

THE TAKEOVER PANEL

OFFER BY
BANK OF SCOTLAND ("BOS")
FOR
NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK PLC ("NATWEST")

Offer timetable extended

Rule 31.9 of the Code requires that all significant financial information should be published by an offeree company by the 39th day following the posting of the offer document. Normally, therefore, the last day for publication by Nat West of such information in the context of the offer by BOS would have been 22 November 1999. However, the decision whether or not to refer the offer by BOS to the Competition Commission has yet to be announced.

In these circumstances the Panel has ruled that "Day 39" will be deemed to be the second day after the announcement of that decision.

"Day 46" (the last date for posting a revised offer) and "Day 60" (the date by which an offer must become unconditional as to acceptances) will also be extended by the same number of days. The next expiry date of the offer will not be affected by this extension.

19 November 1999