

countrywide

Farmers plc

Supplying the rural community



Interim Report & Accounts

For six months ended 30 November 2008

Supplying the rural community

Countrywide is the leading UK business in the supply of products and advice to the rural community. The business has three specialist areas - Agriculture, Energy and Retail trading throughout the UK to market town and country customers, with products available through sales specialists, direct sales team, country stores and e-commerce. Countrywide understands how things work in the rural community, providing an authentic range of rural products, seasonally selected supported by knowledgeable staff. Countrywide has over 11,000 shareholders, 40,000 account customer and employ over 800 members of staff.

Agriculture

The agricultural business supplies a wide range of feed and arable products to farmers. The range includes compound feeds, blends, straights, feed supplements, grass seed, cereal seed, fertiliser and crop protection. In addition specialist products are supplied to golf courses and sports grounds by Turf & Amenity. Feed and Arable sales specialists work in the field to deliver expert knowledge to farming and amenity customers and a direct sales team offer competitive prices on a wide range of inputs. Supported by a fleet of branded vehicles and a dedicated customer service team the business provides a first class customer experience.

Energy

We have been supplying products to the rural community for over 50 years. Heating oil, tractor diesel and road diesel are delivered direct with a range of fuel tanks available for safe and secure storage. Over 40 autogas sites are located throughout the UK, and fuel card packages are available for forecourts nationwide. Renewable energy solutions have been introduced to the portfolio of products, including biomass wood pellet boilers. LP gas is available in bulk and cylinders and along with all energy products is supported by an excellent customer service team, with a human voice on the end of the phone.

Retail

The retail business has over 40 country stores throughout the rural community. The country stores supply a wide range of products for farmers, smallholders, equestrians, pet owners, country sports people, gardeners, general public and rural businesses. Country Stores feature a superb range of products, with selected stores selling local produce and a range of fresh plants through the garden centres. Trained specialists in store offer the latest expert advice on feeding, animal health and equestrian products, with key staff AMTRA qualified to recommend animal health requirements. Countrywide operate a local delivery service and staff are on hand to assist with car loading. We also now offer 24 hour online shopping for customers for added convenience.

For further information on countrywide or to shop online visit:

www.countrywidefarmers.co.uk



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Chairman's Report

I am pleased to report continued strong trading across all of our businesses for the six months to 30th November 2008.

Whilst the first six months of the year has historically shown an operating loss in the period, I am delighted to report a group operating profit of £0.241m for the first time in Countrywide's history, which compares favourably to a loss of £0.545m last year. This performance is even more pleasing at a time when market conditions remain highly volatile for all three of our businesses. The strategy adopted twelve months ago has been effective and has contributed significantly to the progress that has been made.

Since we reported last year, raw material commodity prices have fallen back almost as rapidly as they rose in 2007. Managing this scale of price volatility in our Agricultural business has proved challenging and we are delighted to have been able to improve profitability. Generating compound feed volume growth in this market has proved especially difficult. Livestock farmers have maintained their profit margins by feeding home grown grain and have maximised the use of alternative feeds, as witnessed by further growth in volume in this sector of our business. Our arable business had an excellent half, with sales and margins in seed, crop protection and fertiliser all performing strongly. We continue to expand and strengthen our agricultural business with the recruitment of high calibre sales resources.

Retail remains the most profitable business within the group and achieved a like for like sales increase of 6.4% in the first six months of the year, this after a 9.4% increase in the first half of 2007. Margin has also improved in the period. This continued strong performance contrasts with the poor sales and margins reported by many retail businesses, fuelled by the sharp reduction in consumer confidence as economic conditions have worsened. While there has been some deterioration in performance in a small number of product lines, all our core product categories are performing strongly helped to some degree by the coldest winter for a number of years. The programme of improving the quality of the "store estate" continues, and five stores have been refurbished to improve the shopping experience for our customers as standards generally are enhanced. A new store at Waterlooville Hampshire opened in July 2008 and a number of others are in the pipeline for the second half of the year.

