THIS DOCUMENT IS IMPORTANT AND REQUIRES YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION. If you are in any doubt as to the action to be taken, you are recommended to seek your own professional advice from your stockbroker or other independent adviser authorised under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 immediately.

If you have sold or transferred all of your ordinary shares in Wilmington Group plc, please send this document, together with the accompanying form of proxy, immediately to the purchaser or transferee or to the person who arranged the sale or transfer so they can send these documents to the purchaser or transferee.

# WILMINGTON GROUP plc

(registered in England and Wales with registered no 3015847)

## Notice of 2012 Annual General Meeting

Notice of the Annual General Meeting of the Company to be held at the offices of Canaccord Genuity Hawkpoint, 88 Wood Street, London EC2V 9QR on 14 November 2012 at 10.00 am is set out on pages 5 to 8 of this document. A form of proxy for use at the Meeting is also attached at the end of this document. Shareholders are requested to complete and return forms of proxy as soon as possible to the Company's Registrars, Equiniti Limited, Aspect House, Spencer Road, Lancing BN99 6DA and, in any event, so as to be received no later than 48 hours (excluding any part of a day that is not a working day) before the time fixed for the Meeting, whether or not they propose to be present at the Meeting.

## WILMINGTON GROUP plc

(registered in England and Wales with registered no 3015847)

#### **Directors**

Mark Asplin (Non-Executive Chairman)
Charles J Brady (Chief Executive)
R Basil Brookes (Finance Director)
Anthony M Foye (Executive Director)
Neil Smith (Executive Director)
Derek Carter (Non-Executive Director)
Terry Garthwaite (Non-Executive Director)
Nathalie Schwarz (Non-Executive Director)

Registered Office 19-21 Christopher Street London EC2A 2BS

3 October 2012

#### **Definitions**

The following definitions apply throughout this document (other than the notice of the Annual General Meeting set out on pages 5 to 8 of this document) unless the context requires otherwise:

- "2006 Act" the Companies Act 2006;
- "Annual General Meeting" or "Meeting" the annual general meeting of the Company convened for 14 November 2012, notice of which is set out on pages 5 to 8 of this document;
- "Company" or "Wilmington" Wilmington Group plc;
- "Directors" or "Board" the directors of the Company for the time being; and
- "Ordinary Shares" ordinary shares of £0.05 each in the capital of the Company.

To holders of Ordinary Shares

Dear Shareholder,

## 2012 Annual General Meeting

I am writing to give you notice of this year's Annual General Meeting and of details of the resolutions to be proposed at the Meeting.

The notice convening this year's Annual General Meeting for 14 November 2012 at 10.00 am at the offices of Canaccord Genuity Hawkpoint, 88 Wood Street, London EC2V 9QR is to be found on pages 5 to 8 of this document and sets out the resolutions to be proposed at the Meeting.

Shareholders should read the contents of this document in conjunction with the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Company for the year ended 30 June 2012 accompanying this document.

At the Annual General Meeting itself, it is the intention that the votes will be taken by a poll rather than on a show of hands. The final result is more democratic as the proxy results are added to the votes of shareholders present who vote all their shares (rather than, in the case of a show of hands, one vote per person). The results of the poll will be announced to the London Stock Exchange and will appear on the Company's website www.wilmington.co.uk.

## **Annual General Meeting**

The following resolutions will be proposed at this year's Annual General Meeting:

### **Ordinary Business**

Resolutions 1 to 12 comprise the ordinary business of the Meeting and will each be proposed as an ordinary resolution as follows:

- 1. the receipt of the Financial Statements, the Directors' Report and the Independent Auditors' Report for the financial year ended 30 June 2012;
- 2. the receipt and approval of the Report on Directors' Remuneration for the financial year ended 30 June 2012;
- 3. the declaration of a final dividend for the financial year ended 30 June 2012 of 3.5 pence per Ordinary Share (as recommended by the Directors);
- 4. the reappointment of Charles Brady as a Director who retires and offers himself for reappointment;
- 5. the reappointment of Mark Asplin as a Director who retires and offers himself for reappointment;
- 6. the reappointment of Terry Garthwaite as a Director who retires and offers himself for reappointment;
- the reappointment of Neil Smith as a Director having been appointed as a Director by the Board after the last annual general meeting of the Company;
- 8. the reappointment of Anthony Foye as a Director having been appointed as a Director by the Board after the last annual general meeting of the Company;
- 9. the reappointment of Derek Carter as a Director having been appointed as a Director by the Board after the last annual general meeting of the Company;
- 10. the reappointment of Nathalie Schwarz as a Director having been appointed as a Director by the Board after the last annual general meeting of the Company;
- 11. the reappointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as auditors; and
- 12. the authorisation of the Directors to fix the remuneration of the auditors.

