

# St.George

## Step-up Preference Shares (SPS) Prospectus

St.George Bank Limited (ABN 92 055 513 070)

for the offer of 1.5 million SPS at an  
Issue Price of \$100 each to raise  
up to \$150 million.

This offer of SPS is to Institutional Investors invited by the Lead Manager and Australian resident retail clients of Co-Managers and Participating Brokers only. There is no general public offer of SPS or any general offer of SPS to Ordinary Shareholders or SAINTS Holders.

Applications must be for a minimum of 50 SPS (\$5,000).

**Lead Manager and Bookrunner**



**Co-Managers**

Goldman Sachs JBWere Pty Ltd  
Macquarie Equities Limited  
Ord Minnett Limited  
St.George  
UBS Wealth Management  
Australia Limited



Good with people. Good with money.

# Important information

## About this Prospectus

This Prospectus relates to the offer of 1.5 million St.George Bank Limited (St.George) Step-up Preference Shares (SPS) at an Issue Price of \$100 each to raise up to \$150 million (Offer).

This Prospectus is dated 8 June 2006 and was lodged with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) on that date. It is a replacement prospectus which replaces the prospectus dated 31 May 2006 and lodged with ASIC on that date (Original Prospectus). It includes details of the Initial Margin which was determined following the Bookbuild described in Section 3.8.1. The expiry date of this Prospectus is 30 June 2007. No SPS will be allotted or issued on the basis of this Prospectus after the expiry date.

ASIC and Australian Stock Exchange Limited (ASX) take no responsibility for the contents of this Prospectus or the merits of the investment to which this Prospectus relates.

## Defined words and expressions

Some words and expressions used in this Prospectus have defined meanings. These words and expressions are capitalised and are defined in the Glossary in Section 8.

The definitions specific to SPS are in clause 8 of the Terms of Issue in Appendix A.

A reference to dollars, \$, A\$ or cents in this Prospectus is a reference to Australian currency. A reference to time in this Prospectus is a reference to Sydney, New South Wales, Australia time.

## Exposure Period

The Corporations Act prohibited St.George processing Applications in the seven day period after the date the Original Prospectus was lodged with ASIC. This period is referred to as the Exposure Period.

The purpose of the Exposure Period was to enable the Original Prospectus to be examined by market participants before the raising of funds. Applications received during the Exposure Period have not been processed during the Exposure Period.

## Prospectus availability

This Prospectus will be available electronically during the Offer Period at [www.stgeorge.com.au/about/investor](http://www.stgeorge.com.au/about/investor). If you access an electronic copy of this Prospectus, then you should see the section below. The Corporations Act prohibits any person from passing the Application Form on to another person unless it is attached to a paper copy of this Prospectus or the complete and unaltered electronic version of this Prospectus.

You can also request a free paper copy of this Prospectus by contacting the **St.George InfoLine on 1800 804 457**.

## Electronic access to Prospectus

The following conditions apply if this Prospectus is accessed electronically:

- you must download the entire Prospectus from [www.stgeorge.com.au/about/investor](http://www.stgeorge.com.au/about/investor);
- your Application will only be considered where you have applied on an Application Form that accompanied a copy of the Prospectus; and
- the Prospectus is available electronically to persons accessing and downloading or printing the electronic version of the Prospectus in Australia.

## Applications for SPS

You should read this Prospectus in full before deciding whether to apply for SPS. If, after reading this Prospectus, you are unclear or have any questions about the Offer, you should consult your Co-Manager, Participating Broker or other professional adviser.

For information on who is eligible to apply for SPS under the Offer and how to make an Application – see Section 3.

## No withdrawal of Application

You cannot withdraw your Application once it has been lodged, except as permitted under the Corporations Act.

## Allotment of SPS

If SPS are accepted for quotation on ASX, St.George expects to allot SPS on 20 June 2006.

If you are allotted and issued less than the number of SPS that you applied for, you will receive a refund of part of your Application Payment as soon as practicable after the Closing Date. No interest will be payable on the refunded part of an Application Payment.

## SPS are not deposits or liabilities of St.George

Investments in SPS are not deposits or liabilities of St.George and are not subject to the depositor protection provisions of Australian banking legislation.

The investment performance of SPS is not guaranteed by St.George or any other member of the Group.

## No representations other than in this Prospectus

You should rely only on the information in this Prospectus. No person is authorised to provide any information, or to make any representation in connection with the Offer, which is not contained in this Prospectus. Any information or representation not contained in this Prospectus may not be relied upon as having been authorised by St.George in connection with the Offer.

Except as required by law, and only to the extent that it is required by law, neither St.George nor any other person warrants the future performance of St.George, SPS, or any return on any investment made by you under this Prospectus.

The pro-forma financial information provided in this Prospectus is for information purposes only and is not a forecast of operating results to be expected in future periods.

## This Prospectus does not provide investment advice

The information provided in this Prospectus is not investment advice and has been prepared without taking into account your investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs (including financial and taxation issues). It is important that you read this Prospectus in full before deciding whether to invest in SPS and consider the risk factors that could affect the performance of SPS or St.George. The risk factors in relation to investing in SPS that you should consider are in Section 5. You should carefully consider these risk factors in light of your investment objectives, financial situation and particular needs (including financial and taxation issues) and consult your Co-Manager, Participating Broker or other professional adviser before deciding whether to invest in SPS.

## Restrictions on foreign jurisdictions

The distribution of this Prospectus in jurisdictions outside Australia may be restricted by law. If you are a potential investor in any jurisdiction outside Australia and you come into possession of this Prospectus you should seek advice on and observe any such restrictions. Any failure to comply with such restrictions may constitute a violation of applicable securities laws. This Prospectus does not constitute an offer or invitation to potential investors to whom it would not be lawful to make such an offer or invitation.

This Prospectus does not constitute an offer of securities in the US or to any US Person (as defined in Regulation S of the US Securities Act). SPS have not been, and will not be, registered under the US Securities Act and may not be offered or sold in the US or to, or for the account of, any US Person except in a transaction that is exempt from the registration requirements of the US Securities Act and applicable US state securities laws.

The Offer is not open to US Persons or any person acting on behalf of, or for the account of, a US Person.

## Providing personal information

You will be asked to provide personal information to St.George (directly or via the Registry) if you apply for SPS. See Section 3.7 for information on how St.George (and the Registry on its behalf) collects, holds and uses this personal information. You can also obtain a copy of that policy at [www.stgeorge.com.au](http://www.stgeorge.com.au).

## Enquiries

If you have any questions in relation to the Offer, please consult your Co-Manager, Participating Broker or other professional adviser.

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# Key dates

## KEY DATES FOR THE OFFER

	<b>DATE</b>
Announcement of Offer and lodgement of Original Prospectus with ASIC	31 May 2006
Bookbuild	6 and 7 June 2006
Announcement of Initial Margin, lodgement of Prospectus with ASIC and Opening Date	8 June 2006
Closing Date	16 June 2006
Settlement Date	19 June 2006
Allotment Date	20 June 2006
Holding Statements dispatched by	22 June 2006
SPS commence trading on ASX on a normal settlement basis	27 June 2006

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## KEY DATES FOR SPS

	<b>DATE</b>
Record Date for first Dividend	4 August 2006
First Dividend Payment Date <sup>1</sup>	20 August 2006
First Dividend paid <sup>1</sup>	21 August 2006
Increased Margin Date	20 August 2016

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### Note:

<sup>1</sup> The first Dividend Payment Date is not a Business Day and as a result the first Dividend will be paid on the next Business Day after this date (subject to the Payment Tests).

### Dates may change

St.George, in conjunction with the Lead Manager, reserves the right to amend this indicative timetable without notice including, subject to the Corporations Act and the ASX Listing Rules, to close the Offer early, to extend the Closing Date, to accept late Applications, or to cancel the Offer prior to the allotment of SPS. If the Offer is cancelled prior to the allotment of SPS, all Application Payments will be refunded (without interest) to Applicants as soon as possible.

### Quotation on ASX

St.George has applied to ASX for SPS to be quoted on ASX. Quotation of SPS is not guaranteed or automatic. If ASX does not grant permission for SPS to be quoted, SPS will not be issued and all Application Payments will be refunded (without interest) to Applicants as soon as possible.

### Applications

No Applications were accepted (and no SPS were issued) until seven days after the Original Prospectus was lodged with ASIC. This period is known as the Exposure Period. Any Applications received during the Exposure Period were not accepted until after the expiry of that period.

# St.George Step-up Preference Shares (SPS)

<b>WHAT ARE SPS?</b>	This Prospectus describes the offer of SPS. SPS is an acronym for Step-up Preference Shares, which are non-cumulative unsecured preference shares in the capital of St.George.
<b>FLOATING RATE FRANKED DIVIDENDS</b>	Dividends are preferred, non-cumulative, based on a floating rate and are expected to be fully franked. Dividends are scheduled to be paid quarterly in arrears, subject to the Payment Tests.
<b>DIVIDEND RATE</b>	The Dividend Rate for each quarterly period will be calculated using the following formula: <b>Dividend Rate = (Bank Bill Swap Rate + Margin) x (1 - Tax Rate).</b> If SPS are not Exchanged by 20 August 2016, the Initial Margin (set through the Bookbuild) will increase by a one time step-up of 1.00% per annum.
<b>EXCHANGE BY ST.GEORGE</b>	St.George can Exchange SPS on 20 August 2016, or any Dividend Payment Date after that date, or earlier in certain specified circumstances. Upon Exchange, St.George may choose to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• convert each SPS into a number of Ordinary Shares equal to the Conversion Number;</li><li>• redeem, buy back or cancel SPS for the Face Value of \$100 each (subject to APRA's approval); or</li><li>• undertake a combination of the above.</li></ul>
<b>QUOTATION ON ASX</b>	St.George has applied to quote SPS on ASX under ASX code 'SGBPC'.
<b>ISSUE CREDIT RATING<sup>1</sup></b>	'BBB+' by Standard & Poor's, 'A3' by Moody's and 'A-' by Fitch Ratings.
<b>RANKING ON WINDING UP</b>	SPS effectively rank equally with SAINTS and DCS (Depository Capital Securities issued by St.George Funding Company, LLC), and ahead of Ordinary Shares.
<b>PROCEEDS OF THE OFFER</b>	The Offer forms part of St.George's ongoing capital management program. SPS are being issued to partially replace the hybrid Tier 1 Capital funding previously provided by the PRYMES (reset preference shares issued by St.George in January 1999) before their conversion into Ordinary Shares in February 2006. The proceeds of the Offer are intended to be used to fund the ongoing growth of St.George's business.

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Note:

<sup>1</sup> Any Issue Credit Rating of 'BBB-' or higher from Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings or 'Baa3' or higher from Moody's is currently considered to be investment grade - see Section 4.8 for further information about credit ratings associated with SPS and Section 5.1.10 for risks associated with credit ratings.

# Summary of key risks

Before deciding whether to apply for SPS, you should consider whether SPS are a suitable investment for you. There are risks associated with investing in SPS and in St.George and the banking industry generally, many of which are outside the control of St.George and its Directors. This page sets out a summary of the key risks which are detailed in Section 5.

<b>FINANCIAL MARKET CONDITIONS AND LIQUIDITY</b>	<p>The market price of SPS may fluctuate due to various factors that affect financial market conditions – see Section 5.1.1. It is possible that SPS may trade at a market price below \$100 each (the Issue Price).</p> <p>In addition, the market for SPS may be less liquid than the market for Ordinary Shares. Holders who wish to sell their SPS may be unable to do so at an acceptable price, or at all, if insufficient liquidity exists in the market for SPS.</p>
<b>CHANGES IN DIVIDEND RATE</b>	<p>The Dividend Rate will fluctuate (both increasing and decreasing) over time with movement in the Bank Bill Swap Rate. There is a risk that this rate may become less attractive when compared to the rates of return available on comparable securities – see Section 5.1.3.</p>
<b>DIVIDENDS MAY NOT BE PAID</b>	<p>SPS are not debt instruments and there is a risk that Dividends will not be paid – see Section 5.1.4.</p> <p>If St.George does not declare a Dividend or pay a declared Dividend in full within 20 Business Days of a Dividend Payment Date, then a dividend stopper will apply – see Section 2.4.10.</p>
<b>EXCHANGE BY ST.GEORGE ONLY</b>	<p>St.George may choose Exchange in certain specified circumstances before 20 August 2016 – see Section 2.5.3. The decision for Exchange in these circumstances and whether upon Exchange a Holder receives cash or Ordinary Shares is at St.George’s discretion. The choice St.George makes may be disadvantageous to the Holder in light of market conditions or individual circumstances at the time of Exchange – see Section 5.1.6.</p> <p> Holders have no right to request Exchange.</p>
<b>ST.GEORGE’S FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE AND POSITION</b>	<p>The value of SPS may be affected by St.George’s financial performance and position, regardless of whether or not they are Exchanged. For specific risks associated with an investment in St.George and the banking industry generally – see Section 5.2.</p> <p>St.George’s financial performance and position may also adversely affect the credit ratings associated with SPS – see Section 5.1.10.</p>

# Applying for SPS

## In order to apply for SPS, you must be eligible:

### WHO MAY APPLY?

The Offer is only being made to:

- Institutional Investors who were invited by the Lead Manager to bid for SPS through the Bookbuild under the **Institutional Offer**; and
- Australian resident retail clients of Co-Managers or Participating Brokers who may apply under the **Broker Firm Offer**.

There is no general public offer of SPS or any general offer of SPS to Ordinary Shareholders or SAINTS Holders. However, St.George intends to issue another hybrid security later in 2006. A prospectus for that issue will be made available if those securities are offered. Anyone wishing to acquire those securities will need to complete the application form which will be in or will accompany that prospectus.

Applications must be for a minimum of 50 SPS (\$5,000).

### WHEN TO APPLY?

The key dates for the Offer are summarised on page 2.

# What you need to do

**If you are eligible to apply for SPS and you want to apply for SPS, then you need to complete the following four steps:**

- READ** **Read** this Prospectus in full, paying particular attention to:
- important information on the inside front cover;
  - answers to key questions in Section 2;
  - risks that may be relevant to an investment in SPS in Section 5; and
  - the Terms of Issue in Appendix A.
- CONSIDER AND CONSULT** **Consider** all risks and other information about SPS in light of your investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs (including financial and taxation issues).  
**Consult** your Co-Manager, Participating Broker or other professional adviser if you are uncertain as to whether you should apply for SPS.
- COMPLETE AN APPLICATION FORM** Applications for SPS may only be made on an Application Form.  
If you are a Broker Firm Applicant, you should contact your Co-Manager or Participating Broker for information on how to submit the Application Form and your Application Payment.
- SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION** **Mail or deliver** your completed Application Form and Application Payment to your Co-Manager or Participating Broker. It must be received by the Co-Manager or Participating Broker by 10.00am on the Closing Date, in time for them to arrange settlement on your behalf by the Settlement Date on **19 June 2006**.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** **If, after you have read this Prospectus, you have any questions regarding the Offer or how to apply for SPS, contact your Co-Manager, Participating Broker or other professional adviser.**





# KEY TERMS OF SPS

**THIS SECTION SUMMARISES THE KEY TERMS OF SPS.**

For more detail on these key terms – see Section 2 which provides answers to key questions about SPS and the Offer generally. This information is a summary only. You should read this summary subject to the other information contained in this Prospectus, in particular:

- the risks in Section 5; and
- the Terms of Issue in Appendix A.

# 1. Key terms of SPS

## GENERAL

<b>Issuer</b>	St.George Bank Limited (ABN 92 055 513 070).
<b>Security</b>	Step-up Preference Shares (SPS). SPS are non-cumulative unsecured preference shares in the capital of St.George.
<b>Issue Price</b>	\$100 per SPS (Face Value).
<b>Term</b>	SPS have no maturity date and are perpetual – unless Exchanged.
<b>Increased Margin Date</b>	20 August 2016.
<b>Quotation on ASX</b>	St.George has applied to quote SPS on ASX under ASX code 'SGBPC'. Quotation is not guaranteed or automatic. If ASX does not grant permission for SPS to be quoted, SPS will not be issued and all Application Payments will be refunded (without interest) to Applicants as soon as possible.
<b>Expected Issue Credit Rating<sup>1</sup></b>	'BBB+' by Standard & Poor's, 'A3' by Moody's and 'A-' by Fitch Ratings.

## DIVIDENDS

<b>Floating rate franked Dividends</b>	Dividends are preferred, non-cumulative, based on a floating rate and expected to be fully franked. Dividends are scheduled to be paid quarterly in arrears subject to the Payment Tests.
<b>Dividend Rate</b>	The Dividend Rate for each quarterly Dividend will be calculated using the following formula: <b>Dividend Rate = (Bank Bill Swap Rate + Margin) x (1 - Tax Rate)</b> where: <b>Bank Bill Swap Rate</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the Bank Bill Swap Rate on the first Business Day of the relevant Dividend Period;</li></ul> <b>Margin</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• from (and including) the Allotment Date until (but not including) 20 August 2016 - the Initial Margin set through the Bookbuild, which is 1.10% per annum; and</li><li>• from (and including) 20 August 2016 until SPS are Exchanged - the Initial Margin set through the Bookbuild plus a one time step-up of 1.00% per annum; and</li></ul> <b>Tax Rate</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the Australian corporate tax rate applicable to St.George's franking account as at the Allotment Date - 30% at the date of this Prospectus (expressed as a decimal in the formula, 0.30).</li></ul>
<b>Dividend Payment Dates</b>	Dividends are scheduled to be paid in arrears on 20 August, 20 November, 20 February and 20 May in each year that SPS are on issue. The first Dividend Payment Date is 20 August 2006. The last Dividend Payment Date is the date on which SPS are Exchanged. If any of these dates are not Business Days (as is the case for the first Dividend Payment Date), then payment will be made on the next Business Day.
<b>Franking</b>	St.George expects Dividends to be fully franked. If, on a Dividend Payment Date, the Australian corporate tax rate applicable to the franking account of St.George differs from the Tax Rate, the Dividend will be adjusted downwards or upwards accordingly. If a Dividend is unfranked or partially franked, the Dividend will be increased to compensate for the unfranked component.

Note:

<sup>1</sup> Any Issue Credit Rating of 'BBB-' or higher from Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings or 'Baa3' or higher from Moody's is currently considered to be investment grade - see Section 4.8 for further information about credit ratings associated with SPS and Section 5.1.10 for risks associated with credit ratings.

<b>Payment Tests</b>	<p>The payment of a Dividend is subject to the Payment Tests which are summarised as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Directors declaring a Dividend to be payable;</li> <li>• St.George having sufficient profits available to pay the Dividend;</li> <li>• St.George being able to pay the Dividend without St.George or the Group breaching APRA's capital adequacy guidelines;</li> <li>• the amount of the Dividend not exceeding St.George's APRA Distributable Profits; and</li> <li>• in the case of an Optional Dividend, APRA's prior written approval.</li> </ul>
<b>Dividend stopper if Dividends are not paid</b>	<p>If St.George does not declare a Dividend or pay a declared Dividend in full within 20 Business Days after a Dividend Payment Date, then a dividend stopper applies. This means that St.George may not pay any dividend or distribution on any Equal Ranking Capital Securities (including SAINTS and DCS) or Junior Ranking Capital Securities (including Ordinary Shares) or make any return of capital on any Junior Ranking Capital Securities without the approval of a special resolution of Holders, unless (among other things) St.George pays 12 months Dividends in full or pays any unpaid Dividends from the last 12 months.</p>

## EXCHANGE

<b>Exchange by St.George</b>	<p>St.George may choose Exchange of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• some or all of your SPS on 20 August 2016, or any Dividend Payment Date after that date; and</li> <li>• all (but not some only) of your SPS following the occurrence of a Tax Event, Regulatory Event or Acquisition Event.</li> </ul> <p>On Exchange, St.George may choose to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• convert each SPS into a number of Ordinary Shares equal to the Conversion Number;</li> <li>• redeem, buy back or cancel SPS for the Face Value of \$100 each (subject to APRA's approval); or</li> <li>• undertake a combination of the above.</li> </ul>
<b>Exchange by Holders</b>	<p> Holders have no right to request Exchange.</p>
<b>Conversion Number</b>	<p>The Conversion Number that determines the rate at which each SPS will convert into Ordinary Shares will be calculated by dividing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Face Value of \$100 per SPS; by</li> <li>• the volume weighted average price (VWAP) of Ordinary Shares during the 20 Business Days immediately preceding the Exchange Date - reduced by the Conversion Discount of 2.5%.</li> </ul> <p>This number of Ordinary Shares that a Holder will receive on conversion for each SPS is subject to a Maximum Conversion Number.</p>
<b>Maximum Conversion Number</b>	<p>400, subject to certain adjustments.</p> <p>The Maximum Conversion Number ensures the maximum number of Ordinary Shares that each SPS can be Exchanged for is 400 Ordinary Shares.</p>

## RANKING

<b>Ranking on winding up</b>	<p>SPS are not deposits or liabilities of St.George. SPS rank for payment on a winding up of St.George ahead of Ordinary Shares and effectively equal with Equal Ranking Capital Securities (including SAINTS and DCS), but are subordinated to all depositors and creditors of St.George.</p> <p>St.George reserves the right in the future to issue additional SPS, or other preference shares or Capital Securities ranking ahead of, equally with or behind SPS, whether in respect of dividends, a return of capital on winding up, or otherwise.</p>
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**You should read the whole of this Prospectus carefully. If you are unclear in relation to any matter or uncertain if SPS are a suitable investment for you, you should consult your Co-Manager, Participating Broker or other professional adviser.**



# ANSWERS TO KEY QUESTIONS

**THIS SECTION ANSWERS SOME KEY  
QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE ABOUT SPS.**

The answers to these key questions are intended as a guide only. Further details are provided elsewhere in this Prospectus, which you should read in its entirety. The Terms of Issue are in Appendix A.

## 2. Answers to key questions

### 2.1 DESCRIPTION OF SPS

#### 2.1.1 What are SPS?

SPS is an acronym for Step-up Preference Shares, which are non-cumulative unsecured preference shares in the capital of St.George.

SPS:

- entitle Holders to preferred, non-cumulative Dividends, based on a floating rate, which are expected to be fully franked – subject to the Payment Tests – see Section 2.4.7;
- can be Exchanged by St.George on 20 August 2016, or any Dividend Payment Date after that date, or earlier in certain specified circumstances – see Section 2.5; and
- rank for payment on a winding up of St.George ahead of Ordinary Shares and effectively equal with Equal Ranking Capital Securities (including SAINTS and DCS) and rank behind all depositors and creditors of St.George – see Section 2.6.1.