The Energy business has also performed well in the first half with the benefit of now owning 100% of our LPG business (having acquired the 50% owned by ESSO early in the second half of last year). Volumes have been boosted by the cold weather and the business is performing well ahead of our expectations. In contrast, Fuel volumes were 2% down on last year (like for like), as customers have reacted cautiously to the rapid rise and subsequent collapse in the price of fuel. In addition it is worth noting that we achieved volume growth of 17% in the first half last year. The acquisition of Cotswold Fuels in June 2008 has boosted overall volumes by 13%.

Net cash inflow from operating activities was strong at £2.185m (2007 outflow £0.848m) reflecting improved profitability and careful working capital management despite the continued volatility in raw material prices. However, higher levels of capital expenditure in the first half, including the acquisition of Cotswold Fuels, led to a £1.2m increase in net debt since 31 May 2008 to £13.2m. During the first half of 2007, we received the final £4.4m from the disposal of surplus freehold land at Evesham. I am delighted to report that on 1 December 2008 the group's banking arrangements were moved to HSBC Bank plc and full details are included in note 12 to the accounts. These facilities, totalling £20m, will provide sufficient headroom to implement the business' three year growth strategy and have been secured at competitive rates which will result in reduced interest costs, particularly following the recent and significant reduction in bank base rates.

Chairman's Report *(Continued)*

The valuation of the closed defined benefit pension scheme under FRS 17 at 30 November 2008 gave rise to an increase in the pension deficit, after deferred tax, to £9.5m compared to £5.5m at 31 May 2008. Full details are provided in note 11 to the accounts. The main factor for the increased deficit has been the substantial reduction in the fair value of assets in the scheme following the significant fall in equity markets over the period. The group's net assets show a corresponding fall to £25.3m at 30 November 2008 compared to £29.9m at 31 May 2008 as a result of the increased pension deficit. A further increase in the pension deficit in the second half year is likely as the impact of deteriorating global financial markets continue to impact on pension assets and liabilities.

The Board expects the companies improved performance to be maintained in the second half of the year, and that full year operating profit will be substantially ahead of that reported last year. The group continues to implement its three year strategy, actively seeking to improve ranges and product assortment in store as well as increasing the number of Countrywide stores, to develop and grow our Agricultural business with an increased focus on sales resource and to grow our Energy businesses through acquisition and improved marketing. Our property strategy continues to look at all opportunities to generate maximum value from surplus land under our ownership.

I am delighted with the response to the new shareholder privilege card launched at the annual general meeting last September; I encourage all shareholders holding 500 shares or more who have yet to apply for the card to do so. 1400 of your fellow shareholders have already done so. Full details have been enclosed with these interim accounts. Finally I want to acknowledge and thank all employees for their continued commitment and dedication to the company as we focus on our strategy to deliver improved profits.

Nigel Hall, Chairman - 26 February 2009

Registered Office and Advisers

Registered Number	3776711	Bankers	HSBC Bank Plc 62 George White Street Cabot Circus Bristol BS1 3BA
Registered Office	Defford Earls Croome Worcester WR8 9DF		
Auditors	PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP 31 Great George Street Bristol BS1 5QD	Solicitors	Bond Pearce LLP 3 Temple Quay Temple Back East Bristol BS1 6DZ

Consolidated Profit and Loss Account

For six months ended 30 November 2008

	Note	Group Six months ended 30 November 2008 £000s	Group Six months ended 30 November 2007 £000s
Turnover: including share of joint venture		106,470	80,343
Less: share of joint venture turnover		-	(1,704)
Group turnover		<hr/> 106,470	<hr/> 78,639
Cost of Sales		(88,812)	(64,781)
Gross Profit		<hr/> 17,658	<hr/> 13,858
Other operating income		234	336
Net operating expenses		(17,651)	(14,677)
Group Operating Profit/(Loss)		<hr/> 241	<hr/> (483)
Share of operating (Loss) of joint venture		-	(62)
Total Operating Profit/(Loss) before interest and taxation		<hr/> 241	<hr/> (545)
Interest receivable	2a	2	103
Interest payable	2a	(497)	(369)
Other finance (expense)/income	2b	(154)	158
(Loss) on ordinary activities before taxation		<hr/> (408)	<hr/> (653)
Taxation	3	82	36
(Loss) after taxation		<hr/> (326)	<hr/> (617)
Minority Interests in profit for the period		(13)	(14)
(Loss) for the period		<hr/> (339)	<hr/> (631)