If shareholders approve the recommended final dividend proposed by resolution 3, the dividend will be paid on 16 November 2012 to all holders of Ordinary Shares who were on the register of members on 19 October 2012.

Under the Company's articles of association, at every annual general meeting Directors who were in office at each of the two preceding annual general meetings of the Company and did not retire at either of those meetings are required to retire from office and, if they wish, offer themselves for reappointment. The Board has resolved to follow the provisions of the UK Corporate Governance Code that require all Directors to be subject to annual reappointment. Therefore, Charles Brady, Mark Asplin and Terry Garthwaite will retire, and are offering themselves for reappointment, as Directors at the Annual General Meeting in accordance with the provisions of the UK Corporate Governance Code.

Neil Smith, Anthony Foye, Derek Carter and Nathalie Schwarz, having been appointed as Directors since the last annual general meeting of the Company, are seeking reappointment as Directors at the Annual General Meeting, while Basil Brookes will retire as a Director at the Annual General Meeting but does not intend to offer himself for reappointment.

Charles Brady, Anthony Foye and Neil Smith have service contracts which may be terminated by the Company on twelve months' notice. Mark Asplin has a letter of appointment from the Company which may be terminated by the Company on six months' notice. Terry Garthwaite, Derek Carter and Nathalie Schwarz have letters of appointment from the Company which may be terminated by the Company on three months' notice.

Biographical details of the Directors who are being proposed for reappointment at the Meeting are set out on pages 24 and 25 of the accompanying Annual Report and Financial Statements.

Following completion of the Company's annual evaluation of the Directors (a summary of which is on page 31 of the accompanying Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Company) it is the view of the Board that the Directors continue to perform effectively and that it is appropriate for the Directors to continue to serve as Directors.

The Board accordingly supports and recommends the reappointment of each of the Directors.

#### **Special Business**

Resolutions 13 to 16 comprise the special business of the Meeting and will be proposed as follows:

#### Resolution 13 - Renewal of authority to allot relevant securities for cash

Under the provisions of the 2006 Act the Directors may only allot unissued shares (other than pursuant to employee share schemes) if authorised to do so by the Company's articles of association or with the authority of shareholders. Accordingly, resolution 13 will be proposed as an ordinary resolution to give the Directors a general authority, in accordance with section 551 of the 2006 Act, to allot Ordinary Shares up to an aggregate nominal amount of £1,402,686 which currently amounts to 28,053,720 Ordinary Shares and represents approximately 33.33 per cent. of the issued ordinary share capital of the Company as at 30 September 2012 (excluding shares held in treasury), such authority to expire at the conclusion of the annual general meeting of the Company to be held in 2013 or the date being 15 months after the date of the passing of this resolution, whichever is the earlier. The authority replaces that which was granted at last year's annual general meeting. Other than fulfilling the Company's obligations pursuant to the exercise of options granted under the Company's employee share option schemes and awards granted under the Company's performance share plan, the Directors have no present intention of issuing any part of the unissued ordinary share capital of the Company currently holds 1,942,000 Ordinary Shares in treasury which represents approximately 2.31 per cent. of the issued ordinary share capital of the Company as at 30 September 2012 (excluding shares held in treasury).

