

## PRESS INFORMATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 24 NOVEMBER 2011

### LAING & BUISSON APPOINTS OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

Healthcare market intelligence provider Laing & Buisson has announced the promotion of Justin Merritt to the new role of Operations Director.

In the position Mr Merritt will take a lead role in overseeing the healthcare analyst's portfolio of publications, calendar of conferences and awards events and data production. He will also head up Laing & Buisson's marketing and press efforts and explore a number of initiatives for new business. He will report directly to chief executive William Laing.

Mr Merritt joined Laing & Buisson in 2005 as Editor of social care business newsletter Community Care Market *news*. Most recently has also filled the role of Creative Director under which he oversaw production of the company's portfolio of annual healthcare intelligence reports and marketing materials.

Speaking on the change, Mr Merritt said:

'Having spent the past six years developing the company's market intelligence publications I look forward to moving these plans to the next level. Among a number of plans I have which will confirm the position occupied by Laing & Buisson as the UK's leading independent analyst of the healthcare market, I plan to launch a series of free fact sheets outlining the various niches of UK healthcare.'

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#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

William Laing  
Laing & Buisson  
Chief Executive  
Tel: 020 7923 5399  
[william@laingbuisson.co.uk](mailto:william@laingbuisson.co.uk)

Justin Merritt  
Laing & Buisson  
Operations Director  
Tel: 0207 841 0049  
[justin@laingbuisson.co.uk](mailto:justin@laingbuisson.co.uk)

#### NOTES TO EDITORS:

Founded by William Laing in 1986, Laing & Buisson is the UK's leading provider of information and market intelligence on the independent health, community care and childcare sectors.

Laing & Buisson offers a uniquely focused range of expert services to providers, purchasers and investors in the

health and community care markets. Information about the range of products and services provided is summarised below.

#### [Conferences & Awards](#)

In addition to one-off conferences on subjects selected for their special interest or topicality, Laing & Buisson's annual programme features a series of conferences - definitive events covering key developments and leading edge practice in specific areas including home care, supported living, extra care housing, long term care for the older people, learning disabilities and mental health sectors, acute healthcare, private healthcare insurance, investing in healthcare and children's nurseries. The Independent Healthcare Forum consists of two major conferences: the acute healthcare conference and the mental health conference and a workshop for private patient units and smaller providers, with an exhibition area representing a selection of providers to the sector. The Independent Specialist Care Awards and the Independent Healthcare Awards take place in March and September, highlighting the range of achievements and recognising best practice within the sectors, and paying tribute to those who have demonstrated excellence in their particular fields.

#### [Market Reports & Annual Directories](#)

Laing & Buisson publishes a series of special market reports and directories on the health and community care sectors. Annual publications include Laing's Healthcare Market Review, Long Term Care: Directory of Major Providers, and the Care of Elderly People Market Survey. The research and conclusions within the reports are frequently cited in parliamentary questions and answers, official documents and company prospectuses, and are regularly drawn upon by the national media.

#### [Newsletters](#)

Laing & Buisson publishes two authoritative monthly newsletters - *Community Care Market News*, which covers the long-term care sector and *Healthcare Market News*, which covers the acute healthcare sector. Subscribers receive ten issues per year covering the latest events in those sectors alongside detailed analysis, special features and in-depth interviews. They can also access these stories in an online archive of news coverage which dates back well over ten years.

#### [CareSearch and Health & Care Data](#)

*CareSearch* is Laing & Buisson's flagship data product, a 'one stop shop' with extremely flexible search facilities for those needing detailed, reliable and up-to-date information on care homes, care home groups, independent healthcare establishments, care commissioners, PCTs and inspection and registration agencies for the whole of the UK. Further to this, details of group operators, their holdings and financial information from statutory accounts offer subscribers an invaluable resource. Alternatively, individual data sets are available to supply as csv files by email. In addition to the data included on *CareSearch* being available to purchase separately, home care agencies and groups can also be supplied.

#### [Consultancy & Market Intelligence](#)

Market intelligence and consultancy work, focusing on non-clinical aspects of health and social care markets, is tailor-made for companies with an active interest in the sector. Examples of recent work include a report on the future of the independent healthcare sector for the Healthcare Commission, the seminal work conducted by Laing & Buisson on *A Fair Price for Care* for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and *Improving Lives - Improving Life*, a report on the key strategic issues facing the long term care sector. Laing & Buisson also frequently assists investors in market due diligence work in the health and care sectors.