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MEDIA RELEASE – Immediate Use

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Seniors First MD invited to economic growth summit

A leading broker for reverse mortgage and equity release finance has been invited to participate in the annual economic growth summit taking place in Sydney in September.

Darren Moffatt, Managing Director of award-winning reverse mortgage broker, Seniors First, is one of only one hundred delegates, selected from the top echelons of business and academia, who will take part in the summit this year.

“It’s a real honour to be invited to participate in such an important forum for Australia’s future. I’m really excited, and I’m looking forward to making a contribution in any way possible.

The main goal of this prestigious, high-level gathering will be to develop a charter for growth of the national economy, with a particular focus on how to boost Australia’s global competitive advantage and drive sustainable growth. As to why he was invited, Mr Moffatt is in no doubt.

“Working with seniors and the aged has given us a deep, and perhaps unique understanding of the financial challenges facing this group. There are not a lot of people who do our kind of work. And make no mistake, the ageing of Australia’s population is the most profound demographic trend we’ll encounter in our lifetimes, it poses enormous challenges for policy makers.

“Hopefully I can provide some insight into the issues and problems emerging from this trend, and offer up a few ideas for discussion.”

As a delegate, **Mr Moffatt will attend a dinner with Federal Treasurer, Wayne Swan followed by a day of proposing and debating policy ideas on the floor of the NSW Parliament House.** A report of the agreed policy recommendations arising from the summit will then be prepared and submitted to the Federal Government.

Although Mr Moffatt has already developed ideas for summit encompassing retirement funding, financial literacy, ageing, and senior’s housing, **he is open to further suggestions from the community.**

“This is a unique opportunity to possibly shape future public policy for Australia, and I reckon the more input the better. If anyone has any good ideas that they think would improve the country in any way, I’d encourage them to get in touch.

“I’m happy to be a messenger for good ideas, regardless of their origin,” said Mr Moffatt

With the quality of policy debate in this election possibly at an all time low, events such as this deserve our strong support. People with ideas for the summit can contact Mr Moffatt via email at info@seniorsfirst.com.au

Notes for Editors:

- Reverse mortgage and other equity release products allow home owners to leverage money against the value of their home, either in regular instalments or in a lump sum, with no on-going repayments required. The debt is usually repaid when the house is sold or the last surviving borrower passes away. Equity release products are often used by asset rich, cash poor retirees to supplement their income.

- **'Seniors First'** is the first mortgage broker company in Australia dedicated to the fast-growing equity release and reverse mortgage sector. It is independently-owned, and provides much-needed quality information and guidance with the complex area of senior's finance. With the majority of staff aged fifty-plus, **Seniors First** has a unique insight into the issues surrounding these loans.
- **Seniors First** were a finalist at the Australian Mortgage Awards in 2007, 2008 and winner in 2009 for 'Broker of the Year'