## Resolution 14 - Renewal of power to allot equity securities

Under section 561 of the 2006 Act, equity securities issued for cash must first be offered to existing shareholders in proportion to their existing holdings. At last year's annual general meeting, the Directors were empowered to allot equity securities without first being required to offer such securities to existing shareholders strictly in accordance with section 561 of the 2006 Act or otherwise up to a limited number of shares. Resolution 14 will be proposed as a special resolution to authorise the Directors to allot equity securities to replace the power granted at last year's annual general meeting for a period expiring at the conclusion of the annual general meeting of the Company to be held in 2013 or the date being 15 months after the passing of this resolution, whichever is the earlier. The power will enable the Directors, at their discretion, to allot shares otherwise than pro rata to existing shareholdings:

- (a) in connection with a rights issue which is made not strictly in accordance with section 561 of the 2006 Act; or
- (b) otherwise having a nominal value of up to £210,403 which currently amounts to 4,208,060 Ordinary Shares. This represents approximately 5 per cent. of the issued ordinary share capital of the Company as at 30 September 2012 (excluding shares held in treasury).

The power, if granted, will extend to the sale of any shares in the Company held as treasury shares (see below) in the circumstances described above.

## Resolution 15 - Authority to make on-market purchases

At the Company's annual general meeting in 2003, the Company sought authority to buy back some of its shares in the market and indicated at the time that it would seek to renew the authority at successive annual general meetings. The authority has been renewed at each successive annual general meeting. Accordingly, resolution 15 will be proposed as a special resolution to authorise the Company to purchase up to 8,416,114 Ordinary Shares in the market, representing approximately 10 per cent. of the issued ordinary share capital of the Company as at 30 September 2012 (excluding shares held in treasury), at a price not less than the nominal value of the Ordinary Shares and not more than an amount equal to the higher of (i) 105 per cent. of the average of the closing mid market prices for the Ordinary Shares (as derived from the London Stock Exchange Daily Official List) for the five business days immediately preceding the date of purchase, and (ii) an amount equal to the higher of the price of the last independent trade of an Ordinary Share and the highest current independent bid for an Ordinary Share on the trading venue(s) where the purchase is carried out.

The authority will continue until the conclusion of the annual general meeting of the Company to be held in 2013 or 15 months after the date of the passing of this resolution 16, whichever is the earlier. Options over an aggregate of 2,806,032 Ordinary Shares were outstanding as at 30 September 2012 representing approximately 3.33 per cent. of the Company's issued share capital at that date (excluding shares held in treasury) and which would represent approximately 3.70 per cent. of the Company's issued share capital (excluding shares held in treasury) if the authority granted at last year's annual general meeting to buy back 8,416,114 Ordinary Shares were exercised in full (and all of the repurchased shares were cancelled) and approximately 3.70 per cent. of the Company's issued share capital (excluding shares held in treasury) if the proposed authority being sought at the Annual General Meeting to buy back 8,416,114 Ordinary Shares was exercised in full.

Resolution 15 will also permit the Company to purchase its own shares to hold as treasury shares. Since 1 December 2003, when the Companies (Acquisition of Own Shares) (Treasury Shares) Regulations 2003 (the "Regulations") came into force, companies have been able to hold shares acquired by them as treasury shares rather than cancelling them. Pursuant to the Regulations, treasury shares can subsequently be cancelled, sold for cash or used to satisfy share options and awards granted under employee share option schemes and would therefore provide the Company with additional flexibility in the management of its capital base. As at 30 September 2012, the Company held 1,942,000 Ordinary Shares in treasury representing approximately 2.31 per cent. of the Company's issued share capital (excluding shares held in treasury). The Directors would consider holding as treasury shares any shares which the Company purchases pursuant to the authority proposed to be granted by resolution 15. In relation to any repurchased shares held in treasury however, unless such shares are subsequently cancelled, earnings per share will only be increased on a temporary basis until such time as the shares are subsequently sold out of treasury. The resolution complies with the current guidelines issued by the investor protection committees and the Directors will have regard to any guidelines issued by the investor protection committees which may be published at the time of any such purchase, holding or resale of treasury shares.

#### Resolution 16 - Notice of General Meetings

It is proposed in resolution 16 that shareholders should approve the continued ability of the Company to hold general meetings (other than the annual general meetings) on 14 clear days' notice.

This resolution is required under section 307A of the 2006 Act. Under that section, a traded company which wishes to be able to call general meetings (other than an annual general meeting) on 14 clear days' notice must obtain shareholders' approval. Resolution 16, which will be proposed as a special resolution, seeks such approval.

