RNS Number: 7395Z Crest Nicholson Holdings PLC

08 August 2024

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THIS IS AN ANNOUNCEMENT FALLING UNDER RULE 2.4 OF THE CITY CODE ON TAKEOVERS AND MERGERS (THE "CODE") AND DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A FIRM INTENTION TO MAKE AN OFFER UNDER RULE 2.7 OF THE CODE THERE CAN BE NO CERTAINTY THAT ANY FIRM OFFER WILL BE MADE

THIS ANNOUNCEMENT CONTAINS INSIDE INFORMATION.

For immediate release

8 August 2024

Extension to PUSU deadline regarding Possible Offer

On 10 July 2024, Bellway p.l.c. ("Bellway") and Crest Nicholson Holdings plc ("Crest Nicholson") announced the terms of a possible all-share offer for Crest Nicholson by Bellway, to acquire the entire issued, and to be issued, share capital of Crest Nicholson. Under the terms of this possible offer, Crest Nicholson's shareholders would receive 0.099 shares in Bellway for each share they own in Crest Nicholson and a dividend of 4 pence per Crest Nicholson share comprising the previously announced interim dividend of 1 pence per share (the "Interim Dividend") and a special dividend of 3 pence per share conditional on completion of the transaction (the "Special Dividend") (together, the "Possible Offer").

In accordance with Rule 2.6(a) of the Code, Bellway was required, by no later than 5.00 p.m (London time) on 8 August 2024, to either announce a firm intention to make an offer for Crest Nicholson in accordance with Rule 2.7 of the Code or announce that it did not intend to make an offer, in which case the announcement will be treated as a statement to which Rule 2.8 of the Code applies (the "PUSU Deadline").

Good progress has been made on reciprocal due diligence with a number of elements satisfactorily completed by both parties. However, in order to allow further time for discussions between Bellway and Crest Nicholson, to fully conclude due diligence and the negotiation of definitive transaction documentation the Board of Crest Nicholson has requested, and the Panel on Takeovers and Mergers (the "Takeover Panel") has consented to, an extension to the PUSU Deadline. Consequently, in accordance with Rule 2.6(c) of the Code, Bellway is now required, by not later than 5.00 p.m. (London time) on 20 August 2024, to either announce a firm intention to make an offer for Crest Nicholson in accordance with Rule 2.7 of the Code or announce that it does not intend to make an offer for Crest Nicholson, in which case the announcement will be treated as a statement to which Rule 2.8 of the Code applies. This deadline can be extended by the Board of Crest Nicholson, with the consent of the Takeover Panel, in accordance with Rule 2.6(c) of the Code.

There can be no certainty that a firm offer will ultimately be made for Crest Ncholson by Bellway, even if the pre-conditions are satisfied or waived. Bellway reserves the right to waive any pre-condition to the making of an offer. A further announcement will be made as and when appropriate.

In accordance with Rule 2.5(a) of the Code, Bellway reserves the right to introduce other forms of consideration and/or vary the mix or composition of consideration of any offer. In addition, Bellway reserves the right to make an offer for Crest Nicholson at a lower value or on less favourable terms than the Possible Offer: (i) with the agreement or recommendation of the Board of Crest Nicholson; (ii) if a third party announces a firm intention to make an offer for Crest Nicholson, which, at that date, is of a value less than the value of the Possible Offer, and is recommended by the Board of Crest Nicholson; or (iii) following the announcement by Crest Nicholson of a Rule 9 waiver transaction pursuant to Appendix 1 of the Code or a reverse takeover (as defined in the Code). If Crest Nicholson declares, makes or pays any dividend or distribution or other return of value or payment to its shareholders, other than the Interim Dividend and Special Dividend, Bellway reserves the right to make an equivalent reduction to the Possible Offer.

This announcement has been made with the consent of Crest Nicholson and Bellway.

The person responsible for arranging the release of this announcement on behalf of Crest Nicholson is Penny Thomas, Group Company Secretary and on behalf of Bellway is Simon Scougall, Chief Commercial Officer.

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Further information

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Disclosure requirements of the Code

Under Rule 8.3(a) of the Code, any person who is interested in 1% or more of any class of relevant securities of an offeree company or of any securities exchange offeror (being any offeror other than an offeror in respect of which it has been announced that its offer is, or is likely to be, solely in cash) must make an Opening Position Disclosure following the commencement of the offer period and, if later, following the announcement in which any securities exchange offeror is first identified. An Opening Position Disclosure must contain details of the person's interests and short positions in, and rights to subscribe for, any relevant securities of each of (i) the offeree company and (ii) any securities exchange offeror(s). An Opening Position Disclosure by a person to whom Rule 8.3(a) applies must be made by no later than 3.30 pm (London time) on the 10th business day following the announcement of the offer period and, if appropriate, by no later than 3.30 pm (London time) on the 10th business day following the announcement in which any securities exchange offeror is first identified. Relevant persons who deal in the relevant securities of the offeree company or of a securities exchange offeror prior to the deadline for making an Opening Position Disclosure must instead make a Dealing Disclosure.

Under Rule 8.3(b) of the Code, any person who is, or becomes, interested in 1% or more of any class of relevant securities of the offeree company or of any securities exchange offeror must make a Dealing Disclosure if the person deals in any relevant securities of the offeree company or of any securities exchange offeror. A Dealing Disclosure must contain details of the dealing concerned and of the person's interests and short positions in, and rights to subscribe for, any relevant securities of each of (i) the offeree company and (ii) any securities exchange offeror(s), save to the extent that these details have previously been disclosed under Rule 8. A Dealing Disclosure by a person to whom Rule 8.3(b) applies must be made by no later than 3.30 pm (London time) on the business day following the date of the relevant dealing.

If two or more persons act together pursuant to an agreement or understanding, whether formal or informal, to acquire or control an interest in relevant securities of an offeree company or a securities exchange offeror, they will be deemed to be a single person for the purpose of Rule 8.3.

Opening Position Disclosures must also be made by the offeree company and by any offeror and Dealing Disclosures must also be made by the offeree company, by any offeror and by any persons acting in concert with any of them (see Rules 8.1, 8.2 and 8.4).

Details of the offeree and offeror companies in respect of whose relevant securities Opening Position Disclosures and Dealing Disclosures must be made can be found in the Disclosure Table on the Panel's website at www.thetakeoverpanel.org.uk, including details of the number of relevant securities in issue, when the offer period commenced and when any offeror was first identified. You should contact the Panel's Market Surveillance Unit on +44 (0)20 7638 0129 if you are in any doubt as to whether you are required to make an Opening Position Disclosure or a Dealing Disclosure.

Rule 2.9 information

In accordance with Rule 2.9 of the Code, Crest Nicholson confirms that, as at the close of business on 7 August 2024, (being the business day immediately prior to the date of this announcement) it has 256,920,539 ordinary shares of 5 pence each. No shares are held in treasury. The International Securities Identification Number (ISIN) for the ordinary shares is GB00B8VZXT93.

In accordance with Rule 2.9 of the Code, Bellway confirms that, as at the close of business on 7 August 2024 (being the business day immediately prior to the date of this announcement), it had in issue 118,981,254 ordinary shares of 12.5 pence each. Bellway does not hold any ordinary shares in treasury. The International Securities Identification Number (ISIN) of Bellway's ordinary shares is GB0000904986.

Publication on website

In accordance with Rule 26.1 of the Code, a copy of this announcement will be available at www.crestnicholson.com/investors and www.bellwayplc.co.uk/investor-centre promptly and in any event by no later than 12 noon on the business day following this announcement. The content of these websites is not incorporated into and does not formpart of this announcement.

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