#### 2.1.2 Why is St.George issuing SPS?

The Offer forms part of St.George's ongoing capital management program. SPS are being issued to partially replace the hybrid Tier 1 funding previously provided by the PRYMES before their conversion into Ordinary Shares in February 2006. The proceeds of the Offer are intended to be used to fund the ongoing growth of St.George's business.

As part of the ongoing capital management program, St.George also intends to issue a non-innovative Tier 1 Capital security of around \$250 million later in calendar year 2006. Following this issue, St.George expects that its Tier 1 Capital Ratio will be back within its target range.

*For more information about St.George's capital management – see Section 4.6.*

#### 2.1.3 Can SPS be traded on ASX?

St.George has applied to quote SPS on ASX. Quotation is not guaranteed or automatic. Quotation on ASX will allow you to realise or increase your investment in SPS by selling or buying SPS on ASX at the market price. There can be no assurances as to what that market price will be.

*For more information on the risks associated with an investment in SPS – see Section 5.*

If ASX does not grant permission for SPS to be quoted, SPS will not be issued and all Application Payments will be refunded (without interest) to Applicants as soon as possible. If SPS are quoted on ASX, then they can be purchased or sold through any stockbroker in Australia.

SPS are expected to trade under ASX code 'SGBPC'.

#### 2.1.4 Are SPS independently rated?

SPS have been assigned an Issue Credit Rating of 'BBB+' by Standard & Poor's, 'A3' by Moody's and 'A-' by Fitch Ratings. Any Issue Credit Rating of 'BBB-' or higher from Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings or 'Baa3' or higher from Moody's is currently considered 'investment grade'.

*For information about credit ratings associated with SPS – see Section 4.8. For information about the risks associated with credit ratings – see Section 5.1.10.*

### 2.2 THE OFFER AND APPLYING FOR SPS

#### 2.2.1 What is the Offer?

The Offer is for 1.5 million SPS at an Issue Price of \$100 each to raise up to \$150 million.

*For more information on the Offer – see Section 3.*

#### 2.2.2 What are the risks of investing in SPS?

There are risks associated with investing in SPS and in St.George and the banking industry generally, many of which are outside the control of St.George.

*For more information on the particular risks associated with investing in SPS – see Section 5.1.*

*For more information on the particular risks associated with investing in St.George and the banking industry generally – see Section 5.2.*

#### 2.2.3 What are the taxation consequences of investing in SPS?

The taxation consequences for you of investing in SPS will depend on your individual circumstances. You should obtain your own tax advice before investing in SPS.

*For the Tax Letter that summarises the relevant taxation consequences for Australian resident Holders – see Section 6.*

#### 2.2.4 Who may apply for SPS?

You may apply for SPS if you are:

- an Institutional Investor who was invited by the Lead Manager to bid for SPS through the Bookbuild under the **Institutional Offer**; or
- an Australian resident retail client of a Co-Manager or Participating Broker who may apply under the **Broker Firm Offer**.

There is no general public offer of SPS or any general offer of SPS to Ordinary Shareholders or SAINTS Holders. However, St.George intends to issue a non-innovative Tier 1 Capital security of around \$250 million later in calendar year 2006. A prospectus for that issue will be made available if those securities are offered. Anyone wishing to acquire those securities will need to complete the application form which will be in or will accompany that prospectus.

*For more information on who may apply for SPS – see Section 3.2.*

#### 2.2.5 How can you apply for SPS?

Details of how to apply for SPS are contained in Section 3. An Application Form is attached to this Prospectus.

Instructions on how to complete your Application Form are set out at the back of the Application Form.

*For more information on how to apply for SPS – see Section 3.4.*

#### 2.2.6 Is there a minimum Application amount?

Yes. If you apply to invest in SPS, you must pay \$100 per SPS upon Application. You must apply for a minimum of 50 SPS (\$5,000). If you apply for more than 50 SPS, you must apply for multiples of 10 SPS that is for incremental multiples of at least \$1,000.

### 2.2.7 Is there brokerage or stamp duty payable?

No brokerage or stamp duty is payable on your Application. You may have to pay brokerage on any subsequent trading of your SPS on ASX after SPS have been quoted on ASX.

## 2.3 REGULATORY AND TAXATION MATTERS

### 2.3.1 What is APRA?

APRA is the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority which is the prudential regulator of the Australian financial services industry. It oversees banks, credit unions, building societies, general insurance and reinsurance companies, life insurance companies, friendly societies, and most members of the superannuation industry. APRA is funded largely by the industries that it supervises. APRA was established on 1 July 1998.

Prudential standards set by APRA define the capital adequacy standards for APRA-regulated entities including St.George as an authorised deposit-taking institution. The APRA prudential standard (APS 110 – Capital Adequacy) aims to ensure that authorised deposit-taking institutions maintain adequate capital to support the risks associated with their activities on both a stand-alone and group basis. It outlines the overall framework adopted by APRA for assessing an authorised deposit-taking institution's capital adequacy.

APRA's website at [www.apra.gov.au](http://www.apra.gov.au) includes further details of its functions, prudential standards and guidelines.

### 2.3.2 How are SPS treated by APRA for regulatory capital purposes?

The proceeds of the Offer will satisfy the current prudential guidelines for Tier 1 Capital as set by APRA.

*For more information about St.George's capital management – see Section 4.6; and for more information on the pro-forma financial effect of the issue of SPS on St.George's capital position – see Section 4.7.*

### 2.3.3 Could regulatory changes affect SPS?

If there is a regulatory change, and St.George determines (based on advice from a reputable legal counsel) that the regulatory change has certain specified effects, then a Regulatory Event will occur and St.George may choose Exchange.

*For more information on St.George's right of Exchange and the definition of a Regulatory Event – see Sections 2.5.3 and 2.5.7.*

### 2.3.4 Could tax changes affect SPS?

If there is a tax change, and St.George determines (based on advice from a reputable legal counsel or tax adviser) that the tax change will have certain specified effects, then a Tax Event will occur and St.George may choose to Exchange.

*For more information on St.George's right of Exchange and the definition of a Tax Event – see Sections 2.5.3 and 2.5.6.*

## 2.4 DIVIDENDS

### 2.4.1 What are Dividends?

Dividends are preferred, non-cumulative, based on a floating rate, expected to be fully franked and subject to the Payment Tests – see Section 2.4.7.

Dividends are scheduled to be paid quarterly in arrears at the Dividend Rate – see Section 2.4.2.

### 2.4.2 How will the Dividend Rate be calculated?

The Dividend Rate for each quarterly Dividend will be set on the first Business Day of each Dividend Period and will be calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Dividend Rate} = (\text{Bank Bill Swap Rate} + \text{Margin}) \times (1 - \text{Tax Rate})$$

where:

**Bank Bill Swap Rate** is the Bank Bill Swap Rate on the first Business Day of the relevant Dividend Period;

**Margin** is:

- from (and including) the Allotment Date until (but not including) 20 August 2016 – the Initial Margin set through the Bookbuild, which is 1.10% per annum; and
- from (and including) 20 August 2016 until SPS are Exchanged – the Initial Margin set through the Bookbuild plus a one time step-up of 1.00% per annum; and

**Tax Rate** is the Australian corporate tax rate applicable to St.George's franking account as at the Allotment Date – 30% at the date of this Prospectus (expressed as a decimal in the formula, 0.30).

As an example, assuming the Bank Bill Swap Rate on the Allotment Date is the same as that on 7 June 2006, then the Dividend Rate for the first Dividend Period (from the Allotment Date to 20 August 2006) will be calculated as follows:

Bank Bill Swap Rate (ie Bank Bill Swap Rate on 7 June 2006)	5.8950% per annum
Plus: the Initial Margin	+ 1.1000% per annum
<b>Equivalent grossed-up Dividend Rate</b>	<b>6.9950% per annum</b>
Multiplied by (1 – Tax Rate)	X 0.70
<b>Indicative fully franked Dividend Rate<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>4.8965% per annum</b>

Note:

- <sup>1</sup> The calculation of the Dividend Rate will be rounded to four decimal places. The Bank Bill Swap Rate and Margin on which this calculation is based are for illustrative purposes only and do not indicate, guarantee or forecast the actual Dividend Rate. The actual Dividend Rate may be higher or lower than this.

The Dividend Rate set for each Dividend Period after the first Dividend Payment Date will be calculated using the above formula.

*For more information on the calculation of the Dividend Rate – see clause 2.1 of the Terms of Issue.*

### 2.4.3 How will the actual amount of the Dividend be calculated?

The Dividend scheduled to be paid on each Dividend Payment Date will be calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Dividend payment} = \frac{\text{Dividend Rate} \times \text{Face Value} \times \text{N}}{365}$$

where:

**Dividend Rate** is calculated as set out in Section 2.4.2;

**Face Value** is \$100 per SPS; and

**N** is the number of days in the Dividend Period ending on (but not including) the relevant Dividend Payment Date.

Continuing from the previous example, if the Dividend Rate was 4.8965% per annum as calculated in Section 2.4.2, then the Dividend on each SPS for an indicative Dividend Period of 90 days would be calculated as follows:

Fully franked Dividend Rate	4.8965% per annum
Multiplied by the Face Value	x \$100.00
Multiplied by number of days in the Dividend Period	x 90 <sup>1</sup>
Divided by the number of days in a year	÷ 365
<b>Fully franked Dividend</b>	<b>\$1.2074<sup>2</sup></b>

Notes:

- Dividend Periods will generally be 90 – 92 days. The first Dividend Period is an exception as, if the Allotment Date is 20 June 2006 as expected, it will comprise only 61 days.
- All calculations of Dividends will be rounded to the nearest four decimal places. For the purposes of making any Dividend payment in respect of a Holder's total holding of SPS, any fraction of a cent will be disregarded. The Dividend Rate on which this calculation is based and the Dividend above are for illustrative purposes only and do not indicate, guarantee or forecast the actual Dividend. The actual Dividend may be higher or lower than this.

*For the calculation of the Dividend – see clause 2.1 of the Terms of Issue.*

### 2.4.4 What is the Bank Bill Swap Rate?

The Bank Bill Swap Rate is a benchmark interest rate in the Australian money market, commonly used by major Australian banks to lend cash to each other over a 90 day period. On 7 June 2006, the Bank Bill Swap Rate was 5.8950% per annum.

*For information on the movement in the Bank Bill Swap Rate over the last 20 years and the risks associated with movements in the Dividend Rate – see Section 5.1.3.*

### 2.4.5 When will Dividends be paid?

Subject to the Payment Tests described in Section 2.4.7, Dividends are scheduled to be paid on each Dividend Payment Date. The first Dividend Payment Date is 20 August 2006. The last Dividend Payment Date is the date on which SPS are Exchanged.

After the first Dividend Period, the Dividend Rate will be determined and the Dividend will be paid on the following dates each year. If any of these days is not a Business Day (as is the case for the first Dividend Payment Date), the Dividend Rate will be determined and the Dividend paid on the next Business Day.

Dividend Rate determined	Dividend Payment Date
--------------------------	-----------------------

20 August	20 November
20 November	20 February
20 February	20 May
20 May	20 August

### 2.4.6 How will your Dividends be paid?

Dividends will be paid in Australian dollars by cheque, direct credit, or such other means as authorised by the Directors. St.George reserves the right to vary the way in which any Dividend is paid.

If you are allotted any SPS, when you are sent your Holding Statement the Registry will provide you with a personalised direct credit form on which you can provide your Australian dollar financial institution account details if you wish to receive your Dividends by direct credit.

### 2.4.7 Will Dividends always be paid?

Dividends may not always be paid. The payment of a Dividend is subject to the Payment Tests which are summarised as:

- the Directors declaring a Dividend to be payable;
- St.George having sufficient profits available to pay the Dividend;
- St.George being able to pay the Dividend without St.George or the Group breaching APRA's capital adequacy guidelines;
- the amount of the Dividend not exceeding St.George's APRA Distributable Profits; and
- in the case of an Optional Dividend, APRA's prior written approval.

If one or more of these conditions are not satisfied, a Dividend may not be paid. As Dividends are non-cumulative, Holders will have no recourse to payment from St.George and may not receive payment of these Dividends at any later time.

*For more information on the major risks affecting the level of profitability of St.George – see Section 5.2.*

*For the actual Payment Tests – see clause 2.3 of the Terms of Issue.*

### 2.4.8 What are APRA Distributable Profits?

Broadly, APRA Distributable Profits are:

- the profits after tax of the Group for the immediately preceding 12 month period ending 31 March or 30 September which are publicly available (or another amount determined by APRA); less
- the aggregate amount of dividends or interest paid or payable by a member of the Group on its Tier 1 Capital or Upper Tier 2 Capital securities (which includes dividends on Ordinary Shares, but not intra-group dividends or interest) in the 12 months up to the Record Date for the Dividend or Optional Dividend.

*For the full definition of APRA Distributable Profits – see clause 2.3(a)(iv) of the Terms of Issue.*

### 2.4.9 Can St.George make Optional Dividend payments?

The Directors may determine that an Optional Dividend is payable as described in clause 2.9(d) of the Terms of Issue. The payment of an Optional Dividend is subject to APRA's approval as well as the Payment Tests as described in Section 2.4.7.

#### 2.4.10 What happens if a Dividend is not paid?

Dividends on SPS are non-cumulative and therefore if a Dividend or part of a Dividend is not paid on a Dividend Payment Date, Holders have no right to receive that Dividend at any later time.

If St.George does not declare a Dividend or pay a declared Dividend in full within 20 Business Days after a Dividend Payment Date, then a dividend stopper applies. This means that St.George may not pay any dividend or distribution on any Equal Ranking Capital Securities or Junior Ranking Capital Securities or make any return of capital on any Junior Ranking Capital Securities, without the approval of a special resolution of Holders – unless:

- four consecutive Dividends scheduled to be paid on SPS, after the Dividend Payment Date for the Dividend that has not been paid, have been paid in full;
- an Optional Dividend has been paid to the Holders equal to the aggregate amount of unpaid Dividends for the 12 months prior to the date of payment of the Optional Dividend;
- a pro rata payment is made on SPS and on Equal Ranking Capital Securities ranking equally with SPS in respect of those payments; or
- all SPS have been Exchanged.

Payment of Optional Dividends is subject to the Payment Tests as described in Section 2.4.7.

*For the full details on the dividend stopper and the circumstances in which it will not apply – see clause 2.9 of the Terms of Issue.*

#### 2.4.11 What happens if St.George is unable to pay fully franked Dividends?

If a Dividend is unfranked or partially franked, St.George will increase the amount of the Dividend to compensate for the unfranked component. Where the Directors make a declaration to pay a Dividend which is not fully franked but the Dividend is not increased, St.George will be restricted by the dividend stopper – see Section 2.4.10.

*For the formula that will apply to calculate the amount to be paid to compensate for the unfranked component – see clause 2.2(b) of the Terms of Issue.*

#### 2.4.12 What happens if the Australian corporate tax rate changes?

If there is a change in the Australian corporate tax rate applicable to the franking account of St.George from which a Dividend is to be franked (ie a change from the 30% Australian corporate tax rate which is taken to be applicable on the Allotment Date), the Dividend will be adjusted downwards or upwards accordingly.

*For the formula that will apply to adjust the Dividend – see clause 2.2(a) of the Terms of Issue.*

### 2.5 EXCHANGE

#### 2.5.1 What is Exchange?

Exchange is the process through which St.George may, subject to certain conditions, choose to:

- convert each SPS into a number of Ordinary Shares equal to the Conversion Number;
- redeem, buy back or cancel SPS for the Face Value of \$100 each (subject to APRA's approval); or
- undertake a combination of the above.

Any buy-back or cancellation of SPS will be subject to St.George obtaining all relevant consents.

*For further information about Exchange – see clause 3 of the Terms of Issue.*

#### 2.5.2 Can a Holder request Exchange?

No. Holders have no right to request Exchange.

#### 2.5.3 When can St.George require Exchange?

St.George may choose to Exchange:

- some or all of your SPS – by giving a notice to Holders at least 30 Business Days (but no more than three months) before 20 August 2016 or any Dividend Payment Date after that date; and
- all (but not some only) of SPS on issue – by giving a notice to Holders at any time following the occurrence of a Tax Event or Regulatory Event; or
- all (but not some only) of SPS on issue – by giving a notice to Holders within six months of the occurrence of an Acquisition Event.

*For more information on Exchange – see clause 3 of the Terms of Issue.*

#### 2.5.4 On conversion how many Ordinary Shares will you receive?

On conversion, the number of Ordinary Shares you will receive for each SPS will be the Conversion Number. The Conversion Number will be calculated by reference to the Face Value and the VWAP on the 20 Business Days immediately before the Exchange Date as calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Conversion Number} = \frac{\text{Face Value}}{\text{VWAP} \times (1 - \text{Conversion Discount})}$$

The Conversion Discount is equal to 2.5%.

*For the Conversion Number formula – see clause 3.4 of the Terms of Issue.*

The total number of Ordinary Shares issued upon conversion of each SPS is capped at the Maximum Conversion Number, which is 400 Ordinary Shares. The Maximum Conversion Number may be adjusted to reflect transactions affecting the capital of St.George (including capital reconstructions, buy-backs, returns of capital, bonus and rights issues and other circumstances at the sole discretion of the Directors).

All of the Ordinary Shares issued upon conversion will rank equally in all respects with Ordinary Shares then on issue.

*For details of the adjustments that apply to the Conversion Number – see clauses 3.6 to 3.10 of the Terms of Issue.*

#### 2.5.5 When will you receive your Ordinary Shares or cash on Exchange?

The day on which you will receive your Ordinary Shares or cash on Exchange will be called the Exchange Date and will vary depending on what has caused St.George to choose Exchange.

*For more information on when Exchange Dates will be determined – see clause 3.1 of the Terms of Issue.*



### 2.5.6 What is a Tax Event?

Broadly, a Tax Event occurs when St.George receives professional advice that, as a result of a change in Australian tax law, or an administrative pronouncement or ruling, on or after the Allotment Date, there is a more than insubstantial risk that St.George would be exposed to more than an insignificant increase in its costs in relation to SPS being on issue or SPS will not be treated as equity interests for taxation purposes or franking credits may not be available to Holders.

Following the occurrence of a Tax Event, St.George may choose Exchange of all (but not some only) of SPS on issue.

*For the full definition of a Tax Event – see clause 8 of the Terms of Issue.*

### 2.5.7 What is a Regulatory Event?

Broadly, a Regulatory Event occurs when St.George receives professional advice that, as a result of a change of law or regulation on or after the Allotment Date, additional requirements would be imposed on St.George which the Directors determine as unacceptable or that St.George will not be entitled to treat all SPS as eligible Tier 1 Capital.

Following the occurrence of a Regulatory Event, St.George may choose Exchange of all (but not some only) of SPS on issue.

*For the full definition of a Regulatory Event – see clause 8 of the Terms of Issue.*

### 2.5.8 What is an Acquisition Event?

An Acquisition Event occurs when:

- a takeover bid is made to acquire all or some Ordinary Shares, the offer is or becomes unconditional and either the bidder has a relevant interest in more than 50% of the Ordinary Shares on issue or the Directors recommend acceptance of the takeover offer; or
- the Directors recommend a scheme of arrangement, which, when implemented, would result in a person having a relevant interest in more than 50% of the Ordinary Shares on issue.

Within six months of the occurrence of an Acquisition Event, St.George may choose Exchange of all (but not some only) of SPS on issue.

*For the full definition of an Acquisition Event – see clause 8 of the Terms of Issue.*

### 2.5.9 What is the Buy-Back Agreement?

Each Holder will enter into a Buy-Back Agreement with St.George on the relevant Exchange Date if St.George elects to use a buy-back as the method of Exchange. The Buy-Back Agreement that will be in place will have the terms set out in the schedule to the Terms of Issue.

The Buy-Back Agreement provides that St.George will buy back each SPS for its Face Value on the relevant Exchange Date. Each Holder irrevocably appoints any Director or officer or duly authorised attorney of St.George as its true and lawful attorney to execute a transfer and to give any necessary direction to any other person or take any other action which may be required to facilitate the transfer to St.George of the SPS, and agrees that, in exercising this power of attorney, St.George shall be entitled to act in the interests of St.George as the buyer of SPS.

The Buy-Back Agreement will take effect upon, and will have no force or effect until, the happening of the last to occur of the following events:

- St.George giving an Exchange Notice to each of the Holders that it has determined to buy back the SPS identified in the Exchange Notice; and
- St.George obtaining all consents (if any) to the buy-back which are required to be obtained from Ordinary Shareholders or any regulatory authority or other person pursuant to, and in the manner required by, any applicable law or by the listing rules of any stock exchange on which SPS are quoted.

*For the details of the Buy-Back Agreement – see the schedule to the Terms of Issue.*

### 2.5.10 What happens if St.George does not require Exchange by 20 August 2016?

If SPS are not Exchanged by 20 August 2016, the Initial Margin (set through the Bookbuild) will increase by a one time step-up of 1.00% per annum until all SPS are Exchanged.

## 2.6 RANKING

### 2.6.1 Where do SPS rank in a winding up of St.George?

If St.George is wound up, Holders will be entitled to a return of capital (not exceeding \$100 per SPS) and payment of any Dividends declared but unpaid, depending on the amount of funds remaining in St.George after all depositors and creditors ranking ahead of SPS have been paid. Holders rank for payment on a winding up of St.George ahead of holders of Ordinary Shares and effectively equal with holders of Equal Ranking Capital Securities (including SAINTS and DCS), but are subordinated to all depositors and creditors of St.George.

If there is a shortfall of funds on a winding up, there is a risk that Holders will not receive a full (or any) return of capital or payment of any Dividends declared but unpaid.

SPS do not confer any further right to participate in a distribution of St.George's surplus assets.

*For the details of ranking – see clause 4.1 of the Terms of Issue.*

## 2.7 OTHER QUESTIONS

### 2.7.1 Is St.George restricted in relation to other securities it may issue?

St.George reserves the right in the future to issue additional SPS, or other preference shares (whether redeemable or not) or Capital Securities ranking ahead of, equally with or behind SPS, whether in respect of dividends (whether cumulative or not), return of capital on a winding up of St.George, or otherwise.

### 2.7.2 Do SPS have any participation rights?

SPS do not carry a right to participate in issues of securities or capital reconstructions of St.George.

