

THIS DOCUMENT IS IMPORTANT AND REQUIRES YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION. If you are in any doubt as to the action you should take, you are recommended to immediately seek your own financial advice from your stockbroker, solicitor, accountant or other independent professional advisor duly authorised under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 if you are resident in the United Kingdom or, if not, from another appropriately authorised independent financial advisor.

If you have sold or transferred all of your shares in 4D pharma plc, please send this document and any accompanying documents as soon as possible to the purchaser or transferee of those shares or to the stockbroker, bank or other agent through whom the sale or transfer was effected for onward transmission to the purchaser or transferee.



4D PHARMA PLC
(Incorporated and registered in England and Wales with registered no. 08840579)

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice of the Annual General Meeting of 4D pharma plc (the "Company"), to be held in the Chicago Room, Sofitel, Terminal 5, Wentworth Drive, London Heathrow Airport, Hounslow TW6 2GD, at 10 a.m. on Thursday 20 June 2019 ("AGM"), is set out on pages 3 to 5 of this document.

Your attention is drawn to the letter from the Company's Chairman on page 2 of this document. Whether or not you propose to attend the AGM, please complete and submit a proxy appointment form or electronic proxy appointment instruction in accordance with the notes to the Notice of AGM set out on page 5, and the instructions printed on the proxy form, or if applicable the CREST Manual. To be valid, the proxy form or electronic proxy instruction must be received no later than 10 a.m. on Tuesday 18 June 2019.

Letter from the Chairman of 4D pharma plc



4D pharma plc
(Incorporated and registered in
England and Wales with
registered no. 08840579)
9 Bond Court
Leeds LS1 2JZ

20 May 2019

Dear Shareholder

2018 Annual Report and Accounts and Annual General Meeting

I am pleased to report that 4D pharma plc's Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2018 and Notice of AGM have now been published.

A copy of the 2018 Annual Report and Accounts is enclosed. The document can also be accessed via the investors section of our website (www.4dpharmapl.com).

This year, our AGM will be held in the Chicago Room, Sofitel, Terminal 5, Wentworth Drive, London Heathrow Airport, Hounslow TW6 2GD, at 10 a.m. on Thursday 20 June 2019. The formal Notice of AGM is set out on pages 3 to 5 of this document and contains ten proposed resolutions (eight ordinary resolutions and two special resolutions).

Action to be taken

If you are unable to attend the AGM, you can still vote on the proposed resolutions by appointing a proxy. To appoint a proxy, you can:

- (a) complete the enclosed proxy form, in accordance with the notes to the Notice of AGM set out on page 5 and the instructions printed on it, and return it (together with any power of attorney or other authority under which it is signed, or a certified copy of such item) to the offices of the Company's registrar, Link Asset Services, PXS1, 34 Beckenham Road, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4ZF; or
- (b) alternatively, if you hold your shares in CREST, you can submit an electronic proxy instruction to our registrar (ID: RA10) through the CREST system in accordance with the notes to the Notice of AGM set out on page 5 and the CREST Manual.

In either case, the proxy form should be returned, or the electronic proxy instruction transmitted, as soon as possible and in any event so as to be received by our registrar no later than 10 a.m. on Tuesday 18 June 2019.

You are requested (whether or not you intend to be present at the AGM) to appoint a proxy. Appointment of a proxy will not prevent you from attending, speaking and voting in person at the AGM, should you wish to do so.

Recommendation

You will find on pages 6 to 8 of this document explanatory notes in relation to the various resolutions which are set out in the Notice of AGM. The Board considers that each of these resolutions is in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders as a whole. Accordingly, all Directors intend to vote in favour of each resolution in respect of their own beneficial holdings (with the exception of each Director seeking re-election, who will not vote on the resolution relating to his own proposed re-election as a Director of the Company). The Directors unanimously recommend that shareholders vote in favour of all the proposed resolutions.

Yours sincerely

David Norwood
Chairman

Notice of Annual General Meeting

4D pharma plc (Incorporated and registered in England and Wales with registered number 08840579)

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of 4D pharma plc will be held in the Chicago Room, Sofitel, Terminal 5, Wentworth Drive, London Heathrow Airport, Hounslow TW6 2GD, at 10 a.m. on Thursday 20 June 2019 for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, passing the following resolutions, of which resolutions 1 to 8 will be proposed as ordinary resolutions and resolutions 9 and 10 will be proposed as special resolutions.

