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## **NEWCASTLE BUILDING SOCIETY TO PROVIDE BACK OFFICE FUNCTIONS FOR KINGDOM BANK**

Newcastle Building Society has been appointed by Kingdom Bank, a UK bank which provides finance for many of the UK's church-building projects, to support the continuing development of its services and provide a robust IT platform for continued expansion.

Kingdom Bank is an independent, Christian bank with a 50-year heritage of providing a range of financial services to individuals, churches, charities, associations and trusts.

Headquartered in Nottinghamshire, it is an ethically-led organisation which dedicates its mortgage and lending capacity to provide funds to build and develop churches and Christian ministries within the UK.

Newcastle Strategic Solutions Limited (NSSL), the financial services outsourcing division of Newcastle Building Society, has now secured a five-year contract to provide a range of back office functions for the bank, including cashiering, investments and customer account management.

The new contract is NSSL's second major deal in the last few weeks, with Aldermore Bank plc recently signing a five-year contract for NSSL's fully managed savings accounts service, to provide an internet-based white labelled savings platform and call centre service support for its new multi-channel savings offering.

The Kingdom Bank contract will be managed by a team at the Society's Portland House headquarters in the city centre, with further support provided by colleagues at the Newcastle's Cobalt Business Park offices in North Tyneside.

Guy Priestley, CEO of Kingdom Bank, says: "Kingdom Bank has seen rapid growth in recent years: we have financed over 400 churches and charities, and saw a rise in depositors during the credit crunch. Our old IT system was a good workhorse but could no longer cope with the growing volume and complexity of our operation. Our business model is unique, so we needed a cost-effective, flexible system which could be tailored to our needs and allow our growth to continue. The Newcastle system provides this, and our two IT teams worked well together to deliver the goods."

Ian Kilmartin, Third Party Services Executive at Newcastle Building Society, adds: "Our reputation for providing high quality back office services for other financial institutions remains very strong, and as confidence begins to slowly return to the market, we are beginning to see more and more opportunities for us to widen our customer base."

"Kingdom Bank is a well-regarded organisation with very specific ways of operating, with which we have been able to dovetail successfully. We are extremely pleased to be working with them."

Colin Greaves, Managing Director of NSSL, says: "NSSL continues to have an important role to play in the Society's development, and the recent Kingdom Bank and Aldermore contract wins, allied to the further opportunities on which we're currently working, give us great confidence for the future."

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