

1 May 2015

**Countrywide Farmers plc.
Completion of the Sale of Livestock Feed and Forage business**

Sale allows Countrywide to focus on its Retail, LPG energy and Turf and Amenity businesses.

Countrywide Farmers plc ("Countrywide"), one of the UK's leading suppliers of products, services and advice to the rural community, announces the completion of the sale of its Livestock Feed and Forage business.

Following the initial announcement on 9 December 2014, the sale of the Livestock Feed and Forage business comprising compound and alternative feeds, fertilizer and forage seeds has been subject to review by the Competition and Markets Authority. Following clearance from the Authority, the sale of the business to ForFarmers, an international operating company active in the field of conventional and organic feed solutions for the animal husbandry sector has now completed, the deal will be worth up to £15m.

Countrywide also announces the completion of the disposal of its Arable business to Hutchinsons on 8 December 2014 and its Crop Marketing business to Openfield on 16 January 2015.

Commenting on the new focus of the business, John Hardman, Chief Executive, said:

'Countrywide is now in a position to focus on its vision 'to be the first choice multichannel supplier of quality products and services to the rural community. The additional cash funds raised through the sale will be used to drive growth in the remaining businesses which the Board of Directors believe have the best potential to deliver long term growth in shareholder value.

As reported in the last annual accounts Project Fusion represents a significant investment in technology to help us fully develop our multichannel strategy to enhance and exploit our existing store network, infield sales team and on line shopping. An ambitious pipeline of new stores and exciting new formats are well advanced with 3 new stores opening by the end of August this year. Our central distribution centre is also being further developed to support these multichannel growth plans.

Uk Farming customers will stay at the heart of our growth plans, with close to 7,000 agriculture products available in store, catalogue and on line, will continue to be supported by a dedicated field sales team. Increasing the number of stores dedicated to the farming customer base is a key strand of the growth strategy.

The Countrywide LPG business services customers in the Rural community with bulk gas and cylinders. We continue to grow customer numbers year on year, with an increasing number being sourced from our Store customer network. The customer base now benefits from a unique loyalty scheme which is linked to our Countrystores. We continue to invest in its storage and distribution infrastructure to provide the platform for further growth.

Turf and Amenity has grown sales over the past 3 years, advising Golf course and Amenity managers throughout the trading area. The specialist sales team are backed by a comprehensive range of market leading products many of which are available for collection from a Countrywide store or online providing customers with more ways to buy than most competitors.

This is a major and exciting period of change for the organisation, there will be plenty of challenges on the journey to delivering our new strategy'.