

Lloyds Banking Group plc  
Form F-3ASR  
June 29, 2010

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on 28 June, 2010

Registration No. 333-

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

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**FORM F-3**  
**REGISTRATION STATEMENT**  
**UNDER**  
**THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933**

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**Lloyds Banking Group plc**

*(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)*

**Scotland**

*(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)*

**Not Applicable**

*(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)*

**25 Gresham Street**  
**London EC2V 7HN**  
**011-44-207-626-1500**

*(Address and Telephone Number of Registrant's Principal Executive Offices)*

**Kevin P. McKendry**  
**Chief US Counsel**  
**Lloyds TSB Bank plc**  
**1095 Avenue of the Americas**  
**New York, New York 10036**  
**212-930-8920**

*(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Agent for Service)*

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*Please send copies of all communications to:*

**John W. Banes**  
**DAVIS POLK & WARDWELL LLP**  
**99 Gresham Street**  
**London, EC2V 7NG**  
**Tel. No.: 011-44-207-418-1300**

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**Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public:** As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Registration Statement.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, please check the following box.

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.C. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.C. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

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If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.C. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

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### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

<b>Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered</b>	<b>Amount to be Registered/Proposed maximum offering price unit/Proposed maximum price</b>	<b>Amount of registration fee</b>
Debt Securities of Lloyds Banking Group plc	Unspecified <sup>(1)</sup>	\$0 <sup>(2)</sup>
Preference Shares of Lloyds Banking Group plc <sup>(3)</sup>	Unspecified <sup>(1)</sup>	\$0 <sup>(2)</sup>

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- (1) An unspecified initial offering price, aggregate number of, or principal amount of, the Debt Securities and the Preference Shares of Lloyds Banking Group plc are being registered as may from time to time be offered at unspecified prices. Separate consideration may or may not be received for securities that are issuable on exercise, conversion or exchange of other securities or that are issued in units or represented by depositary shares.
  - (2) An unspecified aggregate initial offering price or number of the securities is being registered as may from time to time be offered at unspecified prices. Separate consideration may or may not be received for securities that are issuable on exercise, conversion or exchange of other securities or that are issued in units or represented by depositary shares. In accordance with Rules 456(b) and 457(r) under the Securities Act, the Registrants are deferring payment of all the registration fees.
  - (3) American Depositary Shares evidenced by American Depositary Receipts issuable upon deposit of the Preference Shares registered hereby have been registered under a separate Registration Statement on Form F-6.
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PROSPECTUS

**LLOYDS BANKING GROUP plc**

By this prospectus we may offer

**DEBT SECURITIES  
PREFERENCE SHARES**

We will provide the specific terms of these securities, and the manner in which they will be offered, in one or more prospectus supplements to this prospectus. Any prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained, or incorporated by reference, in this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and the prospectus supplements carefully before you invest.

You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, together with the additional information described under the heading *Where You Can Find More Information* and the heading *Incorporation of Documents by Reference*, before investing in our securities. The amount and price of the offered securities will be determined at the time of the offering.

**Investing in our debt securities involves risks that are described in the *Risk Factors* section of our annual reports filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission or in the applicable prospectus supplement.**

**Neither the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined that this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

**This prospectus may not be used to sell securities unless it is accompanied by a prospectus supplement.**

The date of this prospectus is 28 June, 2010.

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## ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ( SEC ) using a shelf registration or continuous offering process. Under this shelf process, we may sell the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings of an unspecified amount in one or more foreign currencies or currency units.

This prospectus provides you with a general description of the debt securities, preference shares and American Depositary Shares we may offer, which we will refer to collectively as the securities . Each time we sell securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. The prospectus supplement will provide information regarding certain tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of the offered securities. The prospectus supplement may also add to, update or change information contained in this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in that prospectus supplement. We will file each prospectus supplement with the SEC. You should read both this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement, together with the additional information described under the heading Where You Can Find More Information .

The registration statement containing this prospectus, including exhibits to the registration statement, provides additional information about us and the securities offered under this prospectus. The registration statement can be read at the SEC 's offices or obtained from the SEC 's website mentioned under the heading Where You Can Find More Information .

### Certain Terms

In this prospectus, the terms we , us , our or LBG refer to Lloyds Banking Group plc, the term Group means Lloyds Banking Group plc and its subsidiaries.

We publish our consolidated financial statements in pounds sterling ( £ or sterling ), the lawful currency of the United Kingdom. In this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, references to dollars and \$ are to United States dollars.

### USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless we have disclosed a specific plan in the accompanying prospectus supplement, we will use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities offered by this prospectus in the general business of our Group. The Group has raised capital in various markets from time to time and we expect to continue to raise capital in appropriate markets as and when required.

### LLOYDS BANKING GROUP PLC

Lloyds Banking Group plc was incorporated as a public limited company and registered in Scotland under the UK Companies Act 1985 on 21 October, 1985 with the registered number 95000.

The history of the Group can be traced back to the 18th century when the banking partnership of Taylors and Lloyds was established in Birmingham, England. Lloyds Bank Plc was incorporated in 1865 and during the late 19th and early 20th centuries entered into a number of acquisitions and mergers, significantly increasing the number of banking offices in the UK. In 1995, it continued to expand with the acquisition of the Cheltenham and Gloucester Building Society (C&G).

TSB Group plc became operational in 1986 when, following UK Government legislation, the operations of four Trustee Savings Banks and other related companies were transferred to TSB Group plc and its new banking subsidiaries. By 1995, the TSB Group had, either through organic growth or acquisition, developed life and general insurance operations, investment management activities, and a motor vehicle hire purchase and leasing operation to supplement its retail banking activities.

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In 1995, TSB Group plc merged with Lloyds Bank Plc. Under the terms of the merger, the TSB and Lloyds Bank groups were combined under TSB Group plc, which was re-named Lloyds TSB Group plc with Lloyds Bank Plc, which was subsequently re-named Lloyds TSB Bank plc, the principal subsidiary. In 1999, the businesses, assets and liabilities of TSB Bank plc, the principal banking subsidiary of the TSB Group prior to the merger, and its subsidiary Hill Samuel Bank Limited were vested in Lloyds TSB Bank plc, and in 2000, Lloyds TSB Group acquired Scottish Widows. In addition to already being one of the leading providers of banking services in the UK, this transaction also positioned Lloyds TSB Group as one of the leading suppliers of long-term savings and protection products in the UK.

On 18 September 2008, with the support of the UK Government, the boards of Lloyds TSB Group plc and HBOS plc announced that they had reached agreement on the terms of a recommended acquisition by Lloyds TSB Group plc of HBOS plc (the Acquisition). The shareholders of Lloyds TSB Group plc approved the acquisition at the Company's general meeting on 19 November 2008. On 16 January 2009, the acquisition was completed and Lloyds TSB Group plc changed its name to Lloyds Banking Group plc.

Pursuant to two placing and open offers which were completed by the Company in January and June 2009 and the Rights Issue completed in December 2009, the UK Government acquired 43.4 per cent of the Company's issued ordinary share capital. Following the issue of ordinary shares in February 2010 pursuant to the Group's capital raising announced in November 2009, the UK Government's holding was reduced to approximately 41.3 per cent.

Lloyds Banking Group plc's registered office is The Mound, Edinburgh EH1 1YZ, Scotland, and its principal executive offices in the UK are located at 25 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7HN, United Kingdom, telephone number 011-44- 207-626-1500.

### DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

*The following is a summary of the general terms of the debt securities. Each time that we issue debt securities, we will file a prospectus supplement with the SEC, which you should read carefully. The prospectus supplement may contain additional terms of those debt securities. The terms presented here, together with the terms contained in the prospectus supplement, will be a description of the material terms of the debt securities, but if there is any inconsistency between the terms presented here and those in the prospectus supplement, those in the prospectus supplement will apply and will replace those presented here. You should also read the indentures under which we will issue the debt securities, which we have filed with the SEC as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.*

*When we refer to debt securities in this prospectus, we mean the senior debt securities and the subordinated debt securities. The subordinated debt securities of any series will be our subordinated obligations. Senior debt securities will be issued under a senior debt indenture. Subordinated debt securities will be issued under a subordinated debt indenture. Each indenture is a contract between us and The Bank of New York Mellon, which will initially act as trustee. The indentures are substantially identical, except for certain provisions such as those relating to subordination, which are included only in the subordinated debt indenture. None of the indentures limit our ability to incur additional indebtedness, including additional senior indebtedness.*

#### General

The debt securities are not deposits and are not insured or guaranteed by the U.S. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency of the United States or the United Kingdom.

The indentures do not limit the amount of debt securities that we may issue. We may issue debt securities in one or more series. The relevant prospectus supplement for any particular series of debt securities will describe the terms of the offered debt securities, including some or all of the following terms:

whether they are senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities;

their specific designation, authorized denomination and aggregate principal amount;

the price or prices at which they will be issued;

whether such debt securities have a maturity date and, if so, what the date is;

the annual interest rate or rates, or how to calculate the interest rate or rates;

the date or dates from which interest, if any, will accrue or the method, if any, by which such date or dates will be determined;

whether payments are conditional on our ability to make such payments and remain able to pay our debts as they fall due and that our assets continue to exceed our liabilities (other than subordinated liabilities);

the times and places at which any interest payments are payable;

the terms of any mandatory or optional redemption, including the amount of any premium;

any modifications or additions to the events of default with respect to the debt securities offered;

any provisions relating to conversion or exchange for other securities issued by us;

the currency or currencies in which they are denominated and in which we will make any payments;

any index used to determine the amount of any payments on the debt securities;

any restrictions that apply to the offer, sale and delivery of the debt securities and the exchange of debt securities of one form for debt securities of another form;

whether and under what circumstances, if other than those described in this prospectus, we will pay additional amounts on the debt securities following certain developments with respect to tax laws and whether, and on what terms, if other than those described in this prospectus, we may redeem the debt securities following those developments;

the terms of any mandatory or optional exchange; and

any listing on a securities exchange.

In addition, the prospectus supplement will describe the material U.S. federal and U.K. tax considerations that apply to any particular series of debt securities.

Debt securities may bear interest at a fixed rate or a floating rate. We may sell any subordinated debt securities that bear no interest, or that bear interest at a rate that at the time of issuance is below the prevailing market rate, at a discount to their stated principal amount.

Holders of debt securities shall have no voting rights except those described under the heading **Modification and Waiver** below.

## **Form of Debt Securities; Book-Entry System**

### ***General***

Unless the relevant prospectus supplement states otherwise, the debt securities shall initially be represented by one or more global securities in registered form, without coupons attached, and will be deposited with or on behalf of one or more depository, including, without limitation, The Depository Trust Company ( *DTC* ), Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. ( *Euroclear* ) and/or Clearstream Banking, *société anonyme* ( *Clearstream Luxembourg* ), will be registered in the name of such depository or its nominee. Unless and until the debt securities are exchanged in whole or in part for other securities that we issue or the global securities are exchanged for definitive securities, the global securities may not be transferred except as a whole by the depository to a nominee or a successor of the depository.

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The debt securities may be accepted for clearance by DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream Luxembourg. Unless the relevant prospectus supplement states otherwise, the initial distribution of the debt securities will be cleared through DTC only. In such event, beneficial interests in the global debt securities will be shown on, and transfers thereof will be effected only through, the book-entry records maintained by DTC and its direct and indirect participants, including, as applicable, Euroclear and Clearstream Luxembourg.

The laws of some states may require that certain investors in securities take physical delivery of their securities in definitive form. Those laws may impair the ability of investors to own interests in book-entry securities.

So long as the depository, or its nominee, is the holder of a global debt security, the depository or its nominee will be considered the sole holder of such global debt security for all purposes under the indentures. Except as described below under the heading "Issuance of Definitive Securities", no participant, indirect participant or other person will be entitled to have debt securities registered in its name, receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of debt securities in definitive form or be considered the owner or holder of the debt securities under the indentures. Each person having an ownership or other interest in debt securities must rely on the procedures of the depository, and, if a person is not a participant in the depository, must rely on the procedures of the participant or other securities intermediary through which that person owns its interest to exercise any rights and obligations of a holder under the indentures or the debt securities.

### *Payments on the Global Debt Security*

Payments of any amounts in respect of any global securities will be made by the trustee to the depository. Payments will be made to beneficial owners of debt securities in accordance with the rules and procedures of the depository or its direct and indirect participants, as applicable. Neither we nor the trustee nor any of our agents will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records of any securities intermediary in the chain of intermediaries between the depository and any beneficial owner of an interest in a global security, or the failure of the depository or any intermediary to pass through to any beneficial owner any payments that we make to the depository.

