

27 April, 2007

Board Change

Close Brothers Group plc announces that, after more than 30 years as finance director of Close Brothers and latterly also as group joint managing director, Peter Winkworth will be stepping down from the Board of the Company in his 60^{th} year.

It is expected that Peter will retire in the autumn shortly after the publication of the Group's 2007 Annual Report and Accounts. The Company is now commencing the process of appointing a successor as finance director and will ensure an orderly hand-over.

The Board acknowledges Peter's extraordinary contribution to the creation and development of Close Brothers over these many years. He will retire with the thanks and best wishes of all of us.

Colin Keogh (CEO) said "Peter was one of the founders of modern day Close Brothers and the best of finance directors. He has made a remarkable contribution and we will miss him greatly."

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