

Our Ref: JXM/PXP/OGH/DJD/D0011AL/PF/7

### TO THE CREDITORS AND MEMBERS

Recovery and Reorganisation

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26 November 2014

Dear Sir/Madam

### **Defined Returns Limited - In Liquidation (the Company)**

### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 Following the appointment of Martin Ellis and Andrew Hosking as Joint Liquidators of the Company on 28 September 2010, in accordance with Section 104A of the Insolvency Act 1986, and Martin Ellis' and Andrew Hosking's subsequent resignations on 27 June 2014 and 8 December 2011, respectively, and my appointment as Liquidator of the Company on 8 December 2011, in accordance with Section 104A of the Insolvency Act 1986, I now report on the progress of the liquidation for the year ended 27 September 2014 and attach:
  - Appendix A, an account of my receipts and payments for the duration of the liquidation and year ended 27 September 2014
  - Appendix B, a statement of the remuneration charged and expenses incurred by the liquidator in the period 28 September 2013 to 27 September 2014
  - Appendix C, an analysis of time costs as required by Statement of Insolvency Practice 9
  - Appendix D, an extract from the Insolvency Rules 1986 relating to creditors' rights to request additional information from the liquidator (rule 4.49E)
  - Appendix E, an extract from the Insolvency Rules 1986 relating to creditors' rights to challenge the liquidator's remuneration or expenses if excessive (rule 4.131)

Please note that I am authorised by the Insolvency Practitioners Association to act as insolvency practitioner.

### 2 Statutory information

2.1 The Company's statutory details are as follows:

Registered number

04991156

Registered office

c/o Grant Thornton UK LLP, 30 Finsbury Square, London, EC2P 2YU

**Chartered Accountants** 

Member firm within Grant Thornton International Ltd

Grant Thornton UK LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales: No.OC307742. Registered office: Grant Thornton House, Melton Street, Euston Square, London NW 1 2EP A list of members is available from our registered office.

Grant Thornton UK LLP is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

### 3 Progress report

### 3.1 Assets

No statement of affairs has been prepared for the liquidation. The only asset transferred to the Company from the administration estate was the balance of £71,445.

As explained in my previous progress report, the sum of £13,416 has also been received from funds held by third parties prior to our appointment. These funds relate to interest held in the Company's bank accounts.

### 3.2 Liabilities

As you are aware, the Company's insolvency arose as a result of claims made by investors that the Company's literature, in respect of structured products where Lehman Brothers (Lehman) entities acted as counter-party, did not adequately warn investors as to the risks of counterparty failure.

### 3.3 Creditors

You will also be aware that, in dealing with investors' claims for compensation, the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) has drawn a distinction between 'capital secure' and 'capital at risk' products. The legal advice I have received from Counsel has drawn no such distinction. Therefore, I consider that investors in both plans are unsecured creditors. This results in significant unsecured creditors arising as a result of the failure of Lehman entities, amounting to a theoretical maximum of c.£23 million.

Over and above investor claims, I have received unsecured trade claims totalling £39,929. With the exception of cash at bank at the time of my appointment, the Company had no other realisable assets. At this point in time I consider it very unlikely that sufficient funds will be available to facilitate a dividend to the unsecured creditors in this case.

This does not affect the future recovery and distribution of dividends received from the Lehman Brothers estates, which are ring-fenced client monies and will continue to be distributed to affected investors in due course.

There are no preferential creditors in this matter.

### 4 Lehman backed financial products

- 4.1 As explained previously, investors in Lehman backed financial products are also unsecured creditors in the following Lehman entities:
  - The Lehman entities providing the underlying securities on which the value of the
    investments was based. This could be one or a combination of three entities in respect of
    each plan: Lehman Brothers Securities N.V. (LBS), Lehman Brothers Treasury Co B.V.
    (LBT) and Lehman Brothers Bankhaus AG (LBBAG); and
  - Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc (LBHI) on the grounds that LBHI guaranteed all securities issued by LBS, LBT and LBBAG

Please note that depending on how the claims are dealt with by the respective Lehman entities the direct creditor may be the legal holder of the issued security. However, investors should be aware that this does not affect their position as the ultimate beneficial creditor of any subsequent distribution from Lehman entities.