The approval, if granted, will be valid up to the next annual general meeting of the Company when it is intended a similar resolution will be proposed. The Company will also need to meet requirements for voting by electronic means under section 307A before it can call a general meeting on 14 clear days' notice. The Directors do not intend to use the shorter notice period other than in certain limited circumstances such as for time-sensitive matters, where to do so would be to the benefit of the Company's shareholders as a whole.

#### Action to be taken

You will find enclosed with this document a form of proxy for use at the Meeting. Whether or not you intend to be present at the Meeting, you are requested to complete and return the form of proxy to the Company's Registrars, Equiniti Limited, Aspect House, Spencer Road, Lancing BN99 6DA, in accordance with the instructions printed thereon as soon as possible and, in any event, so as to be received no later than 48 hours (excluding any part of a day that is not a working day) before the time fixed for the Meeting.

Completion and return of the form of proxy will not however prevent you from attending the Meeting and voting in person if you should wish to do so.

#### Recommendation

The Directors unanimously recommend you to vote in favour of resolutions 1 to 16 (inclusive) to be proposed at the Meeting, as they intend to do in respect of their own beneficial shareholdings, and consider that they are in the best interests of the Company and the shareholders as a whole and are most likely to promote the success of the Company for the benefit of the shareholders as a whole.

Yours faithfully,

Mark Asplin

Chairman

## WILMINGTON GROUP plc

(registered in England and Wales with registered no 3015847)

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the seventeenth Annual General Meeting of the Company (the "Meeting") will be held at the offices of Canaccord Genuity Hawkpoint, 88 Wood Street, London EC2V 9QR on 14 November 2012 at 10.00 am for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, passing the following resolutions (which will be proposed, in the case of resolutions 1 to 13 (inclusive), as ordinary resolutions and, in the case of resolutions 14 to 16 (inclusive), as special resolutions):

## **Ordinary Business**

- 1. To receive the Accounts of the Company for the financial year ended 30 June 2012 together with the Directors' Report and the Independent Auditors' Report therein and on the auditable part of the Report on Directors' Remuneration set out therein and on the Directors' Report.
- 2. To receive and approve the Report on Directors' Remuneration (as set out on pages 34 to 41 of the accompanying Annual Report and Financial Statements) for the financial year ended 30 June 2012.
- 3. To declare a final dividend of 3.5 pence per ordinary share for the financial year ended 30 June 2012.
- 4. To reappoint Charles Brady as a Director, who retires and offers himself for annual reappointment in accordance with the provisions of the UK Corporate Governance Code.
- 5. To reappoint Mark Asplin as a Director, who retires and offers himself for annual reappointment in accordance with the provisions of the UK Corporate Governance Code.
- 6. To reappoint Terry Garthwaite as a Director, who retires and offers himself for annual reappointment in accordance with the provisions of the UK Corporate Governance Code.
- 7. To reappoint Neil Smith as a Director who has been appointed as a Director since the last Annual General Meeting of the Company.
- 8. To reappoint Anthony Foye as a Director who has been appointed as a Director since the last Annual General Meeting of the Company.
- 9. To reappoint Derek Carter as a Director who has been appointed as a Director since the last Annual General Meeting of the Company.
- 10. To reappoint Nathalie Schwarz as a Director who has been appointed as a Director since the last Annual General Meeting of the Company.
- 11. To reappoint PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the auditors of the Company to hold office until the conclusion of the next general meeting at which accounts are laid before the Company.
- 12. To authorise the Directors to agree the remuneration of the auditors of the Company.

#### Special Business

13. To consider and, if thought fit, pass the following Resolution, which will be proposed as an Ordinary Resolution:

That the Directors be and they are hereby generally and unconditionally authorised (in substitution for any existing such authority, to the extent unused) in accordance with section 551 of the Companies Act 2006 (the "2006 Act") to exercise all powers of the Company to allot relevant securities (as defined below) up to an aggregate nominal amount of £1,402,686 (representing approximately 33.33 per cent. of the issued share capital of the Company as at 30 September 2012), provided that this authority shall expire at the conclusion of the annual general meeting of the Company to be held in 2013 or the date being 15 months after the date of the passing of this Resolution (whichever is the earlier), save that the Company may before such expiry make an offer or an agreement which would or might require relevant securities (as so defined) to be allotted after such authority expires and the Directors may allot relevant securities (as so defined) in pursuance of any such offer or agreement as if the authority conferred hereby had not expired.

