

**THIS DOCUMENT IS IMPORTANT AND REQUIRES YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION.**

**If you are in any doubt as to the contents of this document or the action you should take, you should seek your own personal financial advice from your stockbroker, bank manager, solicitor, accountant or other appropriate professional adviser authorised under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 or, if you are not in the United Kingdom, another appropriately authorised professional adviser. If you receive this circular in any country or jurisdiction outside the United Kingdom, you may not treat it as an invitation to elect to receive Scrip Shares (as defined below) unless such an invitation could lawfully be made to you without Funding Circle SME Income Fund Limited (the Company) being required to comply with any registration or other legal requirements.**

If you have sold or transferred all of your ordinary shares in the Company (the **Shares**) prior to 15 December 2017 (the **Record Date**), please forward this document without delay to the purchaser or transferee or to the stockbroker, bank or other agent through whom the sale or transfer was effected.

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**FUNDING CIRCLE SME INCOME FUND LIMITED**

(a company incorporated in Guernsey under The Companies (Guernsey) Law, 2008, as amended, with registered no. 60680)

**Scrip Dividend Mandate Scheme**

**and**

**Offer of a Scrip Dividend Alternative to the**

**Proposed Dividend for the period 1 October 2017 to 31 December 2017**

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If you wish to receive the dividend for the period 1 October 2017 to 31 December 2017 in cash on the whole of your holding of Shares, you should take no action.

This circular sets out the rationale and process for offering holders of Shares (the **Shareholders**) the opportunity to elect to receive new Shares (the **Scrip Shares**) instead of cash, in respect of the proposed dividend for the period 1 October 2017 to 31 December 2017 (the **Scrip Dividend Alternative**) and, if you hold certificates for your shares on an ongoing basis in respect of future dividends when a Scrip Dividend Alternative is offered in respect of dividends (if any).

If you hold share certificates for your Shares and wish to choose the Scrip Dividend Alternative in respect of all of your Shares, please complete the online Scrip Dividend Mandate at [www.signalshares.com](http://www.signalshares.com) no later than 5.00pm on 10 January 2018. If your Scrip Dividend Mandate has not been received by the Receiving Agent by 5.00pm on 10 January 2018, the full cash dividend entitlement will be paid in respect of all the Shares for which you hold share certificates. This will be a standing election to receive all future dividends where a scrip dividend alternative is offered in respect of all of the Shares they hold.

If you hold your Shares in CREST please refer to paragraph 7 of the Appendix of this circular.

If the Company's directors decide not to offer a scrip dividend alternative in respect of any dividend in relation to any future dividend, a cash dividend will be paid to you in the usual way.

19 December 2017

## Expected Timetable of Events

Shares quoted ex dividend (the <b>Ex-Dividend Date</b> )	14 December 2017
Record date for the dividend for the period 1 October 2017 to 31 December 2017 and for Scrip Dividend Alternative entitlements (the <b>Record Date</b> )	15 December 2017
Final time and date for receipt of online Scrip Dividend Mandates* and Dividend Election Input Messages (as defined in the CREST Manual) in CREST	5.00pm on 10 January 2018
Posting of cheques for payment of cash dividends	30 January 2018
Dispatch of certificates for Scrip Shares that are held in certificated form	31 January 2018
Dividend payment: cash dividends credited to bank accounts where instructed and (where applicable) CREST accounts credited with Scrip Shares	31 January 2018
Expected date for admission of new Scrip Shares to the Official List and to trading on the main market of the London Stock Exchange	31 January 2018

References to times in this document are to times in London unless otherwise stated.

These times and dates are indicative only. The above times and/or dates may be subject to change and, in the event of such change, the revised times and/or dates will be notified to Shareholders by an announcement through a regulatory information service.

\* Unless you have previously validly completed a Scrip Dividend Mandate

## FUNDING CIRCLE SME INCOME FUND LIMITED

(a company incorporated in Guernsey under The Companies (Guernsey) Law, 2008, as amended, with registered no. 60680)

Registered office:

Third Floor  
La Plaiderie Chambers  
La Plaiderie  
St Peter Port  
Guernsey  
GY1 1WG

19 December 2017

To holders of Shares in the Company

Dear Shareholder

### SCRIP DIVIDEND MANDATE AND SCRIP DIVIDEND ALTERNATIVE

#### Introduction

On 7 December 2017 your Board declared a dividend covering the period 1 October 2017 to 31 December 2017 of 1.625 pence per Share (the **Quarter Dividend**). This Quarter Dividend is in respect of the holders of ordinary shares as at the Record Date being 15 December 2017.