### 2.7.3 Do Holders have voting rights?

Holders do not generally have voting rights, except in the limited circumstances prescribed by the ASX Listing Rules and as described in the Terms of Issue. If these circumstances apply, then each SPS will carry the same voting rights as the number of Ordinary Shares that the Holder would be entitled to, assuming that conversion had taken place immediately prior to the relevant meeting – see clause 5 of the Terms of Issue.

### 2.7.4 How can you find out more information about the Offer?

If, after reading this Prospectus, you have any questions, please consult your Co-Manager, Participating Broker or other professional adviser.

# DETAILS OF THE OFFER

THIS SECTION SETS OUT WHAT YOU MUST DO IF YOU WISH TO APPLY FOR SPS AND DETAILS OF QUOTATION IF YOU ARE SUCCESSFULLY ALLOCATED ANY SPS, INCLUDING:

- who may apply;
- when to apply;
- how to apply;
- how to pay;
- obtaining a Prospectus and completing and submitting the Application Form;
- privacy;
- Allocation policy; and
- process for SPS to be admitted to ASX for quotation, and details about ASX quotation, trading and dispatch of Holding Statements.

# 3. Details of the Offer

## 3.1 OFFER

The Offer comprises:

- an Institutional Offer – made to certain Institutional Investors who were invited by the Lead Manager to bid for SPS through the Bookbuild – see Section 3.8.1; and
- a Broker Firm Offer – made to Australian resident retail clients of Co-Managers and Participating Brokers.

## 3.2 WHO MAY APPLY

You may apply for SPS if you are:

- an Institutional Investor who was invited by the Lead Manager to bid for SPS through the Bookbuild; or
- an Australian resident retail client of a Co-Manager or Participating Broker.

There is no general public offer of SPS or any general offer of SPS to Ordinary Shareholders or SAINTS Holders. However, St.George intends to issue a non-innovative Tier 1 Capital security of around \$250 million later in calendar year 2006. A prospectus for that issue will be made available if those securities are offered. Anyone wishing to acquire those securities will need to complete the application form which will be in or will accompany that prospectus.

Applications must be for a minimum of 50 SPS (\$5,000).

No action has been taken in any jurisdiction outside Australia to permit the offer of SPS in that jurisdiction, nor for the authorisation, registration or distribution of any documents in connection with SPS in that jurisdiction.

For more information on foreign selling restrictions – see Section 7.4.

## 3.3 WHEN TO APPLY

The Offer is open as at the date of this Prospectus, which is 8 June 2006.

In order to be eligible, all Applications must be received by a Co-Manager or Participating Broker by 10.00am on the Closing Date, in time for them to arrange settlement on your behalf on the expected Settlement Date of 19 June 2006.

St.George, in conjunction with the Lead Manager, reserves the right to amend this indicative timetable without notice including, subject to the Corporations Act and the ASX Listing Rules, to close the Offer early, to extend the Closing Date, to accept late Applications, or to cancel the Offer prior to allotment of SPS.

St.George may withdraw or cancel the Offer at any time prior to the Allotment Date.

## 3.4 HOW TO APPLY

If you are eligible to apply for SPS, then you should contact your Co-Manager or Participating Broker for information on how to submit the Application Form and your Application Payment.

The Settlement Date for the Broker Firm Offer is expected to be 19 June 2006. Your Co-Manager or Participating Broker must have received your completed Application Form and Application Payment in time to arrange settlement on your behalf by this date. Your Co-Manager or Participating Broker will act as your agent in processing your Application Form and providing your Application details and Application Payment to St.George.

If you download the electronic version of this Prospectus, you should ensure that you download and read the Prospectus in its entirety. You cannot apply online except where the facility is provided by a Co-Manager or Participating Broker.

The Corporations Act prohibits any person from passing an Application Form on to another person unless it is attached to or accompanied by a paper copy of this Prospectus or the complete and unaltered electronic version of this Prospectus.

## 3.5 HOW TO PAY

### 3.5.1 Minimum Application amount

The application price of each SPS is \$100, also referred to as the Issue Price. Your Application must be for a minimum of 50 SPS (\$5,000). If your Application is for more than 50 SPS, you must apply in multiples of 10 SPS that is for incremental multiples of at least \$1,000.

St.George and the Lead Manager reserve the right to reject any Application, or to Allocate a lesser number of SPS than applied for, including less than the minimum Application of 50 SPS (\$5,000).

You should make your Application Payment under arrangements made between you and your Co-Manager or Participating Broker.

### 3.5.2 Application Payments held in trust

All Application Payments received before SPS are issued will be held by St.George in a trust account established solely for the purpose of depositing Application Payments received. Any interest that accrues in the trust account will be retained by St.George.

### 3.5.3 Brokerage and stamp duty

No brokerage or stamp duty is payable on your Application. You may have to pay brokerage on any subsequent trading of your SPS on ASX after SPS have been quoted on ASX.

### 3.5.4 Refunds

If the Offer does not proceed for any reason and SPS are not issued, Applicants will have their Application Payments refunded to them (without interest) as soon as possible.

If you are allotted and issued less than the number of SPS that you applied for, you will receive a refund of part of your Application Payment as soon as possible after the Closing Date. No interest will be payable on the refunded part of an Application Payment.

## 3.6 OBTAINING A PROSPECTUS AND COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORM

If you are a Broker Firm Applicant, who wants to apply for SPS, you must apply on an Application Form, which is included in the back of this Prospectus.

**Broker Firm Applicants must send their completed Application Form and Application Payment to their Co-Manager or Participating Broker, and NOT to the Registry, within sufficient time to enable their Co-Manager or Participating Broker to settle their Broker Firm Allocation by the Settlement Date, which is expected to be 19 June 2006.**

An electronic copy of this Prospectus will be available to persons in Australia online at [www.stgeorge.com.au/about/investor](http://www.stgeorge.com.au/about/investor) during the Offer Period. On the St.George website, the Application Form will only be available with the Prospectus during the Offer Period. If you access an electronic copy of this Prospectus, you should ensure that you download and read the entire Prospectus. Your Application will only be considered where you have applied on an Application Form that accompanied a copy of the Prospectus.

There is no facility for Broker Firm Applicants to submit their Applications electronically except where the facility is provided by a Co-Manager or Participating Broker.

You can also request a free paper copy of this Prospectus by contacting the **St.George Infoline on 1800 804 457**.

### 3.6.1 Provision of bank account details for Dividends

Dividends shall be paid in Australian dollars by cheque, direct credit, or such other means as authorised by the Directors.

If you choose to receive Dividends via direct credit:

- the Registry will send you a personalised direct credit form requesting your account details when your Holding Statement is dispatched to you. Please complete and return this direct credit form as soon as possible; and
- St.George will pay your Dividends directly into an Australian dollar account of a financial institution nominated by you.

### 3.6.2 Provision of Tax File Number or Australian Business Number

If you are issued any SPS, the Registry will provide you with a form (when your Holding Statement is dispatched to you) that will request that you provide your TFN, ABN or both.

You do not have to provide your TFN or ABN. However, St.George may be required to withhold Australian tax at the highest marginal tax rate (currently 48.5% including the medicare levy) on the amount of any Dividend unless you provide one of the following:

- TFN;
- TFN exemption number (if applicable); or
- ABN (if SPS are held in the course of an enterprise carried on by you).

### 3.6.3 Provision of personal information

The information about you included on an Application Form is used for the purposes of processing the Application and, if the Application is successful, to administer your SPS (and, if they are issued in the future upon Exchange, your holding of Ordinary Shares). For information about the acknowledgements and privacy statement in relation to personal information that you provide St.George by completing an Application Form – see Section 3.7.

## 3.7 PRIVACY

When making an Application, Applicants will be required to provide personal information to St.George. St.George will collect, hold and use an Applicant's personal information in order to assess the Application, service the Applicant's needs as an investor, provide facilities and services that an Applicant requests and carry out appropriate administration.

Company and tax law requires some of the information to be collected. If an Applicant does not provide the information requested, the Application may not be processed efficiently, or at all.

St.George or its agents may disclose an Applicant's personal information for purposes related to the Applicant's investment to their agents and service providers including those listed below or as otherwise authorised under the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth):

- the Lead Manager – in order to assess the Application;
- the Registry – for ongoing administration of the register; and
- the printers and the mailing house – for the purpose of preparation and distribution of statements and for handling of mail.

If an Applicant becomes a Holder, the Applicant's information may also be used or disclosed from time to time to inform the Applicant about St.George's products or services that St.George thinks may be of interest to the Applicant. An Applicant may elect not to have their information used for this purpose by telephoning the **St.George Infoline on 1800 804 457**.

The information may also be disclosed to companies within the Group and to their agents and service providers on the basis that they deal with such information in accordance with St.George's privacy policy.

Under the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth), an Applicant may request access to personal information held by (or on behalf of) St.George or the Registry. An Applicant's request for access may be denied in some circumstances and if this happens the Applicant will be told why. An Applicant can request access to personal information by writing to, or telephoning, the Registry:

Computershare Investor Services Pty Limited  
Level 3, 60 Carrington Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

Email: [privacy@computershare.com.au](mailto:privacy@computershare.com.au)

**St.George InfoLine 1800 804 457.**

You can obtain a copy of St.George's privacy policy at [www.stgeorge.com.au](http://www.stgeorge.com.au).

### 3.8 ALLOCATION POLICY

The Allocation policy for Institutional Investors, Co-Managers and Participating Brokers has been determined under the Bookbuild.

#### 3.8.1 Bookbuild

The Bookbuild was a process that was conducted by the Lead Manager in consultation with St.George before the Opening Date to determine the Initial Margin and to determine firm Allocations to Institutional Investors, Co-Managers and Participating Brokers. In this process, Institutional Investors, Co-Managers and certain other brokers were invited to lodge bids for a number of SPS within the Margin range of 1.10% per annum to 1.20% per annum. On the basis of those bids, St.George and the Lead Manager have determined the Initial Margin to be 1.10% per annum as well as determining firm Allocations to Institutional Investors, Co-Managers and other brokers (the other brokers who received a firm Allocation became Participating Brokers).

The Bookbuild was conducted under the terms and conditions agreed by St.George and the Lead Manager in the Offer Management Agreement – see Section 7.3.

SPS Allocated firm to Institutional Investors, Co-Managers and Participating Brokers under the Bookbuild will be issued through Applications made under this Prospectus.

#### 3.8.2 Settlement underwriting

The Lead Manager has agreed with St.George to settlement underwrite the number of SPS Allocated to Institutional Investors, Co-Managers and Participating Brokers under the Bookbuild. Settlement underwrite means that if any of the Institutional Investors, Co-Managers or Participating Brokers fail to deliver valid Applications including Application Payments to St.George by the Settlement Date (which is the day before the Allotment Date), the Lead Manager will be issued with and pay for those SPS.

Under the Offer Management Agreement, as part of this settlement underwriting, the Lead Manager will pay to St.George, or procure payment to St.George of, the aggregate proceeds raised from Institutional Investors, Co-Managers and Participating Brokers under the Bookbuild by the settlement day, which is the day before the Allotment Date.

The Offer Management Agreement may be terminated by the Lead Manager in certain circumstances. If the Offer Management Agreement is terminated, Institutional Investors, Co-Managers and Participating Brokers who participated in the Bookbuild can withdraw their firm Allocations.

For details of the fees to be paid to the Lead Manager and the Co-Managers and Participating Brokers – see Section 7.6.

#### 3.8.3 Allocations

**Institutional Offer** Allocations to Institutional Investors have been determined by, and subject to, the terms and conditions of the Bookbuild.

**Broker Firm Offer** Allocations to Applicants by a Co-Manager or Participating Broker are at the discretion of that Co-Manager or Participating Broker. Broker Firm Allocations to Co-Managers and Participating Brokers have been determined by and subject to the terms and conditions of the Bookbuild.

Allocations by Co-Managers and/or Participating Brokers to their Australian resident retail clients are at the discretion of that Co-Manager and/or Participating Broker, not St.George (acting in its capacity as the issuer of SPS) or the Lead Manager.

After SPS are allotted to any Applicants, the Application Payment held in trust will be payable to St.George. St.George intends to allot SPS on 20 June 2006.

### 3.9 ASX QUOTATION, TRADING AND HOLDING STATEMENTS

#### 3.9.1 ASX quotation

St.George has applied to ASX for SPS to be quoted on ASX. Quotation is not guaranteed or automatic. If ASX does not grant permission for SPS to be quoted, SPS will not be issued and all Application Payments will be refunded (without interest) to Applicants as soon as possible.

SPS are expected to trade under ASX code 'SGBPC'.

#### 3.9.2 Holding Statement dispatch and trading

Holding Statements are expected to be dispatched to Successful Applicants by 22 June 2006.

In addition, you may call the **St.George InfoLine on 1800 804 457** or your Co-Manager or Participating Broker after the Allotment Date to enquire about your Allocation.

It is the responsibility of each Applicant to confirm their Allocation (if any) prior to trading in SPS. If you sell SPS before you receive your Holding Statement, you do so at your own risk (even if you obtained information on your Allocation from the **St.George InfoLine on 1800 804 457**).

The SPS are then expected to begin trading on ASX (on a normal settlement basis) on 27 June 2006.

### 3.10 CHESS

St.George will apply to ASX for SPS to participate in CHESS and, under the ASX Listing Rules and the ASTC Settlement Rules, will maintain an electronic issuer sponsored subregister and an electronic CHESS subregister. Under CHESS, St.George will not issue certificates to investors. After the issue of SPS, Successful Applicants will receive either a CHESS allotment confirmation notice or an issuer sponsored Holding Statement. It is expected that CHESS allotment confirmation notices and Holding Statements will be dispatched by standard post soon after SPS are issued.

Holding Statements, which are similar to bank account statements, will set out the number of SPS issued to Successful Applicants under this Prospectus. The Holding Statement will also set out the HIN (for SPS held on the CHESS subregister) or SRN (for SPS held on the St.George sponsored subregister).

Further holding statements will be provided to Holders that reflect any changes in the number of SPS held by them during a particular month. Holders will be required to quote their HIN or SRN, as appropriate, in all dealings with a broker or the Registry.

### 3.11 ENQUIRIES

You should consult your Co-Manager or Participating Broker if you:

- have enquiries about how to apply for SPS or about the Offer and Allocation policy;
- require assistance to complete the Application Form; or
- require a copy of this Prospectus and the Application Form.

**If you are a Broker Firm Applicant and you are in any doubt about the action you should take, you should immediately contact your Co-Manager, Participating Broker or other professional adviser.**

# OVERVIEW OF ST.GEORGE

## THIS SECTION SETS OUT:

- where to find information about St.George;
- an overview of St.George's business;
- a summary of St.George's financial performance;
- recent developments and outlook for St.George's business;
- information on St.George's risk management framework;
- St.George's capital management strategy and capital ratios;
- pro-forma financial information for the effect of the issue of SPS on St.George; and
- information on the credit ratings relevant to the Offer.

# 4. Overview of St.George

## 4.1 INFORMATION ABOUT ST.GEORGE

St.George is a disclosing entity under the Corporations Act and is therefore subject to regular reporting and disclosure obligations under the Corporations Act and the ASX Listing Rules.

In particular, St.George has an obligation under the ASX Listing Rules (subject to certain exceptions) to notify ASX immediately of any information of which it is, or becomes, aware concerning St.George, which a reasonable person would expect to have a material effect on the price or value of Ordinary Shares or SAINTS. This information is available on the public file at ASX and at [www.stgeorge.com.au](http://www.stgeorge.com.au).

St.George is also required to prepare and lodge with ASIC both yearly and half yearly financial statements accompanied by a Directors' declaration and report, with an audit or review report.

Copies of these documents lodged with ASIC may be obtained or inspected at an ASIC office and at [www.stgeorge.com.au](http://www.stgeorge.com.au).

## 4.2 OVERVIEW OF ST.GEORGE

St.George is the fifth largest banking group in Australia in terms of total lending assets, with a market capitalisation of \$15.5 billion as at 7 June 2006. St.George's primary business is providing retail banking services, including residential mortgage loans for owner occupied and investment housing and retail call and term deposits. At 31 March 2006, St.George had total assets of \$100.0 billion and shareholders' equity of \$4.9 billion. St.George has a national presence in Australia with a large customer base and primarily operates in New South Wales and South Australia.

St.George has approximately 390 branches and also distributes its products through third parties such as mortgage brokers.

As at 31 March 2006, St.George employed 8,028 full time equivalent employees. There are four main business divisions:

### • Retail Bank

Retail Bank is responsible for residential and consumer lending, the provision of personal financial services including transaction services, call and term deposits, small business banking and financial planning. This division manages retail branches, call centres, agency networks and electronic channels such as EFTPOS terminals, ATMs and Internet banking;

### • Institutional and Business Banking

Institutional and Business Banking is responsible for liquidity management, securitisation, wholesale funding, capital markets, treasury market activities including foreign exchange, money market and derivatives, corporate and business relationship banking, international and trade finance banking services, leasing, hire purchase, automotive finance, commercial property lending and cash flow financing (including factoring and invoice discounting);

### • BankSA

BankSA is responsible for providing retail banking and business banking services to customers in South Australia and the Northern Territory. These services are now extending into country NSW and Victoria; and

### • Wealth Management

Wealth Management is responsible for providing wealth management administration, asset management, dealer group services, margin lending, financial advice, private banking services and general and life insurance.

## 4.3 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

St.George's net profit after tax, minority interests and goodwill impairment, and before preference dividends and significant items, for the half year to 31 March 2006 was \$511 million, up 6% from \$480 million for the half year to 31 March 2005. Basic earnings per Ordinary Share before goodwill impairment and significant items increased by 9% from 175.5 cents to 191.9 cents for the same period on an annualised basis.

The following table sets out a consolidated historical income statement for St.George for the half years ended 31 March 2005, 30 September 2005 and 31 March 2006. The income statement for the half year ended 31 March 2006 has been prepared on a 'full' AIFRS basis (including the impact of all AIFRS), with the exception of comparative information which has been prepared on a 'statutory' AIFRS basis (including the impact of all AIFRS other than those standards that relate to financial instruments).



## CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

\$ million	Half year ended		
	31 Mar 2005	30 Sep 2005	31 Mar 2006
Interest income	2,640	2,865	3,236
Interest expense	(1,744)	(1,960)	(2,272)
<b>Net interest income</b>	<b>896</b>	<b>905</b>	<b>964</b>
Non-interest income	471	501	470
Significant items	16	-	-
<b>Total non-interest income</b>	<b>487</b>	<b>501</b>	<b>470</b>
Bad and doubtful debts expense	(58)	(52)	(65)
Operating expenses	(620)	(656)	(633)
Significant items	-	(16)	-
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	<b>(620)</b>	<b>(672)</b>	<b>(633)</b>
Goodwill impairment	(4)	-	-
Share of net profit of equity accounted associates	3	-	-
<b>Operating profit before income tax</b>	<b>704</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>736</b>
Income tax expense	(211)	(202)	(226)
Income tax (expense)/benefit on significant items	(5)	5	-
<b>Operating profit after income tax</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>510</b>
Minority interests	3	2	1
<b>Operating profit after income tax and minorities</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>487</b>	<b>511</b>
Preference dividends	(31)	(32)	(9)
<b>Profit available to Ordinary Shareholders</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>502</b>
Add: goodwill impairment	4	-	-
Add: (profit)/loss on significant items	(11)	11	-
<b>Operating profit after preference dividends, income tax and minorities and before goodwill impairment and significant items</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>502</b>

Note:

<sup>1</sup> In addition to this charge, there is a \$4 million increase in the general reserve for credit losses which is not distributable to shareholders.

### 4.4 OUTLOOK STATEMENT

The Australian economy has posted moderate growth rates over the past year, although there has been a marked divergence across states, with commodity based regions performing by far the best, while NSW has underperformed. Housing markets have reflected this, with Perth outperforming Sydney for capital growth by a significant margin.

St.George believes the competitive environment will remain intense, particularly in the area of residential lending, business lending and retail deposits. St.George has performed well during the last year, despite a subdued property market in NSW. St.George is well positioned to benefit from the expected future upturn in the NSW economy in 2007.

St.George has established a track record of delivering on its targets, while building for the long run. For full years ending 30 September 2006 and 2007, St.George has indicated that, under the assumption of a reasonably robust economic environment, it expects to achieve earnings per share (EPS) growth of 10% per annum. These targets were established under the previous AGAAP accounting standards. Based on performance in the half year to 31 March 2006 and momentum in the business, St.George is on track to deliver on these targets. On a full AIFRS basis, the 2006 full year target is EPS growth of greater than 10%, with the 30 September 2005 year full AIFRS profit result excluding hedging and non-trading derivatives impacts, being the relevant measurement base starting point. For the 2007 full year, the target is restated and reaffirmed on an AIFRS basis, excluding the impact of hedging and non-trading derivatives. The exclusion of this component of non-interest income is appropriate because it creates some volatility in the AIFRS reported results and cannot be directly controlled by management.

St.George will continue to focus on its current priorities in order to deliver superior financial results for its shareholders. The Group is particularly focused on specific target segments, being Middle Market, Business Customers, Enterprise Customers, Private Bank and Gold Customers, as well as intermediaries, such as Mortgage Brokers and Independent Financial Advisers. The objective is for customers to not only stay with St.George and deepen their relationships over time, but also to become advocates of the organisation. Specific programs were implemented in the 2005 full year to assist with this. They include the implementation of the Group's Customer Relationship Management program, an empowered local market initiative at the retail branch level, the Best Business Bank program and the steady implementation of St.George's targeted Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia expansion initiatives.

### 4.5 RISK MANAGEMENT

In St.George's daily operations, it is exposed to credit risk, liquidity risk, market risk and operational risk (including fraud, theft and property damage). St.George has a well established and integrated framework to manage these risks through a number of specialised committees, which are responsible for policy setting, monitoring and analysis of risk.

St.George's risk management systems continue to be enhanced through the implementation of Basel II.

St.George is seeking APRA accreditation to apply the advanced approaches for credit risk and operational risk. St.George is targeting to apply the Basel II advanced approach for credit risk to its retail portfolio and foundation approach for credit risk to its corporate lending portfolio.

Initially, St.George is planning to adopt the standardised approach for operational risk from 1 January 2008. St.George is expecting to lodge its application with APRA in September 2006 to adopt the advanced approach for operational risk from 1 January 2009.

