THE TAKEOVER PANEL

OFFER BY THE BURTON GROUP PLC ("BURTON") FOR DEBENHAMS PLC ("DEBENHAMS")

In view of recent press speculation to the effect that the Burton offer for Debenhams must close at 3.00pm on 2 August unless it is unconditional as to acceptances, the Panel wishes to make it clear that, while Burton's offer is due to close at that time, Burton has the right, if it chooses, to extend its offer until 3.30pm on Sunday 4 August (the 60th day following the posting of the offer document).

1 August 1985