For the purposes of this Resolution, "relevant securities" means:

- shares in the Company other than shares allotted pursuant to:
  - (i) an employee share scheme (as defined by section 1166 of the 2006 Act);
  - (ii) a right to subscribe for shares in the Company where the grant of the right itself constituted a relevant security; or
  - (iii) a right to convert securities into shares in the Company where the grant of the right itself constituted a relevant security; and
- any right to subscribe for or to convert any security into shares in the Company other than rights to subscribe for or convert any security into shares allotted pursuant to an employee share scheme (as defined by section 1166 of the 2006 Act). References to the allotment of relevant securities in this resolution include the grant of such rights.

14. To consider and, if thought fit, pass the following Resolution, which will be proposed as a Special Resolution:

That, subject to the passing of Resolution 13 above, the Directors be given the general power (in substitution for any existing such power to the extent unused) to allot equity securities (as defined in section 560 of the 2006 Act) for cash pursuant to the authority conferred on the Directors by Resolution 13 above as if section 561(1) of the 2006 Act did not apply to any such allotment, provided that this power shall be limited to:

- (a) the allotment of equity securities in connection with an offer by way of rights:
  - (i) to the holders of ordinary shares in proportion (as nearly as may be practicable) to the respective numbers of ordinary shares held by them; and
  - (ii) to holders of other equity securities as required by the rights of those securities or as the Directors otherwise consider necessary

but subject to such exclusions or other arrangements as the Directors may deem necessary or expedient to deal with fractional entitlements or legal or practical problems under the laws of, or the requirements of any recognised regulatory body or any stock exchange in, any territory or otherwise however; and

(b) the allotment (otherwise than pursuant to sub-paragraph (a) above) of equity securities up to an aggregate nominal amount of £210,403 (being approximately 5 per cent. of the issued share capital of the Company as at 30 September 2012)

and such power shall expire at the conclusion of the annual general meeting of the Company to be held in 2013 or the date being 15 months after the date of the passing of this Resolution (whichever is the earlier), save that the Company may before such expiry make an offer or an agreement which would or might require equity securities to be allotted after such power expires and the Directors may allot equity securities in pursuance of any such offer or agreement as if the power conferred hereby had not expired. This power applies in relation to a sale of shares which is an allotment of equity securities by virtue of section 560(2)(b) of the 2006 Act as if in the introductory wording to this Resolution 14 the words "pursuant to the authority conferred on the Directors by Resolution 13 above" were omitted.

15. To consider and, if thought fit, pass the following Resolution, which will be proposed as a Special Resolution:

That the Company be and is hereby generally and unconditionally authorised to make market purchases (as defined in section 693(4) of the 2006 Act) of ordinary shares of £0.05 each in the capital of the Company ("ordinary shares") provided that:

- (a) the maximum aggregate number of ordinary shares authorised to be purchased is 8,416,114 ordinary shares (being approximately 10 per cent. of the issued share capital the Company as at 30 September 2012);
- (b) the maximum price (excluding expenses) which may be paid for each ordinary share is an amount equal to the higher of (i) 105 per cent. of the average of the closing mid market prices for the ordinary shares of the Company (as derived from the London Stock Exchange Daily Official List) for the five business days immediately preceding the date of purchase; and (ii) the higher of the price of the last independent trade on the trading venues where the purchase is carried out and the highest current independent bid on the trading venues where the purchase is carried out;
- (c) the minimum price (excluding expenses) which may be paid for each ordinary share is £0.05;
- (d) unless previously renewed, varied or revoked, the authority hereby conferred shall expire at the conclusion of the annual general meeting of the Company to be held in 2013 or the date being 15 months after the date of the passing of this Resolution (whichever is the earlier); and
- (e) the Company may, before the expiry of this authority, make a contract to purchase ordinary shares under the authority hereby conferred which will or may be executed wholly or partly after the expiry of such authority, and may make a purchase of its ordinary shares in pursuance of such a contract, as if such authority had not expired.
- 16. To consider and, if thought fit, pass the following Resolution, which will be proposed as a Special Resolution:

That a general meeting, other than an annual general meeting, may be called on not less than 14 clear days' notice.

