

THE TAKEOVER PANEL

ASK CENTRAL PLC (“ASK CENTRAL”)

On 22 December 2003, City Centre Restaurants plc (now renamed The Restaurant Group plc (“The Restaurant Group”)) posted offer documentation in connection with its proposed acquisition of ASK Central. Subsequently, on 9 January, TDR Capital LLP (“TDR Capital”) announced that it was evaluating a possible offer for ASK Central. Following recent representations made by The Restaurant Group, the Panel Executive has been considering the application of Note 1 on Rule 19.3 of the Code to the announcement made by TDR Capital.

Following discussions with the parties’ advisers, the Panel Executive has ruled that TDR Capital must, by 12.00 noon on Friday 13 February, either announce an offer for ASK Central under Rule 2.5 of the Code or announce that it will not proceed with an offer for ASK Central. No extension to this deadline will be granted, except with the consent of the Panel Executive. In the event that TDR Capital announces that it will not proceed with an offer for ASK Central, it and any person acting in concert with it will, except with the consent of the Panel Executive, be bound by the restrictions contained in Rule 2.8 of the Code for six months from the date of such announcement.

Each of the parties has accepted this ruling.

3 February 2004