### *The Clearing Systems*

DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream Luxembourg have advised us as follows:

*DTC.* DTC, the world's largest securities depository, is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a banking organization within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a clearing corporation within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a clearing agency registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). DTC holds and provides asset servicing for over 3.5 million issues of U.S. and non-U.S. equity issues, corporate and municipal debt issues, and money market instruments (from over 100 countries) that DTC's participants deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among direct participants of sales and other securities transactions in deposited securities, through electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between direct participants' accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation ("DTCC"). DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a direct participant, either directly or indirectly. The DTC rules applicable to its participants are on file with the SEC. More information about DTC can be found at [www.dtcc.com](http://www.dtcc.com) and [www.dtc.org](http://www.dtc.org).



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*Euroclear.* Euroclear holds securities for its participants and clears and settles transactions between its participants through simultaneous electronic book-entry delivery against payment. Euroclear provides various other services, including safekeeping, administration, clearance and settlement and securities lending and borrowing, and interfaces with domestic markets in several countries. Securities clearance accounts and cash accounts with Euroclear are governed by the Terms and Conditions Governing Use of Euroclear and the related Operating Procedures of the Euroclear System, and applicable law (collectively, the Euroclear Terms and Conditions ). The Euroclear Terms and Conditions govern transfers of securities and cash within Euroclear, withdrawals of securities and cash from Euroclear, and receipts of payments with respect to securities in Euroclear.

*Clearstream Luxembourg.* Clearstream Luxembourg is incorporated under the laws of The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg as a professional depository. Clearstream Luxembourg holds securities for its participants and facilitates the clearance and settlement of securities transactions between its participants through electronic book-entry changes in accounts of its participants, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of certificates. Clearstream Luxembourg provides to its participants, among other things, services for safekeeping, administration, clearance and settlement of internationally traded securities and securities lending and borrowing. Clearstream Luxembourg interfaces with domestic markets in several countries.

### *Issuance of Definitive Securities*

So long as the depository holds the global securities of a particular series of debt securities, such global securities will not be exchangeable for definitive securities of that series unless:

the depository notifies the trustee that it is unwilling or unable to continue to act as depository for the debt securities or the depository ceases to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act;

we are wound up and we fail to make a payment on the debt securities when due; or

at any time we determine at our option and in our sole discretion that the global securities of a particular series of debt securities should be exchanged for definitive debt securities of that series in registered form.

Each person having an ownership or other interest in a debt security must rely exclusively on the rules or procedures of the depository as the case may be, and any agreement with any direct or indirect participant of the depository, including Euroclear or Clearstream Luxembourg and their participants, as applicable, or any other securities intermediary through which that person holds its interest, to receive or direct the delivery of possession of any definitive security. The indentures permit us to determine at any time and in our sole discretion that debt securities shall no longer be represented by global securities. DTC has advised us that, under its current practices, it would notify its participants of our request, but will only withdraw beneficial interests from the global securities at the request of each DTC participant. We would issue definitive certificates in exchange for any such beneficial interests withdrawn.

Unless otherwise specified in the prospectus supplement, definitive debt securities will be issued in registered form only. To the extent permitted by law, we, the trustee and any paying agent shall be entitled to treat the person in whose name any definitive security is registered as its absolute owner.

Payments in respect of each series of definitive securities will be made to the person in whose name the definitive securities are registered as it appears in the register for that series of debt securities. Payments will be made in respect of the debt securities by check drawn on a bank in New York or, if the holder requests, by transfer to the holder's account in New York. Definitive securities should be presented to the paying agent for redemption.

If we issue definitive debt securities of a particular series in exchange for a particular global debt security, the depository, as holder of that global debt security, will surrender it against receipt of the definitive debt securities, cancel the book-entry debt securities of that series, and distribute the definitive debt securities of that series to the persons and in the amounts that the depository specifies pursuant to the internal procedures of such depository.

If definitive securities are issued in the limited circumstances described above, those securities may be transferred in whole or in part in denominations of any whole number of securities upon surrender of the definitive securities certificates together with the form of transfer endorsed on it, duly completed and executed at the specified office of a paying agent. If only part of a securities certificate is transferred, a new securities certificate representing the balance not transferred will be issued to the transferor within three business days after the paying agent receives the certificate. The new certificate representing the balance will be delivered to the transferor by uninsured post at the risk of the transferor, to the address of the transferor appearing in the records of the paying agent. The new certificate representing the securities that were transferred will be sent to the transferee within three business days after the paying agent receives the certificate transferred, by uninsured post at the risk of the holder entitled to the securities represented by the certificate, to the address specified in the form of transfer.



***Settlement***

Initial settlement for each series of debt securities and settlement of any secondary market trades in the debt securities will be made in same-day funds. Book-entry debt securities held through DTC will settle in DTC's same-day funds settlement system.

**Payments**

We will make any payments of interest and principal, on any particular series of debt securities on the dates and, in the case of payments of interest, at the rate or rates, that we set out in, or that are determined by the method of calculation described in, the relevant prospectus supplement.

***Subordinated Debt Securities***

Unless the relevant prospectus supplement provides otherwise, if we do not make a payment on that series of subordinated debt securities on any payment date, our obligation to make that payment shall be deferred, if it is an interest payment, until the date upon which we pay a dividend on any class of our share capital and, if it is a principal payment, until the first business day after the date that falls six months after the original payment date (a *Deferred Payment Date*). If we fail to make a payment before the *Deferred Payment Date*, that failure shall not create a default or otherwise allow any holder to sue us for the payment or take any other action. Each payment that is deferred in this way will accrue interest at the rate prevailing in accordance with the terms of the series of debt securities immediately before the original payment date. Any payment deferred in this way shall not be treated as due for any purpose, including for the purposes of ascertaining whether or not a *Subordinated Debt Security Default* has occurred, until the *Deferred Payment Date*.

**Subordination**

***Senior Debt Securities***

Unless the relevant prospectus supplement provides otherwise, senior debt securities and coupons (if any) appertaining thereto constitute our direct, unconditional, unsecured and unsubordinated obligations ranking *pari passu*, without any preference among themselves, with all of our other outstanding unsecured and unsubordinated obligations, present and future, except such obligations as are preferred by operation of law.

***Subordinated Debt Securities***

Unless the relevant prospectus supplement provides otherwise, in a winding up, all payments on any series of subordinated debt securities will be subordinate to, and subject in right of payment to the prior payment in full of, all claims of all of our creditors other than claims in respect of any liability that is, or is expressed to be, subordinated, whether only in the event of a winding up or otherwise, to the claims of all or any of our creditors, in the manner provided in the subordinated debt indenture.

***General***

As a consequence of these subordination provisions, if winding up proceedings should occur, each holder may recover less ratably than the holders of our unsubordinated liabilities. If, in any winding up, the amount payable on any series of debt securities and any claims ranking equally with that series are not paid in full, those debt securities and other claims ranking equally will share ratably in any distribution of our assets in a winding up in proportion to the respective amounts to which they are entitled. If any holder is entitled to any recovery with respect to the debt securities in any winding up or liquidation, the holder might not be entitled in those proceedings to a recovery in U.S. dollars and might be entitled only to a recovery in pounds sterling or any other lawful currency of the United Kingdom.

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In addition, because we are a holding company, our rights to participate in the assets of any subsidiary if it is liquidated will be subject to the prior claims of its creditors, including, in the case of our bank subsidiaries, their depositors, except to the extent that we may be a creditor with recognized claims against the subsidiary.

### Additional Amounts

Unless the relevant prospectus supplement provides otherwise, we will pay any amounts to be paid by us on any series of debt securities without deduction or withholding for, or on account of, any and all present and future income, stamp and other taxes, levies, imposts, duties, charges, fees, deductions or withholdings imposed, levied, collected, withheld or assessed by or on behalf of the United Kingdom or any United Kingdom political subdivision thereof or authority that has the power to tax (a U.K. taxing jurisdiction), unless such deduction or withholding is required by law. If at any time a U.K. taxing jurisdiction requires us to make such deduction or withholding, we will pay additional amounts with respect to the principal of, interest and any other payments on, the debt securities (Additional Amounts) that are necessary in order that the net amounts paid to the holders of those debt securities, after the deduction or withholding, shall equal the amounts which would have been payable on that series of debt securities if the deduction or withholding had not been required. However, this will not apply to any such amount that would not have been payable or due but for the fact that:

the holder or the beneficial owner of the debt securities is a domiciliary, national or resident of, or engaging in business or maintaining a permanent establishment or physically present in, a U.K. taxing jurisdiction or otherwise having some connection with the U.K. taxing jurisdiction other than the holding or ownership of a debt security, or the collection of any payment of, or in respect of, principal of, or any interest or other payment on, any debt security of the relevant series;

except in the case of a winding up in the United Kingdom, the relevant debt security is presented (where presentation is required) for payment in the United Kingdom;

the relevant debt security is presented (where presentation is required) for payment more than 30 days after the date payment became due or was provided for, whichever is later, except to the extent that the holder would have been entitled to the Additional Amounts on presenting the debt security for payment at the close of that 30 day period;

the holder or the beneficial owner of the relevant debt security or the beneficial owner of any payment of or in respect of principal of, or any interest or other payment on, the debt security failed to comply with a request by us or our liquidator or other authorized person addressed to the holder to provide information concerning the nationality, residence or identity of the holder or the beneficial owner or to make any declaration or other similar claim to satisfy any requirement which is required or imposed by a statute, treaty, regulation or administrative practice of a U.K. taxing jurisdiction as a precondition to exemption from all or part of the tax;

the withholding or deduction is imposed on a payment to or for the benefit of an individual and is required to be made pursuant to, in the case of senior debt securities, European Council Directive 2003/48/EC on the taxation of savings income or any law implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to, such directive or, in the case of subordinated debt securities, any European Union Directive on the taxation of savings implementing the proposal for a European Union Directive presented by the European Commission on 18 July 2001 or any law implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to, such a directive;

the relevant debt security is presented (where presentation is required) for payment by or on behalf of a holder who would have been able to avoid such withholding or deduction by presenting the relevant debt security to another paying agent in a Member State of the European Union; or

any combination of the above items

nor shall Additional Amounts be paid with respect to the principal of, and payments on, the debt securities to any holder who is a fiduciary or partnership or settlor with respect to such fiduciary or a member of such partnership or other than the sole beneficial owner of such payment to the extent such payment would be required by the laws of any taxing jurisdiction to be included in the income for tax purposes of a beneficiary or partner or settlor with respect to such fiduciary or a member of such partnership or a beneficial owner who would not have been entitled to such Additional Amounts, had it been the holder.

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Whenever we refer in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, in any context, to the payment of the principal of or any payments on, or in respect of, any debt security of any series, we mean to include the payment of Additional Amounts to the extent that, in the context, Additional Amounts are, were, or would be payable.

### Redemption

Unless the relevant prospectus supplement provides otherwise and subject in the case of any subordinated debt securities to our (i) having notified the United Kingdom Financial Services Authority ( FSA ) of our intention to so redeem at least one month (or such other longer or shorter period as the FSA may then require or accept) prior to becoming committed to the proposed repayment and any necessary prior consent, notice or no objection, as applicable, having been received from the FSA, and (ii) satisfying the FSA that after such repayment we will be able to meet our capital resource requirements and have sufficient financial resources to meet our applicable capital adequacy requirements, we will have the option to redeem the debt securities of any series, as a whole but not in part, upon not less than 30 nor more than 60 days notice to each holder of debt securities, on any payment date, at a redemption price equal to 100% of their principal amount together with any accrued but unpaid interest in the case of senior debt securities and any accrued but unpaid interest (including deferred interest) in the case of subordinated debt securities, to the redemption date, or, in the case of discount securities, their accreted face amount, together with any accrued interest, if we determine that as a result of a change in or amendment to the laws or regulations of a U.K. taxing jurisdiction, including any treaty to which it is a party, or a change in the application or interpretation of those laws or regulations, including a decision of any court or tribunal or any generally published pronouncement by any relevant tax authority which change, amendment or pronouncement becomes effective or applicable on or after the date of the applicable prospectus supplement:

in making any payments on the particular series of debt securities, we have paid or will or would on the next payment date be required to pay Additional Amounts;

payments on the next payment date in respect of any of the series of debt securities would be treated as a distribution within the meaning of Chapter 2, Part 23 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 of the United Kingdom, or any statutory modification or re-enactment of such Act; or

on the next payment date we would not be entitled to claim a deduction in respect of the payments in computing our U.K. taxation liabilities, or the value of the deduction to us would be materially reduced.

