

6<sup>th</sup> November 2017

## Countrywide Farmers plc Changes to the Board at Countrywide Farmers plc

In April this year, the Board of Countrywide Farmers plc announced that it was exploring the potential sale of its Retail business. The Company announced that it had agreed terms with Mole Valley Farmers Ltd on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2017, with an expected completion before the end of January 2018. In addition, the Company has sold its 80% shareholding in MSF Welland Valley Feeds Ltd and is in the process of winding down and transferring its Turf & Amenity business to an alternative provider.

As a consequence of these decisions, the Board has reviewed the future structure of the Company and agreed that the role and responsibilities of the Chief Executive Officer would change substantially. In light of this, the Board has accepted the resignation of John Hardman who will leave the Company in January 2018.

The Board is pleased to announce that Julie Wirth, currently Chief Financial Officer will step up to the role of Interim Chief Executive Officer – working with John Hardman during a handover period and taking full responsibility from the beginning of January 2018.

The Board would like to thank John for his service to the Company over the last 32 years and wish him every success for the future.

***The Directors of Countrywide Farmers plc accept full responsibility for this statement***

Find more information about Countrywide at [www.countrywidefarmers.co.uk](http://www.countrywidefarmers.co.uk)

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