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## **Sheffield Insolvency Firm Acquired by Begbies Traynor Group**

Begbies Traynor Group plc has acquired Sheffield based insolvency practitioners Hamiltons for an undisclosed sum.

The deal that was led by regional managing partners Julian Pitts and David Wilson sees 100 per cent of the equity of Hamiltons Insolvency Practitioners Ltd acquired by the AIM listed group that has grown over the past decade, acquiring numerous insolvency and professional services firms to become one of the UK's leading professional services specialists.

The Sheffield firm's partners, Adrian Graham and Deborah Lockwood, who together owned the firm, will join Begbies Traynor as partners, and bring all of their existing staff with them to join the group. Hamiltons' Cemetery Road offices will become the ninth office in the Begbies Traynor region and the firm's second in South Yorkshire.

Following the acquisition, Hamiltons will be incorporated into the group's insolvency division, giving the Sheffield based team access to a great deal of industry expertise across the UK. In addition, they will benefit from access to work through the group's position on the insolvency adviser panels for numerous UK banks and lenders.

Ric Traynor, executive chairman of Begbies Traynor Group, said: "This acquisition of Hamiltons represents an opportunity to acquire a successful and well regarded business that fits well with our existing operations. It is consistent with our strategy of considering both organic investment and acquisition opportunities, principally in the insolvency and restructuring sector."

Established in 1999, Hamiltons has specialised in providing corporate recovery and insolvency advice to SMEs based locally or in the region, with its core client base in Sheffield, Rotherham and Wakefield.

Adrian Graham said: "Becoming part of the group is a huge step forward for us as a team, and together we will be able to achieve far more than we ever could as an independent. We are looking forward to benefiting from the extra resource, broader expertise and wider access to work that we already see, and intend to build on our strong reputation in South Yorkshire."

Deborah Lockwood added, "This development gives us the unique opportunity of being part of a national network of local insolvency practices; benefiting from the backing of a strong, UK-wide



media relations and profile

group while also being able to continue to provide the personal service on which we have built our success in the regional marketplace.”

Solicitors Brabners Chaffe Street advised Begbies Traynor Group on the deal.

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