Unless the relevant prospectus supplement provides otherwise, and subject to our (i) having notified the FSA of our intention to so redeem at least one month (or such other longer or shorter period as the FSA may then require or accept) prior to becoming committed to the proposed repayment and any necessary prior consent, notice or no objection, as applicable, having been received from the FSA, and (ii) satisfying the FSA that after such repayment we will be able to meet our capital resource requirements and have sufficient financial resources to meet our applicable capital adequacy requirements, with respect to any series of subordinated debt securities, we will have the option to redeem the subordinated debt securities, as a whole but not in part, upon not less than 30 nor more than 60 days notice, to each holder of such subordinated debt securities, at any time, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount, together with accrued but unpaid interest (including any deferred interest), if any, in respect of such series of subordinated debt securities to the date fixed for redemption (or, in the case of discount securities, the accreted face amount thereof, together with accrued interest, if any), if, immediately prior to the giving of the notice referred to above the subordinated debt securities would no longer be eligible to qualify in whole or in part (save where such non-qualification is only as a result of any applicable limitation on the amount of such capital) for inclusion in the Lower Tier 2 Capital, as defined by the FSA from time to time, of the Company on a consolidated basis.

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In the case of redemption due to tax changes, we shall be required, before we give a notice of redemption, to deliver to the trustee (i) an officer's certificate evidencing compliance with such provisions and stating that we are entitled to redeem the relevant securities or (ii) a written legal opinion of independent United Kingdom counsel of recognized standing selected by us, in a form satisfactory to the trustee confirming that the relevant change in the application or interpretation of such laws or regulations has occurred and that we are entitled to exercise our right of redemption.

The relevant prospectus supplement will specify whether or not we may redeem the debt securities of any series, in whole or in part, at our option, in any other circumstances and, if so, the prices and any premium at which and the dates on which we may do so. Any notice of redemption of debt securities of any series will state, among other items:

the redemption date;

the amount of debt securities to be redeemed if less than all of the series is to be redeemed;

the redemption price;

that the redemption price will become due and payable on the redemption date and that payments will cease to accrue on such date;

the place or places at which each holder may obtain payment of the redemption price; and

the CUSIP, Common Code and/or ISIN number or numbers, if any, with respect to the debt securities being redeemed.

In the case of a partial redemption, the trustee shall select the debt securities to be redeemed in any manner which it deems fair and appropriate, and consistent with the rules and procedures of the applicable clearing systems.

We or any of our subsidiaries may at any time and from time to time purchase debt securities of any series in the open market or by tender (available to each holder of debt securities of the relevant series) or by private agreement, if applicable law permits. Any debt securities of any series that we purchase beneficially for our own account, other than in connection with dealing in securities, will be treated as cancelled and will no longer be issued and outstanding.

Under existing FSA requirements, we may not make any redemption or repurchase of any debt securities beneficially for our own account, other than a repurchase in connection with dealing in securities, unless we give prior notice to the FSA and the FSA has not objected. The FSA (or any successor thereto) may impose conditions on any redemption or repurchase.

### **Modification and Waiver**

We and the trustee may make certain modifications and amendments to the applicable indenture with respect to any series of debt securities without the consent of the holders of the debt securities. We may make other modifications and amendments with the consent of the holder or holders of not less than a majority or in the case of subordinated debt securities, two-thirds, in aggregate outstanding principal amount of the debt securities of the series outstanding under the indenture that are affected by the modification or amendment, voting as one class. However, we may not make any modification or amendment without the consent of the holder of each debt security affected that would:

change the stated maturity of the principal amount of any debt security;

reduce the principal amount of, the interest rates, or any premium payable upon the redemption of, or the payments with respect to, any debt security;

change our obligation (or any successor's) to pay Additional Amounts;

change the currency of payment;

impair the right to institute suit for the enforcement of any payment due and payable;

reduce the percentage in aggregate principal amount of outstanding debt securities of the series necessary to modify or amend the indenture or to waive compliance with certain provisions of the indenture and any Senior Debt Security Event of Default, Subordinated Debt Security Event of Default or Subordinated Debt Security Default (as such terms are defined below);

modify the subordination provisions or the terms of our obligations in respect of the due and punctual payment of the amounts due and payable on the debt securities in a manner adverse to the holders; or

modify the above requirements.

In addition, material variations in the terms and conditions of debt securities of any series, including modifications relating to subordination, redemption, Senior Debt Security Events of Default, Subordinated Debt Security Events of Default or Subordinated Debt Security Defaults (as those terms are defined under the heading *Event of Default and Default; Limitations of Remedies* below), may require the non-objection from, or consent of, the FSA.

### **Events of Default and Defaults; Limitation of Remedies**

#### ***Senior Debt Security Event of Default***

Unless the relevant prospectus supplement provides otherwise, a *Senior Debt Security Event of Default* with respect to any series of senior debt securities shall result if:

we do not pay any principal or interest on any senior debt securities of that series within 14 days from the due date for payment and the principal or interest has not been duly paid within 14 days following written notice from the trustee or from holders of 25% in outstanding principal amount of the senior debt securities of that series to us requiring the payment to be made. It shall not, however, be a Senior Debt Security Event of Default if during the 14 days after the notice, we deliver a written opinion of legal advisors, who may be an employee of, or legal advisors for, the Company or other legal advisors acceptable to the trustee (*Opinion of Counsel*) to the trustee concluding that such sums were not paid in order to comply with a law, regulation or order of any court of competent jurisdiction. It shall not be a Senior Debt Security Event of Default if we deliver such an *Opinion of Counsel* to the trustee and the trustee shall be entitled to rely on such opinion. The foregoing shall not otherwise be deemed to impair the right of any holder to receive payment of the principal of and interest on any such security or to institute suit for the enforcement of any such payment; or

we breach any covenant or warranty of the senior debt indenture (other than as stated above with respect to payments when due) and that breach has not been remedied within 60 days of receipt of a written notice from the trustee certifying that in its opinion the breach is materially prejudicial to the interests of the holders of the senior debt securities of that series and requiring the breach to be remedied or from holders of at least 25% in outstanding principal amount of the senior debt securities of that series requiring the breach to be remedied; or

either a court of competent jurisdiction issues an order which is not successfully appealed within 30 days, or an effective shareholders resolution is validly adopted, for our winding-up (other than under or in connection with a scheme of reconstruction, merger or amalgamation not involving bankruptcy or insolvency).

If a Senior Debt Security Event of Default occurs and is continuing, the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in outstanding principal amount of the senior debt securities of that series may at their discretion declare the senior debt securities of that series to be due and repayable immediately (and the senior debt securities of that series shall thereby become due and repayable) at their outstanding principal amount (or at such other repayment amount as may be specified in or determined in accordance with the relevant prospectus supplement) together with accrued interest, if any, as provided in the prospectus supplement. The trustee may at its discretion and without further notice institute such proceedings as it may think suitable, against us to enforce payment. Subject to the indenture provisions for the indemnification of the trustee, the holder(s) of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding senior debt securities of any series shall have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding in the name of and on the behalf of the trustee for any remedy available to the trustee or exercising any trust or power conferred on the trustee with respect to the series. However, this direction must not be in conflict with any rule of law or the senior debt indenture, and must not be unjustly prejudicial to the holder(s) of any senior debt securities of that series not taking part in the direction, and not expose the trustee to undue risk. The trustee may also take any other action, consistent with the direction, that it deems proper.

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Notwithstanding any contrary provisions, nothing shall impair the right of a holder, absent the holder's consent, to sue for any payments due but unpaid with respect to the senior debt securities.

By accepting a senior debt security, each holder will be deemed to have waived any right of set-off, counterclaim or combination of accounts with respect to the senior debt securities or the applicable indenture that they might otherwise have against us, whether before or during our winding up.

### ***Subordinated Debt Security Events of Default***

Unless the relevant prospectus supplement provides otherwise, a Subordinated Debt Security Event of Default with respect to any series of subordinated debt security shall result if:

a court of competent jurisdiction makes an order which is not successfully appealed within 30 days; or

an effective shareholders' resolution is validly adopted for our winding up, other than under or in connection with a scheme of amalgamation or reconstruction not involving a bankruptcy or insolvency.

If a Subordinated Debt Security Event of Default occurs and is continuing, the trustee or the holder or holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding subordinated debt securities of each series may declare the principal amount of, and any accrued but unpaid payments (or, in the case of discount securities, the accreted face amount, together with any accrued interest), including any deferred interest, on the subordinated debt securities of the series to be due and payable immediately in accordance with the terms of the indenture. However, after this declaration but before the trustee obtains a judgment or decree for payment of money due, the holder or holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding subordinated debt securities of the series may rescind the declaration of acceleration and its consequences, but only if all Subordinated Debt Security Events of Default have been remedied and all payments due, other than those due as a result of acceleration, have been made.

### ***Subordinated Debt Security Defaults***

In addition to Subordinated Debt Security Events of Default, the Indenture also separately provides for Subordinated Debt Security Defaults. Unless the relevant prospectus supplement provides otherwise, it shall be a Subordinated Debt Security Default with respect to any series of subordinated debt securities if:

any installment of interest upon any subordinated debt security of that series is not paid on or before its Deferred Payment Date or such other date specified for its payment in the Indenture and such failure continues for 14 days; or

all or any part of the principal of any subordinated debt security of that series is not paid on its Deferred Payment Date, or when it otherwise becomes due and payable, whether upon redemption or otherwise, and such failure continues for seven days.

If a Subordinated Debt Security Default occurs and is continuing, the trustee may commence a proceeding in Scotland (but not elsewhere) for our winding up. However, failure to make any payment on a series of subordinated debt securities shall not be a Subordinated Debt Security Default if it is withheld or refused in order to comply with any applicable fiscal or other law or regulation or order of any court of competent jurisdiction and we deliver an Opinion of Counsel to the trustee with that conclusion, at any time before the expiry of the applicable 14 day or seven day period by independent legal advisers.

Notwithstanding any contrary provisions, nothing shall impair the right of a holder, absent the holder's consent, to sue for any payments due but unpaid with respect to the subordinated debt securities.

By accepting a subordinated debt security, each holder and the trustee will be deemed to have waived any right of set-off, counterclaim or combination of accounts with respect to the subordinated debt securities or the applicable indenture (or between our obligations under or in respect of any subordinated debt security and any liability owed by a holder or the trustee to us) that they might otherwise have against us, whether before or during our winding up.



***Events of Default and Defaults -- General***

The holder or holders of not less than a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series may waive any past Senior Debt Security Event of Default, Subordinated Debt Security Event of Default or Subordinated Debt Security Default with respect to the series, except a Senior Debt Security Event of Default, Subordinated Debt Security Event of Default or Subordinated Debt Security Default in respect of the payment of interest, if any, or principal of (or premium, if any) or payments on any debt security or a covenant or provision of the applicable indenture which cannot be modified or amended without the consent of each holder of debt securities of such series.

Subject to certain exceptions, such as in the case of a payment default, the trustee may, without the consent of the holders, waive or authorize a Senior Debt Security Event of Default if, in the opinion of the trustee, the Senior Debt Security Event of Default would not be materially prejudicial to the interests of the holders.

Subject to the provisions of the applicable indenture relating to the duties of the trustee, if a Senior Debt Security Event of Default, Subordinated Debt Security Event of Default or Subordinated Debt Security Default occurs and is continuing with respect to the debt securities of any series, the trustee will be under no obligation to any holder or holders of the debt securities of the series, unless they have offered reasonable indemnity to the trustee. Subject to the indenture provisions for the indemnification of the trustee, the holder or holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series shall have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee or exercising any trust or power conferred on the trustee with respect to the series, if the direction is not in conflict with any rule of law or with the applicable indenture and does not expose the Trustee to undue risk and the action would not be unjustly prejudicial to the holder or holders of any debt securities of any series not taking part in that direction. The trustee may take any other action that it deems proper which is not inconsistent with that direction.

The indentures provide that the trustee will, within 90 days after the occurrence of a Senior Debt Security Event of Default, Subordinated Debt Security Event of Default or Subordinated Debt Security Default with respect to the debt securities of any series, give to each holder of the debt securities of the affected series notice of the Senior Debt Security Event of Default, Subordinated Debt Security Event of Default or Subordinated Debt Security Default known to it, unless the Senior Debt Security Event of Default, Subordinated Debt Security Event of Default or Subordinated Debt Security Default has been cured or waived. However, the trustee shall be protected in withholding notice if it determines in good faith that withholding notice is in the interest of the holders.

