

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **WESTPAC AND BT FINANCIAL GROUP LAUNCH NEW INVESTMENT SERVICE FOR PEOPLE MOVING TO AUSTRALIA**

Westpac and BT Financial Group have launched a new service for people looking to move to Australia, through the Significant Investor Visa (SIV).

The Significant Investor Visa (SIV) service provides a dedicated migrant banking team, a private banker service, and flexible products and solutions.

Westpac's head of migrant banking Jenny West said that the SIV service was established in response to demand from high net worth individuals.

"Westpac's strength and growing prominence in Asia is resonating with clients. We have received strong interest and have already seen visas approved," Ms West said.

Westpac has partnered with leading migration agencies in Asia to ensure customers get a professional and personalised service when moving to Australia.

"Moving countries is an exciting time but it can also be a challenging experience. In addition to facilitating the visa application we provide access to business partners to help migrants with other key lifestyle needs such as relocation, employment, schooling and medical services.

"Westpac's strength and growing prominence in Asia is resonating with clients with over 1,000 Chinese speaking bankers in our network as well as offices in Shanghai, Beijing and Hong Kong," Ms West said.

SIV customers have access to a private banker and the expertise of the Global Investment Team within BT Financial Group's private wealth division which sources and evaluates investment opportunities.

Westpac's SIV customers invest through a Flexible Investment Account that has access to a broad range of complying investments in addition to any required minimum investment in Australian Government bonds.

BT Financial Group's General Manager of Private Wealth, Jane Watts, said the group is extremely well placed to meet the needs of these clients.

"Our private bankers provide a personalised service to a limited number of clients to ensure a tailored, high quality experience and we are receiving strong interest in this service," Ms Watts said.

This offer is also available through St.George Private Clients and Bank of Melbourne Private.

For more information visit <http://movingtoaustralia.westpac.asia/>

### **About the Significant Investor Visa (SIV)**

The Significant Investor Visa was introduced by the Australian Government in November 2012 as a new visa pathway for people coming to Australia - part of the Business Innovation and Investment visa category. Among other eligibility requirements applications must have a minimum of \$5 million Australian dollars to invest into complying investments to be held for a minimum of four years.

### **Media Enquiries:**

Lisa Parrett  
Media Relations Manager  
BT Financial Group  
P: 02 8253 2363  
M: 0432 738 321  
E: [lisa.parrett@btfinancialgroup.com](mailto:lisa.parrett@btfinancialgroup.com)