

## Press Release

29 October 2025

### Astrid Intelligence PLC

("Astrid" or "the Company")

#### Appointment of Léo Mercier as Bittensor Strategist

Astrid Intelligence PLC (AQSE: ASTR), the decentralised AI company, is pleased to announce the appointment of Léo Mercier as Bittensor Strategist of the Company with immediate effect.

Léo will focus on advancing the capabilities of Astrid's Bittensor Subnet. He will oversee the Company's AI development and drive innovation across product design, data analytics and automation.

Léo is an expert in the autonomous AI and finance space. With an expansive background in AI research and development, he is an accomplished entrepreneur and a technologist. In 2024 he created AROK.VC, the world's first venture capital fund designed and run entirely by an artificial intelligence agent, and previously co-founded Crowdform, a digital product and venture studio in London and São Paulo.

**Olivia Edwards, Executive Chair, commented:** "We are thrilled to welcome Léo to the Astrid team. His significant expertise across AI and digital assets makes him uniquely placed to level up our operational AI business and Bittensor expertise. We're looking forward to working closely with him as we usher in the next phase of Astrid's growth."

The directors of Astrid Intelligence PLC take responsibility for this announcement.

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### **About Astrid Intelligence PLC:**

Astrid is a UK-headquartered artificial intelligence company developing autonomous AI agents to create and scale digital communities in the wellness and lifestyle space. The Company operates a dedicated subnet on the Bittensor decentralised AI network, an open-source platform where participants share computing power, data and AI models in return for TAO emissions. Alongside its AI operations, the Company maintains a treasury strategy that holds digital assets as a strategic reserve to support long-term capital resilience. This positions the company among a growing cohort of public companies integrating blockchain-based holdings into corporate treasury management. For more information, visit [www.astrid.global](http://www.astrid.global).

### **Important Notice**

The Company intends to hold treasury reserves and surplus cash in Bitcoin, Ethereum, Solana and Bittensor. These are types of cryptocurrencies or cryptoassets. Whilst the Board of Directors of the Company considers holding cryptocurrencies to be in the best interests of the Company, the Board remains aware that the financial regulator in the UK (the Financial Conduct Authority or FCA) considers investment in cryptocurrencies to be high risk. At the outset, it is important to note that an investment in the Company is not an investment in cryptocurrencies, either directly or by proxy and shareholders will have no direct access to the Company's holdings. However, the Board of Directors consider cryptocurrencies to be an appropriate store of value and potential growth and therefore appropriate for the Company's reserves. Accordingly, the Company is and intends to continue to be materially exposed to cryptocurrencies. Such an approach is innovative, and the Board of Directors wish to be clear and transparent with prospective and actual investors in the Company on the Company's position in this regard.

The Company is neither authorised nor regulated by the FCA, and the purchase of certain cryptocurrencies are generally unregulated in the UK. As with most other investments, the value of cryptocurrencies can go down as well as up, and therefore the value of the Company's cryptocurrencies holdings can fluctuate. The Company may not be able to realise its cryptocurrencies holdings for the same as it paid to acquire them or even for the value the Company currently ascribes to its cryptocurrencies positions due to market movements. Neither the Company nor investors in the Company's shares are protected by the UK's Financial Ombudsman Service or the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

Nevertheless, the Board has taken the decision to invest in cryptocurrencies, and in doing so is mindful of the special risks cryptocurrencies present to the Company's financial position. These risks

include (but are not limited to): (i) the value of cryptocurrencies can be highly volatile, with value dropping as quickly as it can rise. Investors in cryptocurrencies must be prepared to lose all money invested in cryptocurrencies; (ii) the cryptocurrencies market is largely unregulated. There is a risk of losing money due to risks such as cyber-attacks, financial crime and counterparty failure; (iii) the Company may not be able to sell its cryptocurrencies at will. The ability to sell cryptocurrencies depends on various factors, including the supply and demand in the market at the relevant time. Operational failings such as technology outages, cyber-attacks and comingling of funds could cause unwanted delay; and (iv) cryptoassets are characterised in some quarters by high degrees of fraud, money laundering and financial crime. In addition, there is a perception in some quarters that cyber-attacks are prominent which can lead to theft of holdings or ransom demands. Prospective investors in the Company are encouraged to do your own research before investing.

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