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## FINAL NOTICE

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**To: Vale Veterinary Group**

**Of: College Road  
Cullompton  
Devon  
EX15 1TG**

**FRN: 673729**

**Dated: 25 July 2019**

### ACTION

1. For the reasons set out in this Final Notice, the Authority hereby takes the following action against VVG.
2. The Authority issued to VVG the Decision Notice which notified it that for the reasons given below and pursuant to section 55J of the Act, the Authority had decided to cancel VVG's Part 4A permission.
3. VVG has not referred the matter to the Tribunal within 28 days of the date on which the Decision Notice was issued to it.
4. Accordingly, the Authority has today cancelled VVG's Part 4A permission.

### DEFINITIONS

5. The definitions below are used in this Final Notice:

"the Act" means the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000;

"the Authority" means the Financial Conduct Authority;

"the Decision Notice" means the Decision Notice issued to VVG dated 6 March 2019;

"the Return" means the CCR007 return for the period ended 30 April 2018, which VVG was due to submit to the Authority by 13 June 2018;

"the suitability Threshold Condition" means the Threshold Condition set out in paragraph 2E of Schedule 6 to the Act;

"the Threshold Conditions" means the threshold conditions set out in Schedule 6

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to the Act;

“the Tribunal” means the Upper Tribunal (Tax and Chancery Chamber);

“VVG” means Vale Veterinary Group;

“VVG’s Part 4A permission” means the permission granted by the Authority to VVG pursuant to Part 4A of the Act; and

“the Warning Notice” means the Warning Notice issued to VVG dated 12 February 2019.

## **REASONS FOR ACTION**

6. On the basis of the facts and matters and conclusions described in the Warning Notice and in the Decision Notice, it appears to the Authority that VVG is failing to satisfy the suitability Threshold Condition, in that the Authority is not satisfied that VVG is a fit and proper person having regard to all the circumstances, including whether VVG managed its business in such a way as to ensure that its affairs were conducted in a sound and prudent manner.
7. This is because VVG has failed to comply with the regulatory requirement to submit the Return. VVG has not been open and co-operative in all its dealings with the Authority, in that VVG has failed to respond adequately to the Authority's repeated requests for it to submit the Return, and has thereby failed to comply with Principle 11 of the Authority's Principles for Businesses and to satisfy the Authority that it is ready, willing and organised to comply with the requirements and standards under the regulatory system.
8. These failures, which are significant in the context of VVG’s suitability, lead the Authority to conclude that VVG has failed to manage its business in such a way as to ensure that its affairs are conducted in a sound and prudent manner, that it is not a fit and proper person, and that it is therefore failing to satisfy the Threshold Conditions in relation to the regulated activities for which VVG was granted a Part 4A permission.

## **DECISION MAKER**

9. The decision which gave rise to the obligation to give this Final Notice was made by the Regulatory Decisions Committee.

## **IMPORTANT**

10. This Final Notice is given to VVG in accordance with section 390(1) of the Act.

### **Publicity**

11. The Authority must publish such information about the matter to which this Final Notice relates as the Authority considers appropriate. The information may be published in such manner as the Authority considers appropriate. However, the Authority may not publish information if such publication would, in the opinion of the Authority, be unfair to VVG or prejudicial to the interest of consumers.
12. The Authority intends to publish such information about the matter to which this Final Notice relates as it considers appropriate.

### **Authority Contact**

13. For more information concerning this matter generally, please contact Victoria Oyebanjo at the Authority (direct line: 020 706 64564).

**Anna Couzens**  
**Enforcement and Market Oversight Division**