The Board intends to offer a scrip dividend alternative to the Quarter Dividend so that Shareholders can elect to receive Scrip Shares instead of a cash dividend. The Quarter Dividend is available to all Shareholders who have Shares registered in their names as at the close of business on the Record Date. This circular explains how Shareholders can take up the Scrip Dividend Alternative in respect of the Quarter Dividend and, if they hold certificates for Shares and they have not previously validly completed a Scrip Dividend Mandate (as defined below) elect to receive new Scrip Shares instead of cash dividends in respect of future dividends when a scrip dividend alternative is offered to Shareholders.

The Board believes that the ability for Shareholders to elect to receive dividends from the Company wholly or partly (CREST shareholders only) in the form of Scrip Shares rather than cash is likely to benefit both the Company and the Shareholders. If Shareholders do elect to receive Scrip Shares, the Company will benefit from the ability to retain the cash which would otherwise have been paid out as dividends. Shareholders can also increase their shareholdings in the Company without incurring dealing costs or paying stamp duty reserve tax.

#### Scrip dividends

In accordance with the articles of incorporation of the Company (the **Articles**), the Company is authorised to offer Shareholders the opportunity to elect to receive Scrip Shares instead of cash, in respect of dividends. Accordingly, the Company is offering Shareholders, in respect of Shares registered in their name at the Record Date, the opportunity to elect to receive Scrip Shares instead of cash, in respect of the Quarter Dividend and for future dividends where a scrip dividend alternative is offered.

The Scrip Dividend Alternative is conditional on: (a) the listing of the Scrip Shares on the premium segment of the Official List of the UKLA; (b) admission of the Scrip Shares to trading on the London Stock Exchange's main market for listed securities; (c) the Board not deciding to revoke their decision to offer Scrip Shares; and (d) the Board remaining satisfied on reasonable grounds that the Company will, immediately after issuing the Scrip Shares, satisfy the solvency test pursuant to section 304, and as set out in section 527, of The Companies (Guernsey) Law, 2008, as amended (the **Companies Law**) and the Board being satisfied that the Company will comply or

be able to comply with the general requirements of the Companies Law and the Articles in connection with the issue of any Scrip Shares.

For the avoidance of doubt the Scrip Dividend Alternative does not apply to the C Share dividend payable on 21 December 2017 and that the C Shareholders are not entitled to receive the Quarter Dividend.

### **Action to be taken**

#### *Non-CREST Shareholders*

If you are a Shareholder and hold share certificates for your Shares, in order to elect to receive Scrip Shares in relation to all or part of your dividend entitlement you will need to complete, by no later than 5.00pm on 10 January 2018, the online Scrip Dividend Mandate at [www.signalshares.com](http://www.signalshares.com). If it has not been received by then, you will receive the full cash dividend entitlement in respect of all of your Shares.

This will be a standing election to receive not only the Quarter Dividend, but also all dividends declared by the Company in the future where the Board decides to offer a scrip dividend alternative, in the form of new Shares in respect of your entire shareholding (a **Scrip Dividend Mandate**).

Scrip Dividend Mandates made using the online Scrip Dividend Mandate will only be valid in respect of scrip dividend alternatives offered in respect of dividends made to holders of ordinary shares in the Company. If you have previously validly completed a Scrip Dividend Mandate and you wish to receive Scrip Shares in respect of the Quarter Dividend, you need take no further action in respect of the Scrip Dividend Alternative.

#### *CREST Shareholders*

If you are a Shareholder holding your Shares in CREST and wish to receive Scrip Shares in respect of all or some of your dividend entitlement, you should submit a Dividend Election Input Message (as defined in the CREST Manual) by 5.00pm on 10 January 2018. Unfortunately it is not possible for CREST Shareholders to make a standing election. However, the Company will write to all eligible Shareholders each time a dividend is declared and the Board decides to offer a scrip dividend alternative and you will have the opportunity to elect to receive that dividend in the form of Scrip Shares where a scrip dividend alternative is offered.