St.George commenced a two year parallel run for credit risk against the Basel II Accord from 1 January 2006. Subject to satisfying APRA's advanced level accreditation requirements, St.George plans to commence a two year parallel run for operational risk from 1 January 2007.

## 4.6 CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

### 4.6.1 St.George's target Tier 1 Capital Ratio

St.George targets a Tier 1 Capital Ratio of 7.0% to 7.5%. As at 31 March 2006, St.George's Tier 1 Capital Ratio was 6.8% and its Total Capital Ratio was 10.4%, which exceeded the 10% minimum Total Capital Ratio required by APRA for St.George.

St.George's Tier 1 Capital Ratio of 6.8% as at 31 March 2006, is currently below its target range due to the \$300 million buy-back of Ordinary Shares in February 2006. APRA granted St.George temporary relief on returning to its Tier 1 Capital target range until APRA released its revised prudential standards on Tier 1 Capital instruments and St.George can proceed to issue qualifying Tier 1 Capital instruments. St.George's Tier 1 Capital Ratio is expected to return to the target range following the issue of SPS and a non-innovative Tier 1 Capital security issue of around \$250 million intended for later in calendar year 2006.

### 4.6.2 APRA's capital adequacy requirements

APRA requires capital adequacy to be calculated in accordance with previous AGAAP accounting standards until 30 June 2006. As a result, all material AIFRS adjustments have been reversed when calculating capital adequacy. A notional previous AGAAP general provision for doubtful debts has been established by reversing AIFRS loan loss provisioning transition adjustments which included the reversal of St.George's general provision for doubtful debts as at 1 October 2005.

From 1 July 2006, St.George will be required to measure its capital adequacy based on APRA's proposed regulatory approach to AIFRS. In accordance with APRA's transitional arrangements, the difference between St.George's previous AGAAP capital base at 30 June 2006 and AIFRS capital base on 1 July 2006, will be subject to transitional relief until 31 December 2007. Under AIFRS, St.George's capital base is estimated to reduce by \$194 million. This comprises a new deduction from Tier 1 Capital for capitalised software, establishment of the general reserve for credit losses and a reduction in retained profits resulting from tax effecting the asset revaluation reserve.

St.George intends to avail itself of the transitional arrangements in the proposed APRA requirements to assist with management of its capital position.

APRA issued its revised prudential standards on Tier 1 Capital instruments on 31 May 2006. The revised standards come into operation on 1 July 2006 and reduce the innovative limit from 25% of gross Tier 1 Capital (excluding hybrid equity) to 15% of net Tier 1 Capital, and introduce a total limit for Residual Tier 1 Capital (comprising both innovative and non-innovative Tier 1 Capital) of 25% of net Tier 1. The new limits will apply from 1 January 2008, with some transitional relief being available until January 2010 (subject to agreement with APRA).

As at 31 March 2006, St.George's innovative capital on issue represented 16.3% of gross Tier 1 Capital (excluding hybrid equity), which is within the current innovative limit of 25% of gross Tier 1 Capital (excluding hybrid equity). St.George expects to continue using Residual Tier 1 Capital instruments in managing its capital position going forward.

### 4.6.3 Recent and anticipated capital management initiatives

The following capital management initiatives were undertaken during the half year ended 31 March 2006:

- completion of a \$3.1 billion securitisation of residential loan receivables through the Crusade Securitisation Program;
- the issue of 4.5 million Ordinary Shares under St.George's dividend reinvestment plan (DRP) and partial underwriting of that issue of Ordinary Shares, raising \$127 million of capital;
- the conversion of \$300 million of PRYMES into 10,309,170 Ordinary Shares in February 2006, based on a conversion price of \$29.07 per Ordinary Share; and
- the buy-back of 11,677,657 Ordinary Shares in February 2006 at a price of \$25.69 per share.

St.George is now making the Offer in order to partially replace the PRYMES that were converted in February 2006. St.George also intends to issue a non-innovative Tier 1 Capital security of around \$250 million later in calendar year 2006.

The DRP will operate for the interim dividend declared for the half year ended 31 March 2006 with no discount and will not be underwritten if the Offer proceeds.

St.George expects to maintain its Total Capital Ratio above the 10% minimum Total Capital Ratio required by APRA for St.George.

## 4.7 PRO-FORMA FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The following consolidated pro-forma balance sheet and consolidated pro-forma capital adequacy position for St.George as at 31 March 2006 set out the expected effect of the Offer on St.George as at 31 March 2006, and assume that as at 31 March 2006:

- the Offer was completed and \$150 million of SPS are issued; and
- SPS are classified as \$147 million of equity (\$150 million gross proceeds net of \$3 million total issue costs) in the consolidated balance sheet of St.George.

The pro-forma balance sheet and capital adequacy position are unaudited and have been prepared according to AIFRS.

The impact of the SPS issue is expected to result in an increase in shareholders' equity.

### 4.7.1 Consolidated pro-forma balance sheet

The following table sets out the consolidated pro-forma balance sheet based on St.George's unaudited consolidated balance sheet as at 31 March 2006, adjusted as if the issue of SPS was completed as at that date:

CONSOLIDATED PRO-FORMA BALANCE SHEET - 31 MARCH 2006

\$ million	Actual	Pro-forma
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and liquid assets	1,128	1,275 <sup>1</sup>
Receivables due from other financial institutions	975	975
Assets at fair value through the income statement	5,726	5,726
Derivative assets	1,277	1,277
Available for sale investments	1,367	1,367
Loans and other receivables	77,197	77,197
Bank acceptances of customers	9,842	9,842
Investment in associated companies	28	28
Property, plant and equipment	443	443
Intangible assets	1,282	1,282
Deferred tax assets	174	174
Other assets	606	606
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>100,045</b>	<b>100,192</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Deposits and other borrowings	53,659	53,659
Payables due to other financial institutions	421	421
Liabilities at fair value through the income statement	395	395
Derivative liabilities	1,025	1,025
Bank acceptances	7,264	7,264
Provision for dividends	3	3
Current tax liabilities	115	115
Deferred tax liabilities	187	187
Other provisions	105	105
Bonds and notes	29,523	29,523
Loan capital	1,764	1,764
Bills payable and other liabilities	635	635
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>95,096</b>	<b>95,096</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>4,949</b>	<b>5,096</b>
<b>Shareholders' equity</b>		
Ordinary Shares	3,811	3,811
SAINTS	345	345
SPS	-	147
General reserve	15	15
Reserves	72	72
Retained profits	685	685
<b>Shareholders' equity attributable to members of St.George</b>	<b>4,928</b>	<b>5,075</b>
Equity attributable to minority interests	21	21
<b>Total shareholders' equity</b>	<b>4,949</b>	<b>5,096</b>

Note:

<sup>1</sup> Net proceeds of \$147 million from SPS issue: \$150 million gross proceeds less \$3 million issue costs.

4.7.2 Consolidated pro-forma capital adequacy position

The following table sets out the consolidated pro-forma capital adequacy position based on St.George's unaudited consolidated balance sheet as at 31 March 2006, adjusted as if the issue of SPS was completed as at that date.

CONSOLIDATED PRO-FORMA CAPITAL ADEQUACY POSITION - 31 MARCH 2006

\$ million	Actual	Pro-forma
<b>Tier 1 Capital</b>		
Share capital	3,811	3,811
SAINTS	345	345
SPS	-	147 <sup>7</sup>
Perpetual notes	34	34
General reserve	15	15
Other reserves (incl. general reserve for credit losses)	410	410
Retained profits <sup>1</sup>	685	685
Less: expected dividend <sup>2</sup>	(252)	(310)
Less: capitalised expenses <sup>3</sup>	(181)	(181)
Less: goodwill and other APRA deductions <sup>4</sup>	(1,320)	(1,320)
Reverse: after tax AIFRS transition adjustments impacting retained profits <sup>5</sup>	(79)	(79)
Reverse: after tax AIFRS transition adjustments impacting reserves	102	102
Reverse: after tax AIFRS effects during half year to 31 March 2006		
- collective loan provision and specific provision	46	46
- transaction fees and costs	(3)	(3)
- available for sale reserve	(1)	(1)
- hedging	(7)	(7)
- PRYMES redemption premium	(16)	(16)
- treasury shares	8	8
- reinstate previous AGAAP goodwill amortisation	(50)	(50)
- movement in:		
- cash flow hedge reserve	9	9
- transfer Asset Revaluation Reserve to Tier 2	(55)	(55)
- reinstate previous AGAAP loan loss provision movements <sup>5</sup>	(43)	(43)
<b>Total Tier 1 Capital</b>	<b>3,458</b>	<b>3,547</b>

\$ million	Actual	Pro-forma
<b>Tier 2 Capital</b>		
Asset revaluations	55	55
Subordinated debt	1,626	1,626
General provision for doubtful debts <sup>5</sup>	228	228
<b>Total Tier 2 Capital</b>	<b>1,909</b>	<b>1,909</b>
<b>Deductions from capital</b>		
Investments in non-consolidated entities net of goodwill and Tier 1 deductions <sup>6</sup>	(27)	(27)
Other	(1)	(1)
<b>Total deductions from capital</b>	<b>(28)</b>	<b>(28)</b>
<b>Total qualifying capital</b>	<b>5,339</b>	<b>5,428</b>
<b>Risk Weighted Assets</b>	<b>50,955</b>	<b>50,955</b>
<b>Risk weighted capital adequacy ratios</b>		
Tier 1 Capital Ratio	6.8%	7.0%
Tier 2 Capital ratio	3.7%	3.7%
Deductions	(0.1)%	(0.1)%
Total Capital Ratio	10.4%	10.6%
<b>Adjusted common equity</b>		
Tier 1 Capital	3,458	3,547
Less: SAINTS	(345)	(345)
Less: DCS	(351)	(351)
Less: perpetual notes	(34)	(34)
Less: SPS	-	(147)
Less: investment in non-consolidated entities net of goodwill and Tier 1 deductions	(27)	(27)
<b>Adjusted common equity</b>	<b>2,701</b>	<b>2,643</b>
Adjusted common equity ratio	5.3%	5.2%

Notes:

- General reserve for credit losses has been transferred back to retained profits for capital adequacy purposes as it is not applicable until 1 July 2006.
- The expected dividend allows for the DRP on the interim dividend for Ordinary Shares to be underwritten to a level of 35%. If SPS are issued, then this Ordinary Share dividend will not be underwritten and the participation level for the DRP is expected to be the normal level of approximately 20%.
- From 1 July 2004, APRA requires that banks deduct certain capitalised expenses such as home loan broker commissions and capitalised borrowing costs from Tier 1 Capital.
- Investments (pre-acquisition retained earnings) in funds management and administration companies and the investment in mortgage insurance company (St.George Insurance Pte. Ltd) and retained earnings of entities managing securitisation activities are deducted from Tier 1 Capital.
- Capital adequacy at 31 March 2006 includes a deduction from Tier 1 Capital to reinstate the general provision for doubtful debts and specific provisions with previous AGAAP.
- Holdings of other banks' capital instruments and investments (excluding pre-acquisition retained earnings) in funds management and administration companies and life insurance companies are deducted from the total of Tier 1 Capital and Tier 2 Capital.
- Net proceeds of \$147 million from SPS issue: \$150 million gross proceeds less \$3 million issue costs.

## 4.8 CREDIT RATINGS

St.George and its subsidiaries have been rated on an interactive basis by Standard & Poor's, Moody's and Fitch Ratings. Those ratings which are current at the date of this Prospectus and are relevant to the Offer are as follows:

Rating agency	SPS - Issue Credit Rating	St.George - long-term credit rating
Standard & Poor's	BBB+	A+
Moody's	A3	A1
Fitch Ratings	A-	A+

The provisional SPS ratings by Standard & Poor's, Moody's and Fitch Ratings were issued on 19 May 2006, 23 May 2006 and 18 May 2006 respectively. These ratings are provisional and Standard & Poor's, Moody's and Fitch Ratings have indicated that they will be assigned to SPS upon issue subject to no material changes occurring to the transaction structure or documentation.

St.George's long-term credit rating was issued by Standard & Poor's on 30 January 2006, by Moody's on 18 May 2006 and by Fitch Ratings in January 2001 (last reaffirmed on 5 April 2006).

### 4.8.1 Issue Credit Rating

An Issue Credit Rating is a current opinion of the creditworthiness of an obligor with respect to specific financial obligations, a specific class of financial obligations or a specific financial program.

Issues rated 'BBB-' or higher by Standard & Poor's are generally considered in capital markets to be investment grade. SPS have been assigned a 'BBB+' rating by Standard & Poor's and are therefore investment grade. An Issue Credit Rating of 'BBB+' describes an issue that exhibits adequate protection parameters.

Issues rated 'Baa3' or higher by Moody's are generally considered in capital markets to be investment grade. SPS have been assigned a 'A3' rating by Moody's and are therefore investment grade. An Issue Credit Rating of 'A3' offers strong financial security.

Issues rated 'BBB-' or higher by Fitch Ratings are generally considered in capital markets to be investment grade. SPS have been assigned an 'A-' rating by Fitch Ratings and are therefore investment grade. An Issue Credit Rating of 'A-' describes an issue that exhibits strong protection parameters.

### 4.8.2 St.George's long-term credit rating

A long-term credit rating is a current opinion of an obligor's overall financial capacity to pay its financial obligations (its creditworthiness).

#### Standard & Poor's

St.George's current long-term credit rating from Standard & Poor's is 'A+' (Outlook Stable). An obligation rated 'A+' is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher rated categories. However, the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is still strong.

The ratings from 'AA' to 'CCC' may be modified by the addition of a plus (+) or a minus (-) sign to show relative standing within the major rating categories. The rating outlook assesses the potential direction of an issuer's long-term debt rating over the

intermediate to longer term. Rating outlooks fall into the following four categories: positive, negative, stable and developing. The outlook applied to St.George's long-term credit ratings above is 'Outlook Stable' which indicates that ratings are not likely to change.

#### **4.8.3 Moody's**

Moody's long-term credit rating for St.George is 'A1' (Outlook Stable). Issuers rated 'A1' offer good financial security. However, elements may be present which suggest a susceptibility to impairment sometime in the future.

Moody's applies numerical modifiers of 1, 2 and 3 in each category from 'Aa' to 'Caa'. The modifier 1 indicates that the issuer is in the higher end of its letter rating category. The rating outlook is an opinion regarding the likely direction of an issuer's rating over the medium term. Rating outlooks fall into the four following categories: positive, negative, stable and developing (contingent upon a particular event). The outlook applied to St.George's long-term and short-term credit ratings above is 'Outlook Stable' which indicates that ratings are not likely to change.

#### **4.8.4 Fitch Ratings**

St.George's current long-term credit rating from Fitch Ratings is 'A+' (Outlook Stable). Issuers rated 'A+' offer a low expectation of credit risk. The capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is considered strong. This capacity may, nevertheless, be more vulnerable to changes in circumstances or in economic conditions than is the case for higher ratings.

The ratings from 'AA' to 'CCC' may be modified by the addition of a plus (+) or a minus (-) sign to show relative standing within the major rating categories. The rating outlook assesses the potential direction of an issuer's long-term debt rating over the intermediate to longer term. Rating outlooks fall into the following four categories: positive, negative, stable and developing. The outlook applied to St.George's long-term credit ratings above is 'Outlook Stable' which indicates that ratings are not likely to change.

#### **4.8.5 No consent for inclusion of credit ratings**

Standard & Poor's, Moody's and Fitch Ratings have not consented to their ratings being included in this Prospectus and accordingly those rating agencies are not liable under section 729 of the Corporations Act for the ratings attributed to them in this Prospectus.

St.George has obtained ASIC relief for the inclusion of these ratings - see Section 7.10.

**Credit ratings on St.George are not 'market' ratings, nor are they a recommendation to buy, hold or sell securities (including SPS).**

**As at the date of this Prospectus, St.George has not approached any other rating agency for a rating of SPS.**

**Credit ratings are subject to revision or withdrawal at any time.**

# RISKS

## **THIS SECTION DESCRIBES THE POTENTIAL RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH AN INVESTMENT IN SPS.**

It is divided into risks that are specific to SPS and risks associated with St.George and the banking industry generally.

Before applying for SPS, you should consider whether SPS are a suitable investment for you. There are risks associated with investing in SPS and in St.George, many of which are outside the control of St.George and its Directors. These risks include those in this Section and other matters referred to in this Prospectus.

# 5. Risks

## 5.1 RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH INVESTING IN SPS

### 5.1.1 Financial market conditions

The market price of SPS may fluctuate due to various factors, including investor perceptions, worldwide economic conditions, interest rates, movements in the market price of Ordinary Shares, and factors that may affect St.George's financial performance and position. It is possible that SPS may trade at a market price below \$100 each (the Issue Price).

The market price of SPS may be more sensitive than that of Ordinary Shares to changes in interest rates. Increases in relevant interest rates may adversely affect the market price of SPS. The Ordinary Shares held as a result of any conversion of SPS will, following conversion, rank equally with existing Ordinary Shares. Accordingly, the value of any Ordinary Shares received upon Exchange will depend upon the market price of Ordinary Shares after the Exchange Date.

### 5.1.2 Liquidity

The market for SPS may be less liquid than the market for Ordinary Shares.

Holders who wish to sell their SPS may be unable to do so at an acceptable price, or at all, if insufficient liquidity exists in the market for SPS.

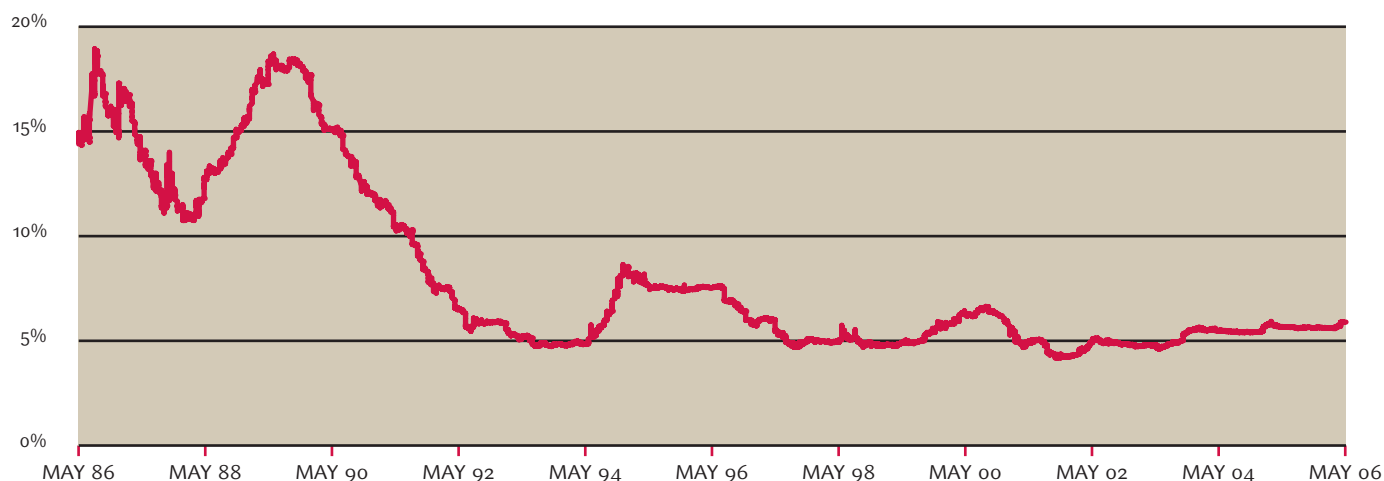
### 5.1.3 Changes in Dividend Rate

The Dividend Rate is calculated for each Dividend Period by reference to the Bank Bill Swap Rate, which is influenced by a number of factors and varies over time. The Dividend Rate will fluctuate (both increasing and decreasing) over time with movement in the Bank Bill Swap Rate.

The range for the Bank Bill Swap Rate over the last 20 years is set out in the chart below.

As the Dividend Rate fluctuates, there is a risk that it may become less attractive when compared to the rates of return available on comparable securities issued by St.George or other entities.

BANK BILL SWAP RATE (% PER ANNUM)



### 5.1.4 Dividends may not be paid

There is a risk that Dividends will not be paid. SPS are not debt instruments.

The payment of Dividends is subject to the Payment Tests – see Section 2.4.7. These Payment Tests include the Directors determining a Dividend to be payable and St.George having sufficient profits available to pay the Dividend. There is a risk that one or more of the Payment Tests are not satisfied and a Dividend may not be paid in full or at all.

Dividends are non-cumulative, and therefore if a Dividend is not paid Holders will have no recourse to payment from St.George and may not receive payment of those Dividends at a later time. St.George may subsequently pay a Dividend that is not paid in full or not paid at all by declaring an Optional Dividend (subject to APRA's approval) – see Section 2.4.9.

If St.George does not declare a Dividend or pay a declared Dividend in full within 20 Business Days of a Dividend Payment Date, then a dividend stopper applies. This means that St.George may not pay any dividend or distribution on any Equal Ranking Capital Securities (including SAINTS and DCS) or Junior Ranking Capital Securities (including Ordinary Shares) or make any return of capital on any Junior Ranking Capital Securities without the approval of a special resolution of Holders, unless (among other things) St.George pays 12 months Dividends in full or pays any unpaid Dividends from the last 12 months – see Section 2.4.10.

St.George may also be subject to similar 'payment test' constraints on the payment of dividends or return of capital on certain Tier 1 Capital securities if a dividend or other distribution has not been paid on other securities that St.George has on issue which contain similar provisions to the dividend stopper in the Terms of Issue. If such a constraint applies, St.George may not be able to pay Dividends without the approval of the holders of those other securities.

### 5.1.5 Dividends may not be fully franked

St.George expects Dividends to be fully franked. However, there is no guarantee that St.George will have sufficient franking credits in the future to fully frank Dividends.

If, on a Dividend Payment Date, the Australian corporate tax rate applicable to the franking account of St.George differs from the Tax Rate, the Dividend will be adjusted downwards or upwards accordingly. If a Dividend is unfranked or partially franked, the Dividend will be increased to compensate for the unfranked component.

If a Dividend is unfranked or partially franked and St.George does not increase the Dividend, then St.George will be restricted by the dividend stopper in payment of dividends and distributions of capital on Equal Ranking Capital Securities and Junior Ranking Capital Securities – see Section 2.4.11.

