

BEWARE OF SHARE FRAUDSTERS

Shareholders are cautioned to be very wary of any unsolicited advice, offers to buy shares at a discount, sell your shares at a premium or offers of free company reports.

Wilmington is aware that some of its shareholders have received unsolicited phone calls or letters from individuals or companies offering to buy or sell Wilmington shares on very favourable terms. These communications imply a connection with Wilmington and are often from overseas based 'brokers' who are very persuasive and extremely persistent, with professional websites to support their activities. The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) report that such scams cost investors in excess of £200 million each year.

Such communications are not endorsed by Wilmington as the Company does not participate in such unsolicited communication programmes. The callers obtain your details from the Company's Share Register which is a publicly available document and therefore makes it relatively easy for someone to access your name and address. They then look to other sources of information, such as the various directory enquiry services to obtain your phone number.

It is the Company's experience that such 'scams' are introduced by reference to one of the following:

- Advising that a takeover of Wilmington is imminent;
- Offering to buy shares at a price which is much higher than the current share price. This often involves the payment of an 'administration fee' or transferring shares to someone else.

Unfortunately, the current trend is an increase in such scams.

If you do receive such an approach, you are encouraged to take the following steps:

- **Reject cold calls**
If you've been cold called with an offer to buy or sell shares, chances are it's a high risk investment or a scam. You should treat the call with extreme caution. The safest thing to do is to hang up.
- **Check the firm on the FS register at www.fca.org.uk/register**
The Financial Services Register is a public record of all the firms and individuals in the financial services industry that are regulated by the FCA.
- **Get impartial advice**
Think about getting impartial financial advice before you hand over any money. Seek advice from someone unconnected to the firm that has approached you.

Report a scam

If you suspect that you have been approached by fraudsters please tell the FCA using the share fraud reporting form at www.fca.org.uk/scams, where you can find out more about investment scams. You can also call the FCA Consumer Helpline on **0800 111 6768**.

If you have lost money to investment fraud, you should report it to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or online at www.actionfraud.police.uk.