#### *If you do not wish to receive any Scrip Shares*

If you would like to receive the Quarter Dividend in cash in respect of all of your dividend entitlement, you should take no action and need not respond to this circular. Your dividend will be paid to you on the dividend payment date (on page 2 of this circular). This will not prevent you from choosing to receive future dividends in the form of Scrip Shares where a scrip dividend alternative is offered, subject to applicable regulatory requirements at the time.

**Full details of what you need to do in response to this circular are set out in the Appendix to this circular and you are reminded to take professional advice from an appropriately qualified person.**

The Appendix also provides more information on the Scrip Dividend Alternative and Scrip Dividend Mandate and contains a summary as at the date of this circular of some of the UK taxation consequences of receiving Scrip Shares.

Yours faithfully

Richard Boléat  
Chairman

## THE APPENDIX

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS AND FURTHER INFORMATION

#### 1. Terms of Election

Shareholders with Shares registered in their names at the close of business on the Record Date may elect to receive all or part (CREST shareholders only) of their entitlement to the Quarter Dividend in the form of Scrip Shares credited as fully paid, instead of in cash.

No fraction of a Scrip Share can be issued and the cash representing any fractional entitlement to a Scrip Share will be dealt with as described in paragraph 4 below. All elections will be subject to fulfilment of the conditions specified in paragraph 2 below. If the conditions are not satisfied, an election will automatically become void and Shareholders will receive the dividend in cash in the usual way.

The entitlement to receive Scrip Shares under the Scrip Dividend Alternative and the Scrip Dividend Mandate is personal and non-transferable.

The Scrip Dividend Alternative election may be made by a Shareholder in respect of all or part (CREST shareholders only) of the holding of Shares registered in their name at the close of business on the Record Date.

If the Board decides to offer Scrip Shares instead of any cash dividend in the future you will be informed separately.

By validly executing the Scrip Dividend Mandate or Dividend Election Input Messages (as defined in the CREST Manual) in CREST, Shareholders are deemed to accept the terms and conditions of the Scrip Dividend Alternative detailed herein and (if they have validly completed the Scrip Dividend Mandate) future scrip dividend alternatives to which the Scrip Dividend Mandate applies.

#### 2. Conditions

The Scrip Dividend Alternative is conditional on:

- (a) listing of the Scrip Shares on the premium segment of the Official List of the UKLA (see paragraph 9 below);
- (b) admission of the Scrip Shares to trading on the London Stock Exchange's main market for listed securities;
- (c) the Board not revoking their decision to offer Scrip Shares instead of cash; and
- (d) the Board remaining satisfied, on reasonable grounds, that the Company will, immediately after issuing the Scrip Shares, satisfy the solvency test pursuant to section 304, and as set out in section 527, of the Companies Law and the Board being satisfied that the Company will comply or be able to comply with the general requirements of the Companies Law and the Articles in connection with the issue of any Scrip Shares.

The Board has the power to revoke its decision to offer Scrip Shares instead of a full cash dividend at any time up to 5.00pm on 10 January 2018. It is envisaged that the Board would only revoke this decision if there is a change in market conditions, a significant fall in the price of the Shares, or an event occurs that in the Board's opinion would materially impact the net asset value of the Company, such that the Board considers that the Scrip Dividend Alternative would be substantially less beneficial to Shareholders accepting the offer or that it would breach applicable regulatory requirements.

#### 3. Basis of Entitlement

Each Shareholder's entitlement to Scrip Shares under the Scrip Dividend Alternative in respect of the Quarter Dividend is based on a price for each Scrip Share, being the higher of (i) the prevailing

average of the middle market quotations of the Shares derived from the Daily Official List of the London Stock Exchange for the Ex-Dividend Date and the four subsequent dealing days and (ii) the prevailing net asset value per Share (the **Reference Share Price**).

The formulae used for calculating the maximum Scrip Share entitlement are as follows:

Number of Shares held at the Record Date      x      Dividend per Share      =      Aggregate dividend available for scrip election

AND

$$\frac{\text{Aggregate dividend available for scrip election}}{\text{Reference Share Price}} = \text{Number of Scrip Shares (rounded down to the nearest whole number - see paragraph 4 below)}$$

The final Reference Share Price will be communicated to Shareholders via a regulatory news announcement on or about 21 December 2017 to enable Shareholders to calculate their individual Scrip Dividend entitlement. Details will also be included within that announcement of the total number of Scrip Shares which would be issued if all Shareholders were to elect to receive Scrip Shares instead of cash in respect of their entire holdings, together with the percentage of the issued ordinary share capital of the Company as at the date of this circular which such number would represent.