### 5.1.6 Exchange by St.George only

St.George may choose Exchange in certain specified circumstances – see Section 2.5.3. If St.George is entitled to Exchange, it can select from a number of methods to effect the Exchange – see Section 2.5.1. One method of Exchange available to St.George is to convert SPS into a number of Ordinary Shares – see Section 2.5.4. Any Ordinary Shares held by Holders as a result of conversion of their SPS will have the same rights as other Ordinary Shares, which are different to the rights attached to SPS.

The method of Exchange chosen by St.George may not coincide with a Holder's individual preference in terms of timing or whether the Holder receives Ordinary Shares or cash upon Exchange, which may be disadvantageous to the Holder in light of market conditions or individual circumstances at the time.

The number of additional Ordinary Shares issued on conversion will depend on a number of factors, including the Ordinary Share price over the 20 Business Days immediately prior to the Exchange Date. The value of the additional Ordinary Shares issued on the Exchange Date may therefore be different to the value calculated through the 20 Business Day pricing period.

### 5.1.7 Exchange may affect individual Ordinary Shareholding Limit

Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the Constitution restrict individual shareholdings by people (together with their associates) to 10% of the issued Ordinary Shares (Ordinary Shareholding Limit). In accordance with sub-article 11(5) of the Constitution, a Holder's SPS may not be converted into Ordinary Shares if, in the Directors' opinion, the conversion of SPS held by that Holder will result in a person exceeding the Ordinary Shareholding Limit. A potential investor who already holds Ordinary Shares should take care to ensure that their acquisition of SPS, if converted into Ordinary Shares, would not place them in breach of the Ordinary Shareholding Limit.

### 5.1.8 No fixed maturity

SPS have no fixed maturity date. Accordingly, an investment in SPS has no stated maturity date. SPS are not able to be Exchanged at the request of Holders, and redemption for cash will only occur if St.George chooses (subject to APRA approval) to pay cash consideration upon Exchange – see Section 2.5.

### 5.1.9 Ranking

SPS are not deposits or liabilities of St.George and the payment of Dividends and cash redemption proceeds is not guaranteed by St.George or any other member of the Group.

In the event of a winding up of St.George, and SPS have not been Exchanged, Holders will be entitled to be paid the Liquidation Sum for each SPS. This is an amount for each SPS up to \$100 for its Face Value and any Dividend declared and unpaid at the commencement of the winding up of St.George. The claim for the Liquidation Sum ranks ahead of Ordinary Shares and effectively equal with Equal Ranking Capital Securities (including SAINTS and DCS), but is subordinated to all depositors and creditors of St.George.

If there is a shortfall of funds on a winding up, there is a risk that Holders will not receive a full (or any) return of capital or payment of any Dividends declared but unpaid.

St.George reserves the right in the future to issue additional SPS, or other preference shares or Capital Securities ranking ahead of, equally with or behind SPS, whether in respect of dividends, a return of capital on winding up, or otherwise.

### 5.1.10 Credit ratings

One or more independent credit rating agencies may assign ratings to SPS and/or St.George. There is a risk that the credit ratings of SPS and St.George could be reviewed or downgraded, which may impact the market price and liquidity of SPS.

Credit ratings are not 'market' ratings, nor are they a recommendation to buy, hold or sell securities and are subject to revision or withdrawal at any time.

The credit ratings may not reflect the potential impact of all risks related to the structure under which SPS are issued, market and additional factors discussed in this Section 5, and other factors that may affect the value of SPS or St.George's financial performance or position.

### 5.1.11 Regulatory classification

APRA has provided confirmation that SPS qualify for Tier 1 Capital treatment under current prudential standards at the date of this Prospectus. However, if APRA subsequently determines that SPS are not or will not qualify for Tier 1 Capital treatment, St.George may decide that a Regulatory Event has occurred. This will allow Exchange of all (but not some only) of SPS on issue (subject to APRA approval). For the risks attaching to St.George's discretion of Exchange in certain specified circumstances – see Section 5.1.6.

On 31 May 2006, APRA issued its revised prudential standards on Tier 1 Capital instruments, following two earlier discussion papers released in August 2005 and April 2006. The revised standards come into operation on 1 July 2006 and reduce the innovative limit from 25% of gross Tier 1 Capital (excluding hybrid equity) to 15% of net Tier 1 Capital, and introduce a total limit for Residual Tier 1 Capital (comprising both innovative and non-innovative Tier 1 Capital) of 25% of net Tier 1 Capital. SPS are innovative Tier 1 Capital under the revised standards. The new limits will apply from 1 January 2008, with some transitional relief being available until January 2010 (subject to agreement with APRA). Under the Terms of Issue, St.George may initiate Exchange on the occurrence of a Regulatory Event. The definition of Regulatory Event includes where St.George determines that there is a risk that SPS will not be included (in whole or in part) in Tier 1 Capital. The reduction of the innovative Tier 1 Capital limit to 15% may result in some or all of SPS not being included in St.George's Tier 1 Capital in the future. If this occurs St.George may choose Exchange of all SPS.

### 5.1.12 Australian taxation consequences

A general outline of the taxation consequences of investing in SPS for certain potential investors who are Australian residents for tax purposes is set out in the Tax Letter in Section 6. This discussion is in general terms and is not intended to provide specific advice addressing the circumstances of any particular potential investor. Accordingly, potential investors should seek independent advice concerning their own individual tax position. If a change is made to the Australian tax system and that change leads to a more than insignificant increase in St.George's costs in relation to SPS being on issue or franking credits not being available to Holders, St.George is entitled to Exchange – see Sections 2.5.3 and 2.5.6.



St.George has applied for a private ruling from the ATO for confirmation that SPS will be treated as equity interests for taxation purposes and hence be able to pay franked Dividends. As at the date of this Prospectus, St.George had not received the ruling from the ATO. If the ATO does not allow SPS to be treated as equity interests for taxation purposes or imputation benefits are denied to Holders or franking debits are posted to St.George's franking account, then this would likely constitute a Tax Event under the Terms of Issue, which would allow St.George to require Exchange of all (but not some only) of SPS on issue.

St.George has received advice from Greenwoods & Freehills Pty Limited that SPS are likely to be treated as equity interests for tax purposes - see Section 6.

### 5.1.13 Future issue of securities by St.George

St.George and other members of the Group may in future issue securities that:

- rank for dividends or payments of capital (including the winding up of St.George or another member of the Group) equally with, behind or ahead of;
- have the same or different dividend, interest or distribution rates as; or
- have the same or different terms and conditions as,

SPS.

An investment in SPS carries no right to participate in any future issue of securities (whether equity, hybrid, debt or otherwise) by any member of the Group.

No prediction can be made to the effect, if any, such future issue of securities by an entity in the Group may have on the market price or liquidity of SPS.

## 5.2 RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH ST.GEORGE AND THE BANKING INDUSTRY GENERALLY

### 5.2.1 General business

The financial prospects of any entity are sensitive to the underlying characteristics of its business and the nature and extent of the commercial risks to which the entity is exposed. There are a number of risks faced by St.George, including those that encompass a broad range of economic and commercial risks. However, the most common risks that are actively managed by St.George are credit risk, liquidity risk, market risk and operational risk (including fraud, theft and property damage). These risks create the potential for St.George to suffer loss from:

#### • Credit risk

This involves a debtor or counterparty failing to meet their financial contractual obligations to St.George. This risk is inherent in St.George's lending activities as well as transactions involving derivatives and foreign exchange.

#### • Liquidity risk

St.George may be unable to meet its financial commitments when they fall due. Liquidity risk arises from mismatches in the cash flows from financial transactions.

#### • Market risk

Generally for St.George, this involves funding risk and interest rate risk. Funding risk is the risk of overreliance on a particular funding source. The risks associated with such a concentration include volatility in funding costs or funding availability. Interest rate risk arises from a variety of sources including mismatches

between the repricing periods of assets and liabilities. As a result of these mismatches, movements in interest rates can affect earnings or the value of St.George.

#### • Operational risk

The daily operations of St.George may result in financial or other loss. Particular areas where operational risk may arise include failure to comply with laws, regulations and internal policies, fraud or error, and systems failure.

The Directors have adopted policies and procedures to control exposure to, and limit the extent of, these risks. Whilst there are inherent limitations in any risk management control system and control breakdowns and system failures can occur, the development and maintenance of effective control systems should provide a solid foundation for risk management.

Pages 48 and 49 of St.George's 2005 Concise Annual Report set out a summary of the key policies which have been put in place by St.George to control exposure to credit risk on lending activities, liquidity risk, market risk and operational risk.

### 5.2.2 Changes in economic conditions

The financial performance of St.George could be affected by changes in economic conditions in Australia. This includes changes in:

- inflation and interest rates, which will particularly affect the net interest margin achieved in St.George's banking operations;
- employment levels and labour costs, which will affect the cost structure of St.George;
- aggregate investment and economic output;
- other economic conditions, which may affect the creditworthiness of lending customers of St.George and the quality of St.George's loan portfolio; and
- housing prices and demand for housing loans which could reduce St.George's loan receivables and net interest income.

Global economic factors and geo-political instability can also affect economic conditions in Australia and therefore affect the financial performance of St.George.

### 5.2.3 Changes in investment markets

Changes in investment markets, including changes in interest rates, exchange rates and returns from equity, property and other investments, will affect the financial performance of St.George through its operations and investments held in financial services and associated businesses.

### 5.2.4 Changes in regulatory and legal environment

St.George's business is subject to substantial regulatory and legal oversight. In particular, the Australian banking operations of St.George are subject to prudential supervision by APRA. St.George is required, among other things, to meet minimum capital requirements within these operations. APRA is currently analysing potential changes to its capital adequacy guidelines as a result of Basel II. Under these changes, which are expected to become operational from 1 January 2008, capital adequacy ratios for regulatory purposes may be measured in a different way to that which is used currently. The consequences of these potential changes for St.George are still unclear. However, such changes in the regulatory regimes under which St.George operates may have an effect on the financial performance and capital requirements of St.George.

Failure to comply with legal and regulatory requirements may have a material adverse effect on St.George and its reputation among customers and regulators and in the market. Future regulatory and legal developments affecting the banking industry may also have a material adverse effect on St.George.

In addition to regulatory and taxation consequences associated with an investment in SPS, potential changes to the Australian and international regulatory environment may have a material adverse effect on St.George. These risks include changes to:

- accounting standards;
- taxation laws; and
- prudential regulatory requirements, particularly those administered by APRA.

#### **5.2.5 Changes in government policy**

St.George may be affected by changes in government policy or legislation applying to companies in the banking industry. For example, a proposed change to taxation treatment of any of St.George's subsidiary companies may impact the after tax earnings of St.George.

#### **5.2.6 Competition in the banking industry**

The banking industry in Australia is competitive and subject to significant change. St.George faces significant competition from both traditional banking groups and non-bank financial institutions, which compete vigorously for customer investments and deposits and the provision of lending and wealth management services. The effect of competitive market conditions may adversely impact on the earnings and assets of St.George.

#### **5.2.7 Changes in technology**

Technology plays an increasingly important role in the delivery of financial services to customers in a cost effective manner. St.George's ability to compete effectively in the future will, in part, be driven by its ability to maintain an appropriate technology platform for the efficient delivery of its products and services.

#### **5.2.8 Operations**

St.George's profitability is subject to a variety of operational risks including strategic and business decisions (including acquisitions), technology risk (including business systems failure), reputational risk (including damage to brands), fraud, compliance with legal and regulatory obligations, counterparty performance under outsourcing arrangements, business continuity planning, legal risk, data integrity risk, key person risk, and external events.

**The summary of risks in this Section is not exhaustive and you should read this Prospectus in full and consult your Co-Manager, Participating Broker or other professional adviser before deciding whether to invest in SPS.**

# TAX LETTER

**IF YOU ARE CONSIDERING APPLYING  
FOR SPS, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU  
UNDERSTAND THE TAXATION  
CONSEQUENCES OF INVESTING IN SPS.**

You should read the information set out in this Section before deciding whether to invest and discuss the taxation consequences with your tax adviser.

# Greenwoods & Freehills

8 June 2006

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The Directors  
St.George Bank Limited  
4-16 Montgomery Street  
KOGARAH NSW 2217

Dear Directors

## Australian taxation consequences of investing in St.George Bank Limited Step-Up Preference Shares (SPS)

We have been instructed by St.George Bank Limited (St.George) to prepare a tax summary for inclusion in the Prospectus dated 8 June 2006 in relation to the issue of SPS.

Accordingly, this letter provides a summary of the Australian income tax and capital gains tax (CGT) consequences for Australian tax resident investors (Holders) who acquire the SPS and hold them on capital account. Tax considerations which may arise for investors who are in the business of share trading, dealing in securities or otherwise hold SPS on revenue account have not been considered in this summary.

This summary is based on the income tax law and administrative practice currently in force as at the date of the Prospectus. It is necessarily general in nature and is not intended to be definitive advice to Holders. Accordingly, each Holder should seek their own tax advice that is specific to their particular circumstances.

St.George has applied for a class ruling from the Australian Taxation Office for confirmation of certain tax consequences for Holders as discussed in this summary.

Unless the context indicates otherwise, all capitalised terms bear the same meaning as those contained in the Glossary of the Prospectus and the definitions in the Terms of Issue.

### 1 Tax on Dividends

SPS are properly classified for tax purposes as equity interests in St.George rather than debt interests.

It is expected that St.George will only pay fully franked Dividends to the extent of the available franking credits in St.George's franking account. Accordingly, all Holders should include in their assessable income the amount of the fully franked Dividends, grossed up for the franking credits attached to the Dividends, unless a Holder is not a "qualified person" (refer section 2 below).

Holders may qualify for the tax offset (equivalent to the franking credits attached to the Dividends) against their income tax liability for the relevant income year provided they are "qualified persons" (refer section 2 below).

To the extent that the tax offset attributable to the franking credits on a Dividend exceeds the amount of a Holder's income tax liability for an income year, the excess tax offset may be refunded to the Holder. Excess franking credits cannot be carried forward to a later income year.

Holders which are companies or non-complying superannuation entities are not entitled to refunds of tax offsets. Holders which are companies will be entitled to a credit in their franking account equal to the amount of franking credits on Dividends.

## 2 Qualification for franking credits

Certain imputation measures contained in the Tax Act provide that a shareholder is not required to include the grossed up amount of the franking credits in its assessable income and is not entitled to the tax offset unless the shareholder is a "qualified person" in relation to the dividend.

A shareholder is a "qualified person" if it satisfies the holding period and related payment rules.

In terms of the holding period rule, a Holder must have held SPS "at risk" for a continuous period of at least 90 days (excluding the day of disposal) within a period beginning on the day after the date on which the Holder acquired SPS and ending on the 90<sup>th</sup> day after the date on which the SPS became ex-Dividend.

A Holder would be "at risk" in relation to SPS provided that it does not enter into any arrangements which could result in materially reduced risks of loss or opportunities for gain in relation to SPS. In calculating the holding period, any days where the Holder has materially diminished its risk of loss or opportunity for gain in relation to SPS are excluded. A Holder is taken to have materially diminished risk if the Holder's net position in relation to SPS is such that the Holder has less than 30% of the risks and opportunities associated with SPS.

Under the 'related payments rule', a Holder who is obliged to make a 'related payment' (essentially a payment passing the benefit of the Dividend) in respect of a Dividend must hold SPS "at risk" for at least 90 days (not including the days of acquisition and disposal) within the period beginning 90 days before and ending 90 days after SPS became ex-Dividend.

Alternatively, a Holder is automatically taken to be a qualified person in relation to dividends paid on shares if the total amount of the tax offsets in respect of all franked distributions to which the Holder would be entitled in an income year is \$5,000 or less. This is referred to as the Small Shareholder Rule. However, a Holder will not be a "qualified person" by virtue of the Small Shareholder Rule if related payments have been made, or will be made in respect of the Dividend or a distribution attributable to the Dividend.

Although certain changes to the tax law have affected the applicability of these rules, the Australian Government has indicated in a press release dated 27 September 2002 that it intends to amend the law to ensure these rules continue to apply without substantive change.

### 3 CGT consequences on disposal of SPS

#### 3.1 Sale of SPS

A capital gain or capital loss may arise on a sale of SPS.

To the extent that the capital proceeds received by a Holder on the sale of SPS exceed the cost base, the excess would constitute a capital gain in the hands of the Holder. Conversely, a capital loss would arise on a sale of SPS equal to the amount by which the sale proceeds are less than the reduced cost base.

The cost base or reduced cost base of SPS respectively should include the amount paid to acquire SPS (when issued by St.George) as well as any incidental costs (eg broker fees) associated with the acquisition and disposal of SPS.

If SPS have been owned for at least 12 months prior to the sale, a Holder (other than a company) may be entitled to receive the CGT discount treatment in respect of any gain arising on disposal of SPS. The discount percentage is applied to the amount of the capital gain after offsetting any current income year or carried forward capital losses. The discount percentages are 50%, 50% and 33⅓% for Holders who are individuals, trusts and complying superannuation entities respectively.

Holders who dispose of SPS within 12 months of acquiring them or who dispose of SPS under an agreement entered into within 12 months of acquiring them will not receive the CGT discount treatment.

Companies are not entitled to obtain the CGT discount treatment in respect of any gain arising on disposal of SPS.

#### 3.2 Redemption or cancellation of SPS

St.George may elect to redeem or cancel SPS on giving an appropriate Exchange Notice. For each SPS that is being redeemed or cancelled, an amount equal to the Face Value will be paid by St.George in cash on the relevant Exchange Date.

The redemption or cancellation proceeds should not be treated as a dividend to the extent to which the proceeds paid by St.George are debited against an amount standing to the credit of St.George's share capital account, provided that St.George gives the Holder a notice specifying the amount paid up on each SPS to be redeemed or cancelled.

However, to the extent to which the redemption or cancellation proceeds paid by St.George are funded out of an account other than its share capital account, that amount will be an assessable dividend in the hands of a Holder.

Redemption or cancellation of SPS will constitute a disposal of the preference shares for CGT purposes. Accordingly, a Holder may also derive a capital gain or a capital loss on such disposal to the extent to which the proceeds are greater than the cost base or are less than the reduced cost base of the SPS respectively.

The cost base (or reduced cost base) of SPS for these purposes would include the amount paid by a Holder to acquire SPS plus the incidental costs associated with the acquisition and redemption or cancellation of SPS.

The amount of the capital gain resulting from a redemption or cancellation of SPS would be reduced (but not below nil) to the extent that the whole or part of the proceeds is treated as a dividend (refer comments above). A Holder (other than a company) may be entitled to the CGT discount treatment in respect of any remaining capital gain, after reduction by any part of the proceeds which is treated as a dividend, in the same manner as discussed above in section 3.1.

### 3.3 Buy back of SPS

St.George may choose to buy back SPS by giving an appropriate Exchange Notice.

For tax purposes, such an event would give rise to income tax and CGT consequences for Holders similar to those described in relation to the redemption or cancellation of SPS. However, depending on the terms of the buy back and how much of the proceeds are debited to St.George's share capital account, the calculation of the capital gain or capital loss arising may be different.

### 3.4 Conversion of SPS

If St.George issues an Exchange Notice and elects to convert SPS into Ordinary Shares, one SPS will convert into one fully paid Ordinary Share. The conversion of SPS is expressed to not constitute a redemption or cancellation of the SPS being converted, or an issue, allotment or creation of a new share (other than the additional Ordinary Shares issued – refer section 4 below). Instead, the conversion involves changing the rights attached to SPS.

In Taxation Ruling TR 94/30, the Commissioner of Taxation has expressed a view that the variation of rights attaching to a share does not result in either a full or partial disposal of an asset for CGT purposes unless there is a redemption or cancellation of the share. Accordingly, the conversion of SPS to Ordinary Shares should not result in either a full or partial disposal of SPS by Holders for CGT purposes.

## 4 Additional Ordinary Shares

Following the conversion of SPS into Ordinary Shares, each Holder will be allotted an additional number of Ordinary Shares determined in accordance with the Conversion Number formula that is set out in clause 3.4 of the Terms of Issue.

The issue of the additional Ordinary Shares to a Holder should not be taken to be an assessable dividend in the hands of the Holder.

The additional Ordinary Shares will be CGT assets for CGT purposes. The cost base (or reduced cost base) of an additional Ordinary Share will be determined by spreading the cost base (or reduced cost base) of the original SPS across the original SPS and all of the additional Ordinary Shares issued on conversion.

Further, for CGT purposes, the additional Ordinary Shares should be taken to have been acquired by a Holder at the time the original SPS to which the additional Ordinary Shares relate, were acquired by the Holder.

A subsequent sale of the Ordinary Shares (being the additional Ordinary Shares and the SPS that has been converted into one Ordinary Share) may give rise to a capital gain or capital loss to a Holder. The amount of the capital gain would equal the excess of the sale proceeds over the cost base of the Ordinary Shares determined in the manner discussed above. Conversely, a capital loss will arise on a sale of the Ordinary Shares equal to the amount by which the sale proceeds are less than the reduced cost base of the Ordinary Shares.

The availability of CGT discount treatment to Holders discussed in section 3.1 above in the context of a sale of SPS, applies equally here.

## 5 Pay-as-you-go withholding tax

Holders may, if they choose, notify St.George of their TFN, ABN or a relevant exemption.

In the event that St.George is not so notified, tax will be automatically deducted at the highest marginal tax rate (including medicare levy) from the gross cash Dividends to the extent that Dividends are not franked. At present, this rate is 48.5%. From 1 July 2006, the rate is expected to be 46.5%, based on the reduction of the highest marginal tax rate announced by the Government on 9 May 2006.

St.George is required to withhold such tax until such time as the relevant TFN, ABN or exemption notification is given to it. Holders will be able to claim a tax credit/rebate (as applicable) in respect of any tax withheld on the Dividends in their income tax returns.

## 6 Disclaimer

This advice does not purport to give advice to any specific Holder, as each Holder's tax position will depend on their own particular circumstances. Holders should seek their own professional tax advice regarding their individual circumstances.

The representatives of Greenwood & Freehills Pty Limited involved in preparing this opinion are not licensed to provide financial product advice in relation to dealing in securities. Potential investors should consider seeking advice from a suitably qualified Australian Financial Services Licence holder before making any investment decision. Potential investors should also note that taxation is only one of the matters that may need to be considered.

Yours faithfully  
GREENWOODS & FREEHILLS PTY LIMITED  
per:



Mark Ferrier  
Director



# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF A NUMBER OF OTHER MATTERS THAT MAY NOT HAVE BEEN ADDRESSED IN DETAIL ELSEWHERE IN THIS PROSPECTUS.**

These include rights attaching to Ordinary Shares that may be issued on Exchange, a summary of the Offer Management Agreement, the consents of experts whose statements have been included in this Prospectus, the disclosure of interests of the Directors and the concessions that regulators have granted to St.George in respect of the Offer.