Note of Historical Cost Losses

For six months ended 30 November 2008

	Group 2008 £000s	Group 2007 £000s
Reported (Loss) on ordinary activities before taxation	(408)	(653)
Historical cost (Loss) on ordinary activities before taxation	<u>(408)</u>	<u>(653)</u>
Historical cost (Loss) for the period after taxation and minority interest	<u>(339)</u>	<u>(631)</u>

Statement of Total Consolidated Recognised Losses

For six months ended 30 November 2008

	Note	Group 2008 £000s	Group 2007 £000s
(Loss) for the financial period		(339)	(631)
Actuarial (loss) recognised in the pension scheme	11	(5,953)	(2,801)
Movement on deferred tax asset relating to pension scheme		1,667	784
Impact of tax rate change recognised in reserves		-	(128)
Total recognised (losses) for the year		<u>(4,625)</u>	<u>(2,776)</u>

Consolidated Balance Sheet

For six months ended 30 November 2008

		Group At 30 November 2008 £000s	Group At 30 November 2007 £000s	Group At 31 May 2008 £000s
Fixed Assets				
Intangible assets				
Goodwill		291	304	247
Negative Goodwill		(936)	-	(988)
		<u>(645)</u>	<u>304</u>	<u>(741)</u>
Tangible assets	4	38,533	31,547	37,937
Investments		107	107	107
Investment in Joint Venture:				
Share of Gross Assets		-	5,694	-
Share of Gross Liabilities		-	(1,969)	-
		<u>37,995</u>	<u>35,683</u>	<u>37,303</u>
Current Assets				
Stock	5	16,578	13,415	15,539
Debtors	6	24,774	20,741	27,342
Cash at bank and in hand		41	40	39
		<u>41,393</u>	<u>34,196</u>	<u>42,920</u>
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	7	(39,532)	(30,576)	(39,453)
Net Current Assets		<u>1,861</u>	<u>3,620</u>	<u>3,467</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<u>39,856</u>	<u>39,303</u>	<u>40,770</u>
Creditors - amounts falling due after more than one year	8	(3,735)	(4,306)	(4,048)
Provisions for liabilities and charges		(1,265)	(1,284)	(1,273)
Net assets excluding Pension Liability		<u>34,856</u>	<u>33,713</u>	<u>35,449</u>
Net Pension Liability	11	(9,525)	(6,150)	(5,511)
Net assets		<u>25,331</u>	<u>27,563</u>	<u>29,938</u>
Capital and Reserves				
Called up share capital		16,413	16,413	16,413
Merger reserve		-	(7,343)	-
Revaluation reserve		14,536	14,536	14,536
Profit and loss account	9	(5,738)	3,858	(1,129)
Equity shareholders' funds	10	<u>25,211</u>	<u>27,464</u>	<u>29,820</u>
Equity minority interests		120	99	118
Total equity shareholders' funds		<u>25,331</u>	<u>27,563</u>	<u>29,938</u>

The financial statements on pages 3 to 14 were approved by the Board of Directors on 26 February 2009.

Consolidated Cash Flow Statement

For six months ended 30 November 2008

		Group Six months ended 30 November 2008 £000s	Group Six months ended 30 November 2007 £000s
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	(a)	2,185	(848)
Returns on investments and servicing of finance			
Interest received		2	33
Interest paid		(440)	(380)
Interest element of finance lease payments		(7)	(13)
Dividend paid to minority interests		(6)	(2)
		<u>(451)</u>	<u>(362)</u>
Taxation			
Corporation tax paid		(304)	-
Capital expenditure and financial investment			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(2,275)	(755)
Sale of tangible fixed assets		22	4,470
		<u>(2,253)</u>	<u>3,715</u>
Acquisitions and disposals			
Payment to acquire trade and business		(354)	-
Net cash flow before use of liquid resources and financing		<u>(1,177)</u>	<u>2,505</u>
Financing			
(Decrease) in Members' loans		(1)	-
(Decrease) in Members' Retirement Scheme		(8)	(26)
Repayment of loans		(350)	(3,750)
Capital element of finance lease payments		(34)	(168)
		<u>(393)</u>	<u>(3,944)</u>
Net cash (outflow) from financing			
(Decrease) in cash for the period	(b)	<u>(1,570)</u>	<u>(1,439)</u>