Ordinary resolutions

1. To receive the Company's Annual Report and audited financial statements, and the reports of the Directors and the auditor, for the year ended 31 December 2018.
2. That Edgardo (Ed) Baracchini Jr., who retires in accordance with the Company's articles of association, be and is hereby re-elected as a Director of the Company.
3. That Professor Axel Glasmacher, who retires in accordance with the Company's articles of association, be and is hereby re-elected as a Director of the Company.
4. That Dr Alexander Stevenson, who retires by rotation, be and is hereby re-elected as a Director of the Company.
5. That RSM UK Audit LLP be and is hereby re-appointed as auditor of the Company, to hold office until the conclusion of the next general meeting at which accounts are laid before the Company.
6. That the Directors be and they are hereby authorised to agree the remuneration of the auditor.
7. That, pursuant to and in accordance with Article 71 of the Company's articles of association, the maximum aggregate amount of fees payable to Directors for their services as Directors in any financial year be and is hereby increased from £200,000 to £300,000.
8. That, in accordance with section 551 of the Companies Act 2006:
 - 8.1 the Directors be and they are hereby generally and unconditionally authorised to exercise all the powers of the Company to allot equity securities (as defined in section 560 of the Companies Act 2006) up to an aggregate nominal value of £54,578 (approximately one-third of the Company's issued share capital at the date of this notice); and
 - 8.2 in addition to the authority granted pursuant to subparagraph 8.1, the Directors be and they are hereby generally and unconditionally authorised to exercise all the powers of the Company to allot equity securities up to an aggregate nominal value of £54,578 (approximately one-third of the Company's issued share capital at the date of this notice) in connection with a rights issue offered to holders of equity securities and other persons who are entitled to participate, in proportion (as nearly as may be) to their then holdings of equity securities (or, as appropriate, the numbers of such securities which such other persons are for those purposes deemed to hold), subject only to such exclusions or other arrangements as the Directors may feel necessary or expedient to deal with treasury shares, fractional entitlements or legal or practical problems under the laws of, or the requirements of any recognised regulatory body of, or any stock exchange in, any territory,

provided that both such authorities shall (unless previously revoked, varied or renewed) expire on the earlier of the date of the next Annual General Meeting of the Company and 20 September 2020, save that, in respect of either authority, the Company may before such expiry make an offer or agreement which would or might require equity securities to be allotted after such expiry and the Directors may allot equity securities in pursuance of such an offer or agreement as if the authority conferred hereby had not expired.

These authorities are in substitution for any and all authorities previously conferred upon the Directors for the purposes of section 551 of the Companies Act 2006, without prejudice to any allotments made pursuant to the terms of such authorities.

Special resolutions

9. That, conditionally upon the passing of resolution 8 above, in accordance with sections 570 and 573 of the Companies Act 2006, the Directors be and they are hereby given power to allot equity securities (as defined in section 560 of the Companies Act 2006), pursuant to the authority conferred by resolution 8 above, and to sell treasury shares, as if section 561 of the Companies Act 2006 did not apply to such allotment or sale, provided that this power shall be limited to:
 - 9.1 the allotment or sale of equity securities for cash in connection with or pursuant to an offer to the holders of equity securities and other persons entitled to participate, in proportion (as nearly as may be) to their then holdings of equity securities (or, as appropriate, the numbers of such securities which such other persons are for those purposes deemed to hold), subject only to such exclusions or other arrangements as the Directors may feel necessary or expedient to deal with treasury shares, fractional entitlements or legal or practical problems under the laws of, or the requirements of any recognised regulatory body of, or any stock exchange in, any territory; and
 - 9.2 the allotment or sale of equity securities (otherwise than pursuant to subparagraph 9.1) for cash up to a maximum nominal value of £16,373 (approximately 10% of the Company's issued share capital at the date of this notice),

and shall (unless previously revoked, varied or renewed) expire on the earlier of the date of the next Annual General Meeting of the Company and 20 September 2020, save that the Company may before such expiry make an offer or agreement which would or might require equity securities to be allotted or sold after such expiry and the Directors may allot or sell equity securities in pursuance of such an offer or agreement as if the power conferred hereby had not expired.