By Order of the Board

Richard Cockton Secretary 3 October 2012 Registered Office 19-21 Christopher Street London EC2A 2BS

#### Notes:

#### Website address

1. Information regarding the Meeting, including the information required by section 311A of the 2006 Act, is available from www.wilmington.co.uk.

#### Entitlement to attend and vote

- 2. Only those members registered on the Company's register of members by:
  - 6.00 pm on 12 November 2012; or,
  - if this Meeting is adjourned, at 6.00 pm on the day two days prior to the adjourned meeting,

shall be entitled to attend and vote at the Meeting.

3. Voting on all resolutions will be conducted by way of a poll rather than a show of hands. The result of the polls will be announced to the London Stock Exchange and will appear on the Company's website www.wilmington.co.uk.

#### **Appointment of Proxies**

- 4. Members entitled to attend, speak and vote at the Meeting (in accordance with note 2 above) are entitled to appoint one or more proxies to attend, speak and vote in their place. If you wish to appoint a proxy please use the Form of Proxy enclosed with this document or follow the instructions at note 9 below if you wish to appoint a proxy through the CREST electronic proxy appointment service. In the case of joint members, only one need sign the Form of Proxy. The vote of the senior joint member will be accepted to the exclusion of the votes of the other joint members. For this purpose, seniority will be determined by the order in which the names of the members appear in the register of members in respect of the joint shareholding. The completion and return of the Form of Proxy will not stop you attending and voting in person at the Meeting should you wish to do so. A proxy need not be a member of the Company. You may appoint more than one proxy provided each proxy is appointed to exercise the rights attached to a different share or shares held by you. If you choose to appoint multiple proxies use a separate copy of this form (which you may photocopy) for each proxy, and indicate after the proxy's name the number of shares in relation to which they are authorised to act (which, in aggregate, should not exceed the number of ordinary shares held by you.). Please also indicate if the proxy instruction is one of multiple instructions being given. All forms must be signed and returned in the same envelope.
- 5. You can appoint the Chairman of the Meeting, or any other person, as your proxy. If you wish to appoint someone other than the Chairman, cross out the words "the Chairman of the Meeting or" on the Form of Proxy and insert the full name of your appointee.
- 6. You can instruct your proxy how to vote on each resolution by ticking the "For" and "Against" boxes as appropriate (or entering the number of shares which you are entitled to vote). If you wish to abstain from voting on any resolution please tick the box which is marked "Vote Withheld". It should be noted that a vote withheld is not a vote in law and will not be counted in the calculation of the proportion of votes "For" and "Against" a resolution. If you do not indicate on the Form of Proxy how your proxy should vote, he/she can exercise his/her discretion as to whether, and if so how, he/she votes on each resolution, as he/she will do in respect of any other business (including amendments to resolutions) which may properly be conducted at the Meeting. A company should execute the Form of Proxy under its common seal or otherwise by signature on its behalf by a duly authorised officer or attorney whose power of attorney or other authority should be enclosed with the Form of Proxy.
- 7. If the Chairman, as a result of any proxy appointments, is given discretion as to how the votes subject of those proxies are cast and voting rights in respect of those discretionary proxies, when added to the interest in the Company's securities already held by the Chairman, result in the Chairman holding such number of voting rights that he has a notifiable obligation under the Disclosure and Transparency Rules, the Chairman will make the necessary notifications to the Company and the Financial Services Authority. As a result, any member holding 3 per cent. or more of the voting rights in the Company, who grants the Chairman a discretionary proxy in respect of some or all of those voting rights and so would otherwise have a notification obligation under the Disclosure and Transparency Rules, need not make a separate notification to the Company and the Financial Services Authority.

#### Appointment of Proxy using Hard Copy Form

8. The Form of Proxy and any power of attorney (or a notarially certified copy or office copy thereof) under which it is executed must be received by Equiniti Limited, Aspect House, Spencer Road, Lancing BN99 6DA by 10.00 am on 12 November 2012 in respect of the Meeting. Any Forms of Proxy received before such time will be deemed to have been received at such time. In the case of an adjournment, the Form of Proxy must be received by Equiniti Limited no later than 48 hours (excluding any part of a day that is not a working day) before the rescheduled meeting. On completing the Form of Proxy, sign it and return it to Equiniti Limited in the envelope provided. As postage has been pre-paid no stamp is required.

