



PRESS RELEASE

Woodsford granted an Australian financial services (AFS) licence by ASIC.

Woodsford is the first overseas funder to be authorised to fund class actions in Australia under the new regulatory regime which came into effect in August last year.

LONDON, SYDNEY 29 APRIL 2021, Woodsford, the global provider of litigation financing solutions for businesses, individuals and law firms, was today granted an AFS licence by the Australian Securities Investment Commission (ASIC) authorising it to fund class actions in Australia as Managed Investment Schemes under new regulations which came into effect last year.

Woodsford's wholly owned subsidiary, Woodsford Australia Limited, has been granted the AFS licence. Having already funded numerous class actions prior to the introduction of new regulations in 2020, Woodsford is now one of a small number of litigation funders able to fund new class actions in Australia under the changed regulatory landscape.

"Woodsford is delighted to have been granted an AFS licence by ASIC and is intent on funding many new, meritorious class actions in Australia. We are currently considering a number of class action opportunities in Australia, in addition to those we have already funded, and are committed to continuing to provide avenues for Australian claimants to access justice" said Charlie Morris, Woodsford's Chief Investment Officer for EMEA and APAC.

Australian lawyer Alex Hickson who is relocating from Woodsford's London headquarters to Australia to take up the position of Senior Investment Officer, commented: "I have thoroughly enjoyed being a part of the team in the London headquarters of Woodsford, helping our Australian business grow from afar. Now is a great time for my return to Australia, with Woodsford well positioned to become further entrenched in the Australian legal world."

The grant of Woodsford' AFSL and Alex's relocation illustrate the importance of the Australian market to Woodsford. Alex will team up with Brisbane-based Clare Owen, Woodsford Australia's Director and Head of Origination. Clare added: "The granting of the AFS licence and Alex's relocation to Australia is testament to our commitment to and success in the Australian market. It is exciting times for Woodsford's Australian business which continues to go from strength to strength and which I'm proud to be a part of."

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Notes to editor

About Woodsford

Founded in 2010 and with a presence in London, Philadelphia, New York, San Francisco, Minneapolis, Toronto, Montreal, Singapore, Brisbane and Tel Aviv, Woodsford provides tailored litigation financing solutions for businesses, individuals, and law firms. This includes single case and portfolio litigation funding and arbitration funding and the funding of collective actions. Woodsford's Executive team blends extensive business experience with world-class legal expertise.

Woodsford is a founder member of both the *International Legal Finance Association (ILFA)* and the *Association of Litigation Funders of England & Wales (ALF)*. Woodsford's Chief Operating Officer, Jonathan Barnes, sits on the board of both organisations.

Woodsford is continuing to recruit, seeking litigation lawyers to join as Investment Officers, and legal and other professionals to join the Business Development team.

Interviews, photos and biographies available on request.

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For further information visit <http://www.woodsfordlitigationfunding.com>