

THIS DOCUMENT AND THE ACCOMPANYING FORM OF PROXY ARE IMPORTANT AND REQUIRE YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION



Filtrona plc Notice of Annual General Meeting 2010

THIS DOCUMENT IS IMPORTANT AND REQUIRES YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION.

If you are in any doubt as to any aspect of the proposals referred to in this document or as to the action you should take, you should seek your own advice from a stockbroker, solicitor, accountant, or other professional adviser.

If you have sold or otherwise transferred all of your shares, please pass this document together with the accompanying documents to the purchaser or transferee, or to the person who arranged the sale or transfer so they can pass these documents to the person who now holds the shares.



Filtrona plc

(incorporated and registered in England and Wales under number 05444653)

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice of the Annual General Meeting of the Company to be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel, 500 Saxon Gate West, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK9 2HQ on Thursday 22 April 2010 at 12 noon is set out at the end of this circular.

Whether or not you propose to attend the Annual General Meeting, please complete and submit a proxy form in accordance with the instructions printed on the enclosed form. The proxy form must be received not less than 48 hours before the time of the holding of the Annual General Meeting.

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the 2010 Annual General Meeting of Filtrona plc (the 'Company') will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel, 500 Saxon Gate West, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK9 2HQ on Thursday 22 April 2010 at 12 noon.

A form of proxy for use in connection with this meeting is enclosed with this document. Whether or not you propose to attend the Annual General Meeting ('AGM') please fill in the proxy form and return it to the registrars as soon as possible. They must receive it by 12 noon on Tuesday 20 April 2010. You will be asked to consider and pass the resolutions below.

The Board considers that all the resolutions to be put to the meeting are in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders as a whole. Your Board will be voting in favour of them and unanimously recommends that you do as well.

Ordinary business

Resolutions 1 to 8 (inclusive) will be proposed as ordinary resolutions.

- 1. To receive and adopt the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2009 and the Reports of the Directors and Auditors thereon.
- 2. To receive and adopt the Report of the Remuneration Committee for the year ended 31 December 2009.
- 3. To declare a final dividend for the year ended 31 December 2009 of 5.08p per ordinary share.
- 4. To re-elect Paul Drechsler as a Director of the Company.
- 5. To re-elect Lars Emilson as a Director of the Company.
- 6. To elect Terry Twigger as a Director of the Company.
- 7. To re-appoint KPMG Audit Plc as Auditor.
- 8. To authorise the Directors to fix the Auditor's remuneration.

Special business

Resolution 9 will be proposed as an ordinary resolution. Resolutions 10 to 13 (inclusive) as special resolutions.

9. General power to allot (ordinary resolution)

The Board be generally and unconditionally authorised to allot shares in the Company and to grant rights to subscribe for or convert any security into shares in the Company:

- (a) up to a nominal amount of £17,138,516 (such amount to be reduced by the nominal amount allotted or granted under paragraph (b) below in excess of such sum); and
- (b) comprising equity securities (as defined in section 560(1) of the Companies Act 2006) up to a nominal amount of £34,277,032 (such amount to be reduced by any allotments or grants made under paragraph (a) above) in connection with an offer by way of a rights issue:
 - (i) to ordinary shareholders in proportion (as nearly as may be practicable) to their existing holdings; and
 - (ii) to holders of other equity securities as required by the rights of those securities or as the Board otherwise considers necessary,

and so that the Board may impose any limits or restrictions and make any arrangements which it considers necessary or appropriate to deal with treasury shares, fractional entitlements, record dates, legal, regulatory or practical problems in, or under the laws of, any territory or any other matter,

such authorities to apply until the end of next year's AGM (or, if earlier, until the close of business on 21 June 2011) but, in each case, during this period the Company may make offers and enter into agreements which would, or might, require shares to be allotted or rights to subscribe for or convert securities into shares to be granted after the authority ends and the Board may allot shares or grant rights to subscribe for or convert securities into shares under any such offer or agreement as if the authority had not ended.

