

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Carlauren Care Homes Group Placed into Administration

**London – November 29, 2019:** Crowell & Moring’s London Restructuring team, led by Cathryn Williams and Paul Muscutt, has successfully applied to the Insolvency and Companies Court to put the parent companies of the Carlauren Group into administration.

Crowell & Moring made the applications to the Insolvency and Companies Court, on behalf of Carl Jackson and Simon Bonney of Quantuma LLP, as a result of concerns that the scheme operated by Carlauren had been misrepresented to investors after large amounts of monies invested were unaccounted for and the majority of the properties that purchased were not developed and remain derelict.

Crowell & Moring represents joint administrators, Quantuma LLP and Duff & Phelps LLP, as they seize control of all 35 companies in the group with a view to investigating its affairs and maximising returns to creditors and investors.

Carlauren raised over £76m from investors but property assets of only around £25m are in the group, comprising in the most part derelict properties requiring significant refurbishment and planning permission to get them up and running. Meanwhile, the group’s principal director and shareholder Sean Murray had acquired private jets, luxury yachts and high-end cars through the companies using investor monies.

Carlauren bought 25 properties across the UK including Windlestone Hall, near Bishop Auckland, County Durham, which it acquired for £850,000 in 2017. The scheme was funded by selling individual rooms in those properties to investors for about £100,000 a time - but most of those homes never opened.

### **Paul Muscutt, partner at Crowell & Moring, commented:**

*“We welcome the ruling of the Insolvency and Companies Court. This is a very good result for the investors and creditors who have seen their funds misappropriated. Thanks to this judgment, the joint administrators are now in a position to manage the Carlauren Group in the best interests of all parties concerned.”*

### **About Crowell & Moring LLP**

Crowell & Moring LLP is an international law firm with approximately 550 lawyers representing clients in litigation and arbitration, regulatory, and transactional matters. The firm is internationally recognized for its representation of Fortune 500 companies in high-stakes litigation, as well as its ongoing commitment to pro bono service and diversity. The firm has offices in Washington, D.C., New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Orange County, London, and Brussels. Visit the firm at [www.crowell.com](http://www.crowell.com).

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