We are required to furnish to the trustee a statement as to our compliance with all conditions and covenants under the indenture (i) annually, and (ii) within five Business Days of a written request from the trustee.

**Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets; Assumption**

We may, without the consent of the holders of any of the debt securities, consolidate with, merge into or transfer or lease our assets substantially as an entirety to any person, provided that any successor corporation formed by any consolidation or amalgamation, or any transferee or lessee of our assets, is a company organized under the laws of any part of the United Kingdom that assumes, by a supplemental indenture, our obligations on the debt securities and under the applicable indenture, immediately after giving effect to such transaction, no event of default shall have occurred and be continuing, and we procure the delivery of a customary officer's certificate and legal opinion providing that the conditions precedent to the transaction have been complied with.

Subject to applicable law and regulation, any of our wholly-owned subsidiaries may assume our obligations under the debt securities of any series without the consent of any holder, provided that we unconditionally guarantee, which, in the case of subordinated securities shall be on a subordinated basis in substantially the manner described under the heading *Subordination* above, the obligations of the subsidiary under the debt securities of that series. If we do, all of our direct obligations under the debt securities of the series and the applicable indenture shall immediately be discharged. Any Additional Amounts under the debt securities of the series will be payable in respect of taxes imposed by the jurisdiction in which the assuming subsidiary is incorporated, subject to exceptions equivalent to those that apply to any obligation to pay Additional Amounts, substituting the jurisdiction in which the assuming subsidiary is incorporated for *UK taxing jurisdiction*. However, if we make payment under the guarantee, we shall be required to pay Additional Amounts related to taxes, subject to the exceptions described under the heading *Additional Amounts* above, imposed by any U.K. taxing jurisdiction by reason of the guarantee payment. The subsidiary that assumes our obligations will also be entitled to redeem the debt securities of the relevant series in the circumstances described in *Redemption* above with respect to any change or amendment to, or change in the application or official interpretation of, the laws or regulations (including any treaty) of the assuming subsidiary's jurisdiction of incorporation which occurs after the date of the assumption.

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*An assumption of our obligations under the debt securities of any series might be deemed for U.S. federal income tax purposes to be an exchange of those debt securities for new debt securities by each beneficial owner, resulting in a recognition of taxable gain or loss for those purposes and possibly certain other adverse tax consequences. You should consult your tax advisor regarding the U.S. federal, state and local income tax consequences of an assumption.*

### **Governing Law**

The debt securities and the indentures will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York and the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 ( "TIA" ), one of the US Securities laws, except that, as the indentures specify, the subordination provisions of each series of debt securities and the indentures will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Scotland.

### **Notices**

All notices to holders of registered debt securities shall be validly given if in writing and mailed, first-class postage prepaid, to them at their respective addresses in the register maintained by the trustee.

### **The Trustee**

The Bank of New York Mellon, acting through its London office, One Canada Square, London E14 5AL, is the trustee under the indentures. The trustee shall have and be subject to all the duties and responsibilities specified with respect to an indenture trustee under the TIA. Subject to the provisions of the TIA, the trustee is under no obligation to exercise any of the powers vested in it by the indentures at the request of any holder of notes, unless offered indemnity and/or security deemed satisfactory to the trustee in its sole discretion, by the holder against the costs, expense and liabilities which might be incurred thereby. We and certain of our subsidiaries maintain deposit accounts and conduct other banking transactions with The Bank of New York Mellon in the ordinary course of our business. The Bank of New York Mellon is also the book-entry depository with respect to certain of our debt securities and the depository with respect to the ADSs representing certain of our preference shares.

### **Consent to Service of Process**

Under the indentures, we irrevocably designate our Chief U.S. Counsel, Lloyds TSB Bank plc (or any successor thereto), currently of 1095 Avenue of the Americas, 34<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10036, as our authorized agent for service of process in any legal action or proceeding arising out of or relating to the indentures or any debt securities brought in any federal or state court in The City of New York, New York and we irrevocably submit to the jurisdiction of those courts.

## **DESCRIPTION OF PREFERENCE SHARES**

*The following is a summary of the general terms of the preference shares of any class we may issue under this registration statement. Each time we issue preference shares we will prepare a prospectus supplement, which you should read carefully. The prospectus supplement relating to a class of preference shares will summarize the terms of the preference shares of the particular class. Those terms will be set out in the resolutions establishing the class that our board of directors (the "board of directors" ) adopts, and may be different from those summarized below. If so, the applicable prospectus supplement will state that, and the description of the preference shares of that class contained in the prospectus supplement will apply.*

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*This summary does not purport to be complete and is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by reference to, our Articles of Association and the resolutions of the board of directors. You should read our Articles of Association, which we have filed with the SEC as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. You should also read the summary of the general terms of the deposit agreement under which American Depositary Shares that may represent preference shares may be issued, under the heading Description of American Depositary Shares .*

### General

Under our Articles of Association, the board of directors is empowered to provide for the issuance of U.S. dollar-denominated preference shares, in one or more class.

The resolutions providing for their issue, adopted by the board of directors, will set forth the dividend rights, liquidation value per share, redemption provisions, voting rights, other rights, preferences, privileges, limitations and restrictions of the preference shares.

The preference shares of any class will be U.S. dollar-denominated in terms of nominal value, dividend rights and liquidation value per share. They will, when issued, be fully paid and non-assessable and, as such, will not be subject to a call for any additional payment. For each preference share issued, an amount equal to its nominal value will be credited to our issued share capital account and an amount equal to the difference between its issue price and its nominal value will be credited to our share premium account. Unless the applicable prospectus supplement specifies otherwise, the preference shares will have a nominal value of \$0.25 per share. The preference shares of a class deposited under the deposit agreement referred to in the section Description of American Depositary Shares will be represented by ADSs of a corresponding class, which may be evidenced by ADRs of the class. The preference shares of these classes may only be withdrawn from deposit in registered form. See Description of American Depositary Shares .

The board of directors may only provide for the issuance of preference shares of any class if a resolution of our shareholders has authorized the allotment, or granted general authority to the board of directors to allot shares.

The preference shares of any class will have the dividend rights, rights upon liquidation, redemption provisions and voting rights described below, unless the applicable prospectus supplement provides otherwise. You should read the prospectus supplement for the specific terms of any class, including:

the number of shares offered, the number of shares offered in the form of ADSs (as defined under Description of American Depositary Shares ) and the number of preference shares represented by each ADS;

the public offering price of the class;

the liquidation value per share of that class;

the dividend rate, or the method of calculating it;

the place where we will pay dividends;

the dates on which dividends will be payable;

voting rights of that class of preference shares, if any;

restrictions applicable to the sale and delivery of the preference shares;

whether and under what circumstances we will pay additional amounts on the preference shares in the event of certain developments with respect to tax laws;

any redemption, conversion or exchange provisions;

whether the shares will be issued as units with shares of a related class;

any listing on a securities exchange; and

any other rights, preferences, privileges, limitations and restrictions relating to the class.

The applicable prospectus supplement will also describe material U.S. and U.K. tax considerations that apply to any particular class of preference shares.

Title to preference shares of a class in registered form will pass by transfer and registration on the register that the registrar shall keep at its office in the United Kingdom. For more information on the registration, see Registrar and Paying Agent. The registrar will not charge for the registration of transfer, but the person requesting it will be liable for any taxes, stamp duties or other governmental charges. Preference shares of a class may also be issued as share warrants to bearer.

Unless the applicable prospectus supplement specifies otherwise, the preference shares of each class will rank equally as to participation in our assets on liquidation with the preference shares of each other class.

### **Dividend Rights**

The holders of the preference shares will be entitled to receive cash dividends on the dates and at the rates as described in the applicable prospectus supplement out of our distributable profits only when, as and if and to the extent the dividends are declared by the board of directors or an authorized committee of the board of directors (the committee). The U.K. Companies Act 2006 defines distributable profits as, in general terms, and subject to adjustment, accumulated realized profits less accumulated realized losses. Except as provided in this prospectus and in the applicable prospectus supplement, holders of preference shares will have no right to participate in our profits.

Dividends on the preference shares of any class will be non-cumulative. The board of directors or the committee may resolve, for any reason and in its absolute discretion (save as may be provided in the applicable prospectus supplement), not to declare or pay in full or in part any dividends on the preference shares in respect of one or more dividend periods. If the board of directors or the committee does not declare or pay a dividend or any part of a dividend when due on a dividend payment date in respect of the preference shares of a class, then the holders of preference shares of the applicable class will have no claim in respect of the non-payment. We will have no obligation to pay the dividend for that dividend period or to pay any interest on the dividend, whether or not dividends on the preference shares of that class or any other class of our preference shares are declared for any subsequent dividend period.

Except as provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, unless full dividends on all outstanding preference shares of a class have been paid for the most recently completed dividend period, no dividends will be declared or paid or set apart for payment, or other distribution made, upon our ordinary shares or other shares ranking below the preference shares of the class for a period specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. In addition, if full dividends on all outstanding preference shares of a class have been paid as a result only of the exercise of the discretion of the board of directors or the committee, as provided above, we will not redeem, cancel, reduce, repurchase or otherwise acquire for consideration any of our ordinary shares or other shares ranking below the preference shares of the class for a period specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. For preference shares of any class bearing dividends at a fixed rate, we will compute the amount of dividends payable on the preference shares of any class for each dividend period based upon the liquidation value per share of the preference shares of the class by annualizing the applicable dividend rate and dividing by the number of dividend periods in a year. However, we will compute the amount of such dividends payable for any dividend period shorter than a full dividend period on the basis of a 360-day year divided into twelve months of 30 days each and, in the case of an incomplete month, on the basis of the actual number of days elapsed.

In the case of preference shares in registered form, we will pay the dividends declared on the preference shares of a class to the record holders as they appear on the register on the record dates. Payments in relation to any amount payable in respect of a class of preference shares in bearer form held by the ADR depository will be made to, or to the order of, such ADR depository or its nominee, as the holder of the relevant global preference shares.

## Rights Upon Liquidation

If there is a return of capital or distribution of assets whether or not on a winding up (but other than a redemption or purchase by us of any of our share capital permitted by our Articles of Association and under applicable law), the holders of the outstanding preference shares of a class will rank in the application of our assets available to shareholders: (1) equally in all respects with holders of the most senior class of preference shares and any other class of our shares in issue or which may be issued by us which are expressed to rank equally with the preference shares, and (2) in priority to the holders of any other share capital of ours (including junior share capital).

Subject to such ranking, in such event holders of the preference shares of a class will be entitled to receive liquidating distributions as set forth below.

Liquidating distributions will unless the applicable prospectus supplement provides otherwise:

come from our surplus assets remaining after payment of our prior ranking liabilities; and

be a sum equal to the aggregate of (i) the liquidation value per preference share of a class; (ii) the amount of any dividend which is due for payment on the preference shares of a class on or after the date of commencement of the winding up or other return of capital but which is payable in respect of a period ending on or before such date; and (iii) the proportion of any dividend (whether or not declared or earned) that would otherwise be payable and is not otherwise paid in respect of any period that begins before, but ends after, the date of commencement of the winding-up or other return of capital and which is attributable to the part of the period that ends on such date.

In respect of any such dividend, the amount of dividend accruing in respect of any such period will be calculated on the same basis as is applicable to calculation of a dividend accruing on the then-relevant basis.

If, upon any return of capital or distribution of assets, the amounts available for payment are insufficient to cover the amounts payable in full on the preference shares of a class and any parity securities, holders of the preference shares of a class and holders of such parity securities will share pro rata in the distribution of our surplus assets (if any) in proportion to the full amounts to which they are respectively entitled.

After payment of the full amount of the liquidating distribution to which they are entitled, the holders of the preference shares of a class will have no claim on any of our remaining assets and will not be entitled to any further participation in the return of capital. If there is a sale of all or substantially all of our assets, the distribution to our shareholders of all or substantially all of the consideration for the sale, unless the consideration, apart from assumption of liabilities, or the net proceeds consists entirely of cash, will not be deemed a return of capital in respect of our liquidation, dissolution or winding-up.

## Redemption

Subject to our Articles of Association (including the restrictions described above under **Dividend Rights** ), to the provisions of the U.K. Companies Act 2006 and all other laws and regulations applying to us and any applicable regulatory consents, unless the applicable prospectus supplement specifies otherwise, we may redeem the preference shares of each class, at our option, in whole or in part, at any time and from time to time on the dates, in accordance with the notice periods and at the redemption prices and on all other terms and conditions as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

If fewer than all of the outstanding preference shares of a class are to be redeemed, they will be drawn in accordance with prevailing standard operating procedures of the clearing system in which they are primarily settled. If the preference shares are in definitive form, we will select by lot, in the presence of our independent auditors, which particular preference shares will be redeemed.