#### 4. **Fractional Entitlements**

Fractions of Scrip Shares will not be issued. Any residual cash amount representing a fraction of a Scrip Share arising as a result of an election for the Scrip Dividend Alternative in respect of all or part of a holding will never exceed the value of one Share at the Reference Share Price. Rather than incur the administration and cost of paying any such small amounts to individual Shareholders, any such residual cash amount will be retained by the Company in accordance with its Articles and it will not be carried forward to any later dividends that are declared and become payable.

#### 5. **Non-CREST Shareholders: How to make the election for the Scrip Dividend Mandate**

Note: this paragraph 6 applies only to Non-CREST Shareholders, that is, Shareholders who hold share certificates for their Shares.

To receive your maximum entitlement to Scrip Shares for the Quarter Dividend and all future dividends when a scrip dividend alternative is offered in respect of dividends made to holders of ordinary shares and, you have not previously validly completed a Scrip Dividend Mandate, complete the online Scrip Dividend Mandate at [www.signalshares.com](http://www.signalshares.com) by no later than 5.00pm on 10 January 2018. A Scrip Dividend Mandate, until revoked, instructs the Company to treat you as having elected to take the maximum whole number of Scrip Shares available instead of cash in respect of all future dividends for which a Scrip Dividend Alternative is offered in respect of dividends made to holders of ordinary shares and for which you are eligible. The Scrip Dividend Mandate will apply to your entire holding of Shares on the record date for the relevant dividend. The Scrip Dividend Mandate will only apply in respect of any future dividend if the Board decides to offer a Scrip Dividend Alternative in respect of that dividend. If the Board decides not to offer a Scrip Dividend Alternative in respect of any particular dividend, a full cash dividend will be paid in the usual way. Scrip Dividend Mandates will also only be valid in respect of scrip dividend alternatives offered in respect of dividends made to holders of ordinary shares in the Company. If the Board decides to offer a scrip dividend alternative where Shareholders would receive new shares of a different class, Shareholders who wish to make an election in respect of that different class of shares will need to complete a new scrip dividend mandate.

If you acquire or dispose of any Shares (including any Scrip Shares previously issued to you), the Scrip Dividend Mandate will continue to apply (until revoked) to such increased or decreased shareholding. Your Scrip Dividend Mandate may be cancelled by the Company at any time, or by you giving written notice, or online at [www.signalshares.com](http://www.signalshares.com), to the Receiving Agent so as to be received before the final time and date for receipt of scrip elections in respect of the relevant

dividend. Your Scrip Dividend Mandate will automatically be revoked if the Company registers a transfer of all your Shares or if the Company receives notice of your death, insolvency, bankruptcy or mental incapacity.

## **6. CREST Shareholders: How to make the election for the Scrip Dividend Alternative**

Note: this paragraph 6 applies only to Shareholders who hold their Shares in CREST. Terms defined in the CREST Manual and not re-defined in this circular have the meanings attributed to them in the CREST Manual unless the context otherwise requires.

### *6.1 Election for Scrip Shares*

You can only elect to receive your dividend in the form of Scrip Shares by means of CREST procedures to effect such an election. No other form of election will be permitted and if any is received it will be rejected and returned to you. If you are a CREST Personal Member, or other CREST Sponsored Member, you should consult your CREST sponsor, who will be able to take appropriate action on your behalf.

The CREST procedures require the use of the Dividend Election Input Message in accordance with the CREST Manual. The Dividend Election Input Message submitted must contain the number of Shares on which the election is being made, whether this is all or part of your holding at the Record Date.

An election for a Scrip Dividend Mandate will not be permitted.

