ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The accounts of the Company are prepared for the period up to the Friday closest to 31 March each year. Consequently, the financial statements for the current period cover the 53 weeks to 3 April 2009, whilst the comparative period covered the 52 weeks to 28 March 2008. The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention on an ongoing basis, except where Financial Reporting Standards require an alternative treatment, in accordance with the Companies Act 1985, applicable accounting standards and specifically in accordance with the accounting policies set out below. The principal variation to the historical cost convention relates to share-based payments.

A consolidated cash flow statement has been included in the Halfords Group plc consolidated accounts. The Company has therefore taken advantage of the exemption under FRS 1 (revised 1996) "Cash flow statements" not to produce a cash flow statement.

The Company has taken the available exemption not to adopt FRS 29 "Financial instruments: disclosures".

Share-based payments

The Company operates a number of equity-settled, share-based compensation plans that are awarded to employees of the Company's subsidiaries.

In accordance with UITF Abstract 44 "FRS 20 (IFRS 2) — Group and treasury share transactions", the fair value of the employee services received under such schemes is recognised as an expense in the subsidiary financial statements, which benefit from the employee services. The Company has recognised the fair value of the share based payments as an increase to equity with a corresponding adjustment to investments.

Fair values are determined using appropriate option pricing models. The total fair value recognised is determined by reference to the fair value of share incentives, excluding the impact of any non-market vesting conditions. Non-market vesting conditions are included in assumptions about the number of share incentives that are expected to vest. At each balance sheet date, the Company revises its estimates of the number of share incentives that are expected to vest. The impact of the revision of original estimates, if any, is recognised as an adjustment to equity, with a corresponding adjustment to investments, over the remaining vesting period.

Investments

Investments in subsidiary undertakings are stated at the original cost of the investments. Provision is made against cost where, in the opinion of the Directors, the value of the investments has been impaired.

Equity dividends

Final dividends are recognised in the Company's financial statements in the period in which the dividends are approved by shareholders. Interim equity dividends are recognised in the period they are paid.