### 4.2 Plans invested in LBS and LBT Securities

Some of you will have now received the first and second interim dividend representing distributions received from the respective trustees of LBS, LBT and LBHI. For those investors who did not receive a distribution, I advise that you either failed to return a completed questionnaire sent to the investors of the Company on 19 June 2013 which enabled me to determine your eligibility for a distribution, you have previously been compensated by the FSCS, or your plan was invested in LBBAG issued securities (see below).

### 4.3 Lehman Entities distribution summary

Please find detailed below a summary of distributions received by the Company as at the date of this report:

- LBHI: £4,402,152 (representing all LBHI distributions 1-6)
- LBT: £1,343,726 (representing all LBT distributions 1-3)
- LBS: £4,085,206 (representing all LBS distributions 1-3)

To date I have returned £6,853,585 (less cost) to the respective investors, broken down as follows:

- LBHI: £2,882,706 (representing LBHI distributions 1-4)
- LBT: £1,039,235 (representing LBT distribution 1-2)
- LBS: £2,931,644 (representing LBS distribution 1-2)

The balance which amounts to £2,977,499, represents distributions recently received.

### 4.4 Claims in LBBAG

LBBAG has not been prepared to correspond with the Joint Administrators and are only willing to speak directly with the individual investors. It was the Joint Administrators'

understanding at the time that this affects c.80 investors and the Directors of the Company have previously advised that all of these individuals have been contacted by the Company prior to the Joint Administrators' appointment and have lodged claims in the LBBAG insolvency.

### 4.5 Lehman Brothers International (Europe) (LBIE)

A claim against LBIE with respect to LBIE's liability for the production of misleading plan literature, used to market DRL financial products, has been made on behalf of the underlying investors and I remain in discussions with the administrators of LBIE in relation to the acceptance of this claim.

### 4.6 Action to be undertaken

I will continue to liaise with LBHI, LBS and LBT to monitor the timeframe and quantum of likely distributions and to communicate to investors.

In relation to monies in hand, I have instigated proceedings for calculating and distributing these monies to investors, by way of my third distribution, which I anticipate will be completed in early 2015.

### 5 Remuneration

### 5.1 Joint Liquidators' remuneration and expenses

In accordance with the Statement of Insolvency Practice (SIP 9), I attached at Appendix C a summary of my liquidation time costs incurred in the sum of £85,122 during the period 28 September 2010 to 27 September 2014 and a summary of tasks completed by the Liquidator and his staff.

The amount shows total time costs representing 321 hours at an average of £265.28 per hour.

Total time costs incurred for this period, 28 September 2013 to 27 September 2014, are £,30,030.

Time is charged in units of 6 minutes. Background information regarding the fees of liquidators can be found at http://www.insolvency-practitioners.org.uk (navigate via 'Regulation and Guidance' to 'Creditors Guides to Fees').

Alternatively, I will supply this information by post on request. Although the basis of my remuneration was agreed in the administration, the nature of the insolvency regulations require me to obtain new approval in the liquidation.

Should you require any further assistance, please contact Will Bowden at the address detailed at the start of this report, by telephone on 0161 953 6392, or by email at will.j.bowden@uk.gt.com.