# 7. Additional Information

## 7.1 TERMS OF ISSUE

The rights attaching to SPS will be governed by the Constitution and the Terms of Issue set out in Appendix A.

## 7.2 RIGHTS ATTACHING TO ORDINARY SHARES

St.George may choose to convert SPS into Ordinary Shares upon Exchange. The main rights attaching to Ordinary Shares are to:

- vote at meetings of Ordinary Shareholders on the basis of one vote per fully paid share on a poll;
- receive dividends declared from time to time in proportion to the capital paid up on the shares they hold (subject to the rights of holders of shares carrying preferred rights);
- receive information required to be distributed under the Corporations Act and the ASX Listing Rules (eg annual reports); and
- participate in a surplus of assets or profits on a winding up of St.George in proportion to the capital paid up on the shares at the commencement of the winding up (subject to the rights of holders of shares carrying preferred rights).

The rights attaching to Ordinary Shares are set out in more detail in the Constitution. Copies of the Constitution are available from St.George's registered office on request. The Constitution also includes provisions on the winding up of St.George and a limitation on Ordinary Share ownership.

### 7.2.1 Winding up of St.George

Article 115 of the Constitution provides that if St.George is wound up and its assets are insufficient to discharge its liabilities in the winding up, the deficiency is to be borne by shareholders in certain priority depending on the class of shares held. No holder of St.George shares is required to contribute more than the amount unpaid, if any, on any share held by that person. As all SPS issued under this Prospectus will be issued as fully paid, no Holder can be required to contribute further capital to St.George on a winding up.

### 7.2.2 Limitation on Ordinary Share ownership

Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the Constitution restrict individual shareholdings by people (together with their associates) to no more than 10% of the issued shares of St.George. In addition, the Financial Sector (Shareholdings) Act 1998 (Cth) restricts ownership by people (together with their associates) of an Australian bank, such as St.George, to 15% of the total voting shares outstanding. A shareholder may apply to the Australian Treasurer to extend their ownership beyond 15%, but approval will not be granted unless the Treasurer is satisfied that a holding by that person greater than 15% is in the national interest.

## 7.3 SUMMARY OF OFFER MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

St.George entered into the Offer Management Agreement with the Lead Manager on 31 May 2006. Under the Offer Management Agreement, the Lead Manager has agreed to manage and market the Offer, including the Bookbuild, and to provide settlement support in relation to obligations of Applicants under the Bookbuild who are Allocated SPS. The Lead Manager may appoint Co-Managers to the Offer with the approval of St.George.

### 7.3.1 Fees

The Lead Manager is entitled to receive a fee of 1.20% of the gross proceeds of the Offer. However, no fee is payable to the Lead Manager if it terminates its obligations under the Offer Management Agreement.

St.George must pay stamp duty in relation to the Offer Management Agreement or the Offer and incidental costs and expenses of the Offer.

### 7.3.2 Representations, warranties and undertakings by St.George

St.George gives various representations and warranties in the Offer Management Agreement that are customary for agreements of this type. In addition, St.George gives a number of undertakings under the Offer Management Agreement, including in relation to the conduct of the Offer and compliance by St.George with applicable laws. St.George also gives an undertaking that it will not, without the prior written consent of the Lead Manager, allot, issue, or announce an allotment or issue of any equity securities, equity-linked securities, hybrid or preference securities, subordinated debt with Tier 1 Capital or Tier 2 Capital status, or any securities convertible into SPS or any of the above, for a period of 90 days following the lodgement of this Prospectus, other than issues under the Offer, an employee share or option plan, bonus plan, top up plan, or dividend reinvestment plan or under the terms of securities or financial products on issue on the date of the Offer Management Agreement.

### 7.3.3 Termination

The Lead Manager may terminate its obligations under the Offer Management Agreement on the occurrence of a number of customary termination events. These include:

- market changes and material adverse changes affecting St.George;
- ASIC issuing stop orders;
- any person (other than the Lead Manager) withdrawing their consent to be named in this Prospectus;
- St.George withdrawing this Prospectus or the Offer;
- trading of St.George securities being suspended, or any of St.George's securities or financial products ceasing to be quoted.

If this occurs, the Lead Manager will no longer be the Lead Manager and will be relieved of its obligations under the Offer Management Agreement.

In certain circumstances, the Lead Manager may not terminate unless, in its reasonable opinion, the event:

- has or is likely to have a material adverse effect on:
  - the success or settlement of the Offer; or
  - where the event occurs after completion of the Bookbuild, the performance of the secondary market trading of SPS within the first month of trading following their quotation; or
- would give rise to a material liability of the Lead Manager under any law, regulation, treaty or administrative action.

St.George has agreed to indemnify the Lead Manager and parties affiliated with it against claims, demands, damages, losses, costs, charges, expenses and liabilities in connection with the Offer, and certain other things related to the Offer other than where these result from the negligence, fraud, recklessness or wilful misconduct of the indemnified party, other than to the extent the failure is caused or contributed to by St.George or certain parties affiliated with it.

## 7.4 OFFER RESTRICTIONS

This Prospectus does not constitute an offer of securities in the US or to any US Person (as defined in Regulation S of the US Securities Act). SPS have not been, and will not be, registered under the US Securities Act and may not be offered or sold in the US or to, or for the account of, any US Person, except in a transaction that is exempt from the registration requirements of the US Securities Act and applicable US state securities laws.

By submitting an Application Form, each Applicant will be deemed to have:

- acknowledged that SPS have not been, and will not be, registered under the US Securities Act and may not be offered, sold or resold in the US or to, or for the account or benefit of, a US Person except in accordance with an available exemption from the registration requirements of the US Securities Act; and
- represented, warranted and agreed as follows:
  - they are not in the US or a US Person and are not acting for the account or benefit of a US Person; and
  - they are not engaged in the business of distributing securities, or, if they are, they will not offer, sell or resell in the US or to any US Person:
    - any SPS they acquire pursuant to the Offer; or
    - any SPS they acquire other than pursuant to the Offer (excluding SPS purchased by way of ordinary brokerage transactions on ASX where neither the seller nor any person acting on its behalf knows, or has reason to know, that the sale has been prearranged with, or that the purchaser is, a person in the US).

Any person who is in the US, is a US Person, or does not make the representation and warranty set out above is not entitled to acquire any SPS.

Until 40 days after the commencement of the Offer, any offer or sale of SPS in the US or to any US Person by any dealer (whether or not participating in the Offer) may violate the registration requirements of the US Securities Act.

No action has been taken in any jurisdiction outside Australia to permit the Offer in that jurisdiction, nor for the authorisation, registration or distribution of any documents in connection with SPS in that jurisdiction.

## 7.5 CONSENTS

Each Director has given, and has not withdrawn, their consent to the lodgement of this Prospectus with ASIC.

Each of the parties (referred to as Consenting Parties), who are named below:

- has not made any statement in this Prospectus or any statement on which a statement made in this Prospectus is based, other than as specified in the paragraphs below;
- to the maximum extent permitted by law, expressly disclaims and takes no responsibility for any part of this Prospectus, other than the reference to its name and statements or letter included in this Prospectus with the consent of that Consenting Party;
- has given and not, before the lodgement of this Prospectus with ASIC, withdrawn its written consent to be named in this Prospectus in the form and context in which it is named;
- in the case of Greenwood & Freehills Pty Limited, has given and has not, before the lodgement of this Prospectus with ASIC, withdrawn its written consent to the inclusion of the Tax

Letter in the form and context in which it appears in Section 6; and

- in the case of the Lead Manager, has given and has not before lodgement of this Prospectus with ASIC, withdrawn its written consent to the inclusion of statements concerning the Lead Manager, in the form and context in which those statements are included in this Prospectus.

Role	Consenting Parties
Lead Manager	UBS AG, Australia Branch
Co-Managers	Goldman Sachs JBWere Pty Ltd Macquarie Equities Limited Ord Minnett Limited St. George UBS Wealth Management Australia Limited
Legal adviser	Allens Arthur Robinson
Auditor	KPMG
Tax adviser	Greenwoods & Freehills Pty Limited
Registry	Computershare Investor Services Pty Limited

## 7.6 INTERESTS OF ADVISERS

UBS AG has acted as Lead Manager and settlement underwriter for the Offer. In these capacities, it is entitled to receive fees under the Offer Management Agreement as described in Section 7.3.

Allens Arthur Robinson has acted as legal adviser to St. George in connection with this Prospectus and the Offer. St. George estimates that it will pay approximately \$300,000 (excluding disbursements and GST) to Allens Arthur Robinson for the work that has been done up to the date of this Prospectus. Further amounts may be paid to Allens Arthur Robinson in accordance with its normal time based charges.

KPMG has acted as auditor to St. George and has performed work in relation to the due diligence enquiries on financial matters relating to the Offer. St. George estimates that it will pay approximately \$50,000 (excluding disbursements and GST) to KPMG for this work. Further amounts may be paid to KPMG in accordance with its normal time based charges.

Greenwoods & Freehills Pty Limited has acted as a tax adviser in relation to the Offer and prepared the Tax Letter included in Section 6. St. George estimates that it will pay approximately \$50,000 (excluding disbursements and GST) to Greenwood & Freehills Pty Limited for this work. Further amounts may be paid to Greenwood & Freehills Pty Limited in accordance with its normal time based charges.

Goldman Sachs JBWere Pty Ltd, Macquarie Equities Limited, Ord Minnett Limited, St. George and UBS Wealth Management Australia Limited are acting as Co-Managers to the Offer. The Lead Manager will be responsible for fees payable to each Co-Manager, which will be up to 1.00% (exclusive of GST) of the Face Value of all SPS Allocated to that Co-Manager.

Except as set out above:

- no person named in this Prospectus as performing a function in a professional, advisory or other capacity in connection with the preparation or distribution of this Prospectus;

- nor the Lead Manager to the Offer;
- nor any financial services licensee named in this Prospectus as a financial services licensee involved in the Offer,

holds, at the date of this Prospectus, or has held in the two years before the date of this Prospectus, an interest in:

- the formation or promotion of St.George;
- the Offer; or
- any property acquired or proposed to be acquired by St.George in connection with its formation or promotion or with the Offer,

nor has anyone paid or agreed to pay any amount, or given or agreed to give any benefit, to such persons for services provided in connection with the formation or promotion of St.George or the Offer.

## 7.7 EXPENSES OF THE OFFER

If the Offer proceeds, the total estimated costs of the Offer, including advisory, legal, accounting, tax, listing and administrative fees, as well as printing, advertising and other expenses are, at the date of this Prospectus, estimated to be approximately \$3 million and will be paid by St.George.

## 7.8 DIRECTORS' INTERESTS

Except as set out below, no Director or proposed Director holds, at the date of this Prospectus, or has held in the two years before the date of this Prospectus, an interest in:

- the formation or promotion of St.George;
- the Offer; or
- any property acquired or proposed to be acquired by St.George in connection with its formation or promotion or with the Offer,

nor has anyone paid or agreed to pay any amount, or given or agreed to give any benefit, to any Director or proposed Director:

- to induce a person to become, or qualify them as, a Director; or
- for services provided by a Director or proposed Director in connection with the formation or promotion of St.George or with the Offer.

The relevant interests of each Director in the share capital of St.George as at 8 June 2006 are as follows:

## DIRECTORS' INTERESTS

Director	Fully paid Ordinary Shares	SAINTS	Awards	Options granted over Ordinary Shares
J S Curtis <sup>1</sup>	22,541	318	-	-
T J Davis	11,623	-	-	-
R A F England	2,601	-	-	-
P D R Isherwood	27,251	263	-	-
G P Kelly	525,000	208	57,600	1,000,000
L B Nicholls	5,536	-	-	-
G J Reaney	47,516	-	-	-
J M Thame	150,216	-	-	-

Note:

- 1 Mr Curtis holds an interest in 15,000 instalment warrants in Ordinary Shares.

## 7.9 ASX WAIVERS

ASX has granted a waiver from ASX Listing Rule 6.9 to permit each Holder to have the same voting rights as Ordinary Shareholders in the circumstances prescribed by ASX Listing Rule 6.3 as if immediately before the relevant meeting, each SPS had converted into the number of Ordinary Shares provided for in clauses 3.3 and 3.4 of the Terms of Issue, as if the Record Date were the deadline for receipt of instruments of proxy under Article 68 of the Constitution for the relevant meeting and as if the Reference Period were the period ending on that date.

ASX has also confirmed that:

- the Terms of Issue are appropriate and equitable for the purposes of ASX Listing Rule 6.1;
- the terms of the APRA constraints on the payment of a Dividend do not mean that the Holders are not entitled to a preferential dividend for the purposes of ASX Listing Rule 6.5 and do not amount to a removal of a right to a dividend for the purposes of ASX Listing Rule 6.10;
- St.George's right to redeem, buy back or cancel the SPS on a Fixed Exchange Date or upon the occurrence of a Tax Event, Regulatory Event or Acquisition Event does not constitute a divestment for the purposes of ASX Listing Rule 6.12; and
- for the purposes of ASX Listing Rule 7.1.4, the Conversion Number may be calculated based on the market price of Ordinary Shares at the time that the issue of SPS is announced.

## 7.10 ASIC RELIEF

ASIC relief has been obtained in respect of the operation of section 716(2) of the Corporations Act to permit the inclusion in this Prospectus of any short-term and long-term credit rating of St.George and any rating of SPS announced by Standard & Poor's, Moody's and Fitch Ratings without the consent of those rating agencies.



# **GLOSSARY**

# 8. Glossary

The following is a glossary of terms used in this Prospectus. There is also a list of defined terms in clause 8 of the Terms of Issue.

Defined terms in this glossary and in clause 8 of the Terms of Issue are used throughout this Prospectus and the Application Form.

<b>ABN</b>	Australian Business Number.
<b>Acquisition Event</b>	occurs when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• a takeover bid is made to acquire all or some Ordinary Shares, the offer is or becomes unconditional and either the bidder has a relevant interest in more than 50% of the Ordinary Shares on issue or the Directors recommend acceptance of the takeover offer; or</li><li>• the Directors recommend a scheme of arrangement, which, when implemented, would result in a person having a relevant interest in more than 50% of the Ordinary Shares on issue.</li></ul> For the full definition – see clause 8 of the Terms of Issue.
<b>AGAAP</b>	the generally accepted accounting principles applicable in Australia prior to the introduction of AIFRS.
<b>AIFRS</b>	the Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards.
<b>Allocation</b>	the number of SPS allotted to Successful Applicants. <b>Allocate</b> and <b>Allocated</b> have corresponding meanings.
<b>Allotment Date</b>	the date on which SPS are issued – expected to be on or about 20 June 2006.
<b>Applicant</b>	a person who submits a valid Application Form.
<b>Application</b>	the lodgement of an Application Form in accordance with this Prospectus.
<b>Application Form</b>	the application form attached to this Prospectus.
<b>Application Payment</b>	the monies payable on Application, calculated as the number of SPS applied for multiplied by the Face Value.
<b>APRA</b>	Australian Prudential Regulation Authority.
<b>APRA Distributable Profits</b>	in relation to a Dividend or Optional Dividend: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the profits after tax of the Group (before any dividend or interest on the Group's Tier 1 Capital or Upper Tier 2 Capital securities) for the immediately preceding 12 month period ending 31 March or 30 September which are publicly available (or another amount determined by APRA); less</li><li>• the aggregate amount of dividends or interest paid or payable by a member of the Group on its Tier 1 Capital or Upper Tier 2 Capital securities (not including intra-Group dividends or interest) in the 12 months up to the Record Date for the Dividend or Optional Dividend</li></ul> For the full definition – see clause 2.3(a)(iv) of the Terms of Issue.
<b>ASIC</b>	Australian Securities and Investments Commission.
<b>ASTC Settlement Rules</b>	the clearing and settlement rules made by ASX Settlement and Transfer Corporation Pty Limited, as amended from time to time.
<b>ASX</b>	Australian Stock Exchange Limited (ABN 98 008 624 691) or the stock market conducted by Australian Stock Exchange Limited, as the context requires.
<b>ASX Listing Rules</b>	the listing rules of ASX, with any modifications or waivers in their application to St.George which ASX may grant.
<b>ATO</b>	Australian Taxation Office.
<b>Bank Bill Swap Rate</b>	the average mid rate for 90 day bank bills (expressed as a percentage per annum) which is displayed on Reuters page BBSW (or any page that replaces that page) on the first Business Day of the Dividend Period.
<b>Bookbuild</b>	the process described in Section 3.8.1 to determine the Initial Margin.
<b>Broker Firm Allocation</b>	the number of SPS allotted to Successful Applicants under the Broker Firm Offer.


<b>Broker Firm Applicant</b>	an Australian resident retail client of a Co-Manager or Participating Broker who applies for a Broker Firm Allocation from a Co-Manager or Participating Broker.
<b>Broker Firm Offer</b>	the offer to Australian resident retail clients of Co-Managers and Participating Brokers who may apply through a Co-Manager or Participating Broker.
<b>Business Day</b>	a business day as defined in the ASX Listing Rules.
<b>Buy-Back Agreement</b>	an agreement under which St.George buys back SPS in the form contained in the schedule to the Terms of Issue.
<b>Capital Securities</b>	shares or any equity, hybrid or subordinated debt capital securities (whether comprised of one or more instruments) issued by St.George or a member of the Group. <b>Capital Security</b> has the corresponding meaning.
<b>CHESS</b>	the Clearing House Electronic Subregister System.
<b>Closing Date</b>	the closing date for the Offer which is expected to be 10.00am on 16 June 2006.
<b>Co-Manager</b>	each of Goldman Sachs JBWere Pty Ltd (ABN 21 006 797 897, AFSL No. 243346), Macquarie Equities Limited (ABN 41 002 574 923, AFSL No. 237504), Ord Minnett Limited (ABN 86 002 733 048, AFSL No. 237121), St.George (ABN 92 055 513 070, AFSL No. 234708) and UBS Wealth Management Australia Limited (ABN 50 005 311 937, AFSL No. 231127).
<b>Constitution</b>	the constitution of St.George.
<b>Conversion Discount</b>	2.5%.
<b>Conversion Number</b>	the formula used to determine the number of Ordinary Shares to be issued if SPS are converted into Ordinary Shares under clause 3.4 of the Terms of Issue, subject to the Maximum Conversion Number.
<b>Corporations Act</b>	the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth).
<b>DCS</b>	Depository Capital Securities, being the Series A Capital Securities issued by St.George Funding Company, LLC.
<b>Directors</b>	some or all of the directors of St.George.
<b>Dividend</b>	a dividend on SPS as defined in clause 2.1, as adjusted by clause 2.2, of the Terms of Issue.
<b>Dividend Payment Date</b>	20 August 2006 and after that each 20 November, 20 February, 20 May and 20 August until SPS are Exchanged.
<b>Dividend Period</b>	a period from (and including) either the Allotment Date or a Dividend Payment Date (whichever is the later) until (but not including) the following Dividend Payment Date.
<b>Dividend Rate</b>	the dividend rate on SPS calculated using the formula in Section 2.4.2.
<b>Equal Ranking Capital Security</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• in the case of a dividend or distribution in respect of the Capital Security, a Capital Security (including SAINTS and DCS) which ranks for payment of the dividend or distribution equally with SPS; and</li> <li>• in the case of redemption of, reduction of capital on, cancellation of or acquisition of the Capital Security, a Capital Security (including SAINTS and DCS) which ranks equally with SPS for a return of capital if St.George is wound up.</li> </ul>
<b>Exchange</b>	the conversion, redemption, buy-back or cancellation of SPS in accordance with clause 3 of the Terms of Issue. <b>Exchanged</b> has the corresponding meaning.
<b>Exchange Date</b>	the date on which SPS are Exchanged as defined in clause 3.1(e) of the Terms of Issue.
<b>Exposure Period</b>	the period from the day after the Original Prospectus was lodged with ASIC to the Opening Date.
<b>Face Value</b>	the face value of SPS, being \$100 per SPS.
<b>Fitch Ratings</b>	Fitch Australia Pty Limited (ABN 93 081 339 184).
<b>Group</b>	St.George and its controlled entities.
<b>HIN</b>	Holder Identification Number (for SPS held on the CHESS subregister).

<b>Holder</b>	a holder of SPS.
<b>Holding Statement</b>	a statement issued to Holders by the Registry which sets out details of their Allocation.
<b>Increased Margin Date</b>	20 August 2016.
<b>Initial Margin</b>	the margin which was determined under the Bookbuild, and is 1.10% per annum.
<b>Institutional Investor</b>	an institution to whom the Offer may be made without disclosure to investors pursuant to sections 708(8), 708(10) or 708(11) of the Corporations Act.
<b>Institutional Offer</b>	the offer made to certain Institutional Investors to bid for SPS through the Bookbuild.
<b>Issue Credit Rating</b>	a current opinion of the creditworthiness of an obligor with respect to a specific financial obligation, a specific class of financial obligations, or a specific financial program.
<b>Issue Price</b>	\$100 per SPS.
<b>Junior Ranking Capital Security</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• in the case of a dividend or distribution in respect of the Capital Security, a Capital Security (including Ordinary Shares) which ranks for payment of the dividend or distribution behind SPS; and</li> <li>• in the case of redemption of, reduction of capital on, cancellation of or acquisition of the Capital Security, a Capital Security (including Ordinary Shares) which ranks behind SPS for a return of capital if St.George is wound up.</li> </ul>
<b>Lead Manager</b>	UBS AG.
<b>Liquidation Sum</b>	<p>the amount Holders are entitled to receive on a winding up of St.George before any return of capital is made on any Junior Ranking Capital Securities, which is the sum of the amount of any Dividend declared but unpaid and the Face Value.</p> <p>For the full definition – see clause 4.4 of the Terms of Issue.</p>
<b>Margin</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• from (and including) the Allotment Date until (but not including) 20 August 2016 – the Initial Margin; and</li> <li>• from (and including) 20 August 2016 – the Initial Margin plus a one time step-up of 1.00% per annum.</li> </ul>
<b>Maximum Conversion Number</b>	400, subject to certain adjustments contained in clauses 3.6 to 3.10 of the Terms of Issue.
<b>Moody's</b>	Moody's Investors Service Pty Limited (ACN 003 399 657).
<b>Offer</b>	the offer of SPS under this Prospectus at an Issue Price of \$100 each to raise up to \$150 million.
<b>Offer Management Agreement</b>	the agreement dated 31 May 2006 between St.George and the Lead Manager as described in Section 7.3.
<b>Offer Period</b>	the period commencing on the Opening Date and ending on the Closing Date.
<b>Opening Date</b>	the opening date of the Offer which is 8 June 2006.
<b>Optional Dividend</b>	an optional dividend on SPS, as defined in clause 2.9(d) of the Terms of Issue.
<b>Ordinary Share</b>	a fully paid ordinary share in St.George.
<b>Ordinary Shareholder</b>	the holder of an Ordinary Share.
<b>Ordinary Shareholding Limit</b>	the restriction of shareholdings in St.George by people (together with their associates) to 10% of the issued Ordinary Shares under Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the Constitution.
<b>Original Prospectus</b>	the prospectus relating to the Offer which was lodged with ASIC on 31 May 2006 and which this Prospectus replaces.
<b>Participating Broker</b>	any participating organisation of ASX selected by the Lead Manager to participate in the Broker Firm Offer (not including a Co-Manager).



