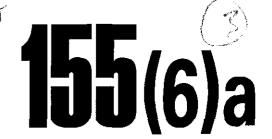


Please do not write in this margin **COMPANIES FORM No. 155(6)a** 

# Declaration in relation to assistance for the acquisition of shares



Pursuant to section 155(6) of the Companies Act 1985

COTESWORTH CAPITAL LIMITED

Please complete legibly, preferably in black type, or bold block lettering To the Registrar of Companies (Address overleaf - Note 5)

or official use	Company number
	3265777

Note

Please read the notes on page 3 before completing this form.

- \* insert full name of company
- insert name(s) and address(es) of all the directors

Name of company

x/We a NORMAN WALTER BRITTEN of 19 College Gardens, Dulwich Villa

\*/We \*\* NORMAN WALTER BRITTEN of 19 College Gardens, Dulwich Village, London

SE21 7BE, GRAHAM DAVIES of Adeline House, 76 Hazlemere Road, Penn,

High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire HP10 8AG, BERNARD GEORGE DEVEREESE of

Bracken Hill, Spring Elms Lane, Little Baddow, Chelmsford, Essex CM3

4SG, HARVEY GERALD SIMONS of 44 Royston Park Road, Hatch End, Pinner,

Middlesex HA5 4AF, PETER BUTLER THOMPSON of 35 Redman Road, Dee Why

2099 New South Wales Australia and DOMINIC FODERA of 12 Elfrida

Street, Mosman 2088 New South Wales Australia.

t delete as appropriate

[thexaclexdirecter] [all the directors]† of the above company do solemnly and sincerely declare that: The business of the company is:

§ delete whichever is inappropriate (a) xthat cot xxx [xecognised chank] x [timensed xinstitution] throughout the xmeaning xxxx the c Badding x Act x 1879 §
(b) xthat xxx person xauthorised x under xect is no 3 x no 4 x

(c) something other than the above§

The company is proposing to give financial assistance in connection with the acquisition of shares in the [COMPANY] [company's holding company Cotesworth Group

Limited]†

The assistance is for the purpose of that acquisition] [reducing or discharging a liability incurred for the purpose of that acquisition].†

The number and class of the shares acquired or to be acquired is: 221,188 A Ordinary

Shares of 1p 317,190 B Ordinary Shares of 1p 233940 Preference Shares of £1

Presentor's name address and reference (if any):

Manches (Solicitors)
3 Worcester Street

OXFORD OX1 2PZ

Ref: LBM/07654/0015

Tel: 01865 722106 Ext. 227

Doc: 218372

For official Use General Section



Page 1

The assistance is to be given to: (note 2) HIH European Holding Company Limited whose	
registered office is at 85 Gracechurch Street, London EC3V 0AA.	margin  Please complete legibly, preferabl in black type, or bold block lettering
The assistance will take the form of:	
a loan of up to (but not exceeding) £4 million from the company to HIH European Holding Company Limited ("HIH") to enable HIH to discharge liabilities it has incurred in connection with its obligation to redeem loan notes issued pursuant to a Deed of Option dated 30 July 1998 by virtue of which HIH acquired the entire issued share capital of Cotesworth Group Limited.	
•	
	:
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
The person who [has acquired] [wार्क्स्टिक्स्टि] the shares is:	† delete as appropriate
HIH European Holding Company Limited	-
The principal terms on which the assistance will be given are:	-
a loan of up to (but not exceeding) f4 million will be made by the company to HIH European Holding Company Limited ("HIH"), the principal terms of which are that:	
(a) no interest shall accrue or be payable on the loan;	ł
<ul><li>(b) the loan will become due and repayable by HIH on first written demand by the company; and</li></ul>	
(c) HIH will be at liberty at any time to prepay the loan in whole or in part without penalty.	
The amount of cash to be transferred to the person assisted is £ maximum of £4 million	-
The value of any asset to be transferred to the person assisted is $\mathfrak{L}^{ ext{N/A}}$	

The date on which the assistance is to be given is 30 March

The assistance is to be given to: (note 2) HIH European Holding Company Limited whose

Flease do not write in this margin

#### Please complete legibly, preferably in black type, or bold block lettering

delete either (a) or
 (b) as appropriate

\*/We have formed the opinion, as regards the company's initial situation immediately following the date on which the assistance is proposed to be given, that there will be no ground on which it could then be found to be unable to pay its debts. (note 3)

- (a) [k/We have formed the opinion that the company will be able to pay its debts as they fall due during the year immediately following that date]\* (note 3)
- (b) [Its/ss/intended/48-xcommence/the/xwinding=upxaf/the/companyxwithin/xt2-months-xaf/thet-xdate/xand/x/we have-xformed-the-opinion/that/xthe-xcompanyxwith/be-sabte-xo-payxits-xdebts-invfull/within/xt2-months-xof/xthe-commencement-of-the-winding-upx]\* (note 3)

And  $\frac{1}{2}$  we make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the provisions of the Statutory Declarations Act 1835.

Declared at \$5 Gracechurch Streat,

Declarants to sign below

Landon

Day Month Year

on 2 9 0 3 2 0 0 0

Million

Declarants to sign below

N.W. Variety

A Commissioner for Oaths or Notary Public or Justice of

### **NOTES**

1 For the meaning of "a person incurring a liability" and "reducing or discharging a liability" see section 152(3) of the Companies Act 1985.

a Commissioner for Oaths.

the Peace or a Solicitor having the powers conferred on

- 2 Insert full name(s) and address(es) of the person(s) to whom assistance is to be given; if a recipient is a company the registered office address should be shown.
- 3 Contingent and prospective liabilities of the company are to be taken into account - see section 156(3) of the Companies Act 1985.
- 4 The auditors report required by section 156(4) of the Companies Act 1985 must be annexed to this form.
- 5 The address for companies registered in England and Wales or Wales is:-

The Registrar of Companies Companies House Crown Way Cardiff CF14 3UZ

or, for companies registered in Scotland:-

The Registrar of Companies 37 Castle Terrace Edinburgh EH1 2EB

## BINDER HAMLYN

Andersen Worldwide

20 Old Bailey London EC4M 7BH

Auditors' report to the directors of Cotesworth Capital Limited pursuant to section 156(4) of the Companies Act 1985

We have examined the attached statutory declaration of the directors dated 29 March 2000 in connection with the proposal that the company should give financial assistance for the purchase of Cotesworth Group Limited by HIH European Holding Company Limited.

### Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

The company's directors are responsible for the statutory declaration. It is our responsibility to review the bases for the declaration, based on our enquiries into the state of the company's affairs, and to provide a report to the directors.

### Basis of opinion

We have enquired into the state of the company's affairs so far as necessary for us to review the bases for the statutory declaration.

### Opinion

We are not aware of anything to indicate that the opinion expressed by the directors in their declaration as to any of the matters mentioned in section 156(2) of the Companies Act 1985 is unreasonable in all the circumstances.

Binder Hamlyn

Binder Hamlyn

Chartered Accountants

29 March 2000