

## **CHAIRMAN'S AGM STATEMENT**

At the Annual General Meeting of NWF Group plc ("NWF"), the diversified sales and distribution business, to be held in Cheshire at 10.30 am today, the Chairman, Roy Willis, will say:

"I commented at the time of our annual results that our settled strategy is to continue with the profitable growth of all four businesses and that the investments made in 2004/05 will stand us in good stead. This is proving to be the case. Although profits for the period to date normally represent only some 10% of the full year, I am pleased to say that trading has so far been ahead of the same period last year.

"Since the year end, all four divisions have been active. Our Fuels and Feeds businesses have both recently made acquisitions that increase their geographic reach. We have also announced a new contract with Somerfield for our Distribution business and despite trading conditions remaining tough for our Garden Centres division, like for like profits have increased on the prior year period.

"Overall I remain confident that we shall achieve a satisfactory outcome for the year as a whole."  
"I would also like to announce that Graham Scott has agreed to extend his tenure as Chief Executive of the Group for a further year, to at least the end of 2007. The Board has also agreed to appoint Mark Hudson, currently Deputy Chairman, as Chairman of the Board when I reach my retirement age a year from now at the company's AGM in September 2006."

**NWF Group plc**  
Graham Scott  
Chief Executive

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