<b>Payment Tests</b>	<p>payment tests to which the payment of a Dividend are subject, summarised as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Directors declaring a Dividend to be payable;</li> <li>• St.George having sufficient profits available to pay the Dividend;</li> <li>• St.George being able to pay the Dividend without St.George or the Group breaching APRA's capital adequacy guidelines;</li> <li>• the amount of the Dividend not exceeding St.George's APRA Distributable Profits; and</li> <li>• in the case of an Optional Dividend, APRA's prior written approval.</li> </ul> <p>For the full definition – see clause 2.3 of the Terms of Issue.</p>
<b>Prospectus</b>	the prospectus for the Offer, including the Terms of Issue.
<b>PRYMES</b>	the reset preference shares issued by St.George under the terms of the prospectus dated 19 January 2001.
<b>Record Date</b>	<p>for the payment of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a Dividend, means the date which is 11 Business Days before the Dividend Payment Date for that Dividend, or such other date as may be required by ASX; and</li> <li>• an Optional Dividend, means the date before its payment that is determined by St.George, or such other date as may be required by ASX.</li> </ul>
<b>Reference Period</b>	the period of 20 Business Days on which trading in Ordinary Shares takes place immediately preceding, but not including, the Exchange Date.
<b>Registry</b>	Computershare Investor Services Pty Limited (ABN 48 078 279 277).
<b>Regulatory Event</b>	<p>broadly, occurs when St.George receives professional advice that, as a result of a change of law or regulation on or after the Allotment Date, additional requirements would be imposed on St.George which the Directors determine as unacceptable or that St.George will not be entitled to treat all SPS as eligible Tier 1 Capital.</p> <p>For the full definition – see clause 8 of the Terms of Issue.</p>
<b>Reporting Year</b>	for a Dividend Payment Date, means the 12 month period ending 30 September or 31 March immediately preceding the Dividend Payment Date, or such other period approved by APRA in circumstances where St.George has changed its reporting period for its financial results.
<b>Residual Tier 1 Capital</b>	the residual tier 1 capital of the Group as defined by APRA.
<b>St.George</b>	St.George Bank Limited (ABN 92 055 513 070).
<b>SAINTS</b>	the non-cumulative, redeemable and convertible preference shares issued by St.George under the prospectus dated 12 July 2004.
<b>SAINTS Holder</b>	a holder of SAINTS.
<b>Settlement Date</b>	the date on which settlement occurs – expected to be 19 June 2006.
<b>SPS</b>	non-cumulative unsecured preference shares in the capital of St.George to be issued under this Prospectus.
<b>SRN</b>	Securityholder Reference Number (for SPS held on the issuer sponsored subregister).
<b>Standard &amp; Poor's</b>	Standard & Poor's (Australia) Pty Limited (ACN 007 324 852).
<b>Successful Applicant</b>	an Applicant whose Application is accepted by St.George, whether in full or in part.
<b>Tax Event</b>	<p>broadly, occurs when St.George receives professional advice that, as a result of a change in Australian tax law, or an administrative pronouncement or ruling, on or after the Allotment Date, there is a more than insubstantial risk that St.George would be exposed to more than an insignificant increase in its costs in relation to SPS being on issue or SPS will not be treated as equity interests for taxation purposes or franking credits may not be available to Holders.</p> <p>For the full definition – see clause 8 of the Terms of Issue.</p>
<b>Tax Letter</b>	the letter provided by Greenwoods & Freehills Pty Limited in Section 6.
<b>Tax Rate</b>	the Australian corporate tax rate applicable to St.George's franking account on the Allotment Date (expressed as a decimal).

<b>Terms of Issue</b>	the Terms of Issue for SPS included in Appendix A.
<b>TFN</b>	Tax File Number.
<b>Tier 1 Capital</b>	the tier 1 capital of the Group as defined by APRA.
<b>Tier 1 Capital Ratio</b>	at any time, the ratio so prescribed by APRA.
<b>Tier 2 Capital</b>	the tier 2 capital of the Group as defined by APRA.
<b>Total Capital Ratio</b>	at any time, the ratio so prescribed by APRA.
<b>UBS AG</b>	UBS AG, Australia Branch (ABN 47 088 129 613).
<b>Upper Tier 2 Capital</b>	the upper tier 2 capital of the Group as defined by APRA.
<b>US</b>	the United States of America.
<b>US Person</b>	has the meaning found in Regulation S of the US Securities Act.
<b>US Securities Act</b>	the US Securities Act of 1933.
<b>VWAP</b>	the average of the daily volume weighted average sale prices of Ordinary Shares sold on ASX during the relevant period or on the relevant days as defined in clause 8 of the Terms of Issue and subject to any adjustments under clause 3.5 of the Terms of Issue.



# APPENDIX A – TERMS OF ISSUE

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# Appendix A – Terms of Issue

## 1. FORM, FACE VALUE AND ISSUE PRICE

### 1.1 Form

SPS are non-cumulative unsecured preference shares in the capital of St.George. SPS are issued by St.George under article 6B of the Constitution and on the terms set out in these Terms of Issue.

### 1.2 Face Value and issue price

Each SPS will be issued by St.George as fully paid at an issue price of \$100 (**Face Value**). The Face Value must be paid in full upon application.

## 2. DIVIDENDS

### 2.1 Dividend calculation

Subject to these Terms of Issue, the Holder on the relevant Record Date of each SPS is entitled to receive on each relevant Dividend Payment Date a dividend (**Dividend**) calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Dividend} = \frac{\text{Dividend Rate} \times \text{Face Value} \times \text{N}}{365}$$

where:

**Dividend Rate** (expressed as a percentage per annum) is calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Dividend Rate} = (\text{Bank Bill Swap Rate} + \text{Margin}) \times (1 - \text{Tax Rate})$$

where:

**Bank Bill Swap Rate** (expressed as a percentage per annum) means, for each Dividend Period, the Bank Bill Swap Rate applying on the first Business Day of each Dividend Period;

**Margin** (expressed as a percentage per annum) means for the period:

- (a) up to the Increased Margin Date, the rate determined under the Bookbuild (**Initial Margin**); and
- (b) commencing on and from the Increased Margin Date, the Initial Margin plus 1.00% per annum; and

**Tax Rate** (expressed as a decimal) means the Australian corporate tax rate applicable on the Allotment Date, which will be taken to be 0.30; and

**N** is the number of days in the Dividend Period ending on (but not including) the relevant Dividend Payment Date.

### 2.2 Franking adjustment

- (a) If, on a Dividend Payment Date, the Australian corporate tax rate applicable to the franking account of St.George from which the Dividend will be franked (**Ti**) differs from the Tax Rate, the Dividend will be adjusted using the following formula:

$$\text{Adjusted Dividend} = \text{Dividend}_1 \times \frac{(1 - \text{Ti})}{(1 - \text{Tax Rate})}$$

where:

**Dividend<sub>1</sub>** (expressed as a dollars and cents amount) is the amount calculated under clause 2.1; and

**Ti** (expressed as a decimal) is the Australian corporate tax rate applicable to the franking account of St.George from which the Dividend will be franked.

- (b) If any Dividend is not franked to 100% under Part 3-6 of the Tax Act (or any provisions that revise or replace that part), the Dividend will be adjusted using the following formula:

$$\text{Adjusted Dividend} = \frac{\text{D}}{1 - (\text{Ti} \times (1 - \text{Franking Rate}))}$$

where:

**D** (expressed as a dollars and cents amount) is the Dividend calculated under clause 2.2(a) or clause 2.1 where there has been no application of clause 2.2(a);

**Ti** (expressed as a decimal) has the same meaning as in clause 2.2(a); and

**Franking Rate** (expressed as a decimal) means the franking percentage (within the meaning of Part 3-6 of the Tax Act or any provisions that revise or replace that part) applicable to the Dividend.

### 2.3 Payment of Dividend and Optional Dividend

- (a) The payment of a Dividend and any Optional Dividend is subject to:
  - (i) the Directors, at their sole discretion, declaring the Dividend or Optional Dividend to be payable;
  - (ii) St.George having profits available for the payment of a Dividend or an Optional Dividend;
  - (iii) such payment not resulting in the Total Capital Ratio or the Tier 1 Capital Ratio of St.George (on a Level 1 basis) or of the Group (on a Level 2 basis) not complying with APRA's then current capital adequacy guidelines as they are applied to St.George or the Group (as the case may be) at the time, unless APRA otherwise gives its prior written approval;

- (iv) the amount of the Dividend or Optional Dividend not exceeding the profits after tax of the Group calculated before any dividend or interest payments on Capital Securities which are included in the Group's Upper Tier 2 Capital or Tier 1 Capital (as disclosed in the latest publicly available financial results for the Group) for the immediately preceding Reporting Year, less the aggregate amount of dividends or interest paid or payable by a member of the Group on those of its Capital Securities which are included in its Upper Tier 2 Capital or Tier 1 Capital (but not including dividends or interest paid or payable to a member of the Group by another member of the Group) in the 12 months up to the Record Date for the Dividend or Optional Dividend, unless APRA otherwise gives its prior written approval; and
- (v) in the case of an Optional Dividend, APRA's prior written approval.
- (b) Without limiting clause 2.3(a), the Directors will not declare a Dividend or Optional Dividend to be payable if, in their opinion, making the payment would result in St.George becoming, or being likely to become, insolvent for the purposes of the Corporations Act.
- (c) Dividends and Optional Dividends shall be paid by cheque, direct credit or such other means as authorised by the Directors.

#### 2.4 Non-cumulative Dividends

Dividends are non-cumulative. If all or part of a Dividend is not paid because of the provisions of clause 2.3 or because of any applicable law, St.George has no liability to pay such Dividend and, notwithstanding St.George's sole discretion (subject to APRA's prior written approval) to pay an Optional Dividend under clause 2.9(d), the Holder has no claim (including, without limitation, on the winding up of St.George) in respect of such non-payment. Non-payment of a Dividend because of the provisions of clause 2.3, or because of any applicable law, does not constitute an event of default.

No interest accrues on any unpaid Dividends or Optional Dividends, and the Holder has no claim or entitlement in respect of interest on any unpaid Dividends or Optional Dividends.

#### 2.5 Rounding of Dividend calculations

All calculations of Dividends will be rounded to four decimal places. For the purposes of making any Dividend payment in respect of a Holder's total holding of SPS, any fraction of a cent will be disregarded.

#### 2.6 Dividend Payment Dates

Subject to this clause 2, Dividends are payable in arrears on each Dividend Payment Date.

#### 2.7 Record Dates

A Dividend is only payable to those persons registered as Holders on the Record Date for that Dividend.

An Optional Dividend is only payable to those persons registered as Holders on the Record Date in respect of the Optional Dividend.

#### 2.8 Withholding obligations

St.George will be entitled to deduct from any Dividend or Optional Dividend payable to a Holder the amount of any withholding or other tax, duty or levy required by law to be deducted in respect of such amount. If any such deduction is made and the amount of the deduction accounted for by St.George to the relevant revenue authority and the balance of the amount payable is paid to the Holder concerned, then the full amount payable to such Holder shall be deemed to have been duly paid and satisfied by St.George. St.George will pay the full amount required to be deducted to the relevant revenue authority within the time allowed for such payment.

#### 2.9 Restrictions in case of non-payment (Dividend stopper)

If, for any reason, a Dividend has not been declared or a Dividend that has been declared has not been paid in full within 20 Business Days after the relevant Dividend Payment Date, St.George must not without approval of a Special Resolution:

- (a) declare or pay a dividend or make or cause a member of the Group to make any distribution on any Equal Ranking Capital Securities or Junior Ranking Capital Securities (other than to permit the declaration and payment of dividends or distributions paid or payable to a member of the Group or under clause 2.9(e)); or
  - (b) redeem, reduce capital on, cancel or acquire for any consideration any Junior Ranking Capital Securities (excluding redemptions of, reductions of capital on, cancellations of or acquisitions of Junior Ranking Capital Securities held by a member of the Group),
- unless:
- (c) four consecutive Dividends scheduled to be paid on SPS, after the Dividend Payment Date for the Dividend that has not been paid, have been paid in full;
  - (d) an Optional Dividend has been paid to the Holders equal to the aggregate amount of any unpaid Dividends which were scheduled to be paid in the 12 months before the date of payment of the Optional Dividend;
  - (e) there is a payment in respect of the dividend, distribution, redemption, reduction of capital, cancellation or acquisition made pro rata on SPS and on Equal Ranking Capital Securities ranking equally with SPS in respect of those payments; or
  - (f) all SPS have been Exchanged.

### 3. EXCHANGE

#### 3.1 Exchange by St.George

- (a) St.George may serve:
- (i) an Issuer Exchange Notice at least 30 Business Days (but no more than three months) before a Fixed Exchange Date in respect of all or some only of their SPS; or
  - (ii) an Issuer (Event) Exchange Notice following the occurrence of a Tax Event or Regulatory Event, or within six months of the occurrence of an Acquisition Event, in respect of all (but not some only) of their SPS.
- (b) If St.George serves an Exchange Notice, St.George must include in that notice which, or which combination, of the following it intends to do in respect of SPS the subject of the notice:
- (i) convert SPS into Ordinary Shares under clauses 3.3 and 3.4; or
  - (ii) do any of the following:
    - redeem SPS under clause 3.12;
    - buy back SPS under the terms of the Buy-Back Agreement under clause 3.13; or
    - cancel SPS under clause 3.14,in each case for Face Value on the relevant Exchange Date.
- (c) St.George may only apply the mechanisms in clause 3.1(b)(ii) if APRA has given its prior written approval to such mechanisms being applied.
- (d) In an Exchange of some but not all SPS under clause 3.1(a)(i), St.George must endeavour to treat Holders on an approximately proportionate basis, but may discriminate to take account of the effect on marketable parcels and other logistical considerations.
- (e) If St.George serves an Exchange Notice under clause 3.1(a), the Exchange Date is:
- (i) for an Issuer Exchange Notice, the Fixed Exchange Date; or
  - (ii) for an Issuer (Event) Exchange Notice which is served following the occurrence of a Tax Event or Regulatory Event, the last Business Day of the month following the month in which the Issuer (Event) Exchange Notice was served by St.George unless St.George determines an earlier Exchange Date as notified in the Exchange Notice having regard to the best interests of the Holders (collectively) and the relevant event; or
  - (iii) for an Issuer (Event) Exchange Notice which is served following the occurrence of an Acquisition Event, the 20th Business Day after (but not including) the date on which the Issuer (Event) Exchange Notice was served by St.George unless St.George determines an earlier or later Exchange Date as notified in the Exchange Notice having regard to the best interests of the Holders (collectively) and the relevant event.

- (f) If required by St.George, where St.George is entitled to Exchange any SPS under these Terms of Issue, the Holder must:
  - (i) vote in favour (subject to compliance with the law and to the extent the Holder is entitled to do so) or otherwise abstain from any required resolution;
  - (ii) provide all documentation and execute any authorisation or power necessary; and
  - (iii) take all other action necessary or desirable, to effect the Exchange of those SPS.

#### 3.2 Exchange Notices are irrevocable

An Exchange Notice given by St.George under clause 3.1(a) is irrevocable and may include any other information that St.George considers necessary to effect the Exchange in an orderly manner.

#### 3.3 Meaning of conversion

Each SPS, on any conversion, confers all of the rights attaching to one fully paid Ordinary Share but these rights do not take effect until 5.00pm on the Exchange Date. At that time:

- (a) all other rights and restrictions conferred on SPS under these Terms of Issue will no longer have any effect (except for any rights relating to a Dividend payable on or before the Exchange Date and any rights to any allotment of additional Ordinary Shares issued upon conversion under clause 3.4, which will subsist); and
- (b) each SPS on conversion will rank equally with all other Ordinary Shares then on issue and St.George will issue a statement that the holder of those shares holds a share so ranking.

The variation of the status of, and the rights attaching to, a SPS under this clause 3.3 and any allotment of additional Ordinary Shares under clause 3.4 is, for the purposes of these Terms of Issue, together termed 'conversion'. Conversion does not constitute redemption, cancellation or buy-back of a SPS or an issue, allotment or creation of a new share (other than any additional Ordinary Shares allotted under clause 3.4).

#### 3.4 Conversion and issue of Ordinary Shares

If St.George issues an Exchange Notice under clause 3.1(a) and chooses conversion as the mechanism of Exchange under clause 3.1(b)(i), then on the Exchange Date:

- (a) each SPS being converted will convert into one fully paid Ordinary Share; and
- (b) each Holder will be allotted an additional number of fully paid Ordinary Shares for each SPS that is being converted equal to **one less than** the Conversion Number, where the Conversion Number is the number of Ordinary Shares calculated (to four decimal places) using the following formula:

$$\text{Conversion Number} = \frac{\text{Face Value}}{\text{VWAP} \times (1 - \text{Conversion Discount})}$$

where:

**VWAP** (expressed as a dollars and cents amount) means the VWAP during the Reference Period; and

**Conversion Discount** (expressed as a decimal) means 0.025.

- (c) Where the total number of Ordinary Shares to which a Holder is entitled for each SPS being converted (including the Ordinary Share arising from conversion of the SPS under this clause 3.4) is greater than the Maximum Conversion Number, the Conversion Number will be equal to the Maximum Conversion Number.
- (d) Where the total number of Ordinary Shares that a Holder is entitled to in respect of the total number of SPS being converted at that time includes a fraction, that fraction will be disregarded.

### 3.5 Adjustments to VWAP

For the purposes of calculating VWAP in clause 3.4:

- (a) where, on some or all of the Business Days in the Reference Period, Ordinary Shares have been quoted on ASX as cum dividend or cum any other distribution or entitlement and SPS will convert into Ordinary Shares after the date those Ordinary Shares no longer carry that dividend, distribution or entitlement, then the VWAP on the Business Days on which those Ordinary Shares have been quoted cum dividend, cum distribution or cum entitlement shall be reduced by an amount (**Cum Value**) equal to:
- (i) in the case of a dividend or other distribution, the amount of that dividend or distribution including, if the dividend or distribution is franked, the amount that would be included in the assessable income of a recipient of the dividend or distribution who is a natural person resident in Australia under the Tax Act;
- (ii) in the case of an entitlement that is not a dividend or other distribution under clause 3.5(a)(i) and which is traded on ASX on any of those Business Days, the volume weighted average price of all such entitlements sold on ASX during the Reference Period on the Business Days on which those entitlements were traded; or
- (iii) in the case of an entitlement that is not a dividend or other distribution under clause 3.5(a)(i) and which is not traded on ASX during the Reference Period, the value of the entitlement as reasonably determined by the Directors;
- (b) where, on some or all of the Business Days in the Reference Period, Ordinary Shares have been quoted ex dividend, ex distribution or ex entitlement, and SPS will convert into Ordinary Shares which would be entitled to receive the relevant dividend, distribution or entitlement, the VWAP on the Business Days on which those Ordinary Shares have been quoted ex dividend, ex distribution or ex entitlement shall be increased by the Cum Value; and
- (c) where the Ordinary Shares are reconstructed, consolidated, divided or reclassified into a lesser or greater number of securities during a Reference Period, the VWAP shall be adjusted by the Directors as they consider appropriate. Any adjustment made by the Directors will constitute an alteration to these Terms of Issue and will be binding on all Holders and these Terms of Issue will be construed accordingly. Any such adjustment will promptly be notified to all Holders.

### 3.6 Adjustments to Maximum Conversion Number for rights issues or bonus issues

- (a) Subject to clauses 3.6(b) and (c), if St.George makes a rights issue (including an issue of the kind known as a 'jumbo issue', where offers to certain institutional holders, or beneficial holders, are made in advance of offers to other holders) or bonus issue (in either case being a pro rata issue) of Ordinary Shares to Ordinary Shareholders generally, the Maximum Conversion Number will be adjusted immediately under the following formula:

$$CN = CN_0 \times P \times \frac{(RD + RN)}{(RD \times P) + (RN \times A)}$$

where:

**CN** means the Maximum Conversion Number applying immediately after the application of this formula;

**CN<sub>0</sub>** means the Maximum Conversion Number applying immediately before the application of this formula;

**P** means the VWAP during the period from (and including) the first Business Day after the announcement of the rights or bonus issue to ASX up to (and including) the last Business Day of trading cum rights or bonus issue (or if there is no period of cum rights or bonus issue trading, an amount reasonably determined by the Directors as representing the value of an Ordinary Share cum the rights or bonus issue);

**RD** means the number of Ordinary Shares on issue immediately before the issue of new Ordinary Shares under the rights or bonus issue;

**RN** means the number of Ordinary Shares issued under the rights or bonus issue; and

**A** means the subscription price per Ordinary Share for a rights issue (and is zero in the case of a bonus issue).

- (b) No adjustment to the Maximum Conversion Number will occur if **A** exceeds **P**.
- (c) Clause 3.6(a) does not apply to Ordinary Shares issued as part of a bonus share plan, employee or executive share plan, executive option plan, share top up plan, share purchase plan or a dividend reinvestment plan.
- (d) For the purpose of this clause 3.6, an issue will be regarded as a pro rata issue notwithstanding that St.George does not make offers to some or all Ordinary Shareholders with registered addresses outside Australia, provided that in so doing St.George is not in contravention of ASX Listing Rules.

