



**PARAGON GROUP PRESS RELEASE
23 JUNE 2014**

SOLIHULL COMPANY SCOOPS TOP PRIZE AT BUSINESS AWARDS

Solihull-based specialist finance business, Paragon Group, has been presented with a top regional business award.

Paragon won the Listed Business of the Year Award at the Business Masters Awards ceremony, held last week in Birmingham.

The Group, which has three core business lines as a buy-to-let lender, purchaser of debt assets and a bank, recently announced profits for the half year period of £58 million.

Paragon employs almost 1,000 people at its headquarters in Solihull town centre, and its offices at the Cranmore Business Park in Shirley.

Nigel Terrington, Chief Executive of Paragon, said: "This is a fantastic achievement for the Group and an award that each and every one of us is proud of. We have had a brilliant start to the year reporting record half-year profits, launching our banking subsidiary Paragon Bank and increasing our recruitment drive in the local area.

"We were also recently awarded Investors in People Champion status which is a milestone for the business, particularly at such an exciting time of growth, and one that demonstrates how committed we are to our people."

ENDS

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NOTES TO EDITORS

The Paragon Group of Companies PLC is a FTSE 250 company and a specialist finance provider.

The Group is a highly experienced buy-to-let mortgage lender to landlords and residential property investors in the UK through its Paragon Mortgages and Mortgage Trust brands.

The investment division of the Group, Idem Capital, undertakes acquisitions of loan portfolios including first and second mortgages as well as unsecured assets. In addition, the Group services mortgage and loan portfolios for itself and on behalf of a number of clients such as banks, private equity houses and specialist lenders.

In February 2014 the Group launched its banking subsidiary, Paragon Bank PLC. It is a retail-funded lending bank with a direct-to-consumer Internet platform for savings and loans. Its lending products are distributed via intermediaries. The Bank is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority.