Meeting of the QCA Share Schemes Expert Group

To be held on: 26 October 2023, 4.00pm – 5.30pm. Videoconference call



<u>AGENDA</u>

1. The QCA to provide an update on its response to the Digitisation Taskforce Interim Report.

2. Issues for discussion:

- a) Update on HMRC Forums for ERS and Valuation.
- b) Guest speakers for 2024.

3. Apologies

4. Communications (for information only)

a) Adoption of the QCA Code report

In anticipation of our update to the QCA Code, we conducted research on the QCA Code's adoption by companies across AIM, AQSE and the Standard List. The key findings from the report include:

- Over 93% of AIM-quoted companies adopt the QCA Code.
- Over 76% of AQSE-quoted companies adopt the QCA Code.
- Approximately 27% of Standard List companies adopt the QCA Code.
- Overall, the QCA Code has been adopted by 889 companies compared with 913 companies for the UK Corporate Governance Code.
- Of the 761 AIM-quoted companies with a market capitalisation below £500 million, nearly 95% apply the QCA Code.

If you would like to read the full report, click <u>here</u>.

b) AIM and AQSE shares in ISAs - Ten years on report

In August, we produced a short paper to mark the ten-year anniversary of Individual Savings Accounts (ISAs) being expanded to cover AIM and AQSE stocks. The report assesses the benefits of having AIM and AQSE shares in ISAs for investors and companies quoted on those markets, and the change's wider economic impact since its introduction in 2013. We found that Adult ISA market values have increased since the

introduction of AIM and AQSE ISAs, as well as evidence demonstrating that the number of people investing in AIM shares grew significantly in 2014, a year after the policy's implementation.

If you would like to read the full report, click <u>here</u>.

5. Any Other Business

6. Meeting dates for 2024:

- Thursday 15 February, 4.00pm 5.30pm
- Thursday 25 April, 4.00pm 5.30pm
- Thursday 18 July, 4.00pm 5.30pm
- Thursday 24 October, 4.00pm -5.30pm