Yours faithfully for and on behalf of Defined Returns Limited

David Dunckley

Liquidator

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### A Abstract of the Joint Liquidators' receipts and payments

DEFINED RETURNS LIMITED - IN LIQUII ACCOUNT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS 28 SEPTEMBER 2010 TO 27 SEPTEMBER 201	FOR THE PERIOD	Total to 27 September 2014
RECEIPTS		
Administration Surplus	-	71,445
Cash at Bank	20	55
Bank/ISA Interest Gross	51	658
Cash at 3rd Party Accounts	<b>=</b> 8	13,416
TOTAL RECEIPTS	51_	85,574
PAYMENTS		
Postage	-	5,238
Liquidators Fees	=:	40,713
Liquidators Expenses		4
DTI Cheque Fees	<u> </u>	8
ISA Account Fees	100	361
Legal Fees	-	7,989
Corporation Tax	3,324	3,381
Statutory Advertising	-	158
Tax on Interest	38	160
VAT Irrecoverable	#I	12,830
TOTAL PAYMENTS	3,462	70,842
BALANCE IN HAND AT 27 SEPTEMBER 202	14	14,733

**Note:** All expenses solely attributable to individual investors' Lehman distributions have been reallocated as costs to these Lehman distributions, and not as costs to the Company and its' general creditors.

### B Remuneration charged and expenses incurred by the Joint Liquidators in the period

	Charged/incurred in period 28 September 2013 to 27 September 2014	Cumulative charged/incurred to 27 September 2014	Of which paid to 27 September 2014
	£	£	£
Joint Liquidators' fees:	30,030	85,122	40,713
Expenses	0	4	4
Legal fees			
Osborne Clarke	0	7,989	7,989

Note: All expenses solely attributable to individual investors' Lehman distributions have been reallocated as costs to these Lehman distributions, and not as costs to the Company and its' general creditors.

### C SIP 9 information

### Introduction

The following information is provided in connection with the administrators' remuneration and disbursements in accordance with SIP 9.

Explanation of Grant Thornton UK LLP charging and disbursement recovery policies

### **Time costs**

All partners and staff are charged out at hourly rates appropriate to their grade, as shown on the attached schedule. Details of the hourly charge-out rates are made available to creditors or committees at the time of fixing the basis of our fees. Support staff (ie secretaries, cashiers and filing clerks) are charged to the case for the time they work on it.

	From 01/07/09	From 01/07/10	From 01/07/11	From 01/07/12	From 01/07/13	From 01/07/14
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Partners up to	510	535	560	580	600	615
Managers up to	385	405	425	440	455	470
Administrators up to	275	285	300	310	320	330
Assistants and support staff up to	190	195	205	210	220	230

### **Disbursements**

Out of pocket expenses are charged at cost. Mileage is charged at standard rates which comply with HM Revenue and Customs limits or AA recommended rates. VAT is added to disbursement charges as necessary.

Defined Returns Limited - In Liquidation (the Company) SIP 9 Time Cost Analysis from 28 September 2010 to 27 September 2014

	Partner/Director	Director	Man	Manager	Exec	Executive	Admini	Administrator	To	Total
Task Description	Hrs	J	Hrs	Ŧ	Hrs	F	Hrs	J	Hrs	F
Administration and Planning	0.50	300.00	02.09	60.70 25,436.25	87.18	20,761.70	93.90	93.90 15,849.50	242.28	62,347.45
Creditors	1	1	15.05	6,215.75	52.85	14,165.50	3.90	724.50	71.80	21,105.75
Realisation of Assets	1	1	1.75	627.50	2.60	615.00	2.45	426.75	08.9	1,669.25
Grand Total	0.50	300.00	77.50	77.50 32,279.50	142.63	35,542.20	100.25	100.25   17,000.75	320.88	85,122.45
Average hourly rates by grade £ per hour		00.009		416.51		249.19		169.58		265.28

Administration & Planning

Includes case planning; complying with statutory duties; general correspondence; meetings

Creditors

Includes correspondence with preferential and unsecured creditors; pensions and employees and memebers

Realisation of Assets

Includes dealing with the realisation of the Company's assets

## D An extract from the Insolvency Rules 1986 relating to creditors' rights to request additional information from the liquidator

Rule 4.49E edited for application to a progress report in a creditors' voluntary liquidation