If we redeem preference shares of a class, we will mail a redemption notice to each record holder of preference shares to be redeemed between 30 and 60 days (or any other period specified in the applicable prospectus supplement) before the redemption date. Each redemption notice will specify:

the redemption date;

the particular preference shares of the class to be redeemed;

the redemption price, specifying the included amount of accrued and unpaid dividends;

that any dividends will cease to accrue upon the redemption of the preference shares; and

the place or places where holders may surrender documents of title and obtain payment of the redemption price.

No defect in the redemption notice or in the giving of notice will affect the validity of the redemption proceedings.

If any date on which a redemption payment on the preference shares is to be made is not a business day, then payment of the redemption price payable on that date will be made on the next business day, without any interest or other payment in respect of the delay. If payment of the redemption price is improperly withheld or refused, dividends on the preference shares will continue to accrue at the then applicable rate, from the redemption date to the date of payment of the redemption price.

Subject to our Articles of Association and applicable law, including U.S. securities laws, we may purchase outstanding preference shares of any class by tender, in the open market or by private agreement, in each case upon the terms and conditions that the board of directors or the committee shall determine. We will not be required to select the preference shares to be purchased rateably or in any particular manner as between the shares of that class or as between them and the holders of shares of any other class. Any such preference shares purchased by or on behalf of us may be held, reissued, resold or, at our option, cancelled.

Under existing FSA requirements, we may not redeem or purchase any preference shares unless we give prior notice of any such redemption or purchase to the FSA and the FSA has not objected. The FSA may impose conditions on any redemption or repurchase.

The holders of the preference shares may not redeem the preference shares of any class, in whole or in part, at any time.

### **Substitution**

Subject to our Articles of Association, to the U.K. Companies Act 2006 and all other laws and regulations applicable to us and any applicable regulatory consents, we may substitute the preference shares in whole, but not in part, with qualifying non-innovative tier 1 securities, as defined and described in the applicable prospectus supplement, on any date specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, without any requirement for consent or approval of the holders of the preference shares.

### **Voting Rights**

The holders of the preference shares of any class will not be entitled to receive notice of, attend or vote at any general meeting of our shareholders except as provided below or in the applicable prospectus supplement.

If any resolution is proposed for adoption by our shareholders varying or abrogating any of the rights attaching to the preference shares of a particular class or proposing that we be wound up, liquidated or dissolved, the holders of the outstanding preference shares will be entitled to receive notice of and to attend the general meeting of shareholders at which the resolution is to be proposed and will be entitled to speak and vote on that resolution, but not on any other resolution.

In addition, if, before any general meeting of shareholders, we have failed to pay in full the dividend payable on the preference shares of a particular class on the dividend payment date immediately preceding the date of such general meeting, the holders of the preference shares of that class shall be entitled to receive notice of, attend, speak and vote at that meeting on all matters. In these circumstances only, the rights to vote of the holders of preference shares of that class shall continue until we have resumed the payment in full of dividends on the preference shares of that class.

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Whenever holders of preference shares are entitled to vote at a general meeting of shareholders, on a show of hands each holder present in person shall have one vote and on a poll each holder present in person or by proxy shall have the number of votes for each preference share of the relevant class that the board of directors determines, as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

In addition, the holders of any class of preference shares may have the right to vote separately as a class in certain circumstances, as described below under the heading –Variation of Rights .

### Variation of Rights

If applicable law permits, the rights, preferences and privileges attached to any class of preference shares may be varied or abrogated only with the written consent of the holders of at least 75% in nominal value of the outstanding preference shares of that class or with the sanction of an extraordinary resolution passed at a separate general meeting of the holders of the outstanding preference shares of that class. An extraordinary resolution will be adopted if passed by a majority of at least 75% of those holders voting in person or by proxy at the meeting. The quorum required for any such class meeting will be two persons holding or representing by proxy at least one-third in nominal amount of the outstanding preference shares of the particular class affected, except that if at any adjourned meeting where this quorum requirement is not met, any holder present in person or by proxy will constitute a quorum.

The written consent of the holders of 75% in nominal value of the outstanding preference shares of a particular class or the sanction of an extraordinary resolution passed at a separate class meeting of holders of the outstanding preference shares of the class will be required if our directors propose to authorize, create or increase the amount of any shares of any class or any security convertible into shares of any class ranking as regards rights to participate in our profits or assets, in priority to the class of preference shares.

If we have paid the most recent dividend payable on the preference shares of a particular class in full, the rights attached to that class will not be deemed to be varied by the creation or issue of any further class of non-cumulative preference shares or of any other further shares ranking equally as regards participation in our profits or assets with or junior to the preference shares of that class, whether carrying identical rights or different rights in any respect, including as to dividend, premium on a return of capital, redemption or conversion or denominated in dollars or any other currency.

### Notices of Meetings

A notice of any meeting at which holders of preference shares of a particular class are entitled to vote will be mailed to each record holder of preference shares of that class. Each notice will state:

the date of the meeting;

a description of any resolution to be proposed for adoption at the meeting on which those holders are entitled to vote; and

instructions for the delivery of proxies.

A holder of preference shares of any class in registered form who is not registered with an address in the United Kingdom and who has not supplied an address within the United Kingdom to us for the purpose of notices is not entitled to receive notices of meetings from us. For a description of notices that we will give to the ADR depository and that the ADR depository will give to ADR holders, you should read Description of American Depositary Shares Reports and Notices and Where You Can Find More Information .

## Registrar and Paying Agent

Our company secretarial department will maintain the register and we will act as paying agent for the preference shares of each class.

We reserve the right at any time to appoint an additional or successor registrar or paying agent. Notice of any change of registrar or paying agent will be given to holders of the preference shares.

## DESCRIPTION OF AMERICAN DEPOSITARY SHARES

*The following is a summary of the general terms and provisions of the deposit agreement under which the Depositary will deliver the American Depositary Shares ( ADSs ). The deposit agreement is among us, The Bank of New York Mellon, as Depositary, and all registered holders and beneficial owners from time to time of ADSs issued under it. This summary does not purport to be complete. You should read the deposit agreement, which we have filed with the SEC as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. You may also read the deposit agreement at the corporate trust offices of The Bank of New York Mellon in The City of New York and the offices of the Custodian in London. The principal executive office of the Depositary is currently located at One Wall Street, New York, NY 10286 and its corporate trust office is currently located at 101 Barclay Street, New York, NY 10286. The Depositary was incorporated pursuant to a special act of the New York State legislature passed on April 19, 1871. The Depositary now operates as a banking corporation under the New York State Banking Law.*

### American Depositary Shares

The Bank of New York Mellon, as Depositary, will register and deliver ADSs pursuant to the deposit agreement. Each ADS will represent one preference share, or evidence of the right to receive one preference share, deposited with the Custodian and registered in the name of the Depositary or its nominee (such preference shares, together with any additional preference shares at any time deposited or deemed deposited under the deposit agreement and any other securities, cash or other property received by the Depositary or the Custodian in respect of such preference shares, the Deposited Securities ).

ADSs can be held either (A) directly (i) by having an American Depositary Receipt ( ADR ), which is a certificate evidencing a specific number of ADSs, registered in the holder s name, or (ii) by having ADSs registered in the owner s name in the Direct Registration System ( DRS ), or (B) indirectly by holding a security entitlement in ADSs through a broker or other financial institution. A direct holder of an ADS is an ADS registered holder. This description assumes that each holder is an ADS registered holder. Indirect holders of ADSs must rely on the procedures of a broker or other financial institution to assert the rights of ADS registered holders described in this section, and such holders should consult with their broker or financial institution to find out what those procedures are.

The DRS is a system administered by DTC pursuant to which the depositary may register the ownership of uncertificated ADSs, which ownership shall be evidenced by periodic statements sent by the depositary to the registered holders of uncertificated ADSs. See Direct Registration System below.

We will not treat holders of ADSs as our shareholders and holders of ADSs will not have shareholder rights. Scottish law governs shareholder rights. The Depositary will be the holder of the preference shares represented by each investor s ADSs. As a registered holder of ADSs, each investor will have ADS registered holder rights as set forth in the deposit agreement. The deposit agreement also sets forth the rights and obligations of us and of the Depositary. New York law governs the deposit agreement and the ADSs.

In this section, the term deliver , or its noun form, when used with respect to ADSs, shall mean (A) book-entry transfer of ADSs to an account at The Depositary Trust Company, or its successor, designated by the person entitled to such delivery, (B) registration of ADSs not evidenced by an ADR on the books of the Depositary in the name requested by the person entitled to such delivery and mailing to that person of a statement confirming that registration or (C) if requested by the person entitled to such delivery, delivery at the corporate trust office of the Depositary to the person entitled to such delivery of one or more ADRs evidencing ADSs registered in the name requested by that person. The term surrender , when used with respect to ADSs, shall mean (A) one or more book-entry transfers of ADSs to the DTC account of the Depositary, (B) delivery to the Depositary at its corporate trust office of an instruction to surrender ADSs not evidenced by an ADR or (C) surrender to the Depositary at its corporate trust office of one or more ADRs evidencing ADSs.



## Deposit and Withdrawal

The Depositary has agreed, subject to the terms and conditions of the deposit agreement, that upon delivery to the Custodian of preference shares (or evidence of rights to receive preference shares) in a form satisfactory to the Custodian, the Depositary will, upon payment of the fees, charges and taxes provided in the deposit agreement, deliver to, or upon the written order of, the person or persons named in the notice of the Custodian delivered to the Depositary or requested by the person depositing such shares with the Depositary, the number of ADSs issuable in respect of such deposit.

Upon surrender at the corporate trust office of the Depositary of ADSs for the purpose of withdrawal of the Deposited Securities represented thereby, and upon payment of the fees, governmental charges and taxes provided in the deposit agreement, and subject to the terms and conditions of the deposit agreement, our Articles of Association and the Deposited Securities, the holder of such ADSs will be entitled to delivery, to him or upon his order, as permitted by applicable law, of the amount of Deposited Securities at the time represented by such ADSs. The forwarding of share certificates, other securities, property, cash and other documents of title for such delivery will be at the risk and expense of the holder.

An ADR holder may surrender its ADR to the Depositary for the purpose of exchanging its ADR for uncertificated ADSs. The Depositary will cancel that ADR and will send the ADS registered holder a statement confirming that the ADS registered holder is the registered holder of uncertificated ADSs. Alternatively, upon receipt of the Depositary of a proper instruction from a registered holder of uncertificated ADSs requesting the exchange of uncertificated ADSs for certificated ADSs, the Depositary will execute and deliver to the ADS registered holder an ADR evidencing those ADSs.

Preference shares that the Depositary believes have been withdrawn from a restricted depositary receipt facility established or maintained by a depositary bank (including any such other facility maintained by the Depositary) may be accepted for deposit only if those preference shares are not restricted securities within the meaning of Rule 144(a)(3) under the Securities Act, and the Depositary may, as a condition of accepting those preference shares for deposit, require the person depositing those preference shares to provide the Depositary with a certificate to the foregoing effect.

## Dividends and Other Distributions

The Depositary will distribute all cash dividends or other cash distributions that it receives in respect of deposited preference shares to the holders of the ADSs, after payment of any charges and fees provided for in the deposit agreement in proportion to their holdings of ADSs. The cash amount distributed will be reduced by any amounts that the Depositary must withhold on account of taxes.

If we make a non-cash distribution in respect of any deposited preference shares, the Depositary will distribute the property it receives to holders of the ADSs, after deduction or upon payment of any taxes, charges and fees provided for in the deposit agreement, in proportion to their holdings of ADSs. If a distribution that we make in respect of deposited preference shares consists of a dividend in, or free distribution of, preference shares, the Depositary may, and will, if we request, distribute to holders of the ADSs, in proportion to their holdings of ADSs, additional ADSs representing the amount of preference shares received as such dividend or free distribution. If the Depositary does not distribute additional ADSs, each ADS will from then forward also represent its proportional share of the additional preference shares distributed in respect of the deposited preference shares before the dividend or free distribution.

If the Depositary determines that any distribution of property, other than cash or preference shares, cannot be made proportionately among ADS holders or if for any other reason, including any requirement that we or the Depositary withhold an amount on account of taxes or other governmental charges, the Depositary deems that such a distribution is not feasible, the Depositary may dispose of all or part of the property in any manner, including by public or private sale, that it deems equitable and practicable. The Depositary will then distribute the net proceeds of any such sale (net of any fees and expenses of the Depositary provided for in the deposit agreement) to ADS holders as in the case of a distribution received in cash.