10. General power to disapply pre-emption rights (special resolution)

That if resolution 9 is passed, the Board be given power to allot equity securities (as defined in the Companies Act 2006) for cash under the authority given by that resolution and/or to sell ordinary shares held by the Company as treasury shares for cash as if section 561 of the Companies Act 2006 did not apply to any such allotment or sale, such power to be limited:

- (a) to the allotment of equity securities and sale of treasury shares for cash in connection with an offer of, or invitation to apply for, equity securities (but in the case of the authority granted under paragraph (b) of resolution 9, by way of a rights issue only):
 - (i) to ordinary shareholders in proportion (as nearly as may be practicable) to their existing holdings; and
 - (ii) to holders of other equity securities, as required by the rights of those securities or, as the Board otherwise considers necessary,

and so that the Board may impose any limits or restrictions and make any arrangements which it considers necessary or appropriate to deal with treasury shares, fractional entitlements, record dates, legal, regulatory or practical problems in, or under the laws of, any territory or any other matter; and

Notice of Annual General Meeting

(b) in the case of the authority granted under paragraph (a) of resolution 9 and/or in the case of any sale of treasury shares for cash, to the allotment (otherwise than under paragraph (a) above) of equity securities or sale of treasury shares up to a nominal amount of £2,741,585,

such power to apply until the end of next year's AGM (or, if earlier, until the close of business on 21 June 2011) but, in each case, during this period the Company may make offers, and enter into agreements, which would, or might, require equity securities to be allotted (and treasury shares to be sold) after the power ends and the Board may allot equity securities (and sell treasury shares) under any such offer or agreement as if the power had not ended.

11. Purchase of own shares (special resolution)

That the Company be authorised for the purposes of section 701 of the Companies Act 2006 to make one or more market purchases (as defined in section 693(4) of the Companies Act 2006) of its ordinary shares of 25 pence each ('Ordinary Shares'), such power to be limited:

- (a) to a maximum number of 20,566,219 Ordinary Shares;
- (b) by the condition that the minimum price which may be paid for an Ordinary Share is the nominal amount of that share and the maximum price which may be paid for an Ordinary Share is the highest of:
 - (i) an amount equal to 5 per cent. above the average market value of an Ordinary Share for the five business days immediately preceding the day on which that Ordinary Share is contracted to be purchased; and
 - (ii) the higher of the price of the last independent trade and the highest current independent bid on the trading venues where the purchase is carried out,

in each case, exclusive of expenses;

such power to apply until the end of next year's AGM (or, if earlier, 21 June 2011) but in each case so that the Company may enter into a contract to purchase Ordinary Shares which will or may be completed or executed wholly or partly after the power ends and the Company may purchase Ordinary Shares pursuant to any such contract as if the power had not ended.

12. Adoption of new Articles of Association (special resolution)

That

- (a) the Articles of Association of the Company be amended by deleting all the provisions of the Company's Memorandum of Association which, by virtue of section 28 Companies Act 2006, are to be treated as provisions of the Company's Articles of Association; and
- (b) the Articles of Association produced to the meeting and initialled by the Chairman of the meeting for the purpose of identification be adopted as the Articles of Association of the Company in substitution for, and to the exclusion of, the existing Articles of Association.

13. Notice of General Meetings (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

Jon Green Company Secretary 15 March 2010

Registered Office: Avebury House 201-249 Avebury Boulevard Milton Keynes Buckinghamshire MK9 1AU

Registered in England and Wales No. 05444653

Inspection of documents

The following documents will be available for inspection at the Company's registered office at Avebury House, 201 – 249 Avebury Boulevard, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire MK9 1AU between 8.30 am and 5.00 pm on any weekday (Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays excluded) from the date of this Notice until the date of the Annual General Meeting and at the Holiday Inn Hotel, 500 Saxon Gate West, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK9 2HQ from 15 minutes before the Annual General Meeting until it ends:

- Copies of the Executive Directors' service contracts
- Copies of letters of appointment of the Non-executive Directors
- A copy of the proposed new Articles of Association of the Company, and a copy of the existing Memorandum and Articles of Association marked to show the changes being proposed in resolution 12.

