G

Declaration in relation to assistance for the acquisition

COMPANIES FORM No. 155(6)a

155(6)a

Please do not write in this margin Pursuant to section 155(6) of the Companies Act 1985

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

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

*Insert full name of company

finsert name(s) and address(es) of all the directors

To the	Registrar	of	Comi	panies
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For official use	Company number
	SC034389

Name of company

of shares.

* MARSHALL FOOD GROUP LIMITED

*We†Alfred John Duncan of Saetra House, Inchmarlo Road, Banchory, Aberdeenshire AB31 3RR Walter Walker Paris of 21 Hillview Road, Banchory, Aberdeenshire AB31 4EG, Philip Thomas Hopley of Calluna, Tough, Alford, Aberdeenshire AB33 8EQ and Malcolm Smith of 26 Landsdowne Close, Carlisle being

§ Delete as appropriate

‡Delete whichever is inappropriate

<u>Ithansole directors</u> [all the directors] of the above company do solemnly and sincerely declare that:
The business of the company is:

tal-thet-of-a-recognised banklikensed institution is within the meaning of the Banking Act 1979 to the that-of-a-received authorised and er-section 3-x or 4-of the languages Companies. Act 1982 to easily xan-insurance business in the United Kingdom t

(c) something other than the above ‡

The company is proposing to give financial assistance in connection with the acquisition of shares in the [company] Isampany shalding company §

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: See Paper Apart 1

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

Dundas & Wilson CS Saltire Court 20 Castle Terrace Edinburgh EH1 2EN

Ref: EWM/ASM/MPS/BOS001.0494

For official use General Section



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Page 1

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29/01 .99 16:09 FAX 01312288888

Grampian Country Food Group Limited (Registered Number 100976) with its Registered Office at 20 Queens Road, Aberdeen AB15 4ZT (GCFG)	write in this margin Please complete legibly, preferably in black type, or bold block lettering
The assistance will take the form of:	
See Paper Apart 2	
The person who [has acquired] wilk acquire]* the shares is: GCFG	*Delete as appropriate
The principal terms on which the assistance will be given are:	
See Paper Apart 2	
The amount of cash to be transferred to the person assisted is £ nil	
The value of any asset to be transferred to the person assisted is £ nil	
The date on which the assistance is to be given is 29th brusy.	Page 2

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The assistance is to be given to: (note 2)

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Please do not

29/01 '99 16:09 FAX 0131228888

Please do not write in this margin

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

†Delete either (a) or (b) as appropriate

I/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) [I/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] t (note 3)
- (b) Hix is cintended, to commence, the winding up of the company, within, 12, months, of xbat, date, and have formed the opinion that the company will be able to pay its debts in full within 12.manths.of.ths.commensement.of.the.winding.us.] † (note 3)

And I/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

Asordeen

Declarants to sign below

796 day of

One thousand nine hundred and

before me

A Commissioner for Oaths or Notary Public or Justice of the Peace or a Solicitor having the powers conferred on a Commissioner for Oaths.

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.
- 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.
- account-see 3 Contingent and prospective liabilities of the company are to taken into be 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.

OYEZ The Solicitors' Law Stationery Society Ltd., Oyez House, 7 Spa Road, London SE16 3QQ.
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1985 Edition

Paper Apart 1 relative to the foregoing Companies Form 155(6)a by Marshall Food Group Limited (Registered No SC034389) (the Company)

Number and class of shares acquired

The following shares in the Company:-

2,818,248 Ordinary Shares of £1 each

2,187,177 A Ordinary Shares of £1 each

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Paper Apart 2 relative to the foregoing Companies Form 155(6)a by Marshall Food Group Limited (Registered No SC034389) (the Company) in respect of financial assistance by the Company

The assistance will take the form of and the principal terms on which the assistance will be given are as follows:

