



**7 April 2016**

**Commenting on *Group Watch 2016*, Swiss Re's latest annual report analysing the group risk market, Katharine Moxham, spokesperson for Group Risk Development (GRiD) said:**

"It's really positive to see continued growth for the Group Risk industry which reflects the generally confident market sentiment over the last 2 years. Overall in-force group risk benefits have again increased across all three products - particularly for excepted group life and group critical illness - and almost 310,000 more people are protected through Group Risk arrangements against financial loss through illness, injury, death or disability.

"However, we still have a long way to go. No matter what salary is at stake, it's important everyone has a way to safeguard their family's financial stability as the unexpected death or disability of a breadwinner can often mean financial disaster for a family. Nevertheless, it's particularly encouraging to see that almost 2.3 million more people have this vital financial protection through the workplace than 10 years ago, an increase of almost 25%. It's important to emphasise that employers continue to play an important role in facilitating affordable financial protection cover that will not only support employees and their families, but will make a huge difference to morale, staff retention and productivity . key business benefits."