## Redemption

If the Depositary receives notice of redemption of Deposited Securities, it will surrender those Deposited Securities on the redemption date and call for surrender of a corresponding number of ADSs. Upon surrenders of the ADSs called for surrender, the Depositary will deliver the proceeds of the redeemed Deposited Securities as described above under **Deposit and Withdrawal**.

## Record Date

Whenever any cash dividend or other cash distribution becomes payable or any distribution other than cash shall be made, or whenever rights shall be issued with respect to the deposited preference shares, or whenever the Depositary causes a change in the number of preference shares represented by each ADS or receives notice of any meeting of holders of preference shares, the Depositary will fix a record date, which shall be as close as possible to the corresponding record date set by us, for the determination of the ADS holders who are entitled to receive the dividend distribution, distribution of rights or the net proceeds of the sale of preference shares as the case may be, or to give instructions for the exercise of voting rights at the meeting, subject to the provisions of the deposit agreement.

## Voting of the Underlying Deposited Securities

When the Depositary receives notice of any meeting or solicitation of consents or proxies of holders of preference shares, it will, if we request, as soon as practicable thereafter, mail to the record holders of ADSs a notice including:

the information contained in the notice of meeting;

a statement that the record holders of ADSs at the close of business on a specified record date will be entitled, subject to any applicable provision of Scottish law and the Articles of Association or any similar document of ours, to instruct the Depositary as to the exercise of any voting rights pertaining to the preference shares represented by their ADSs; and

a brief explanation of how they may give instructions, including an express indication that they may be deemed to have instructed the Depositary to give a discretionary proxy to designated member or members of our board of directors if no such instruction is received.

The Depositary has agreed that it will endeavor, in so far as practical, to vote or cause to be voted the preference shares in accordance with any written non-discretionary instructions of record holders of ADRs that it receives on or before the date set by the Depositary for that purpose. However, holders of ADRs may not receive notice or otherwise learn of a meeting of holders of preference shares in time to instruct the Depositary prior to a cut off date the Depositary will set. The Depositary will not vote the preference shares except in accordance with such instructions or deemed instructions.

If the Depositary does not receive instructions from an ADS holder on or before the date the Depositary establishes for this purpose, the Depositary may deem such holder to have directed the Depositary to give a discretionary proxy to a designated member or members of our board of directors. However, the Depositary will not give a discretionary proxy to a designated member or the Directors with respect to any matter as to which we inform the Depositary that:

we do not wish the proxy to be given;

substantial opposition exists; or

the rights of holders of the preference shares may be materially affected.

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Holders of ADSs will not be entitled to vote preference shares directly.

### Inspection of Transfer Books

The Depositary will, at its office in New York City, keep books for the registration and transfer of ADSs. These books will be open for inspection by ADS holders at all reasonable times. However, this inspection may not be for the purpose of communicating with ADS holders in the interest of a business or object other than our business or a matter related to the deposit agreement or the ADSs.

### Reports and Notices

We will furnish the Depositary with our annual and interim reports as described under *Incorporation of Documents by Reference*. The Depositary will make available at its office in New York City, for any ADS holder to inspect, any reports and communications received from us that are both received by the Depositary as holder of preference shares and made generally available by us to the holders of those preference shares, including our annual report and accounts and interim report and accounts. Upon our written request, the Depositary will mail copies of those reports to ADS holders as provided in the deposit agreement.

On or before the first date on which we give notice, by publication or otherwise, of:

any meeting of holders of the preference shares;

any adjourned meeting of holders of the preference shares; or

the taking of any action in respect of any cash or other distributions or the offering of any rights in respect of the preference shares, we have agreed to transmit to the Depositary and the custodian a copy of the notice in the form given or to be given to holders of the preference shares. If requested in writing by us, the Depositary will, at our expense, arrange for the prompt transmittal or mailing of such notices, and any other reports or communications made generally available to holders of the preference shares, to all holders of ADSs.

### Amendment and Termination of the Deposit Agreement

The form of the ADRs and any provisions of the deposit agreement may at any time and from time to time be amended by agreement between us and the Depositary, without the consent of holders of ADSs, in any respect which we and the Depositary may deem necessary or advisable. Any amendment that imposes or increases any fees or charges, other than taxes and other governmental charges, registration fees, transmission costs, delivery costs or other such expenses, or that otherwise prejudices any substantial existing right of holders of outstanding ADSs, will not take effect as to outstanding ADSs until thirty (30) days after notice of the amendment has been given to the record holders of those ADRs. Every holder of ADSs at the time an amendment becomes effective will be deemed by continuing to hold the ADSs to consent and agree to the amendment and to be bound by the deposit agreement or the ADR as amended. No amendment may impair the right of any holder of ADSs to surrender ADSs and receive in return the preference shares represented by those ADSs.

Whenever we direct, the Depositary has agreed to terminate the deposit agreement by mailing a termination notice to the record holders of all ADSs then outstanding at least thirty (30) days before the date fixed in the notice of termination. The Depositary may likewise terminate the deposit agreement by mailing a termination notice to us and the record holders of all ADSs then outstanding if at any time sixty (60) days shall have expired since the Depositary delivered a written notice to us of its election to resign and a successor depositary shall not have been appointed and accepted its appointment.

If any ADSs remain outstanding after the date of any termination, the Depositary will then:

discontinue the registration of transfers of ADSs;

suspend the distribution of dividends to holders of ADSs; and

not give any further notices or perform any further acts under the deposit agreement, except those listed below, with respect to those ADSs.

The Depositary will, however, continue to collect dividends and other distributions pertaining to the preference shares. It will also continue to sell rights and other property as provided in the deposit agreement and deliver preference shares, together with any dividends or other distributions received with respect to them and the net proceeds of the sale of any rights or other property, in exchange for ADSs surrendered to it.

At any time after the expiration of one year from the date of termination of the deposit agreement, the Depositary may sell the preference shares then held. The Depositary will then hold uninvested the net proceeds of any such sales, together with any other cash then held by it under the deposit agreement, unsegregated and without liability for interest, for the pro rata benefit of the holders of ADSs that have not previously been surrendered.

### Charges of the Depositary

The following charges shall be incurred by any party depositing or withdrawing preference shares, or by any party surrendering ADSs or to whom ADSs are issued:

any applicable taxes or other governmental charges;

any applicable share transfer or other registration fees on deposits or withdrawals of preference shares;

cable, telex, facsimile transmission and delivery charges which the deposit agreement provides are at the expense of the holders of ADSs or persons depositing or withdrawing preference shares;

expenses incurred or paid by the Depositary in any conversion of foreign currency into dollars

\$5.00 (or less per 100 ADSs (or portion of 100 ADSs))

Issuance of ADSs, including issuances resulting from a distribution of shares or rights or other property

Cancellation of ADSs for the purpose of withdrawal, including if the deposit agreement terminates

\$.02 (or less) per ADS

Any cash distribution to ADS holders

a fee for the distribution to ADS holders of any securities in an amount equal to the fee for the delivery of ADRs referred to above which would have been charged if the securities distributed to ADS holders had been preference shares which were deposited with the custodian; and

any charges incurred by the Depositary or its agents for the servicing of preference shares.

Under the deposit agreement, the Depositary may charge an annual fee of \$0.02 or less per ADS for depositary services.

The holders of ADSs will be responsible for any taxes or other governmental charges payable on their ADRs or on the preference shares. The Depositary may refuse to transfer ADSs or allow withdrawal of the preference shares until such taxes or other charges are paid. The Depositary may apply payments owed to holders of ADSs or sell deposited preference shares underlying such ADSs to pay any taxes owed and holders of ADSs will remain liable for any deficiency. If the Depositary sells deposited preference shares, it will, if appropriate, reduce the number of ADRs to reflect the sale and pay to holders of ADSs any proceeds, or send to holders of ADSs any property, remaining after it has paid the taxes.

### Issuance in a Series

We may issue preference shares in more than one class or series or that otherwise entitle their holders to rights that vary from the rights to which other preference shares entitle their holders. Series , as used in this section and when used with respect to preference shares, shall mean all outstanding preference shares that entitle their holders to identical rights with respect to those preference shares, regardless of the title or any other designation that may be assigned to preference shares. The Depositary shall direct the Custodian to hold preference shares of a Series deposited under the deposit agreement, and other Deposited Securities it receives in respect of those preference shares in a segregated account different from the account in which it holds preference shares of any other Series.



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Preference shares of each Series that are deposited under the deposit agreement shall be represented by a Series of ADSs separate from the ADSs representing preference shares of any other Series. Each series of ADSs, to the extent certificated, shall be evidenced by a Series of ADRs separate from the ADRs evidencing ADSs of any other Series.

If the rights to which deposited preference shares of a Series entitle their holders are modified such that those rights become identical to the rights to which deposited preference shares of another Series entitle their holders, the Depositary shall cause the Custodian to combine the accounts in which the former separate Series of preference shares are held, the Series of ADSs representing those preference shares will automatically be combined into one Series of ADSs and the Depositary may take any action necessary or convenient to effect that combination. At any time after that combination, the owners of ADRs affected by that combination will be entitled to surrender their ADRs to the Depositary and receive ADRs reflecting the designation of the ADSs owned by them as a result of that combination.

Holders of ADSs of a Series shall be entitled to rights under the deposit agreement only with respect to deposited preference shares of the corresponding Series and other Deposited Securities received in respect of deposited preference shares of that Series.

### **Direct Registration System**

ADSs not evidenced by ADRs shall be transferable as uncertificated registered securities under the laws of the State of New York.

The Direct Registration System ( DRS ) and Profile Modification System ( Profile ) will apply to uncertificated ADSs upon acceptance thereof to DRS by DTC. DRS is the system administered by DTC pursuant to which the Depositary may register the ownership of uncertificated ADSs, which ownership shall be evidenced by periodic statements issued by the Depositary to the owners entitled thereto. Profile is a required feature of DRS which allows a DTC participant, claiming to act on behalf of a registered holder of ADSs, to direct the Depositary to register a transfer of those ADSs to DTC or its nominee and to deliver those ADSs to the DTC account of that DTC participant without receipt by the Depositary of prior authorization from the ADS registered holder to register such transfer.

In connection with and in accordance with the arrangements and procedures relating to DRS/Profile, the parties to the deposit agreement understand that the Depositary will not verify, determine or otherwise ascertain that the DTC participant which is claiming to be acting on behalf of an ADS registered holder in requesting registration of transfer and delivery described in the paragraph above has the actual authority to act on behalf of the ADS registered holder (notwithstanding any requirements under the Uniform Commercial Code). In the deposit agreement, the parties agree that the Depositary's reliance on and compliance with instructions received by the Depositary through the DRS/Profile System and in accordance with the deposit agreement, shall not constitute negligence or bad faith on the part of the Depositary.

### **General**

Neither the Depositary nor we will be liable to ADS holders if prevented or forbidden or delayed by any present or future law of any country or by any governmental or regulatory authority or stock exchange, any present or future provision of the Articles of Association, any provision of any securities issued or distributed by us, or any act of God or war or terrorism or other circumstances beyond our or its control in performing our or its obligations under the deposit agreement. The obligations of each of us and the Depositary under the deposit agreement are expressly limited to performing our and its specified duties without negligence or bad faith.

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The ADSs are transferable on the books of the Depositary or its agent. However, the Depositary may close the transfer books as to ADSs at any time when it deems it expedient to do so in connection with the performance of its duties or at our request. As a condition precedent to the execution and delivery, registration of transfer, split-up, combination or surrender of any ADSs or withdrawal of any preference shares, the Depositary or the Custodian may require the person presenting the ADSs or depositing the preference shares to pay a sum sufficient to reimburse it for any related tax or other governmental charge and any share transfer or registration fee and any applicable fees payable as provided in the deposit agreement. The Depositary may withhold any dividends or other distributions, or may sell for the account of the holder any part or all of the preference shares represented by the ADSs, and may apply those dividends or other distributions or the proceeds of any sale in payment of the tax or other governmental charge. The ADS holder will remain liable for any deficiency.