- 1. The entering into by the Company of:
 - (i) an Accession Agreement between the Company and The Governor and Company of the Bank of Scotland as arranger and agent for the Senior Banks and the Ancillary Bank (as defined below) (in this capacity with its successors, assignees and transferees in such capacity the "Senior Agent") by which the Company accedes to a Senior Facility Agreement (the "Senior Facility Agreement") among Grampian Country Food Group Limited (Registered Number 100976) ("GCFG"), the Operating Subsidiaries referred to therein, the Banks referred to therein (the "Senior Banks"), the Ancillary Bank referred to therein (the "Ancillary Bank") and the Senior Agent dated 28th July 1998;
 - (ii) an Accession Agreement between the Company and The Governor and Company of the Bank of Scotland as arranger and agent for the Mezzanine Banks (as defined below) (in this capacity with its successors, assignees and transferees in such capacity the "Mezzanine Agent") by which the Company accedes to a Mezzanine Facility Agreement (the "Mezzanine Facility Agreement") among GCFG, the Operating Subsidiaries referred to therein, the Banks referred to therein (the "Mezzanine Banks") and the Mezzanine Agent dated 28th July 1998; and
 - (iii) an Accession Agreement between the Company and The Governor and Company of the Bank of Scotland as arranger and agent for the Subordinated Banks (as defined below) (in this capacity with its successors, assignees and transferees in such capacity the "Subordinated Agent") by which the Company accedes to a Subordinated Facility Agreement (the "Subordinated Facility Agreement") among GCFG, the Operating Subsidiaries referred to therein (including the Company), the Banks referred to therein (the "Subordinated Banks") and the Subordinated Agent dated 28th July 1998;
 - (iv) a Supplementary Agreement (the "Senior Supplementary Agreement") between GCFG, the Operating Subsidiaries referred to therein, the Senior Banks, the Ancillary Bank and the Senior Agent amending the Senior Facility Agreement;
 - (v) a Supplementary Agreement (the "Mezzanine Supplementary Agreement") between GCFG, the Operating Subsidiaries referred to therein, the Mezzanine Banks and the Mezzanine Agent amending the Mezzanine Facility Agreement;
 - (vi) a Supplementary Agreement (the "Subordinated Supplementary Agreement") between GCFG, the Operating Subsidiaries referred to therein,

the Subordinated Banks and the Subordinated Agent amending the Subordinated Facility Agreement;

and consequently in terms of Clause 12 of the Senior Facility Agreement and Clause 11 of each of the Mezzanine Facility Agreement and the Subordinated Facility Agreement the granting by the Company as a Debtor Party (as defined in the respective Facility Agreements) of an irrevocable and unconditional guarantee of the due and punctual payment of all moneys and performance of all other obligations expressed to be payable or performed by each other Debtor Party under the Finance Documents (as defined in the respective Facility Agreements) and consequently inter alia a guarantee of GCFG's obligations in respect of debt raised to refinance amounts borrowed by GCFG to acquire shares in the Company.

- 2. In security inter alia of sums due by the Company pursuant to Clause 12 of the Senior Facility Agreement and Clause 11 of each of the Mezzanine Facility Agreement and the Subordinated Facility Agreement the entering into by the Company of:
 - (i) a Debenture in favour of The Governor and Company of the Bank of Scotland as security trustee for itself as security trustee and for the Senior Agent, the Mezzanine Agent and the Subordinated Agent (in this capacity the "Security Trustee") comprising fixed and floating charges over the Company's whole property and undertaking;
 - (ii) a Bond and Floating Charge in favour of the Security Trustee comprising a floating charge over the Company's whole property and undertaking;
 - (iii) Standard Securities in favour of the Security Trustee comprising fixed charges over the Company's heritable properties in Scotland.
- 3. The approval by the Company of the transfer of shares in the Company by GCFG to Bank of Scotland Branch Nominees Limited pursuant to a Shares Pledge granted by GCFG in favour of the Security Trustee in security inter alia for sums due by GCFG to the Security Trustee, the Senior Agent, the Mezzanine Agent, the Subordinated Agent, the Senior Banks, the Ancillary Bank, the Mezzanine Banks and the Subordinated Banks pursuant to the Senior Facility Agreement which include sums due by GCFG as principal debtor or guarantor in respect of debt raised to refinance amounts borrowed by GCFG to acquire shares in the Company.

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Private & confidential

The Directors
Marshall Food Group Limited
Newbridge
Midlothian
EH28 8SW

29 January 1999

Dear Sirs

Auditors' report to the directors of Marshall Food Group Limited pursuant to Section 156(4) of the Companies Act 1985

We have examined the attached statutory declaration of the directors dated 29 January 1999 in connection with the proposal that the company should give financial assistance for the purchase of 100% of the company's ordinary shares. We have enquired into the state of the company's affairs in order to review that basis for the statutory declaration.

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.

Yours faithfully

Registered Auditors

Member firm of