The Dividend Election Input Message includes a number of fields which, for a valid election to be made, must be input correctly as indicated below:

- (i) Dividend Election Reference - You must indicate here a reference for the dividend election which is unique to your CREST participant ID;
- (ii) Account ID - If you have more than one member account, you must indicate the member account ID to which the election relates;
- (iii) ISIN - This is GG00BYYJCZ96;
- (iv) Dividend type - You must enter "SCRIP" here;
- (v) Corporate Action - You must enter here the Corporate Action number for the dividend on which your election is being made. A Scrip Dividend Mandate cannot be made;
- (vi) Number of shares - You must enter here the number of Shares over which your election is made whether this is all or part of your holding. If you leave this field blank or enter zero in this field, your election will be rejected. If you enter a number of Shares greater than your holding in CREST on the Record Date, the election will be applied to the total holding in the relevant CREST member account at the Record Date; and
- (vii) Contact details - this field is optional, although you are asked to include contact details in the event of a query relating to your election.

The Company and/or the Receiving Agent reserve the right to treat as valid an election which is not complete in all respects.

By inputting a Dividend Election Input Message as described above, you confirm your election to participate in the Scrip Dividend Alternative in accordance with the details input and the terms and conditions of the Scrip Dividend Alternative as amended from time to time.

There is no facility to amend an election which has been made by Dividend Election Input Message; if you wish to change your election details, you must first cancel the existing election as described below and then input a Dividend Election Input Message with the required new details.

## 6.2 *Partial elections*

You can elect to receive Scrip Shares over part of your shareholding and receive the balance as a cash dividend.

## 6.3 *Timing*

If you wish to receive Scrip Shares in respect of some or all of your holding, you must make your election by 5.00pm on 10 January 2018.

## 6.4 *Cancelling an election*

You may only cancel an election by utilising the CREST procedures for deletions described in the CREST Manual. Your deletion must be received and, in accordance with CREST procedures, accepted by 5.00pm on 10 January 2018 for it to be valid for the Quarter Dividend. It is recommended that you input any deletion message 24 hours in advance of the above deadline to give the Receiving Agent sufficient time to accept the deletion.

## 6.5 *Basis of entitlement*

Your entitlement to Scrip Shares is calculated in accordance with paragraph 3 above. Once your Scrip Shares have been issued, an accounting statement will be sent to you showing the number of Scrip Shares issued and the total cash equivalent of the Scrip Shares for tax purposes.

## 6.6 *Residual cash balance*

If you have elected to receive Scrip Shares in respect of your entire shareholding, then any residual cash balance will be paid to you by cheque as a cash dividend. No fractions of a Scrip Share will be issued.

If you elect to only receive part of your dividend as Scrip Shares, you will receive the balance as a cash dividend.

## 6.7 *Future dividends*

If you wish to receive Scrip Shares for future dividends where a scrip dividend alternative is offered, you must complete a Dividend Election Input Message on each occasion. If you do not complete a Dividend Election Input Message then you will receive your dividend in cash.

If the Board decides not to offer a scrip dividend alternative in respect of a future dividend, the full cash dividend will be paid to you in the usual way.

## **7. Shareholders outside the United Kingdom**

If you receive this letter in any country or jurisdiction outside the United Kingdom you may not treat it as an invitation to elect to receive Scrip Shares unless such an invitation could lawfully be made to you without the Company being required to comply with any registration or other legal requirements.

It is the responsibility of any person resident outside the UK wishing to elect to receive Scrip Shares, either in respect of the Quarter Dividend or (by way of a Scrip Dividend Mandate) on each occasion that a scrip dividend alternative is being offered by the Company, to be satisfied as to full observance of the laws of the relevant territory, including obtaining any government or other consents which may be required and observing any other formalities in such territories.

## **8. What to do if you have more than one registered holding**

If for any reason your Shares are, on the Record Date, registered in more than one holding, unless you are able to make arrangements with the Company's registrar to have your holdings consolidated before 5.00pm on 10 January 2018, they will be treated for all purposes as separate and you should complete separate Scrip Dividend Mandates or, in the case of holdings in CREST, separate Dividend Election Input Messages accordingly.



## 9. Listing and Ranking of the Scrip Shares

Application will be made to the UKLA for admission of the Scrip Shares to the premium segment of the Official List and to the London Stock Exchange for admission of the Scrip Shares to trading on the main market of the London Stock Exchange.

The Scrip Shares will on issue be credited as fully paid and will rank pari passu in all respects with the existing Shares, except for participation in the Quarter Dividend, and will rank pari passu for all future dividends.