Any ADS holder may be required from time to time to furnish the Depositary or the Custodian with proof satisfactory to the Depositary of citizenship or residence, exchange control approval, information relating to the registration on our books or those that the registrar maintains for us for the preference shares in registered form, or other information, to execute certificates and to make representations and warranties that the Depositary deems necessary or proper. Until those requirements have been satisfied, the Depositary may withhold the delivery or registration of transfer of any ADSs or the distribution or sale of any dividend or other distribution or proceeds of any sale or distribution or the delivery of any deposited preference shares or other property related to the ADSs. The delivery or registration of transfer of ADSs may be suspended during any period when the transfer books of the Depositary are closed or if we or the Depositary deems it necessary or advisable. The surrender of outstanding ADSs and the withdrawal of preference shares may only be suspended as a result of:

temporary delays caused by closing the transfer books or those of the Depositary or the deposit of preference shares in connection with voting at shareholder meetings, or the payment of dividends;

the non-payment of fees, taxes and similar charges; and

non-compliance with any U.S. or foreign laws or governmental regulations relating to the ADSs or to the withdrawal of preference shares.

The deposit agreement and the ADRs are governed by and construed in accordance with New York law.

### PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell relevant securities to or through underwriters or dealers and also may sell all or part of such securities directly to other purchasers or through agents.

The distribution of the securities may be effected from time to time in one or more transactions at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed, or at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to such prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices.

In connection with the sale of securities, we may compensate underwriters in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions or in any other way that the applicable prospectus supplement describes. Underwriters may sell securities to or through dealers, and the dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the underwriters and/or commissions from the purchasers for whom they may act as agents. Underwriters, dealers and agents that participate in the distribution of securities may be deemed to be underwriters, and any discounts or commissions that we pay them and any profit on the resale of securities by them may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions, under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"). Any such underwriter or agent will be identified, and any such compensation that we pay will be described, in the prospectus supplement.

Under agreements which we may enter into, we may be required to indemnify underwriters, dealers and agents who participate in the distribution of securities against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

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Unless a prospectus supplement specifies otherwise, we will not offer any securities or any investments representing securities, including ADSs, of any series to the public in the United Kingdom. Unless otherwise specified in any agreement which we may enter into, underwriters, dealers and/or agents in relation to the distribution of securities or any investments representing securities, including ADSs, of any series and subject to the terms of any such agreement, any underwriter, dealer or agent in connection with an offering of securities or any investments representing securities, including ADSs, of any series will represent and agree that:

it has complied and will comply with all applicable provisions of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (the FSMA) with respect to anything done by it in relation to the securities or any investments representing securities, including ADSs, of such series in, from or otherwise involving the U.K.; and

it has only communicated or caused to be communicated and will only communicate or cause to be communicated any invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of Section 21 of the FSMA) received by it in connection with the issue or sale of the securities or any investments representing the securities (including ADSs) (including without limitation the registration statement, the prospectus, any preliminary prospectus, any ADS registration statement or any ADS prospectus) in circumstances in which Section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to the issuer of the securities.

Each new series of debt securities or preference shares will be a new issue of securities with no established trading market. If securities of a particular series are not listed on a U.S. national securities exchange, certain broker-dealers may make a market in those securities, but will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. We cannot give any assurance that any broker-dealer will make a market in securities of any series or as to the liquidity of the trading market for those securities.

To the extent an initial offering of the securities will be distributed by an affiliate of ours each such offering of securities will be conducted in compliance with the requirements of NASD Rule 2720 of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, which is commonly referred to as FINRA, regarding a FINRA member firm's distribution of securities of an affiliate. Following the initial distribution of any of these securities, affiliates of ours may offer and sell these securities in the course of their businesses as broker-dealers. Such affiliates may act as principals or agents in these transactions and may make any sales at varying prices related to prevailing market prices at the time of sale or otherwise. Such affiliates may also use this prospectus in connection with these transactions. None of our affiliates is obligated to make a market in any of these securities and may discontinue any market-making activities at any time without notice.

Any underwriter, selling agent or dealer utilized in the initial offering of securities will not confirm sales to accounts over which it exercises discretionary authority without the prior specific written approval of its customer.

### **Delayed Delivery Arrangements**

If so indicated in the prospectus supplement, we may authorize underwriters or other persons acting as its agents to solicit offers by certain institutions to purchase preference shares or debt securities from it pursuant to contracts providing for payment and delivery on a future date. Institutions with which such contracts may be made include commercial and savings banks, insurance companies, educational and charitable institutions and others, but in all cases such institutions must be approved by us. The obligations of any purchaser under any such contract will be subject to the condition that the purchase of the offered securities shall not at the time of delivery be prohibited under the laws of the jurisdiction to which such purchaser is subject. The underwriters and such other agents will not have any responsibility in respect of the validity or performance of such contracts.

### **LEGAL OPINIONS**

Our United States counsel, Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, will pass upon certain legal matters relating to the securities. Our Scottish counsel, Dundas & Wilson CS LLP, will pass upon the validity of the preference shares under Scots law and certain matters of Scots law relating to the subordination provisions of the securities.



## EXPERTS

The financial statements and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting (which is included in Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting) incorporated in this prospectus by reference to the Lloyds Banking Group plc Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2009 have been so incorporated in reliance on the report, which contains an explanatory paragraph on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting due to the exclusion of certain elements of the internal control over financial reporting of the HBOS plc business that the Company acquired on January 16, 2009 as of December 31, 2009, of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

The consolidated financial statements of HBOS plc as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, and for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2008 have been incorporated by reference herein in reliance upon the report of KPMG Audit Plc, independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

## ENFORCEMENT OF CIVIL LIABILITIES

We are a public limited company incorporated and registered in Scotland, United Kingdom. Most of our directors and executive officers, and certain experts named in this prospectus, reside in the United Kingdom. A substantial portion of our assets and the assets of those non-resident persons are located outside the United States. As a result, it may not be possible for investors to effect service of process within the United States upon us or those persons or to enforce against them judgments obtained in U.S. courts predicated upon civil liability provisions of the federal securities laws of the United States. We have been advised by our Scottish counsel, Dundas & Wilson CS LLP (as to Scots law) and our English counsel, Linklaters LLP (as to English law) that, both in original actions and in actions for the enforcement of judgments of U.S. courts, there is doubt as to whether civil liabilities predicated solely upon the U.S. federal securities laws are enforceable in Scotland.

## WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

### Ongoing Reporting

We file reports and other information with the SEC. You can read and copy these reports and other information at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549, U.S.A. You may call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the Public Reference Room. The SEC also maintains a website at <http://www.sec.gov> which contains in electronic form each of the reports and other information that we have filed electronically with the SEC. You can also read this material at the offices of The New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005, U.S.A. on which certain of our securities are listed.

We will provide the trustee for any debt securities and the ADS depository for any preference shares with our annual reports, which will include a description of operations and our annual audited consolidated financial statements. We will also provide any trustee or ADS depository with interim reports that will include unaudited interim summary consolidated financial information. Upon receipt, if we so request, the trustee or the ADS depository will mail the reports to all record holders of the debt securities, preference shares or ADSs. In addition, we will provide the trustee or the ADS depository with all notices of meetings at which holders of debt securities or preference shares are entitled to vote, and all other reports and communications that are made generally available to holders of debt securities or preference shares.

### Registration Statement

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the SEC. As exhibits to the registration statement, we have also filed the indentures, the ADS deposit agreement and our Articles of Association. Statements contained in this prospectus as to the contents of any contract or other document referred to in this prospectus are not necessarily complete, and in each instance reference is made to the copy of such contract or other document filed as an exhibit to the registration statement, each such statement being qualified in all respects by such reference. For further information, you should refer to the registration statement. You can obtain the full registration statement from the SEC or from us.

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### INCORPORATION OF DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information that we file with the SEC. This permits us to disclose important information to you by referring to these filed documents. Any information referred to in this way is considered part of this prospectus, and any information that we file with the SEC after the date of this prospectus will automatically be deemed to update and supersede this information.

We incorporate by reference (i) LBG's Annual Report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009 filed with the SEC on May 13, 2010; (ii) LBG's report on Form 6-K including audited consolidated financial statements of HBOS plc at and for the years ended December 31, 2006, 2007 and 2008 filed with the SEC on 28 June 2010, (iii) LBG's report on Form 6-K including pro forma financial information filed with the SEC on 28 June 2010, and (iv) LBG's report on Form 6-K furnished with the SEC on June 28, 2010 disclosing the Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges and the Ratio of Combined Fixed Charges and Preference Dividends to Earnings. We also incorporate by reference all subsequent Annual Reports filed on Form 20-F and any future filings made with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act and certain Reports on Form 6-K, if they state that they are incorporated by reference into this prospectus, that we furnish to the SEC after the date of this prospectus and until we or any underwriters sell all of the securities.

Upon written or oral request, we will provide free of charge a copy of any or all of the documents that we incorporate by reference into this prospectus, other than exhibits which are not specifically incorporated by reference into this prospectus. To obtain copies you should contact us at Investor Relations, 25 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7HN, United Kingdom or by telephone on 011-44-207-356-1273.

### CAUTIONARY STATEMENT ON FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements included in this prospectus are forward-looking statements. We may make forward-looking statements in other documents filed with the SEC that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus. Forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as words expect, estimate, project, anticipate, believes, should, could, intend, plan, probable, goal, objective, may, endeavor, outlook, optimistic, prospects or by the use of similar expressions or variations on such expressions, or discussion of strategy or objectives. Forward-looking statements are based on current plans, estimates and projections, and are subject to inherent risks, uncertainties and other factors which could cause actual results to differ materially from the future results expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements.

In particular, this prospectus and certain documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus include forward-looking statements relating, but not limited, to possible future write-downs and our capital planning projections, our potential exposures to various types of market risks, such as interest rate risk, foreign exchange rate risk, liquidity risk, credit risk and commodity and equity price risk. Such statements are subject to risks and uncertainties. For example, certain of the market risk disclosures are dependent on choices about key model characteristics, assumptions and estimates, and are subject to various limitations. By their nature, certain of the market risk disclosures are only estimates and, as a result, actual future gains and losses could differ materially from those that have been estimated.

Other factors could also adversely affect our results or the accuracy of forward-looking statements in this prospectus, and you should not consider the factors discussed here or in our Form 20-F filed on 13 May, 2010, incorporated by reference herein, to be a complete set of all potential risks or uncertainties. We have economic, financial market, credit, legal and other specialists who monitor economic and market conditions and government policies and actions. However, because it is difficult to predict with accuracy any changes in economic or market conditions or in governmental policies and actions, it is difficult for us to anticipate the effects that such changes could have on our financial performance and business operations.

The forward-looking statements made in this prospectus speak only as of the date of this prospectus. We do not intend to publicly update or revise these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this prospectus, and we do not assume any responsibility to do so. You should, however, consult any further disclosures of a forward-looking nature we made in other documents filed with the SEC that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus. This discussion is provided as permitted by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

**PART II**

**INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN THE PROSPECTUS**

**Item 8. Indemnification of Directors and Officers**

Except as hereinafter set forth, there is no provision of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of Lloyds Banking Group plc (the Company, for purposes of this Item 8) or any contract, arrangement or statute under which any director or officer of the Company is insured or indemnified in any manner against any liability that he may incur in his capacity as such.

*Deed of Indemnity*

The Company has entered into Deeds of Indemnity with the directors and certain officers of the Company that, subject to certain conditions precedent and limitations, in consideration for such director or officer continuing in or accepting office as a director or officer of (i) Lloyds Banking Group plc, (ii) a subsidiary undertaking or holding company of the Company, or a subsidiary undertaking of the Company's holding company or (iii) any undertaking in which such director or officer is acting as officer, employee, trustee or agent at the Company's request, the Company will indemnify the director or officer against any liability, including (without limitation) any costs and expenses, incurred by, or attaching to, the director or officer in connection with any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust the director in relation to the Company or any Associated Company (as defined by clause (ii) and (iii) above) or in the actual or purported execution and/or discharge of his duties and/or the actual or purported exercise of his powers and/or otherwise in relation to or in connection with his duties, powers or office as an employee, officer, trustee or agent of the Company or any Associated Company (as defined by clause (ii) and (iii) above).

*Articles 140, 141 and 142 of the Company's Articles of Association provide:*

*Article 140 Indemnity*

140.1 Subject to the provisions of, and so far as may be permitted by and consistent with, the statutes, any person who is or was at any time a director, officer, employee or trustee of the Company or of any associated company or organisation may be indemnified by the Company out of its own funds against (a) any liability incurred by or attaching to him in connection with any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust by him in relation to the Company or any associated company or organisation; and (b) any other liability incurred by or attaching to him in the actual or purported execution and/or discharge of his duties and/or the exercise or purported exercise of his powers and/or otherwise in relation to or in connection with his duties, powers or offices.