Notes

- 1. Members are entitled to appoint a proxy to exercise all or any of their rights to attend and to speak and vote on their behalf at the meeting. A shareholder may appoint more than one proxy in relation to the AGM provided that each proxy is appointed to exercise the rights attached to a different share or shares held by that shareholder. A proxy need not be a shareholder of the Company. A proxy form which may be used to make such appointment and give proxy instructions accompanies this notice. If you do not have a proxy form and believe that you should have one, or if you require additional forms, please contact Computershare Investor Services Plc on 0870 703 6394.
- 2. To be valid any proxy form or other instrument appointing a proxy must be received by post or (during normal business hours only) by hand at Computershare Investor Services Plc, The Pavilions, Bridgwater Road, Bristol BS99 6ZY or if you prefer, electronically via the internet at www.computershare.com or, if you are a CREST member, via CREST, in each case no later than 48 hours before the time appointed before holding the Meeting or not less than 48 hours before any adjourned meeting.
- 3. The return of a completed proxy form, other such instrument or any CREST Proxy Instruction (as described in paragraph 9 below) will not prevent a shareholder attending the AGM and voting in person if he/she wishes to do so.
- 4. To vote using the internet go to www.eproxyappointment.com. You will need an internet enabled computer with minimum web browser of Internet Explorer 4 or Netscape4. You will be asked to enter the Shareholder Reference Number, control number and PIN number as printed on your form of proxy, and to agree to certain terms and conditions.
- 5. Any person to whom this notice is sent who is a person nominated under section 146 of the Companies Act 2006 to enjoy information rights (a "Nominated Person") may, under an agreement between him/her and the shareholder by whom he/she was nominated, have a right to be appointed (or to have someone else appointed) as a proxy for the AGM. If a Nominated Person has no such proxy appointment right or does not wish to exercise it, he/she may, under any such agreement, have a right to give instructions to the shareholder as to the exercise of voting rights.
- 6. The statement of the rights of shareholders in relation to the appointment of proxies in paragraphs 1 and 2 above does not apply to Nominated Persons. The rights described in these paragraphs can only be exercised by shareholders of the Company.
- 7. To be entitled to attend and vote at the AGM (and for the purpose of the determination by the Company of the votes they may cast), Shareholders must be registered in the Register of Members of the Company by close of business on 20 April 2010 (or, in the event of any adjournment, on the date which is two days before the time of the adjourned meeting). Changes to the Register of Members after the relevant deadline shall be disregarded in determining the rights of any person to attend and vote at the AGM.
- 8. As at 12 March 2010 (being the last business day prior to the publication of this Notice) the Company holds 13,664,604 shares as treasury shares within the meaning of section 724 of the Companies Act 2006, representing approximately 6.2% of the total ordinary share capital of the Company in issue. The Company's issued share capital consists of 219,326,795 ordinary shares, carrying one vote each. Therefore, the total voting rights in the Company as at 12 March 2010 are 205,662,191.
- 9. CREST members who wish to appoint a proxy or proxies through the CREST electronic proxy appointment service may do so 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 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.
- 10. 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 instruction, as described in the CREST Manual (available via www.euroclear.com/CREST). The message, regardless of whether it constitutes the appointment of a proxy or is 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 issuer's agent (ID 3RA50) by 12 noon Tuesday 20 April 2010. For this purpose, the time of receipt will be taken to be the time (as determined by the time stamp applied to the message by the CREST Application Host) from which the issuer'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.
- 11. 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 message. 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, 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 system providers are referred, in particular, to those sections of the CREST Manual concerning practical limitations of the CREST system and timings.
- 12. 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.
- 13. Any corporation which is a member can appoint one or more corporate representatives who may exercise on its behalf all of its powers as a member provided that they do not do so in relation to the same shares.
- 14. Under section 527 of the Companies Act 2006 members meeting the threshold requirements set out in that section have the right to require the Company to publish on a website a statement setting out any matter relating to: (i) the audit of the Company's accounts (including the auditor's report and the conduct of the audit) that are to be laid before the AGM; or (ii) any circumstance connected with an auditor of the Company ceasing to hold office since the previous meeting at which annual accounts and reports were laid in accordance with section 437 of the Companies Act 2006. The Company may not require the shareholders requesting any such website publication to pay its expenses in complying with sections 527 or 528 of the Companies Act 2006. Where the Company is required to place a statement on a website under section 527 of the Companies Act 2006, it must forward the statement to the Company's auditor not later than the time when it makes the statement available on the website. The business which may be dealt with at the AGM includes any statement that the Company has been required under section 527 of the Companies Act 2006 to publish on a website.
- 15. Any member attending the meeting has the right to ask questions. The Company must cause to be answered any such question relating to the business being dealt with at the meeting but no such answer need be given if (a) to do so would interfere unduly with the preparation for the meeting or involve the disclosure of confidential information, (b) the answer has already been given on a website in the form of an answer to a question, or (c) it is undesirable in the interests of the Company or the good order of the meeting that the question be answered.
- 16. A copy of this notice, and other information required by s311A of the Companies Act 2006, can be found at www.filtrona.com.

Explanatory Notes to the Notice of Annual General Meeting

The notes on the following pages give an explanation of the proposed resolutions.

