



**The Quoted
Companies Alliance**

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**Emiliya Mychasuk and Emiko Terazono, *The Financial Times*
Living for Aim**

The London Stock Exchange seems to have been stung into quick response by criticisms about Aim, and has put a safe pair of hands in charge in Marcus Stuttard.

The surprise resignation last week of Martin Graham as head of Aim prompted a sharp response from the Quoted Companies Alliance, which wrote to the FT hoping for a CEO with "a clearer vision" for the junior market. The LSE described the QCA's anxiety as "wholly misplaced".

The 39-year-old Mr Stuttard was deputy to Mr Graham for three years and well-known throughout the Aim community for longer. (For those who might wonder, he is unrelated to ex-Lord Mayor Stuttard).

In the words of Xavier Rolet, chief executive designate of the LSE, he is "the natural choice to take Aim forward and continue to build on its success as the world's growth market".

Unlike Mr Graham, whose LSE remit allowed only 25 per cent of his time for Aim, Mr Stuttard will be full-time. "I live, breathe and often sleep Aim," he said. A new deputy will not be appointed.