140.2 Where any such person is indemnified against any liability in accordance with article 140.1, such indemnity shall extend to all costs, charges, losses, expenses and liabilities incurred by him in relation thereto.

*Article 141 Insurance*

141.1 Without prejudice to article 140 above, the directors shall have power to purchase and maintain insurance for or for the benefit of any person who is or was at any time a director, officer, employee or trustee of the Company or of any associated company or organisation, including insurance against any liability incurred by or attaching to him in respect of any act or omission in the actual or purported execution and/or discharge of his duties and/or in the exercise or purported exercise of his powers and/or otherwise in relation to or in connection with his duties, powers or offices in relation to the Company or any associated company or organisation (and all costs, charges, losses, expenses and liabilities incurred by him in relation thereto).

*Article 142 Defence Expenditure*

142.1 Subject to the provisions of, and so far as may be permitted by and consistent with, the statutes, the Company (i) may provide any person who is or was at any time a director, officer, employee or trustee of the Company or of any associated company or organisation with funds to meet expenditure incurred or to be incurred by him in defending any criminal or civil proceedings or in connection with any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust by him in relation to the Company or any associated company or organisation or in connection with any application for relief from liability under the statutes and (ii) may do anything to enable any such a person to avoid incurring such expenditure.

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142.2 Subject to the provisions of, and so far as may be permitted by and consistent with, the statutes, the Company (i) may provide any person who is or was at any time a director, officer, employee or trustee of the Company or of any associated company or organisation with funds to meet expenditure incurred or to be incurred by him in defending himself in an investigation by a regulatory authority or against action proposed to be taken by a regulatory authority in connection with any alleged negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust by, him in relation to the Company or any associated company or organisation, and (ii) may do anything to enable any such a person to avoid incurring such expenditure.

142.3 For the purpose of articles 140 to 142 an associated company or organisation is any company or other body, whether or not incorporated, (i) which is the Company's holding company or (ii) in which the Company or its holding company or any of the predecessors of the Company or of such holding company has any interest whether direct or indirect or (iii) which is in any way allied to or associated with the Company or its holding company or any of the predecessors of the Company or of such holding company (including any pension fund or employees' share scheme in which any employees of the Company or of any associated company or organisation are interested and any company acting as trustee for such pension fund or share scheme) or (iv) which is a subsidiary undertaking of any person mentioned in (iii) or (v) to which directors, officers, employees or trustees of the Company or of any subsidiary undertaking or any holding company of the Company are permitted by the Company or any subsidiary undertaking or any holding company of the Company to lend their services; and person shall include any natural person, partnership, other unincorporated association or body corporate.

*Section 232 of the Companies Act 2006 provides:*

(1) Any provision that purports to exempt a director of a company (to any extent) from any liability that would otherwise attach to him in connection with any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the company is void.

(2) Any provision by which a company directly or indirectly provides an indemnity (to any extent) for a director of the company, or of an associated company, against any liability attaching to him in connection with any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the company of which he is a director is void, except as permitted by

- (a) section 233 (provision of insurance),
- (b) section 234 (qualifying third party indemnity provision), or
- (c) section 235 (qualifying pension scheme indemnity provision).

(3) This section applies to any provision, whether contained in a company's articles or in any contract with the company or otherwise.

(4) Nothing in this section prevents a company's articles from making such provision as has previously been lawful for dealing with conflicts of interest.

*Section 234 of the Companies Act 2006 provides:*

(1) Section 232(2) (voidness of provisions for indemnifying directors) does not apply to qualifying third party indemnity provision.

(2) Third party indemnity provision means provision for indemnity against liability incurred by the director to a person other than the company or an associated company.

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Such provision is qualifying third party indemnity provision if the following requirements are met.

(3) The provision must not provide any indemnity against:

(a) any liability of the director to pay:

(i) a fine imposed in criminal proceedings, or

(ii) a sum payable to a regulatory authority by way of a penalty in respect of non-compliance with any requirement of a regulatory nature (however arising); or

(b) any liability incurred by the director:

(i) in defending criminal proceedings in which he is convicted, or

(ii) in defending civil proceedings brought by the company, or an associated company, in which judgment is given against him, or

(iii) in connection with an application for relief (see subsection (6)) in which the court refuses to grant him relief.

(4) The references in subsection (3)(b) to a conviction, judgment or refusal of relief are to the final decision in the proceedings.

(5) For this purpose:

(a) a conviction, judgment or refusal of relief becomes final:

(i) if not appealed against, at the end of the period for bringing an appeal, or

(ii) if appealed against, at the time when the appeal (or any further appeal) is disposed of; and

(b) an appeal is disposed of:

(i) if it is determined and the period for bringing any further appeal has ended, or

(ii) if it is abandoned or otherwise ceases to have effect.

(6) The reference in subsection (3)(b)(iii) to an application for relief is to an application for relief under section 661(3) or (4) (power of court to grant relief in case of acquisition of shares by innocent nominee), or section 1157 (general power of court to grant relief in case of honest and reasonable conduct).

*Section 1157 of the Companies Act 2006 provides:*

(1) If in proceedings for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust against:

(a) an officer of a company, or

(b) a person employed by a company as auditor (whether he is or is not an officer of the company), it appears to the court hearing the case that the officer or person is or may be liable but that he acted honestly and reasonably, and that having regard to all the circumstances of the case (including those connected with his appointment) he ought fairly to be excused, the court may relieve him, either wholly or in part, from his liability on such terms as it thinks fit.

(2) If any such officer or person has reason to apprehend that a claim will or might be made against him in respect of negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust

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(a) he may apply to the court for relief, and

(b) the court has the same power to relieve him as it would have had if it had been a court before which proceedings against him for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust had been brought.

(3) Where a case to which subsection (1) applies is being tried by a judge with a jury, the judge, after hearing the evidence, may, if he is satisfied that the defendant (in Scotland, the defender) ought in pursuance of that subsection to be relieved either in whole or in part from the liability sought to be enforced against him, withdraw the case from the jury and forthwith direct judgment to be entered for the defendant (in Scotland, grant decree of absolvitor) on such terms as to costs (in Scotland, expenses) or otherwise as the judge may think proper.

Any underwriters of securities registered on this registration statement will each agree, severally, and not jointly, to indemnify the Company's directors, the Company's officers who sign the registration statement and the Company's authorized representative in the United States from and against certain civil liabilities based on information relating to such underwriter furnished in writing by such underwriter expressly for use herein.

The Company will agree to indemnify the Company's authorized representative in the United States from and against certain directors' and officers' liabilities.

In addition, the Company has obtained directors' and officers' insurance coverage, which, subject to policy terms and limitations, includes coverage to reimburse the Company for amounts that it may be required or permitted by law to pay directors or officers of the Company and its consolidated subsidiaries.

### Item 9. Exhibits

Reference is made to the Exhibit Index included herewith which is incorporated herein by reference.

### Item 10. Undertakings

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) to include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;

(ii) to reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the Commission) pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20 per cent change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective registration statement; and

(iii) to include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

*provided, however*, that paragraphs (1)(i) and (1)(ii) above shall not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Commission pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in this registration statement or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of this registration statement.

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(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(4) To file a post-effective amendment to the registration statement to include any financial statements required by Item 8.A. of Form 20-F, or to incorporate such financial statements by reference to a report filed pursuant to the Exchange Act, at the start of any delayed offering or throughout a continuous offering. Financial statements and information otherwise required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Act need not be furnished, *provided*, that the registrant includes in the prospectus, by means of a post-effective amendment, financial statements required pursuant to this paragraph (4) and other information necessary to ensure that all other information in the prospectus is at least as current as the date of those financial statements.

(5) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act to any purchaser:

(A) Each prospectus filed by a registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the registration statement; and

(B) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5) or (b)(7) as part of this registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii) or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by Section 10(a) of the Securities Act shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which the prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof. Provided, however, that no statement made in this registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date.

(6) That, for the purpose of determining liability of a registrant under the Securities Act to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities, the undersigned undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

(i) any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;

(ii) any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned registrant;

(iii) the portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant; and

(iv) any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned registrant to the purchaser.

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The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by a final adjudication of such issue.



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## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act, as amended, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form F-3 and has duly caused this registration statement on Form F-3 to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in London, England, on the 28th day of June, 2010.

LLOYDS BANKING GROUP plc

By:           /s/ J. Eric Daniels

Name: J. Eric Daniels  
Title: Group Chief Executive

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints I.R. Firth, I.M. Fox, D.R. Pearson, E.F.G. Short, A.N. Wilson, S.Sofat, T.J. Nall, R.D.Shrimpton, S.P.R. White, R. Haward and each of them (with full power to each of them to act alone) his true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution, and resubstitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any or all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this registration statement or any registration statement in connection herewith that is to be effective upon filing pursuant to Rule 462(b) of the Securities Act, as amended, and to file the same with all exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith with the Securities and Exchange Commission granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or any of them, or their substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act, as amended, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
<u>          /s/ Winfried Bischoff</u>		
Sir Winfried Bischoff	(Chairman)	June 28, 2010
<u>          /s/ Alexander P. Leitch</u>		
Lord Alexander P. Leitch	(Deputy Chairman)	June 28, 2010
<u>          /s/ J. Eric Daniels</u>		
J. Eric Daniels	(Group Chief Executive)	June 28, 2010
<u>          /s/ G. Truett Tate</u>		
G. Truett Tate	(Group Executive Director, Wholesale)	June 28, 2010
<u>          /s/ Tim J. W. Tookey</u>		
Tim J. W. Tookey	(Group Finance Director)	June 28, 2010
<u>          /s/ Helen A. Weir</u>		
Helen A. Weir	(Group Executive Director, Retail)	June 28, 2010

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<b>Signature</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
<hr/> <i>/s/ Glen R. Moreno</i> <hr/>		
Glen R. Moreno	(Senior Director)	June 28, 2010
<hr/> <i>/s/ T. Timothy Ryan Jr.</i> <hr/>		
T. Timothy Ryan Jr.	(Director)	June 28, 2010
<hr/> <i>/s/ Anthony Watson</i> <hr/>		
Anthony Watson CBE	(Director)	June 28, 2010
<hr/> <i>/s/ Kevin P. McKendry</i> <hr/>		
Kevin P. McKendry	(Authorized U.S. Representative)	June 28, 2010
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## EXHIBIT INDEX

Number	Description
1.1	Form of Underwriting Agreement for the senior debt securities of Lloyds Banking Group plc.
1.2	Form of Underwriting Agreement for the subordinated debt securities of Lloyds Banking Group plc.
1.3	Form of Underwriting Agreement for the preference shares of Lloyds Banking Group plc.
4.1	Form of Senior Debt Indenture between Lloyds Banking Group plc, as Issuer, and The Bank of New York Mellon, as Trustee.
4.2	Form of Subordinated Debt Indenture between Lloyds Banking Group plc and The Bank of New York Mellon, as Trustee.
4.5*	Memorandum and Articles of Association of Lloyds Banking Group plc, as amended (filed as Exhibit 1.1 to the Annual Report filed on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2009, No. 001-15246).
4.6*	Amended and Restated Deposit Agreement among the Company, The Bank of New York Mellon and all holders from time to time of American Depositary Receipts issued thereunder, including the Form of the American Depositary Receipt (previously filed in preliminary form as an Exhibit to the Registration Statement on Form F-6 filed on 15, June 2007, Registration No. 333-143781).
5.1	Opinion of Dundas & Wilson CS LLP, Scottish solicitors to the Company, as to the legality of the Preference Shares and the subordination provisions of the subordinated debt securities.
5.2	Opinion of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, US counsel to the Company, as to the validity of the senior debt securities and the subordinated debt securities.
12*	Statement of Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges and Ratio of Combined Fixed Charges and Preference Dividends to Earnings (filed on Form 6-K on June 28, 2010)
23.1	Consent of Dundas & Wilson CS LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1 above).
23.2	Consent of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP (included in Exhibit 5.2 above).
23.3	Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.
23.4	Consent of KPMG Audit plc.
24	Powers of Attorney (included on signature page to the registration statement).
25.1	Statement of Eligibility for the form of Senior Debt Indenture among Lloyds Banking Group plc, as Issuer, and The Bank of New York Mellon, as Indenture Trustee (this Form T-1 would have securities descriptions of Senior Debt Securities ).
25.2	Statement of Eligibility for the form of Subordinated Debt Indenture between Lloyds Banking Group plc, as Issuer and The Bank of New York Mellon, as Indenture Trustee (this Form T-1 would have a securities description of Subordinated Debt Securities ).

\* Incorporated by reference

Exh-1