Meeting of the Legal Expert Group

To be held on: Tuesday 16 May 2023, 9.00am – 10.30am **Venue:** Videoconference call



AGENDA

- 1. Welcome to Rob Lyons, Deputy Company Secretary, from Marks and Spencer in order to discuss the recent <u>Share Your Voice Campaign</u>.
- 2. Apologies

3. Issues for discussion

- a) FCA Primary Markets Effectiveness Review
- b) Future meetings and speaker priorities for 2023

4. Communications (information only)

a) QCA/YouGov Sentiment Survey

This month, we published our Small and Mid-cap Sentiment Survey for H1 of 2023. In a sign of improved economic conditions and political stability, optimism over the UK economy has risen dramatically since the last survey in H2 2022, increasing by 52% in H1 of 2023. However, the sentiment survey revealed that one in three company directors were concerned at being the subject of a possible takeover bid over the next 12 months, and one in six were likely to consider moving their primary listing within the next year.

b) QCA ESG report

This report, due to be published shortly, will evaluate the attitudes of investors towards the ESG practices of small and mid-sized quoted companies. Specifically, it will address questions around:

- The impact of ESG on investment strategies and return outcomes.
- How ESG is impacting the small and mid-cap market.
- The importance of ESG practices.
- Developments with ESG practices.
- Expectations of smaller quoted companies regarding their ESG practices.
- The historic and future performance of small and mid-caps on ESG.
- The balance between quantitative data and qualitative information.

5. Any other business

Next meeting: Tuesday 4 July 2023, 9.00am - 10.30am