Resolutions 1 to 9 are proposed as ordinary resolutions. This means that for each of those resolutions to be passed, more than half of the votes cast must be in favour of the resolution. Resolutions 10 to 13 are proposed as special resolutions. This means that for each of those resolutions to be passed, at least three-quarters of the votes cast must be in favour of the resolution.

1. Dividend (resolution 3)

A final dividend for the year ended 31 December 2009 of 5.08p per ordinary share is recommended by the Directors and is put to the shareholders for their approval. If approved, the dividend will be paid on 30 April 2010 to shareholders on the Register of Members of the Company at the close of business on 16 April 2010 making a total dividend in respect of the year ended 31 December 2009 of 7.78p per ordinary share. In accordance with the Articles of Association of the Company the shareholders cannot resolve to pay an amount greater than that recommended by the Directors.

2. Directors (resolutions 4, 5 and 6)

Biographical details of the Directors to be re-elected or elected can be found on page 47 of the Annual Report and on the Company website www.filtrona.com.

Paul Drechsler in accordance with the Articles of Association retires and, being eligible, offers himself up for re-election. Paul is the Senior Independent Non-executive Director and Chairman of the Remuneration Committee.

Lars Emilson in accordance with the Articles of Association retires and, being eligible, offers himself up for re-election. Lars is a Non-executive Director.

Terry Twigger in accordance with the Articles of Association and provision A.7.1 of the Combined Code on Corporate Governance is standing for election following his appointment to the Board on 1 June 2009. Terry is a Non-executive Director and Chairman of the Audit Committee.

3. Renewal of Directors' power to allot shares (resolution 9)

Paragraph (a) of this resolution would give the Directors the authority to allot ordinary shares or grant rights to subscribe for or convert any securities into ordinary shares up to an aggregate nominal amount equal to £17,138,516 (representing 68,554,064 shares of 25p each). This amount represents approximately one-third of the issued ordinary share capital (excluding treasury shares) of the Company as at 12 March 2010, the latest practicable date prior to publication of this Notice.

In line with recent guidance issued by the Association of British Insurers, paragraph (b) of this resolution would give the Directors authority to allot ordinary shares or grant rights to subscribe for or convert any securities into ordinary shares in connection with a rights issue in favour of ordinary shareholders up to an aggregate nominal amount equal to £34,277,032 (representing 137,108,128 shares), as reduced by the nominal amount of any shares issued under paragraph (a) of this resolution. This amount (before any reduction) represents approximately two-thirds of the issued ordinary share capital (excluding treasury shares) of the Company as at 12 March 2010, the latest practicable date prior to publication of this Notice.

The authorities sought under paragraphs (a) and (b) of this resolution will expire at the earlier of 21 June 2011 and the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting of the Company held in 2011.

The Directors have no present intention to exercise either of the authorities sought under this resolution. As at the date of this Notice, 13,664,604 ordinary shares are held by the Company in treasury.

4. General power to disapply pre-emption rights (special resolution 10)

This resolution will be proposed as a special resolution, which requires a 75% majority of the votes to be cast in favour. It would give the Directors the authority to allot ordinary shares (or sell any ordinary shares which the Company elects to hold in treasury) for cash without first offering them to existing shareholders in proportion to their existing shareholdings.

This authority would be, similar to previous years, limited to allotments or sales in connection with pre-emptive offers and offers to holders of other equity securities if required by the rights of those shares or as the Board otherwise considers necessary, or otherwise up to an aggregate nominal amount of £2,741,585 (representing 10,966,340 ordinary shares). This aggregate nominal amount represents approximately 5% of the issued ordinary share capital of the Company as at 12 March 2010, the latest practicable date prior to publication of this Notice. In respect of this aggregate nominal amount, the Directors confirm their intention to follow the provisions of the Pre-Emption Group's Statement of Principles regarding cumulative usage of authorities within a rolling 3-year period where the Principles provide that usage in excess of 7.5% should not take place without prior consultation with shareholders.

The authority will expire at the earlier of 21 June 2011 and the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting of the Company to be held in 2011.

5. Purchase of own shares (special resolution 11)

Authority is sought for the Company to purchase up to 10 per cent. of its issued Ordinary Shares (excluding any treasury shares), renewing the authority granted by the shareholders at previous annual general meetings. The Company purchased no Ordinary Shares in the period from the last Annual General Meeting to 12 March 2010 under the existing authority.