Consolidated Cash Flow Statement Notes

For six months ended 30 November 2008

(a) Reconciliation of Operating Profit/(Loss) to Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities

	Group Six months ended 30 November 2008 £000s	Group Six months ended 30 November 2007 £000s
Operating profit/(loss)	241	(483)
Depreciation charge	1,893	1,463
Net goodwill amortisation	8	57
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	14	-
(Increase) in stock	(1,039)	(1,687)
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	2,830	(2,075)
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors	(1,229)	2,370
Excess of pension contributions over charge	(533)	(493)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	2,185	(848)

(b) Reconciliation of Cash Flow to movement in Net Debt

	Group Six months ended 30 November 2008 £000s	Group Six months ended 30 November 2007 £000s
Increase in Cash in hand	2	-
(Increase) in net overdraft	(1,572)	(1,439)
Decrease in loans	350	3,750
Decrease in Members' loans	1	-
Decrease in lease financing	34	168
Decrease in Members' Retirement Scheme	8	26
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Movement in net debt for the year	(1,177)	2,505
Opening net debt	(12,018)	(12,197)
Closing net debt	<hr/>	<hr/>
	(13,195)	(9,692)

Consolidated Cash Flow Statement Notes (Continued)

For six months ended 30 November 2008

(c) Analysis of Net Debt

Group	At 1 June 2008 £000s	Cash Flow £000s	At 30 November 2008 £000s
Cash in hand	39	2	41
Due within one year:			
Cash in hand and at bank, advances and overdrafts	(5,835)	(1,572)	(7,407)
Bank loans	(700)	-	(700)
Members' loans	(91)	1	(90)
Finance leases	(110)	(1)	(111)
Due after one year:			
Bank loans	(3,850)	350	(3,500)
Members' Retirement Scheme	(1,273)	8	(1,265)
Finance leases	(198)	35	(163)
	<u>(12,018)</u>	<u>(1,177)</u>	<u>(13,195)</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements

For six months ended 30 November 2008

1) BASIS OF PREPARATION

The interim report and accounts are unaudited but have been formally reviewed by the auditors and their report is set out on page 15. The information shown for the six months ended 30 November 2008 does not constitute full financial statements within the meaning of section 240 of the Companies Act 1985. The results shown for the year ended 31 May 2008 are extracted from the full financial statements, which have been filed with the Registrar of Companies.

The report of the auditors on these accounts was unqualified and did not contain a statement under section 237(2) or section 237 (3) of the Companies Act 1985.

The accounting policies used in these statements are consistent with those used in the Financial Statements at 31 May 2008.

2a) INTEREST

	Group Total Six months ended 30 November 2008 £000s	Group Total Six months ended 30 November 2007 £000s
Interest Receivable		
Interest receivable on bank deposit	2	33
Joint Venture interest receivable	-	70
	<u>2</u>	<u>103</u>
Interest Payable		
Interest payable on bank loans and overdrafts	232	340
Interest on invoice discounting finance	258	13
Interest payable on finance leases	7	13
Interest payable other than Joint Venture	497	366
Joint Venture interest payable	-	3
	<u>497</u>	<u>369</u>

2b) OTHER FINANCE EXPENSE/INCOME

	Group Total Six months ended 30 November 2008 £000s	Group Total Six months ended 30 November 2007 £000s
Other finance (expense)/income - pension scheme	<u>(154)</u>	<u>158</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

For six months ended 30 November 2008

3) TAX ON (LOSS) ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES

	Group Total 30 November 2008 £000s	Group Total 30 November 2007 £000s
Current tax		
United Kingdom corporation tax at 29.7% (2007: 29.7%)		
Group	72	651
Joint Venture	-	(9)
Current tax charge	<u>72</u>	<u>642</u>
Deferred tax:		
Group	(154)	(674)
Joint Venture	-	(4)
Tax on (loss) on ordinary activities	<u>(82)</u>	<u>(36)</u>

4) TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Group	Freehold				Total £000s
	Land and Buildings £000s	Leasehold Property £000s	Plant and Machinery £000s	Vehicles £000s	
Cost					
At 1 June 2008	30,282	1,840	30,477	2,819	65,418
Additions	27	-	2,434	64	2,525
Disposals	-	-	(68)	-	(68)
Reclassification	-	(59)	487	(428)	-
At 30 November 2008	<u>30,309</u>	<u>1,781</u>	<u>33,330</u>	<u>2,455</u>	<u>67,875</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 June 2008	7,100	874	17,577	1,930	27,481
Charge for the period	284	78	1,389	142	1,893
Disposals	-	-	(32)	-	(32)
Reclassification	-	-	(280)	280	-
At 30 November 2008	<u>7,384</u>	<u>952</u>	<u>18,654</u>	<u>2,352</u>	<u>29,342</u>
Net book value at 30 November 2008	<u>22,925</u>	<u>829</u>	<u>14,676</u>	<u>103</u>	<u>38,533</u>
Net book value at 31 May 2008	<u>23,182</u>	<u>966</u>	<u>12,900</u>	<u>889</u>	<u>37,937</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

For six months ended 30 November 2008

5) STOCK

	Group At 30 November 2008 £000s	Group At 30 November 2007 £000s	Group At 31 May 2008 £000s
Finished goods	16,578	13,415	15,539

6) DEBTORS

	Group At 30 November 2008 £000s	Group At 30 November 2007 £000s	Group At 31 May 2008 £000s
Trade debtors	20,656	16,503	23,505
Other debtors	1,734	1,242	1,292
Prepayments and accrued income	1,287	2,232	1,709
Deferred taxation	1,097	764	836
	<u>24,774</u>	<u>20,741</u>	<u>27,342</u>

7) CREDITORS - AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Group At 30 November 2008 £000s	Group At 30 November 2007 £000s	Group At 31 May 2008 £000s
Bank loans, advances and overdrafts	1,235	3,581	1,358
Amounts due in respect of invoice discounting	6,872	384	5,177
Members' loans	90	92	91
Trade creditors	22,214	18,190	25,266
Finance lease obligations	111	113	110
Corporation tax	80	2,409	384
Other taxation and social security	650	1,450	17
Accruals and deferred income	8,280	4,357	7,050
	<u>39,532</u>	<u>30,576</u>	<u>39,453</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

For six months ended 30 November 2008

8) CREDITORS - AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	Group At 30 November 2008 £000s	Group At 30 November 2007 £000s	Group At 31 May 2008 £000s
Bank loans	3,500	4,200	3,850
Finance lease obligations	163	78	198
Corporation tax	72	28	-
	<u>3,735</u>	<u>4,306</u>	<u>4,048</u>

9) PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

	Group £000s
At 1 June 2008	(1,129)
Retained (loss) for the period	(339)
Actuarial (loss) on pension scheme	(5,953)
Movement on deferred tax relating to pension liability	1,667
Share option charge	16
At 30 November 2008	<u>(5,738)</u>

10) RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

	Group At 30 November 2008 £000s	Group At 30 November 2007 £000s
At beginning of period	29,820	30,240
Retained (loss) for the period	(339)	(631)
Actuarial (loss) on pension scheme	(5,953)	(2,801)
Movement on deferred tax relating to pension liability	1,667	784
Impact of tax rate change recognised in reserves	-	(128)
Share option charge	16	-
At end of period	<u>25,211</u>	<u>27,464</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

For six months ended 30 November 2008

11) PENSION OBLIGATIONS

During the period, the Group has operated two pension schemes, the Countrywide Farmers Money Purchase Pension Scheme and the Countrywide Farmers Retirement Benefits Scheme.

A full actuarial valuation of the Countrywide Farmers Retirement Benefits Scheme was carried out at 5 April 2006 and has been updated to 30 November 2008 by a qualified independent actuary. The major assumptions used by the actuary are as detailed in the Financial Statements at 31 May 2008, with the following exceptions: discount rate of 7.0% (May 2008: 6.5%), inflation rate of 2.6% (May 2008: 3.7%), a rate of increase in pensions in payment of 2.6% (May 2008: 3.45%) and deferred pensions of 3.0% (May 2008: 3.45%).

