

## Copper Street Capital invests in One Four Nine Group

- New organisation will build financial advice and fund management group operating across the UK
- Two companies, Charter Financial Planning and Rice Whatmough Crozier, acquired as part of Copper Street Capital's investment
- One Four Nine Group exploring additional acquisitions as it seeks to build the UK's leading independent home for high quality financial advice

**London, 19 October 2021:** <u>Copper Street Capital</u>, the private equity investor focused on the European financial services sector, has agreed terms to provide significant capital to support the growth strategy of One Four Nine Group, a new independent financial advice and fund management group in the UK market.

This is the third investment by Copper Street Capital in the European financial services sector following its investment in debt purchase and collection firm Lantern in 2017, and as lead investor in the 2018 fundraising round of Italian mobile payments service, Satispay.

One Four Nine Group's aim is to facilitate the growth of leading financial advice firms around the country by providing capital, creating economies of scale and offering infrastructure support. Through acquisition and integration, it plans to build a nationwide business serving the £2.7 trillion market for savings and investments in the UK.

Copper Street has provided investment for One Four Nine Group to complete its first two acquisitions as part of meeting this goal. Charter Financial Planning and Rice Whatmough Crozier are both based in the North West of England and collectively advise over 700 clients with c.£300 million of assets under advice. Going forwards, One Four Nine will focus its acquisition strategy across the UK with a bias towards financial advice firms that are owned by or form part of professional services firms.

One Four Nine Group is founded and led by Chief Executive Officer Matthew Bugden. A highly experienced leader in wealth management, investment and broader financial services, he has spent the past 35 years working in the industry for companies including Natwest and the Ingenious Group.

Alongside building its network of high-quality advisers, One Four Nine will also operate its own competitively priced, inhouse discretionary fund management business, offering clients active, passive and sustainability-focused investment options.

Jerry del Missier, Founding Partner and Chief Investment Officer of Copper Street Capital said: "The market for high quality financial advice remains highly fragmented in the UK. With 15% of advisers expected to sell their business in the

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next five years according to our estimates, and a surge in people looking for high quality advice, there are strong structural drivers in this market.

"One Four Nine Group attracted us because of the clarity of its vision, calibre of its management team, and the scope of its ambition to scale in this market. We look forward to working with the management team, and to welcoming them into the Copper Street family as we continue to capture growth opportunities in the financial services market."

Matthew Bugden, Chief Executive Officer of One Four Nine Group, added: "Jerry and the team at Copper Street have already proven highly valuable, insightful partners to One Four Nine Group.

"We have ambitious plans to build a nationwide business providing high quality advice and investment services and we've found the right partner backing us to do so. Copper Street's longstanding experience and understanding of financial services is a strong fit for our goals."

Alongside Matthew, One Four Nine Group's leadership team will also include Managing Director, Gabrielle Beaumont, Chief Investment Officer, Dr Bevan Blair, Chief Risk Officer, Shaun O'Leary and Finance Director, Steve Cohen. Justin Bull, Chief Operating Officer and Partner at Copper Street Capital will also hold a seat on the One Four Nine Group board.

Copper Street was advised by Proskauer Rose, Dyer Baade & Company and PwC on the transaction. - Ends -

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