East of England Fund is Foresight’s fifth regional private equity fund and was launched with the aim of investing in companies in the thriving SME sector in the East of England. Cornerstoned by the Cambridgeshire Pension Fund, the £100 million Fund targets long term value growth for investors and provides a permanent pool of capital to fund businesses in the region and beyond, breaking new ground as an evergreen pool of patient capital targeted at the small company private equity sector in the UK.

The Fund will typically invest up to £5 million into established companies with a view to assisting management with their growth ambitions. It will invest across a broad range of sectors, across the full range of transaction types including buy-outs and equity release.

The East of England is home to more than 20,000 small established companies. Whilst it receives significant venture capital funding for early stage businesses, the region is not well served by private equity to support established, smaller companies. The Fund will address this funding gap, bringing not only capital but Foresight’s insight and expertise to the companies in which it invests.

Commenting on Matt’s appointment, **Matthew Smith, Partner at Foresight, said:** *“We are delighted to have Matt on board. His extensive knowledge and contacts in the region’s business community will be an invaluable asset in the development of the Foresight East of England Fund. We look forward to adding to the team over time.”*

**Matt McLoughlin added:** *“I am delighted to have joined Foresight Group to play a leading role in the investment of the new Foresight East of England Fund. Having worked in the region for a number of years, I know there are many SMEs who will be able to use this type of funding to support and supercharge their growth ambitions. I’m excited to meet as many of them as I can and look forward to playing a role in the continuing success of the region.”*

**ENDS**

**For more information contact:**

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**Notes to Editors**

## PRESS RELEASE



### **About Foresight Group LLP ("Foresight"):**

Foresight is a leading independent infrastructure and private equity investment manager which has been managing investment funds on behalf of institutions and retail clients for more than 35 years.

Foresight has £4 billion of Assets Under Management across a number of funds, including Listed Vehicles, Limited Partnerships, Enterprise Investment Schemes (EISs), Venture Capital Trusts (VCTs) and Inheritance Tax Solutions using Business Property Relief (BPR).

Foresight's Private Equity Team, comprising 26 investment professionals, pursues four discrete but complementary investment styles: Venture, Impact, Growth and Replacement Capital through its growing regional office network.

Foresight was recently named Fund Manager of the Year at the PLC Awards. Foresight was awarded 'Generalist VCT of the Year' at the Investment Week Tax Efficiency Awards 2018/19 and was a finalist in the 2018 Unquote British Private Equity Awards as Venture and Growth Capital House of the Year. In 2017, Foresight was voted 'Best VCT Investment Manager' at the Growth Investor Awards, having been previously awarded 'VCT House of the Year' at the 2016 Unquote British Private Equity awards.

Foresight is headquartered in London with regional UK offices in Manchester, Nottingham, Milton Keynes, Leicester, Edinburgh and Guernsey and international offices in Sydney, Rome, Madrid and Seoul. An office in Cambridge will be opened shortly.

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