	At 30 November 2008 £000s	At 30 November 2007 £000s	At 31 May 2008 £000s
Analysis of the amount charged to operating profit in respect of defined benefit scheme:			
Current service cost	-	86	-
Analysis of the amount charged/(credited) to other finance income:			
Net return	154	(158)	(302)
Analysis of amount recognised in statement of total recognised gains and losses (STRGL):			
Net (loss) recognised	(5,953)	(2,801)	(2,576)
The change in defined benefit obligation and assets for the final salary section of the scheme			
Defined benefit obligation at beginning of period	69,162	72,437	72,437
Interest cost	2,225	2,084	4,043
Benefits paid	(1,380)	(1,603)	(3,026)
Actuarial (gain)	(9,957)	(613)	(4,292)
Defined benefit obligation at end of period	<u>60,050</u>	<u>72,305</u>	<u>69,162</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)

For six months ended 30 November 2008

	At 30 November 2008 £000s	At 30 November 2007 £000s	At 31 May 2008 £000s
Fair value of assets at beginning of period	61,507	66,044	66,044
Expected return on assets	2,071	2,242	4,345
Employer contributions	533	493	1,012
Benefits paid	(1,380)	(1,603)	(3,026)
Actuarial (loss) on assets	(15,910)	(3,414)	(6,868)
Fair value of assets at end of period	<u>46,821</u>	<u>63,762</u>	<u>61,507</u>
Deficit in the scheme	(13,229)	(8,542)	(7,655)
Related deferred tax asset	<u>3,704</u>	<u>2,392</u>	<u>2,144</u>
Net pension liability	<u>(9,525)</u>	<u>(6,150)</u>	<u>(5,511)</u>

12) POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

On 1 December 2008, the group's bankers and facility arrangements were moved from Barclays Bank plc to HSBC Bank plc.

The banking facilities in place from this date were:

- (1) Revolving loan facility of £12,000,000 repayable in 3 years bearing interest at 1% above HSBC Bank plc Base Rate.
- (2) An overdraft facility of £8,000,000 bearing interest at 1% above HSBC Bank plc Base Rate.
- (3) Engagements of £1,950,000
- (4) Import Line of £2,000,000

These facilities are secured by a first debenture over the assets of Countrywide Farmers Plc and MSF Welland Valley Feeds Limited and a first legal charge over seven of Countrywide Farmers Plc's freehold properties. The Countrywide Farmers Retirement Benefit Scheme has a second legal charge over these seven properties.

Independent review report to Countrywide Farmers plc

Introduction

We have been engaged by the company to review the condensed set of financial statements in the Interim report and accounts for the six months ended 30 November 2008, which comprises the consolidated profit and loss account, statement of consolidated total recognised gains and losses, the consolidated balance sheet, consolidated cash flow statement and related notes. We have read the other information contained in the Interim report and accounts and considered whether it contains any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the information in the condensed set of financial statements.

Directors' responsibilities

The Interim report and accounts is the responsibility of, and has been approved by, the directors. The directors are responsible for preparing the Interim report and accounts in accordance with listing rules of Sharemark.

As disclosed in note 1, the annual financial statements of the group are prepared in accordance with UK GAAP.

Our responsibility

Our responsibility is to express to the company a conclusion on the condensed set of financial statements in the Interim report and accounts based on our review. This report, including the conclusion, has been prepared for and only for the company for the purpose of the listing rules of Sharemark and for no other purpose. We do not, in producing this report, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

Scope of review

We conducted our review in accordance with International Standard on Review Engagements (UK and Ireland) 2410, 'Review of Interim Financial Information Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity' issued by the Auditing Practices Board for use in the United Kingdom. A review of interim financial information consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

Conclusion

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the condensed set of financial statements in the Interim report and accounts for the six months ended 30 November 2008 is not prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with UK GAAP and the listing rules of Sharemark.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants
26 February 2009
Bristol

Countrywide Sites





countrywide

Farmers plc

Supplying the rural community