## Appointment of Proxies through CREST

9. CREST members who wish to appoint a proxy or proxies through the CREST electronic proxy appointment service may do so for the Meeting to be held on the above date and any adjournment(s) thereof by using the procedures described in the CREST Manual. CREST Personal Members or other CREST sponsored members, and those CREST members who have appointed a voting service provider(s), should refer to their CREST sponsor or voting service provider(s), who will be able to take the appropriate action on their behalf.

In order for a proxy appointment or instruction made using the CREST service to be valid, the appropriate CREST message (a "CREST Proxy Instruction") must be properly authenticated in accordance with Euroclear UK & Ireland Limited's specifications and must contain the information required for such instructions, as described in the CREST Manual. The message, regardless of whether it constitutes the appointment of a proxy or an amendment to the instruction given to a previously appointed proxy must, in order to be valid, be transmitted so as to be received by the Company's agent (ID: RA19) by the latest time(s) for receipt of proxy appointments specified in the Notice of Meeting. For this purpose, the time of receipt will be taken to be the time (as determined by the timestamp applied to the message by the CREST Applications Host) from which the Company's agent is able to retrieve the message by enquiry to CREST in the manner prescribed by CREST. After this time any change of instructions to proxies appointed through CREST should be communicated to the appointee through other means.

CREST members and, where applicable, their CREST sponsors or voting service providers should note that Euroclear UK & Ireland Limited does not make available special procedures in CREST for any particular messages. Normal system timings and limitations will therefore apply in relation to the input of CREST Proxy Instructions. It is the responsibility of the CREST member concerned to take (or, if the CREST member is a CREST personal member or sponsored member or has appointed a voting service provider(s), to procure that his CREST sponsor or voting service provider(s) take(s)) such action as shall be necessary to ensure that a message is transmitted by means of the CREST system by any particular time. In this connection, CREST members and, where applicable, their CREST sponsors or voting service provider(s) are referred, in particular, to those sections of the CREST Manual concerning practical limitations of the CREST system and timings.

The Company may treat as invalid a CREST Proxy Instruction in the circumstances set out in Regulation 35(5)(a) of the Uncertificated Securities Regulations 2001.

All messages relating to the appointment of a proxy or an instruction to a previously appointed proxy, which are to be transmitted through CREST, must be lodged at 10.00 am on 12 November 2012 in respect of the Meeting. Any such messages received before such time will be deemed to have been received at such time.

#### Termination or amendment of proxy appointments

10. In order to revoke or amend a proxy instruction you will need to inform the Company. Please send a signed hard copy notice clearly stating your intention to revoke or amend your proxy appointment to Equiniti Limited, Aspect House, Spencer Road, Lancing BN99 6DA. In the case of a member which is a company, the revocation or amendment notice must be executed under its common seal or by signature on its behalf by an officer or attorney whose power of attorney or other authority should be included with the revocation or amendment notice. If you attempt to revoke or amend your proxy appointment but the revocation is received after the time specified in note 8 above then your proxy will remain valid. If you submit more than one valid proxy appointment in respect of the same ordinary shares, the appointment received last before the latest time for receipt of proxies will take precedence. Completion of a Form of Proxy will not preclude a member from attending and voting in person. If you have appointed a proxy and attend the Meeting in person, your proxy appointment will be automatically terminated.

#### Nominated Persons

- 11. If you are a person who has been nominated under section 146 of the 2006 Act to enjoy information rights:
- You may have a right under an agreement between you and the member of the Company who has nominated you to have information rights (the "Relevant Member")
  to be appointed or to have someone else appointed as a proxy for the Meeting.
- If you either do not have such a right or if you have such a right but do not wish to exercise it, you may have a right under an agreement between you and the Relevant Member to give instructions to the Relevant Member as to the exercise of voting rights.
- Your main point of contact in terms of your investment in the Company remains the Relevant Member (or, perhaps, your custodian or broker) and you should continue
  to contact them (and not the Company) regarding any changes or queries relating to your personal details and your interest in the Company (including any administrative
  matters). The only exception to this is where the Company expressly requests a response from you.