- (1) If
  - (a) within the period mentioned in paragraph (2)
    - (i) a secured creditor, or
    - (ii) an unsecured creditor with the concurrence of at least 5% in value of the unsecured creditors (including the creditor in question), or
  - (b) with the permission of the court upon an application made within the period mentioned in paragraph (2), any unsecured creditor makes a request in writing to the liquidator for further information about remuneration or expenses set out in the progress report, the liquidator must, within 14 days of receipt of the request, comply with paragraph (3) except to the extent that the request is in respect of a matter which was previously included in a progress report.
- (2) The period referred to in paragraph (1)(a) is 21 days of receipt of the progress report.
- (3) The liquidator complies with this paragraph by either -
  - (a) providing all of the information asked for, or
  - (b) so far as the liquidator considers that
    - (i) the time or cost of preparation of the information would be excessive, or
    - (ii) disclosure of the information would be prejudicial to the conduct of the liquidation or might reasonably be expected to lead to violence against any person, or
    - (iii) the liquidator is subject to an obligation of confidentiality in respect of the information,

giving reasons for not providing all of the information.

- (4) Any creditor, who need not be the same as the creditor who requested further information, may apply to the court within 21 days of -
  - (a) the giving by the liquidator of reasons for not providing all of the information asked for, or
  - (b) the expiry of the 14 days provided for in paragraph (1), and the court may make such order as it thinks just.
- (5) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (4), the order of the court under that paragraph may extend the period of 8 weeks provided for in Rule 4.131(1B) by such further period as the court thinks just.

# E An extract from the Insolvency Rules 1986 relating to creditors' rights to challenge the liquidator's remuneration or expenses if excessive

### Rule 4.131

- (1) Any secured creditor, or any unsecured creditor with either the concurrence of at least 10% in value of the creditors (including that creditor) or the permission of the court, may apply to the court for one or more of the orders in paragraph (4).
- (1A) Application by a creditor may be made on the grounds that -
  - (a) the remuneration charged by the liquidator,
  - (b) the basis fixed for the liquidator's remuneration under Rule 4.127, or
  - (c) expenses incurred by the liquidator,
  - is or are, in all the circumstances, excessive or, in the case of an application under subparagraph (b), inappropriate.
- (1B) The application must, subject to any order of the court under Rule 4.49E(5), be made no later than 8 weeks (or in a case falling within Rule 4.108, 4 weeks) after receipt by the applicant of the progress report or the draft report under Rule 4.49D, which first reports the charging of the remuneration or the incurring of the expenses in question ("the relevant report").
- (2) The court may, if it thinks that no cause is shown for a reduction, dismiss the application; but it shall not do so unless the applicant has had an opportunity to attend the court for a hearing, of which he has been given at least 5 business days' notice, but which is without notice to any other party.

  If the application is not dismissed under this paragraph, the court shall fix a venue for it to be heard, and give notice to the applicant accordingly.
- (3) The applicant shall, at least 14 days before the hearing, send to the liquidator a notice stating the venue and accompanied by a copy of the application, and of any evidence which the applicant intends to adduce in support of it.
- (4) If the court considers the application to be well-founded, it must make one or more of the following orders -
  - (a) an order reducing the amount of remuneration which the liquidator was entitled to charge
  - (b) an order fixing the basis of remuneration at a reduced rate or amount
  - (c) an order changing the basis of remuneration
  - (d) an order that some or all of the remuneration or expenses in question be treated as not being expenses of the liquidation
  - (e) an order that the liquidator or the liquidator's personal representative pay to the company the amount of the excess of remuneration or expenses or such part of the excess as the court may specify

and may make any other order that it thinks just; but an order under sub-paragraph (b) or (c) may be made only in respect of periods after the period covered by the relevant report.

(5) Unless the court orders otherwise, the costs of the application shall be paid by the applicant, and are not payable as an expense of the liquidation.