The Directors have no present intention of exercising the authority to make market purchases, however the authority provides the flexibility to allow them to do so in the future. The Directors will exercise this authority only when to do so would be in the best interests of the Company, and of its shareholders generally, and could be expected to result in an increase in the earnings per shares of the Company.

Ordinary Shares purchased by the Company pursuant to this authority may be held in treasury or may be cancelled. The Directors will consider holding any Ordinary Shares the Company may purchase as treasury shares. The Company currently has 13,664,604 Ordinary Shares in treasury. The minimum price, exclusive of expenses, which may be paid for an Ordinary Share is its nominal value. The maximum price, exclusive of expenses, which may be paid for an Ordinary Share is the highest of (i) an amount equal to 105% of the average market value for an Ordinary Share for the five business days immediately preceding the date of the purchase and (ii) the higher of the price of the last independent trade and the highest current independent bid on the trading venues where the purchase is carried out. The Company has options outstanding over 14,217,786 Ordinary Shares, representing 6.5 per cent. of the Company's ordinary issued share capital (excluding treasury shares) as at 12 March 2010. If the authority given by resolution 11 were to be fully used, these would represent 6.9 per cent. of the Company's ordinary issued share capital (excluding treasury shares) at that date.

6. Adoption of new Articles of Association (special resolution 12)

It is proposed in resolution 12 to adopt new Articles of Association (the "New Articles") in order to update the Company's current Articles of Association (the "Current Articles") primarily to take account of the coming into force of the Companies (Shareholders' Rights) Regulations 2009 (the "Shareholders' Rights Regulations") and the implementation of the last parts of the Companies Act 2006.

The principal changes introduced in the New Articles are summarised in Appendix I. Other changes, which are of a minor, technical or clarifying nature and also some more minor changes which merely reflect changes made by the Companies Act 2006 or the Shareholders' Rights Regulations, or conform the language of the New Articles with that used in the model articles for public companies produced by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills have not been noted in Appendix I. The New Articles showing all the changes to the Current Articles are available for inspection, as noted on page 2 of this document.

7. Notice of General Meetings (special resolution 13)

Changes made to the Companies Act 2006 by the Shareholders' Rights Regulations increase the notice period required for general meetings of the Company to 21 days unless shareholders approve a shorter notice period, which cannot however be less than 14 clear days. AGMs will continue to be held on at least 21 clear days' notice.

Before the coming into force of the Shareholders' Rights Regulations on 3 August 2009, the Company was able to call General Meetings, other than an Annual General Meeting on 14 clear days' notice without obtaining such shareholder approval. In order to preserve this ability, resolution 13 seeks such approval. The approval will be effective until the Company's next Annual General Meeting, when it is intended that a similar resolution will be proposed.

The shorter 14 clear days' notice period will not be used as a matter of routine for such meetings, but only where such flexibility is merited by the business of the meeting and thought to be in the interests of shareholders as a whole.

Note that the changes to the Companies Act 2006 mean that, in order to be able to call a General Meeting on less than 21 clear days' notice, the Company must make a means of electronic voting available to all shareholders for that meeting.

APPENDIX I

1. The Company's objects

The provisions regulating the operations of the Company are currently set out in the Company's memorandum and articles of association. The Company's memorandum contains, among other things, the objects clause which sets out the scope of the activities the Company is authorised to undertake. This is drafted to give a wide scope.

The Companies Act 2006 significantly reduces the constitutional significance of a company's memorandum. The Companies Act 2006 provides that a memorandum will record only the names of subscribers and the number of shares each subscriber has agreed to take in the company. Under the Companies Act 2006 the objects clause and all other provisions which are contained in a company's memorandum, for existing companies at 1 October 2009, are deemed to be contained in the company's articles of association but the company can remove these provisions by special resolution.

Further the Companies Act 2006 states that unless a company's articles provide otherwise, a company's objects are unrestricted. This abolishes the need for companies to have objects clauses. For this reason the Company is proposing to remove its objects clause together with all other provisions of its memorandum which, by virtue of the Companies Act 2006, are treated as forming part of the Company's articles of association as of 1 October 2009. Resolution 11 (A) confirms the removal of these provisions for the Company. As the effect of this resolution will be to remove the statement currently in the Company's memorandum of association regarding limited liability, the New Articles also contain an express statement regarding the limited liability of shareholders.

