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**Waterford Wedgwood plc**  
**(“Waterford Wedgwood” or “the Group” or “the Company”)**

Waterford Wedgwood plc regrets to announce that it has this morning requested that its Stock Units be suspended from trading on the Irish Stock Exchange, with immediate effect, following the appointment of David Carson of Deloitte as Receiver to the Company and certain of its Irish subsidiaries and the expected appointment later today of Angus Martin, Neville Kahn, Nick Dargan and Dominic Wong of Deloitte LLP as Joint Administrators to Waterford Wedgwood UK plc and certain UK subsidiaries. Details of the affected companies will be set out in an announcement to be released today by the Receiver and Joint Administrators.

The Board of Directors has for some time, and throughout the periods of forbearance last referred to in the Company’s announcement of December 22, 2008, been focused on the recapitalisation of the Company, and more recently on active discussions regarding the possible investment in the Company as a going concern. The Board and executives have received remarkable support in this effort at the highest levels from the Irish and UK governments and certain Irish banks.

Notwithstanding the devastating effects of the global financial crisis, the Board was progressing this valuable effort. However, following the expiration and non-renewal of the forbearance period, certain Group companies have now been placed into receivership or will shortly be placed into administration. The continuance of the forbearance was essential to the Group continuing as a going concern.

David Sculley, Group Chief Executive Officer, Waterford Wedgwood plc, said: “I am disappointed that certain of the Group’s UK and Irish subsidiaries have had to go into administration and receivership, but we remain optimistic that ongoing discussions will result in a buyer being found for the businesses.”

Sir Anthony O'Reilly, non-executive Chairman of Waterford Wedgwood plc, said: "I want to commend the Board and the executives, the Irish and UK governments, our suppliers, our customers and our employees for all of their support and efforts. The Board has acted tirelessly in its efforts to resolve the Company's issues as a going concern. And the principal shareholders have invested in support of this business for almost 20 years. We are consoled only by the fact that everything that could have been done, by management and by the Board, to preserve the Group, was done."

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