Notice of Annual General Meeting continued

4D pharma plc (Incorporated and registered in England and Wales with registered number 08840579)

Special resolutions continued

10. That the Company be and is hereby generally authorised pursuant to section 701 of the Companies Act 2006 to make market purchases (as defined in section 693(4) of the Companies Act 2006) of its ordinary shares of 0.25 pence provided that:
- 10.1 the Company does not purchase more than 6,549,384 ordinary shares of 0.25 pence (approximately 10% of the Company's issued share capital at the date of this notice);
 - 10.2 the Company does not pay for any such ordinary share less than its nominal value at the time of purchase; and
 - 10.3 the Company does not pay for any such ordinary share more than 5% above the average of the closing mid-market price for ordinary shares of 0.25 pence for the five business days immediately preceding the date on which the Company agrees to buy the shares concerned, based on the share prices published in the Daily Official List of the London Stock Exchange or the AIM supplement thereto.

The authority conferred by this resolution shall (unless previously revoked, varied or renewed) expire on the earlier of the date of the next Annual General Meeting of the Company and 20 September 2020, save that the Company may before such expiry make a contract to purchase shares which will or may be executed wholly or partly after the expiry of such authority, and may make a purchase of shares in pursuance of any such contract as if such authority had not expired.

By order of the Board

Laurence Dale
Company Secretary

Registered office
9 Bond Court
Leeds LS1 2JZ

20 May 2019

Notes to the Notice of Annual General Meeting

1. A member entitled to attend and vote at the meeting is also entitled to appoint one or more proxies of their own choice to exercise all or any of their rights to attend, speak and vote on their behalf at the meeting. A member can only appoint a proxy using the procedures set out in these notes and the notes to the accompanying proxy form.
2. A member may appoint more than one proxy in relation to the meeting provided that each proxy is appointed to exercise the rights attached to a different share or shares held by that member. A member may not appoint more than one proxy to exercise rights attached to any one share. The proxy need not be a member of the Company, but must attend the meeting to represent the member. Please refer to the notes to the proxy form for further information on appointing a proxy, including how to appoint multiple proxies.
3. In the absence of instructions, the person appointed proxy may vote or abstain from voting as he/she thinks fit on the specified resolutions and, unless otherwise instructed, may also vote or abstain from voting on any other matter (including amendments to the resolutions) which may properly come before the meeting.
4. In the case of joint holders of a share, the vote of the senior who tenders a vote, whether in person or by proxy, shall be accepted to the exclusion of the votes of the other joint holders. For this purpose, seniority is determined by the order in which the names of the holders stand in the Company's register of members in respect of the joint holding.
5. 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 each representative is appointed to exercise the rights attached to a different share or shares held by the member.
6. Pursuant to regulation 41 of the Uncertificated Securities Regulations 2001 (as amended), the Company specifies that only those members registered on the register of members at close of business on Tuesday 18 June 2019 (the "Specified Time") (or if the meeting is adjourned to a time more than 48 hours after the Specified Time, taking no account of any part of a day that is not a working day, at close of business on the day which is two working days prior to the time of the adjourned meeting) shall be entitled to attend and vote at the meeting in respect of the number of shares registered in their name at that time. If the meeting is adjourned to a time not more than 48 hours after the Specified Time (taking no account of any part of a day that is not a working day), that time will also apply for the purposes of determining the entitlement of members to attend and vote (and for the purposes of determining the number of votes they may cast) at the adjourned meeting. Changes to the register after the relevant deadline shall be disregarded in determining rights to attend and vote.

Notes to the Notice of Annual General Meeting continued

Appointment of proxy using hard copy proxy form

7. Members may appoint a proxy or proxies by completing and returning a proxy form by post to the offices of the Company's registrar using the accompanying reply-paid envelope, or in an envelope, addressed to Link Asset Services, PXS1, 34 Beckenham Road, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4ZF; or by delivering a proxy form by hand to such address during normal business hours. In the case of a member which is a corporation, the proxy form must be executed under its common seal or signed on its behalf by a duly authorised officer or an attorney. Any power of attorney or any other authority under which the proxy form is signed (or a copy of such power of authority certified in accordance with the Powers of Attorney Act 1971) must be included with the proxy form. Any such power of attorney or other authority cannot be submitted electronically.
8. To be effective, the appointment of a proxy, or the amendment to the instructions given for a previously appointed proxy, must be received by the Company's registrar by the method outlined in note 7 above no later than 10 a.m. on Tuesday 18 June 2019. If you submit more than one valid proxy appointment, the appointment received last before the latest time for the receipt of proxies will take precedence.