If you are not a member of the Company but you have been nominated by a member of the Company to enjoy information rights, you do not have a right to appoint any proxies under the procedures set out in the notes to the form of proxy.

#### **Corporate Representatives**

12. A corporation which is a member can appoint one or more corporate representatives who may exercise, on its behalf, all its powers as a member provided that no more than one corporate representative exercises powers over the same share.

#### Questions at the Meeting

- 13. Under section 319A of the 2006 Act, the Company must answer any question you ask relating to the business being dealt with at the Meeting unless:
- answering the question would interfere unduly with the preparation for the Meeting or involve the disclosure of confidential information;
- the answer has already been given on a website in the form of an answer to a question; or
- it is undesirable in the interests of the Company or the good order of the Meeting that the question be answered.

#### Issued shares and total voting rights

14. As of 30 September 2012, being the latest practicable date before publication of the notice, the total number of shares in issue in the Company is 86,103,137 ordinary shares of £0.05 each (including treasury shares). On a vote by a show of hands, every member who (being an individual) is present by a person, by proxy or (being a corporation) is present by a duly authorised representative, not being himself a member, shall have one vote. On a poll every member who is present in person or by proxy shall have one vote for every ordinary share held by him.

#### Communication

- 15. Except as provided above, members who have general queries about the Meeting should use the following means of communication (no other methods of communication will be accepted):
- calling Equiniti Limited's shareholder helpline (lines are open from 8.30 am to 5.30 pm Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays):
   (i) From UK: 0871 384 2855 (calls to this number cost 8p per minute from a BT landline, other providers' costs may vary);
   (ii) From Overseas: +44 (0) 121 415 7047 (calls from outside the UK are charged at applicable international rates); or
  - in writing to Equiniti Limited at Equiniti Limited, Aspect House, Spencer Road, Lancing BN99 6DA.

You may not use any electronic address provided either:

- · in this notice of meeting; or
- any related documents (including the Form of Proxy for this Meeting) to communicate with the Company for any purposes other than those expressly stated.

#### Website publication of audit concerns

15. Pursuant to Chapter 5 of Part 16 of the 2006 Act (sections 527 to 531), where requested by a member or members meeting the qualification criteria set out at note 17 below, the Company must publish on its website, a statement setting out any matter that such members propose to raise at the Meeting relating to the audit of the Company's accounts (including the Auditor's report and the conduct of the audit) that these are to be laid before the Meeting.

Where the Company is required to publish such a statement on its website:

- it may not require the members making the request to pay any expenses incurred by the Company in complying with the request;
- it must forward the statement to the Company's Auditors no later than the time the statement is made available on the Company's website; and
- the statement may be dealt with as part of the business of the Meeting.

#### The request:

- may be in hard copy form or in electronic form;
- · either set out the statement in full, or if supporting a statement sent by another member, clearly identify the statement which is being supported;
- must be authenticated by the person or persons making it; and
- be received by the Company at least one week before the Meeting.

Such request must be in accordance with one of the following ways:

- a hard copy request which is signed by a member(s), states such member(s) full name(s) and address and is sent to Wilmington Group plc, 19-21 Christopher Street, London, EC2A 2BS;
- a request which is signed by a member(s), states such member(s) full name(s) and address and is sent by facsimilie to +44 (0) 20 7422 6822 marked for the attention of Richard Cockton, the Company Secretary: or
- a request which states such member(s) full name(s) and address, and is sent by e-mail to rcockton@wilmington.co.uk. Please state "AGM" in the subject line of the email.

#### Member's qualification criteria

17. In order to be able to exercise the members' right to require the Company to publish audit concerns, the relevant request must be made by:

- a member or members having a right to vote at the Meeting and holding at least 5% of total voting rights of the Company; or
- at least 100 members having a right to vote at the Meeting and holding, on average at least £100 of paid up share capital.

For information on voting rights, including the total number of voting rights, see note 14 above and the website referred to in note 1.

#### **Documents on display**

18. Copies of the service agreements of the Executive Directors and letters of appointment of the Non-Executive Directors will be available for inspection at 19-21 Christopher Street, London, EC2A 2BS from 5 October 2012 until the time of the Meeting and at the Meeting venue itself for at least 15 minutes prior to the Meeting until the end of the Meeting.