

Media Release

**On behalf of IRLA
03 July 2015**

IRLA Announces New Head of Academy

The IRLA Academy has produced accredited, high quality and cost effective technical training for a number of years and this has now taken a large step forwards with the appointment of Benjamin Baker MBA, former Head of LMA Academy at Lloyd's Market Association. Mr Baker, who is also a Council Member of the Insurance Institute of London will be joining other board members working on behalf of the membership of business practitioners operating in the legacy insurance industry. This appointment takes effect on October 1st and Mr Baker is now involved in the hand over process.

Jenny Fair, Deputy Chairman of IRLA and Director at Fidelis Consultants Ltd commented, *"The experience that Ben has and now brings to IRLA and specifically the IRLA Academy was an opportunity not to be missed. Accredited training has always been a key service provided by IRLA and it has received many plaudits for its quality which can only improve with this experienced manager at the helm."*

Ben Baker said: *"IRLA is dependent upon the full support of our members' employers releasing committee members to work on this extensive programme, so I am really encouraged that members find the work of the IRLA Academy so worthwhile. I am looking forward to working with IRLA and specifically Kiran Soar my co-chairman on the Education Committee to establish the Academy as a key part of our members' technical training programmes."*

ENDS

EDITOR NOTES

IRLA is the UK-based market body for insurance and reinsurance legacy management professionals. IRLA is recognised as the voice of the legacy management sector by a wide range of government and market bodies, including the UK Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA), Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS), Employers Liability Tracing Office (ELTO) and the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP).

IRLA activities range from industry consultation with government to promotion of the sector's skills and expertise. In particular, the IRLA Academy provides top quality, competitively-priced training that is fully-accredited by ACCA and the Chartered Insurance Institute, one of the world's premier professional training organisations for the general insurance industry. IRLA has also established a Young Professionals' Group and has its own Awards scheme, designed to promote and recognise excellence in legacy management each year.

With member companies spanning reinsurers and insurers with legacy business (both solvent and insolvent), service providers and associated professionals such as brokers, accountants and lawyers, over the past decade IRLA's membership has also grown and broadened to include companies from Continental Europe and the US. IRLA highlights and reflects the development of the legacy management sector globally.

For more information about IRLA's work, go to www.irla-international.com or please contact IRLA Secretariat on Tel + 44 (0) 203 362 4233.