Appointment of proxy using CREST electronic proxy appointment service

9. CREST members who wish to appoint a proxy or proxies by utilising the CREST electronic proxy appointment service may do so for the meeting and any adjournment(s) of it by using the procedures described in the CREST Manual (available from www.euroclear.com/site/public/EUI). 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.
10. In order for a proxy appointment made by means of CREST to be valid, the appropriate CREST message (a "CREST Proxy Instruction") must be properly authenticated in accordance with Euroclear UK & Ireland Limited's ("EUI's") specifications and must contain the information required for such instructions, as described in the CREST Manual. The message must be transmitted so as to be received by the issuer's agent (ID: RA10) by the latest time(s) for receipt of proxy appointments specified in this notice. 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 issuer's agent is able to retrieve the message by enquiry to CREST in the manner prescribed by CREST.
11. CREST members and, where applicable, their CREST sponsors or voting service providers should note that EUI 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 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.

Termination of proxy appointments

13. Completion and return of the proxy form will not preclude a member from attending and voting in person at the meeting.
14. In order to terminate the authority of a proxy, you will need to inform the Company by sending a signed hard copy notice clearly stating your intention to revoke such appointment to the Company's registrar. To be effective, the notice of termination must be received by the Company's registrar by the method outlined in note 7 above no later than 10 a.m. on Tuesday 18 June 2019.

Voting rights

15. As at 17 May 2019, being the latest practicable date prior to the printing of this notice, the Company's issued capital consisted of 65,493,842 ordinary shares carrying one vote each. Therefore, the total voting rights in the Company as at 17 May 2019 are 65,493,842.

Communications

16. This notice, together with information about the total number of shares in the Company in respect of which members are entitled to exercise voting rights at the meeting as at 17 May 2019, being the latest practicable date prior to the printing of this notice, will be available on the Company's website, www.4dpharmapl.com.
17. Except as provided above, members who have general queries about the Annual General Meeting should contact Laurence Dale (0113 895 0130; 4D pharma plc, 9 Bond Court, Leeds LS1 2JZ). No other methods of communication will be accepted. Any electronic address provided either in this notice or in any related documents (including the proxy form) may not be used to communicate with the Company for any purposes other than those expressly stated.

Documents available for inspection

18. There are available for inspection at the registered office of the Company during usual business hours on any weekday (public holidays excepted), and there will be available for inspection at the place of the meeting from at least 15 minutes prior to and until the conclusion of the meeting:
 - copies of the service contracts of the Executive Directors of the Company; and
 - copies of the letters of appointment of the Non-Executive Directors of the Company.

Explanatory Notes to the Notice of Annual General Meeting

These explanatory notes give further information in relation to the resolutions listed in the enclosed notice of the Company's Annual General Meeting.

Resolution 1 – Receipt of accounts

The Directors must lay the Company's accounts, the Directors' Report and the Auditor's Report before the shareholders at a general meeting. This is a legal requirement after the Directors have approved the accounts and the Directors' Report, and the auditor has prepared its report.

Resolutions 2 to 4 – Re-election of Directors

In accordance with the Company's articles of association, all Directors of the Company who have been appointed since the Company's last Annual General Meeting, and all other Directors on a regular basis as set out in the Company's articles of association, seek re-election by the shareholders.

Edgardo (Ed) Baracchini Jr., who retires in accordance with the Company's articles of association, offers himself for re-election. Ed joined the Board on 7 January 2019.

Ed Baracchini has had a long and successful career in the industry. He was previously the Chief Business Officer at Xencor Inc. where he led strategic alliances and licensing. During his time at Xencor he negotiated licence agreements with Novartis (\$2.6 billion: immuno-oncology bispecific antibodies), Novo Nordisk (\$600 million: drug discovery collaboration), Amgen (\$500 million: option and development agreement autoimmune disease antibody) among numerous others. Prior to that he served as SVP Business Development for Metabasis Therapeutics.

Professor Axel Glasmacher, who retires in accordance with the Company's articles of association, offers himself for re-election. Axel joined the Board on 7 January 2019.

