

30 January 2006

**Notification of Share Interest
Sections 198-203 of the Companies Act 1985**

We have today received the following notice dated 26 January 2006 from an official of Barclays plc, the extract of which is as follows.

“I hereby inform you that as at 25 January 2006, Barclays PLC through the legal entities listed on the attached schedule, has a notifiable interest in the capital of your Company of 4.25%

Details of this interest, together with a breakdown of registered holders (as required by Section 202 (3) of the Act), are enclosed”.

They have decreased their holding from 9,573,605 shares notified on 24 January 2006 to 7,534,160 shares which equates to 4.25% of the issued share capital.

Director/Secretary
Countrywide plc

c.c. H D Hill
M C Nower

LEGAL ENTITY REPORT

COUNTRYWIDE

SEDOL : B00FQ06

As at 25 January 2006 Barclays PLC, through the legal entities listed below, had a notifiable interest in 7,534,160 ORD GBP0.05

Legal Entity	Holding	Percentage Held
Barclays Capital Securities Ltd	542,925	0.31%
Gerrard Ltd	8,696	0.01%
Barclays Bank Trust Company Ltd	1,467	0.00%
Barclays Global Investors, N.A.	60,730	0.03%
Barclays Global Investors Japan Ltd	224,456	0.13%
Barclays Global Investors Ltd	5,879,333	3.31%
Barclays Life Assurance Co Ltd	816,553	0.46%
Group Holding	7,534,160	4.25%

REGISTERED HOLDERS REPORT

COUNTRYWIDE

SEDOL: B00FQ06

As at 25 January 2006 Barclays PLC, through the registered holders listed below, had a notifiable interest in 7,534,160 ORD GBP0.05

BARCLAYS CAPITAL NOMINEES LIMITED		-50,076
BARCLAYS CAPITAL NOMINEES LIMITED		-20,908
BARCLAYS CAPITAL NOMINEES LIMITED		528,909
BARCLAYS CAPITAL NOMINEES LIMITED		85,000
Barclays Trust Co & Others		1,467
BOISS NOMINEES LTD	4224361	102,739
CHASE NOMINEES LTD	16376	101,431
CHASE NOMINEES LTD	20947	3,664,074
CHASE NOMINEES LTD	28270	60,988
CHASE NOMINEES LTD	28270	135,007
INVESTORS BANK AND TRUST CO.		12,455
INVESTORS BANK AND TRUST CO.		4,975
JP MORGAN (BGI CUSTODY)	16331	52,990
JP MORGAN (BGI CUSTODY)	16341	238,896
JP MORGAN (BGI CUSTODY)	16341	100,162
JP MORGAN (BGI CUSTODY)	16344	80,411
JP MORGAN (BGI CUSTODY)	16345	148,099
JP MORGAN (BGI CUSTODY)	16400	1,870,532
JP MORGAN (BGI CUSTODY)	18409	140,557
JPMorgan Chase Bank		104,164
JPMorgan Chase Bank		46,458
JPMorgan Chase Bank		73,834
R C Greig Nominees Limited		5,696
R C Greig Nominees Limited a/c AK1		3,000
The Northern Trust Co		43,300
	Total	7,534,160