2. Articles which duplicate statutory provisions

Provisions in the Current Articles which replicate provisions contained in the Companies Act 2006 are in the main to be removed in the New Articles. This is in line with the approach advocated by the Government that statutory provisions should not be duplicated in a company's constitution.

3. Change of name

Under the Companies Act 1985, a company could only change its name by special resolution. Under the Companies Act 2006 a company will be able to change its name by other means provided for by its articles. To take advantage of this provision, the New Articles enable the directors to pass a resolution to change the Company's name.

4. Authorised share capital and unissued shares

The Companies Act 2006 abolishes the requirement for a company to have an authorised share capital and the New Articles reflect this. Directors will still be limited as to the number of shares they can at any time allot because allotment authority continues to be required under the Companies Act 2006, save in respect of employee share schemes.

5. Redeemable shares

Under the Companies Act 1985, if a company wished to issue redeemable shares, it had to include in its articles the terms and manner of redemption. The Companies Act 2006 enables directors to determine such matters instead provided they are so authorised by the articles. The New Articles contain such an authorisation. The Company has no plans to issue redeemable shares but if it did so the directors would need shareholders' authority to issue new shares in the usual way.

6. Authority to purchase own shares, consolidate and sub-divide shares, and reduce share capital

Under the Companies Act 1985, a company required specific enabling provisions in its articles to purchase its own shares, to consolidate or sub-divide its shares and to reduce its share capital or other undistributable reserves as well as shareholder authority to undertake the relevant action. The Current Articles include these enabling provisions. Under the Companies Act 2006 a company will only require shareholder authority to do any of these things and it will no longer be necessary for articles to contain enabling provisions. Accordingly the relevant enabling provisions have been removed in the New Articles.

7. Use of seals

Under the Companies Act 1985, a company required authority in its articles to have an official seal for use abroad. Under the Companies Act 2006, such authority will no longer be required. Accordingly, the relevant authorisation has been removed in the New Articles.

The New Articles provide an alternative option for execution of documents (other than share certificates). Under the New Articles, when the seal is affixed to a document it may be signed by one authorised person in the presence of a witness, whereas previously the requirement was for signature by either a director and the secretary or two directors or such other person or persons as the directors may approve.

8. Vacation of office by directors

The Current Articles specify the circumstances in which a director must vacate office. The New Articles update these provisions to treat physical illness in the same manner as mental illness.

9. Voting by proxies on a show of hands

The Shareholders' Rights Regulations have amended the Companies Act 2006 so that it now provides that each proxy appointed by a member has one vote on a show of hands unless the proxy is appointed by more than one member in which case the proxy has one vote for and one vote against if the proxy has been instructed by one or more members to vote for the resolution and by one or more members to vote against the resolution. The New Articles remove provisions in the Current Articles dealing with proxy voting on the basis that these are dealt with in the Companies Act 2006 and contain a provision clarifying how the provision of the Companies Act 2006 giving a proxy a second vote on a show of hands should apply to discretionary authorities.

10. Chairman's casting vote

The New Articles remove the provision giving the Chairman a casting vote in the event of an equality of votes as this is no longer permitted under the Companies Act 2006.

11. Adjournments for lack of quorum

Under the Companies Act 2006, as amended by the Shareholders' Rights Regulations, general meetings adjourned for lack of quorum must be held at least 10 clear days after the original meeting. The Current Articles have been changed to reflect this requirement.

12. General

Generally the opportunity has been taken to bring clearer language into the New Articles and in some areas to conform the language of the New Articles with that used in the model articles for public companies produced by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills.

Contact details

Holiday Inn Hotel

500 Saxon Gate West Milton Keynes Buckinghamshire MK9 2HQ United Kingdom Tel: +44 (0)870 400 9057 www.holiday-inn.com

How to get to Milton Keynes

By road

From the M1 leave the motorway at Junction 14, following signs to Milton Keynes Central. Go straight over seven roundabouts staying on the H6, Childs Way.

At the eighth roundabout (South Saxon) turn right.

The Holiday Inn Hotel is located on the left, immediately after the traffic lights (opposite Debenhams).

From the M40, follow the A34 to Bicester–Buckingham.

From Buckingham the A421 will take you into Milton Keynes. To get to the Holiday Inn Hotel follow signs to Milton Keynes Central and the hotel is on V7, Saxon Gate West.

By rail

Virgin Trains and London Midlands Services provide direct and regular train services to Milton Keynes.

For further information, please contact National Rail Enquiries on 08457 48 49 50 (24 hours) or www.nationalrail.co.uk.