Professor Axel Glasmacher was until recently Senior Vice President and Head of the Clinical Research and Development Hematology Oncology at Celgene, where he has worked in various global roles for more than ten years. His work at Celgene led to the approvals of Revlimid®, Idhifa® and Vidaza® (haematological cancers). He also worked on the PD-L1 inhibitor durvalumab. Prior to Celgene, he worked within the field of haematology-oncology at the University Hospital in Bonn.

Dr Alexander Stevenson, retiring by rotation, offers himself for re-election, in accordance with the Company's articles of association. Alex joined the Board shortly prior to the Company's initial public offering and was re-elected to the Board in 2015.

Alex began his career as a microbiologist, working in research for a number of years before joining an NYSE-quoted drug development company. He subsequently moved into pharmaceutical and healthcare investment and has fulfilled a number of board-level investment and operational management roles. He was a director and shareholder in Aquarius Equity from 2008, where he was responsible for identifying new investments and developing and implementing scientific strategies both pre and post-investment. These included Tissue Regenix Group plc, C4X Discovery Holdings plc and Brabant Pharma (subsequently sold to Zogenix, Inc.). Prior to joining Aquarius Equity, Alex worked for IP Group plc, where he specialised in life sciences investments identifying, developing and advising a number of companies in its portfolio, some of which went on to list on AIM. He joined IP Group following its acquisition of Techtran Group Limited in 2005.

Resolution 5 – Re-election of RSM UK Audit LLP as auditor

The Board of Directors, on the recommendation of its Audit and Risk Committee, recommends the re-election of RSM UK Audit LLP as auditor, to hold office until the next general meeting at which accounts are laid.

Resolution 6 – Remuneration of the auditor

This resolution authorises the Directors to agree the remuneration of the auditor.

Resolution 7 – Directors' fees

This resolution proposes, in accordance with article 71 of the Company's articles of association, an increase to £300,000 of the maximum aggregate amount of fees payable to Directors for their services as Directors in any financial year. The current maximum of £200,000 was set in 2014 prior to the Company's initial public offering, when the total number of Non-Executive Directors stood at four, as remained the case until January 2019 and the appointment of two additional Non-Executive Directors. While the current maximum of £200,000 has not been exceeded, the increase is proposed to allow the Company additional headroom in relation to further appointments of Non-Executive Directors and not for increasing fees in the short term.

Explanatory Notes to the Notice of Annual General Meeting

continued

Resolution 8 – Authority to allot shares

The purpose of resolution 8 is to renew the Directors' power to allot shares. Section 551 of the Companies Act 2006 provides that the Directors may not allot new shares (other than for employees' share schemes) without shareholder authority.

Accordingly, resolution 8 will be proposed as an ordinary resolution to authorise the Directors (pursuant to section 551 of the Companies Act 2006):

- (i) to allot ordinary shares of 0.25 pence each in the capital of the Company up to a maximum nominal amount of £54,578, being approximately one-third of the nominal value of the ordinary shares in issue on 17 May 2019; and
- (ii) in addition to the authority described above, to allot ordinary shares of 0.25 pence each in the capital of the Company up to a maximum nominal amount of £54,578 pursuant to a rights issue in respect of which all shareholders are entitled to participate as nearly as possible in proportion to their holding of shares in the Company at the time.

This authority (unless previously revoked, varied or renewed) will expire on the earlier of the date of the next Annual General Meeting of the Company or 15 months after the date of the passing of the resolution. The Directors will exercise the authority to allot only when satisfied that it is in the interests of the Company to do so. The Directors have no present intention of allotting further shares.

Were the Company to use the relevant authorities and:

- the number of shares in issue increased, in aggregate, by more than one-third; and
- (as regards their use as a part of a rights issue) the proceeds of the relevant rights issue exceeded one-third (or the relevant specific proportion) of the pre-issue market capitalisation,

then those members of the Board wishing to remain in office would stand for re-election at the next Annual General Meeting.

Resolution 9 – Disapplication of pre-emption rights

Section 561 of the Companies Act 2006 confers on shareholders rights of pre-emption in respect of the allotment of "equity securities" which are, or are to be, paid up in cash, otherwise than by way of allotment to employees under an employees' share scheme. The provisions of section 561 apply to the ordinary shares of 0.25 pence each of the Company, to the extent that they are not disapplied pursuant to section 570 of the Companies Act 2006. This provision also covers the sale of treasury shares (should the Company elect to hold any) for cash.

