

11 May 2007

**Transparency Obligations Directive
(Disclosure and Transparency Rules) Instrument 2006**

We have today received the following notices dated 8 and 10 May 2007 from an official of the Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.

In compliance with the Disclosure and Transparency Rules, they confirm that:

- a) as at 4 May 2007 the Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., of 85 Broad Street, New York NY10004, USA, have a notifiable interest in and are the direct holders of 103,594 and indirect holders of 15,365,123 ordinary shares of Countrywide plc. Such shares are registered in the names of
- Goldman Sachs & Co.,
 - Goldman Sachs International
 - Goldman Sachs Asset Management International; and
 - Goldman Sachs Asset Management L.P.

This equates to 8.97% of the issued share capital of 172,480,747 shares, prior to capital reduction.

Of these 15,468,717 shares:

The interest in 14,883,102 shares arose from an interest held by Goldman Sachs & Co., a wholly-owned direct subsidiary of GS Inc, acting as custodian for its customers. These shares are, or will be, registered in the name of Goldman Sachs Securities (Nominees), Limited.

The interest in 103,594 shares arose from a beneficial interest held by Goldman Sachs International, a wholly owned indirect subsidiary GS Inc. These shares are, or will be, registered at CREST in account CREPTTEMP.

The interest in 103,594 shares arose from the interest held by Goldman Sachs Asset Management, a wholly owned subsidiary of GS Inc acting as discretionary manager. We believe that some of these shares are, or will be, registered in the name of GSSN.

They have increased their holding from 15,365,123 shares, as announced on 4 May 2007 to 15,468,717 shares.

- b. as at 8 May 2007 the Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., of 85 Broad Street, New York NY10004, USA, have a notifiable interest in and are the indirect holders of 15,365,123 ordinary shares of Countrywide plc. Such shares are registered in the names of
- Goldman Sachs & Co.,
 - Goldman Sachs Asset Management International; and
 - Goldman Sachs Asset Management L.P.

This equates to 8.91% of the issued share capital of 172,480,747 shares, prior to capital reduction.

Of these 15,365,123 shares:

The interest in 14,883,102 shares arose from an interest held by Goldman Sachs & Co., a wholly-owned direct subsidiary of GS Inc, acting as custodian for its customers. These shares are, or will be, registered in the name of Goldman Sachs Securities (Nominees), Limited.

The interest in 482,021 shares arose from the interest held by Goldman Sachs Asset Management, a wholly owned subsidiary of GS Inc acting as discretionary manager. We believe that some of these shares are, or will be, registered in the name of GSSN.

They have decreased their holding from 15,468,717 shares, as reported above to 15,365,123 shares.

As announced on 9 May 2007, the Court Orders in respect of the Scheme and the Capital Reductions were delivered to, and registered by, the Registrar of Companies. The Scheme of Arrangement therefore became effective on 9 May 2007 and consequently the issued share capital was reduced to 164,759,627 ordinary shares of 5p. On 10 May 2007, the Company's shares were de-listed from the Official List of the London Stock Exchange.

Director/Secretary
Countrywide plc

c.c. H D Hill
M C Nower
G Turner
J Pleumeekers)
J Coddington) Hawkpoint
M Luen)
M Franklin)