## 10. General

The Scrip Dividend Alternative is subject to the Articles and the terms and conditions in this circular.

No acknowledgement of Scrip Dividend Mandates or Dividend Election Input Messages will be issued.

Subject to satisfaction of the conditions set out in this circular, definitive share certificates for the Scrip Shares held outside CREST will be posted, at the risk of the persons entitled thereto, on 31 January 2018, while CREST members should have their accounts credited on 31 January 2018.

Dealings in the Scrip Shares are expected to begin on 31 January 2018. In the unlikely event that the UKLA does not agree before 31 January 2018 to admit the Scrip Shares to the premium segment of the Official List, or if any of the other conditions for the Scrip Dividend Alternative in paragraph 2 are not satisfied, Scrip Dividend Mandates and Dividend Election Input Messages will be disregarded and the Company will pay the Quarter Dividend in cash in the usual way as soon as practicable on or after 31 January 2018.

If all Shareholders were to decide to receive the Quarter Dividend in cash (ignoring any dividend waivers) the total cash dividend payable by the Company would be approximately £2,701,721.

As at 15 December 2017, the Record Date the Company may issue an unlimited number of shares, including ordinary shares of no par value, of which 166,259,765 ordinary shares were in issue.

Further copies of this circular and/or Scrip Election Forms may be obtained free of charge during normal business hours from any of the following:

*Link Asset Services  
Corporate Actions  
The Registry  
34 Beckenham Road  
Beckenham  
Kent  
BR3 4TU*

Shareholder Helpline: 0371 664 0321. Calls are charged at the standard geographic rate and will vary by provider. Calls outside the United Kingdom will be charged at the applicable international rate. Lines are open between 9.00 am – 5.30 pm, Monday to Friday excluding public holidays in England and Wales up to and including 10 January 2018. All enquiries in respect of the Scrip Dividend Mandate should be addressed to the Receiving Agent, Link Asset Services. Please note that Link Asset Services cannot provide any financial, legal or tax advice and calls may be recorded and monitored for security and training purposes.

The Company's Prospectus, latest Company Factsheet and Annual Report are available on the Company's website at [www.fcincomefund.com](http://www.fcincomefund.com).

## 11. United Kingdom Taxation of the Scrip Dividend Alternative

The following is a general summary of the UK tax consequences of electing to receive Shares under the Scrip Dividend Alternative instead of a cash dividend and is based on current UK law and HMRC practice as at the date of this circular (which are subject to change possibly with

retrospective effect). It applies only to UK-resident Shareholders who are the beneficial owners of their Shares and who hold their Shares as an investment. The following summary does not address the position of certain classes of Shareholders, such as dealers in securities.

**Investors should consult their own professional tax advisers in relation to the tax consequences of electing to receive Shares instead of a cash dividend as this will depend upon their individual circumstances. Shareholders who are in any doubt as to what action to take, or who are subject to tax in a jurisdiction other than the UK, should consult an independent professional adviser.**

#### 11.1 *UK Taxation of Chargeable Gains*

On the basis of case law, UK-resident Shareholders should not receive any income liable to UK income tax or corporation tax to the extent that they elect to receive Scrip Shares instead of the cash dividend, nor should they make any disposal for chargeable gains tax purposes at the time the Scrip Shares are issued. Instead the Scrip Shares and the original registered holding of Shares in respect of which the Scrip Shares are issued (the **Original Holding**) should be treated as a single holding acquired at the time of the Original Holding.

There will be no allowable expenditure for chargeable gains tax purposes arising in respect of the Scrip Shares and the allowable expenditure arising in respect of the Original Holding will be apportioned across the Original Holding and the Scrip Shares.

A disposal for chargeable gains tax purposes will only arise at the time the Shareholder subsequently disposes of the Scrip Shares or the Original Holding (a **Subsequent Disposal**). UK-resident individual Shareholders may be subject to capital gains tax in respect of chargeable gains arising on a Subsequent Disposal depending on individual circumstances. UK-resident corporate Shareholders may be subject to corporation tax in respect of chargeable gains arising on a Subsequent Disposal depending on their individual circumstances.

#### 11.2 *UK Stamp Duty and Stamp Duty Reserve Tax*

No UK stamp duty or stamp duty reserve tax will be payable on the issue of any Shares pursuant to the Scrip Dividend Alternative.