It is proposed that the disapplication of these statutory pre-emption rights be approved, as a special resolution, to give the Directors power to allot shares, and to sell treasury shares, without the application of these statutory pre-emption rights, first, in relation to rights issues and, second, in relation to the issue of ordinary shares of 0.25 pence each in the capital of the Company for cash up to a maximum aggregate nominal amount of £16,373 (representing approximately 10% of the nominal value of the ordinary shares in issue on 17 May 2019).

This authority (unless previously revoked, varied or renewed) will expire on the earlier of the date of the next Annual General Meeting of the Company or 15 months after the date of the passing of the resolution.

The Directors have no present intention of exercising the authority; in accordance with the Corporate Governance Policy and Voting Guidelines for Smaller Companies issued by the Pensions and Lifetime Savings Association (formerly the National Association of Pension Funds), they are seeking the authority so as to be able to raise funds at short notice, where appropriate, from the issue of new share capital for the purpose of taking advantage of investment opportunities that may arise.

Resolution 10 – Purchase by the Company of its own shares

The purpose of resolution 10 is to obtain the authority for the Company to make market purchases of its ordinary shares. Under the Companies Act 2006 such an authority must first be sanctioned by an ordinary resolution of the Company in general meeting, but current institutional shareholder voting guidelines require that any such authority should be sanctioned by special resolution.

Accordingly, resolution 10 will be proposed as a special resolution to authorise the Company to purchase a maximum of 6,549,384 ordinary shares (equal to approximately 10% of the ordinary shares in issue on 17 May 2019) on AIM at a price per share of not less than 0.25 pence, and not more than 5% above the average of the mid-market quotations for ordinary shares of the Company for the five business days immediately preceding the day of purchase. In order to maximise the benefit to be derived by the Company, it would be the Directors' intention that any purchases should be made at as low a price (within the limits specified in resolution 10) as they considered reasonably obtainable.

Explanatory Notes to the Notice of Annual General Meeting

continued

Resolution 10 – Purchase by the Company of its own shares continued

This authority (unless previously revoked, varied or renewed) will expire on the earlier of the date of the next Annual General Meeting of the Company or 15 months after the date of the passing of the resolution.

Pursuant to the Companies Act 2006, the Company can hold the shares which have been repurchased as treasury shares and either resell them for cash, cancel them (either immediately or at a point in the future) or use them for the purposes of its employees' share schemes. The Directors believe that it is desirable for the Company to have this choice and therefore currently envisage holding any shares purchased under this authority as treasury shares. Holding the repurchased shares as treasury shares will give the Company the ability to resell or transfer them in the future, and so provide the Company with additional flexibility in the management of its capital base. No dividends will be paid on, and no voting rights will be exercised in respect of, treasury shares.

Shares will only be repurchased if the Directors consider such purchases to be in the best interests of shareholders generally and that they can be expected to result in an increase in earnings per share. The authority will only be used after careful consideration, taking into account market conditions prevailing at the time, other investment opportunities and the overall financial position of the Company. Shares held as treasury shares will not automatically be cancelled and will not be taken into account in future calculations of earnings per share (unless they are subsequently resold or transferred out of treasury).

If any shares repurchased by the Company are held in treasury and used for the purposes of its employees' share schemes, while so required under institutional shareholder voting guidelines, the Company will count those shares towards the limits on the number of new shares which may be issued under such schemes.

Purchases will not be made to the extent that they may affect the eligibility of the Company for continued admission to AIM and it is not the Directors' current intention that the Company should stand in the market for any particular year or until any specified number of shares has been acquired.

The purchase of shares by the Company pursuant to these proposals will be a market purchase and thus made through AIM. This means that any shareholder selling shares, even if those shares are subsequently acquired by the Company, will not be subject to different tax considerations from those normally applying to a sale of shares in the market provided that the purchase by the Company is made exclusively through a market maker acting as principal. In that event, for shareholders who held their shares as an investment, the sale proceeds will normally be treated as capital and the normal capital gains tax rules will apply to those sale shares. There will normally be no liability to tax on income unless the shareholder's disposal is by way of trade.