**S172 Statement**

In line with their duties as set out in s172 of the Companies Act 2006, the Board of Directors act in a way they consider would be most likely to promote the long term success of the Group for the benefit of its members as a whole, whilst also having regard to the views and interests of wider stakeholders and matters as set out in S172(1).

As an investment Group, the goal of the Group is to provide financial returns to the shareholders over the long term. In this respect the Board of Directors, at all times, have due consideration as to the potential effect of investment decisions and the benefit they may bring to the shareholders. Key investment decisions and matters that are of strategic importance to the Group are appropriately informed by s172 factors.

With regards to wider stakeholders, the Board of Directors consider the underlying strategic companies in which the Group has invested as well as advisors and suppliers amongst the key stakeholders of the Group. In this respect the Board of Directors engage with these stakeholders on a frequent basis in order to build and strengthen such relationships. It is noted that, due to the nature of the Group, it does not have executives, employees or operations to consider as stakeholders except in the case of City Group PLC.

The views of and impact upon the wider stakeholders of the Group are considered as part of the board decision process including engaging with stakeholders to ensure they have a clear understanding of the long term goals of the Group and how the Board of Directors intend to achieve these goals.

The Board of Directors are committed to upholding the highest standard of corporate governance within the Group and to ensure that they maintain a high level of knowledge and understanding of governance requirements to be implemented by the Group. The Board of Directors have also implemented policies to ensure the integrity and sustainability of the Group is upheld.

The Directors’ Report and Corporate Governance report contain further details as to how the Board of Directors undertake their decisions with regards to S172 of the Companies Act 2006 and the effect on the decision making of the Board.