### 3.7 Adjustments to Maximum Conversion Number for off market buy-backs

- (a) Subject to clause 3.7(b), if St.George undertakes an off market buy-back under a buy-back scheme which but for any applicable restrictions on transfer would be generally available to holders of Ordinary Shares (or otherwise cancels Ordinary Shares for consideration), the Maximum Conversion Number will be adjusted immediately using the following formula:

$$CN = CN_0 \times P \times \frac{(BD - BN)}{(BD \times P) - (BN \times A)}$$

where:

**CN** means the Maximum Conversion Number respectively applying immediately after the application of this formula;

**CNo** means the Maximum Conversion Number applying immediately before the application of this formula;

**P** means the VWAP during the 20 Business Days before the announcement to ASX of the buy-back (or cancellation);

**BD** means the number of Ordinary Shares on issue immediately before the buy-back (or cancellation);

**BN** means the number of Ordinary Shares bought back (or cancelled); and

**A** means the buy-back (or cancellation) price per Ordinary Share.

- (b) No adjustment to the Maximum Conversion Number will occur if **P** exceeds **A**.

### 3.8 Adjustment to Maximum Conversion Number for return of capital

If St.George makes a pro rata return of capital to holders of Ordinary Shares without cancellation of any Ordinary Shares, the Maximum Conversion Number will be adjusted under the following formula:

$$CN = CNo \times \frac{P}{P - C}$$

where:

**CN** means the Maximum Conversion Number applying immediately after the application of this formula;

**CNo** means the Maximum Conversion Number applying immediately before the application of this formula;

**P** means the VWAP during the period from (and including) the first Business Day after the announcement to ASX of the return of capital up to and including the last Business Day of trading cum the return of capital (or if there is no period of cum return of capital trading, an amount reasonably determined by the Directors as representing the value of an Ordinary Share cum the return of capital); and

**C** means with respect to a return of capital, the amount of the cash and/or the value (as reasonably determined by the Directors) of any other property distributed to Ordinary Shareholders per Ordinary Share (or such lesser amount such that the difference between **P** and **C** is greater than zero).

### 3.9 Other adjustments to Maximum Conversion Number

Where the Ordinary Shares are reconstructed, consolidated, divided or reclassified into a lesser or greater number of securities, the Maximum Conversion Number shall be adjusted by the Directors as they consider appropriate (consistently with the way in which the number of Ordinary Shares the subject of an option over Ordinary Shares would have been adjusted under the ASX Listing Rules). Any adjustment made by the Directors will constitute an alteration to these Terms of Issue and will be binding on all Holders and these Terms of Issue will be construed accordingly. Any such adjustment will promptly be notified to all Holders.

### 3.10 Directors' sole discretion regarding adjustments to Maximum Conversion Number

Despite the provisions of clauses 3.6 to 3.9, where:

- (a) the effect of any of the adjustment provisions set out in clauses 3.6 to 3.9 is not, in the reasonable opinion of the Directors, appropriate in any particular circumstances (including because more than one adjustment provision applies); or
  - (b) any other event occurs in relation to St.George that may have a dilutive or concentrative effect on the value of the Ordinary Shares,
- and, in the reasonable opinion of the Directors, such occurrence would affect the relative values of SPS and the Ordinary Shares, the Directors may (subject to APRA's prior written approval):
- (c) make such alterations to the Face Value and the Maximum Conversion Number as they reasonably consider appropriate or necessary to maintain that relativity; or
  - (d) extend an entitlement to the Holders to participate in such event based upon the number of Ordinary Shares to which those Holders would have been entitled if their SPS had been converted on a date nominated by the Directors to maintain the relativity.

### 3.11 Restrictions on certain conversions under the Constitution

Under sub-article 11(5) of the Constitution, a Holder's SPS may not be converted into Ordinary Shares and no additional Ordinary Shares may be allotted or issued if in the Directors' opinion the conversion of the SPS held by that Holder would result in a person contravening sub-article 11(1) of the Constitution.

### 3.12 Redemption of SPS

If St.George determines to redeem SPS and gives an Exchange Notice to the Holders notifying that their SPS are to be redeemed under clause 3.1(b)(ii), on the relevant Exchange Date St.George shall redeem every SPS which St.George has elected to redeem and identified in the Exchange Notice. For each SPS that is being redeemed, an amount equal to the Face Value will be paid by St.George to the relevant Holders in cash on the relevant Exchange Date.

### 3.13 Buy-back of SPS

- (a) Each Holder agrees with St.George on terms as set out in the Buy-Back Agreement that, upon St.George determining to buy back SPS (which it is able to do at its sole option) and giving an Exchange Notice to the Holders notifying that their SPS are to be bought back under clause 3.1(b)(ii), those Holders will be deemed to have sold to St.George the SPS which St.George has elected to buy back and identified in the Exchange Notice on the terms of the Buy-Back Agreement.
- (b) The Buy-Back Agreement will take effect upon, and will have no force or effect until, the happening of the last to occur of the following events:
  - (i) St.George giving an Exchange Notice to each Holder that it has determined to buy back the SPS identified in the Exchange Notice; and



- (ii) St.George obtaining all consents (if any) to the buy-back which are required to be obtained from St.George's shareholders or any regulatory authority or other person under and in the manner required by any applicable law or by the listing rules of any stock exchange on which SPS are quoted.
- (c) On the relevant Exchange Date, St.George shall buy back every SPS which St.George has elected to buy back and identified in the Exchange Notice under the terms of the Buy-Back Agreement. For each SPS that is being bought back, an amount equal to the Face Value will be paid by St.George to the relevant Holders in cash on the relevant Exchange Date.

### 3.14 Cancellation of SPS

If St.George:

- (a) determines to cancel SPS under clause 3.1(b)(ii);
- (b) obtains all consents (if any) to the cancellation of SPS which are required to be obtained from St.George's shareholders or any regulatory authority or other person under and in the manner required by any applicable law or by the listing rules of any stock exchange on which SPS are quoted; and
- (c) gives an Exchange Notice to the Holders notifying that their SPS are to be cancelled,

on the relevant Exchange Date, St.George shall cancel every SPS which St.George has elected to cancel and identified in the Exchange Notice. For each SPS that is being cancelled, an amount equal to the Face Value will be paid by St.George to the relevant Holders in cash on the relevant Exchange Date.

## 4. GENERAL RIGHTS ATTACHING TO SPS

### 4.1 Ranking

SPS rank equally among themselves and are unsecured and subordinated to all depositors and creditors of St.George. SPS are not deposits or liabilities of St.George and are not subject to the depositor protection provisions of Australian banking legislation.

SPS rank equally with all other Equal Ranking Capital Securities in respect of the payment of Dividends which have been declared and in respect of the payment of dividends or other distributions which have been declared or are payable on all other Equal Ranking Capital Securities. SPS rank equally with Equal Ranking Capital Securities in respect of a redemption of, return of capital on, cancellation of or acquisition of SPS and payment of declared but unpaid Dividends on a winding up of St.George.

St.George reserves the right to issue further SPS, preference shares (whether redeemable or not) or other Capital Securities which rank equally with, behind or ahead of SPS, whether in respect of dividends (whether cumulative or not), return of capital on a winding up of St.George or otherwise. Such an issue does not constitute a variation or cancellation of the rights attached to the then existing SPS.

### 4.2 Preferential dividend

Until conversion, SPS rank ahead of Junior Ranking Capital Securities for the payment of dividends.

### 4.3 No set off

Any amount due to a Holder in respect of SPS may not be set off against any claims by St.George on the Holder.

### 4.4 Return of capital

Until conversion, if there is a return of capital on a winding up of St.George, Holders will be entitled to receive out of the assets of St.George available for distribution to holders of shares, in respect of each SPS held, a cash payment (**Liquidation Sum**) equal to the sum of:

- (a) the amount of any Dividend declared but unpaid; and
- (b) the Face Value,

before any return of capital is made to Ordinary Shareholders or any other class of shares ranking behind SPS.

SPS do not confer on their Holders any right to participate in profits or property except as set out in these Terms of Issue.

### 4.5 Shortfall on winding up of St.George

If, upon a return of capital on a winding up of St.George, there are insufficient funds to pay in full the amounts referred to in clause 4.4 and the amounts payable in respect of any other shares in St.George ranking as to such distribution equally with SPS on a winding up of St.George, Holders and the holders of any such other shares will share in any distribution of assets of St.George in proportion to the amounts to which they respectively are entitled.

### 4.6 No participation in surplus assets

SPS do not confer on their Holders any further right to participate in the surplus assets of St.George on a winding up of St.George beyond payment of the Liquidation Sum.

### 4.7 Participation in new issues

Until SPS are converted, they will confer no rights to subscribe for new securities in St.George or to participate in any bonus issues of securities in St.George, unless (and then only to the extent) the Directors determine otherwise under clause 3.10.

## 5. VOTING RIGHTS

Holders have the same rights as holders of Ordinary Shares to receive accounts, reports and notices of general meetings of St.George and to attend any general meeting of St.George. Holders will not, however, be entitled to speak or vote at any general meeting of St.George except in each of the following circumstances:

- (a) on a proposal:
  - (i) to reduce the share capital of St.George;
  - (ii) that affects rights attached to SPS;
  - (iii) to wind up St.George; or
  - (iv) for the disposal of the whole of the property, business and undertaking of St.George;

- (b) on a resolution to approve the terms of a buy-back agreement;
- (c) during a period in which a Dividend or part of a Dividend has been declared but has not been paid within 20 Business Days after the relevant Dividend Payment Date;
- (d) during the winding up of St.George; or
- (e) in any other circumstances in which the ASX Listing Rules require the Holders to be entitled to vote.

In each case, Holders shall have the same right to vote as Ordinary Shareholders (as if immediately before the meeting SPS had converted into the number of Ordinary Shares provided for in clauses 3.3 and 3.4 as if the record date is the deadline for receipt of instruments of proxy under article 68 of the Constitution for the relevant meeting and the Reference Period is the period ending on that date).

## 6. QUOTATION

St.George must use all reasonable endeavours to furnish all such documents as are reasonably necessary to apply, at its own expense, for quotation of SPS on ASX and of all converted SPS and additional Ordinary Shares issued under clause 3.4 on each of the stock exchanges on which the other Ordinary Shares are quoted on the date of conversion.

## 7. AMENDMENTS TO THESE TERMS OF ISSUE

Subject to complying with all applicable laws and with APRA's prior written approval, St.George may without the authority, assent or approval of Holders amend or add to these Terms of Issue if such amendment or addition is, in the opinion of St.George:

- (a) of a formal, minor or technical nature;
- (b) made to correct a manifest error;
- (c) made to comply with any law, the ASX Listing Rules or the listing or quotation requirements of any stock exchange on which St.George proposes from time to time to seek quotation of SPS;
- (d) convenient for the purpose of obtaining or maintaining the quotation of SPS; or
- (e) effected under clause 3.9 or 3.10,

and is not likely (taken as a whole and in conjunction with all other modifications, if any, to be made contemporaneously with that modification) to be materially prejudicial to the interests of the Holders.

## 8. INTERPRETATION

- (a) Unless the context otherwise requires, if there is any inconsistency between the provisions of these Terms of Issue, and the Constitution, then, to the maximum extent permitted by law, the provisions of these Terms of Issue will prevail.
- (b) Unless otherwise specified, the Directors may exercise all powers of St.George under these Terms of Issue that are not, by the Corporations Act or by the Constitution, required to be exercised by St.George in general meeting.
- (c) A reference to \$, dollars or cents in these Terms of Issue is a reference to Australian currency. A reference to time in these Terms of Issue is a reference to Sydney, New South Wales, Australia time.
- (d) Notices may be given by St.George to a Holder in the manner prescribed by the Constitution for the giving of notices to members of St.George and the relevant provisions of the Constitution apply with all necessary modification to notices to Holders.
- (e) Unless otherwise specified, a reference to a clause is a reference to a clause of these Terms of Issue.
- (f) If a calculation is required under these Terms of Issue, unless the contrary intention is expressed, the calculation will be rounded to four decimal places.
- (g) Calculations, elections and determinations made by St.George under these Terms of Issue are binding on Holders in the absence of manifest error.
- (h) Definitions and interpretation under the Constitution will also apply to these Terms of Issue subject to clause 8(a).
- (i) Any provisions which refer to the requirements of APRA or any other prudential regulatory requirements will apply to St.George only if St.George is an entity or the holding company of an entity subject to regulation and supervision by APRA at the relevant time.
- (j) The terms 'takeover bid', 'relevant interest' and 'arrangement' when used in these Terms of Issue have the meaning given in the Corporations Act.
- (k) A reference to a statute, ordinance, code or other law includes regulations and other instruments under it and consolidations, amendments, re-enactments or replacements of any of them.
- (l) If an event under these Terms of Issue must occur on a stipulated day which is not a Business Day, then the stipulated day for that event will be taken to be the next Business Day.
- (m) Any provisions in these Terms of Issue requiring the prior written approval by APRA for a particular course of action to be taken by St.George do not imply that APRA has given its consent or approval to the particular action as of the Allotment Date.
- (n) The following boldened words and expressions shall have the following meanings:

**Acquisition Event** occurs when:

- a) a takeover bid is made to acquire all or some Ordinary Shares and the offer is, or becomes, unconditional and:
  - (i) the bidder has a relevant interest in more than 50% of the Ordinary Shares on issue; or
  - (ii) the Directors issue a statement recommending acceptance of the offer; or
- b) the Directors issue a statement recommending a scheme of arrangement which, when implemented, will result in a person having a relevant interest in more than 50% of the Ordinary Shares on issue.

**Allotment Date** means the date on which SPS are issued, which is expected to be on or about 20 June 2006.

**APRA** means the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority or any authority succeeding to its powers and functions.

**ASX** means Australian Stock Exchange Limited (ABN 98 008 624 691).

**ASX Listing Rules** means the listing rules of ASX from time to time with any modifications or waivers in their application to St.George, which ASX may grant.

**ASX Market Rules** means the operating rules of ASX from time to time.

**Bank Bill Swap Rate** (expressed as a percentage per annum) means for each Dividend Period, the rate calculated as the average mid rate for bills of a term of 90 days which average rate is displayed on the Reuters page BBSW (or any page which replaces that page) on the first Business Day of the Dividend Period, or if there is a manifest error in the calculation of that average rate or that average rate is not displayed by 10.30am on that date, the rate specified in good faith by St.George at or around that time on that date having regard, to the extent possible, to:

- (a) the rate otherwise bid and offered for bills of that term or for funds of that tenor displayed on that Reuters page BBSW (or any page which replaces that page) at that time on that date; and
- (b) if bid and offer rates for bills of that term are not otherwise available, the rates otherwise bid and offered for funds of that tenor at or around that time.

**Bookbuild** means the process conducted by St.George or its agents before the opening of the Offer whereby certain institutional investors and brokers lodge bids for SPS and, on the basis of those bids, St.George determines the Margin and announces its determination before the opening of the Offer.

**Business Day** means a business day as defined in ASX Listing Rules.

**Buy-Back Agreement** means an agreement under which St.George buys back SPS in the form contained in the schedule to these Terms of Issue.

**Capital Securities** means shares or any equity, hybrid or subordinated debt capital security (whether comprised of one or more instruments) issued by St.George or a member of the Group.  
**Capital Security** has the corresponding meaning.

**Constitution** means the constitution of St.George as amended from time to time.

**Conversion Discount** has the meaning given in clause 3.4(b).

**Conversion Number** has the meaning given in clause 3.4(b).

**Corporations Act** means the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth).

**Cum Value** has the meaning given in clause 3.5(a).

**Depository Capital Securities** means the Series A Capital Securities issued by St.George Funding Company, LLC.

**Directors** means some or all of the directors of St.George.

**Dividend** has the meaning given in clause 2.1 as adjusted by clause 2.2.

**Dividend Payment Date** means 20 August 2006 and thereafter each 20 November, 20 February, 20 May and 20 August until SPS are Exchanged, in which case the Exchange Date will constitute a Dividend Payment Date, whether or not a Dividend is, or is able to be, paid on that date.

**Dividend Period** means the period from (and including) either the Allotment Date or the preceding Dividend Payment Date (whichever is the later) to (but not including) the relevant Dividend Payment Date.

**Dividend Rate** has the meaning given in clause 2.1.

**Equal Ranking Capital Security** means:

- (a) in the case of a dividend or distribution in respect of the Capital Security, a Capital Security (including SAINTS and Depository Capital Securities) which ranks for payment of the dividend or distribution equally with SPS; and
- (b) in the case of redemption of, reduction of capital on, cancellation of or acquisition of the Capital Security, a Capital Security (including SAINTS and Depository Capital Securities) which ranks equally with SPS for a return of capital if St.George is wound up.

**Exchange** means conversion of SPS into Ordinary Shares under clause 3.4, or the redemption, buy-back or cancellation of SPS for their Face Value, as determined by St.George under clause 3.1(b). **Exchanged** has the corresponding meaning.

**Exchange Date** has the meaning given in clause 3.1(e).

**Exchange Notice** means a notice given by St.George to a Holder under clause 3.1(a).

**Face Value** has the meaning given in clause 1.2.

**Fixed Exchange Date** means the Increased Margin Date or any subsequent Dividend Payment Date as notified in the Exchange Notice.

**Franking Rate** has the meaning given in clause 2.2(b).

**Group** means St.George and its controlled entities.

**Holder** means a person whose name is for the time being registered in the Register as the holder of a SPS.

**Increased Margin Date** means 20 August 2016.

**Initial Margin** has the meaning given in clause 2.1(a).

**Issuer (Event) Exchange Notice** means a notice given by St.George to a Holder under clause 3.1(a)(ii).

**Issuer Exchange Notice** means a notice given by St.George to a Holder under clause 3.1(a)(i).

**Junior Ranking Capital Security** means:

- (a) in the case of a dividend or distribution in respect of the Capital Security, a Capital Security (including Ordinary Shares) which ranks for payment of the dividend or distribution behind SPS; and
- (b) in the case of redemption of, reduction of capital on, cancellation of or acquisition of the Capital Security, a Capital Security (including Ordinary Shares) which ranks behind SPS for a return of capital if St.George is wound up.

**Level 1 and Level 2** means, in respect of the Total Capital Ratio, the Tier 1 Capital Ratio or Tier 1 Capital, those terms as defined by APRA.

**Liquidation Sum** has the meaning given in clause 4.4.

**Margin** has the meaning given in clause 2.1.

**Maximum Conversion Number** means 400 subject to clauses 3.6 to 3.10.

**Offer** means the invitation made under the Prospectus issued by St.George for persons to subscribe for SPS.

**Optional Dividend** has the meaning given in clause 2.9(d).

**Ordinary Share** means an ordinary share in the capital of St.George.

**Ordinary Shareholder** means a person whose name is for the time being registered as the holder of an Ordinary Share.

**Prospectus** means the prospectus for the Offer including these Terms of Issue.

**Record Date** means, for a payment of:

- (a) a Dividend, the date which is 11 Business Days before the Dividend Payment Date for that Dividend, or such other date as may be required by ASX; and
- (b) an Optional Dividend, the date before its payment that is determined by St.George, or such other date as may be required by ASX.

**Reference Period** means the period of 20 Business Days on which trading in Ordinary Shares took place immediately preceding, but not including, the relevant Exchange Date.

**Register** means the register of SPS maintained by St.George or its agent and includes any subregister established and maintained under the Clearing House Electronic Subregister System operated by ASX Settlement and Transfer Corporation Pty Limited (ABN 49 008 504 532).

**Regulatory Event** means:

- (a) the receipt by St.George of an opinion from a reputable legal counsel that, as a result of any amendment to, clarification of, or change (including any announcement of a prospective change) in, any law or regulation affecting securities laws of Australia or any official administrative pronouncement or action or judicial decision interpreting or applying such laws or regulations which amendment, clarification or change is effective or pronouncement, action or decision is announced on or after the Allotment Date, additional requirements would be imposed on St.George which the Directors determine at their sole discretion, to be unacceptable; or
- (b) the determination by the Directors that St.George is not or will not be entitled to treat all SPS as eligible Tier 1 Capital.

**Reporting Year** means, for a Dividend Payment Date, the 12 month period ending 30 September or 31 March last preceding the Dividend Payment Date, or such other period approved by APRA in circumstances where St.George has changed its reporting period for its financial results.

**SAINTS** means the \$350 million non-cumulative, redeemable and convertible preference shares issued by St.George on 13 August 2004.

**Special Resolution** means a resolution passed at a separate meeting of Holders by at least 75% of the votes validly cast by Holders in person or by proxy and entitled to vote on the resolution.

**SPS** has the meaning given in clause 1.1.

**St.George** means St.George Bank Limited (ABN 92 055 513 070).

**Tax Act** means:

- (a) the Income Tax Assessment Act 1936 (Cth) or the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 (Cth) as the case may be, as amended, and a reference to any section of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1936 (Cth) includes a reference to that section as rewritten in the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 (Cth); and
- (b) any other Act setting the rate of income tax payable and any regulation promulgated thereunder.

**Tax Event** means the receipt by St.George of an opinion from a reputable legal counsel or tax adviser in Australia, experienced in such matters to the effect that, as a result of:

- (a) any amendment to, clarification of, or change (including any announced prospective change), in the laws or treaties or any regulations of Australia or any political subdivision or taxing authority of Australia affecting taxation;
- (b) any judicial decision, official administrative pronouncement, public or private ruling, regulatory procedure, notice or announcement (including any notice or announcement of intent to adopt such procedures or regulations) (Administrative Action); or
- (c) any amendment to, clarification of, or change in, the pronouncement that provides for a position with respect to an Administrative Action that differs from the current generally accepted position, in each case, by any legislative body, court, governmental authority or regulatory body, irrespective of the manner in which such amendment, clarification, change or Administrative Action is made known,

which amendment, clarification, change or Administrative Action is issued or effective or such pronouncement or decision is announced on or after the Allotment Date, there is more than an insubstantial risk that:

- (d) St.George would be exposed to more than a de minimis increase in its costs in relation to SPS as a result of increased taxes, duties or other governmental charges or civil liabilities; or
- (e) SPS will not be treated as equity interests for taxation purposes or imputation benefits will be denied to Holders or franking debits will be posted to St.George's franking account as a result of the SPS being on issue or the Ordinary Shares being on issue following any conversion of SPS into Ordinary Shares.

**Tax Rate** has the meaning given in clause 2.1.

**Terms of Issue** means these terms of issue for SPS, which includes the schedule.

**Tier 1 Capital** means the Tier 1 capital of the Group as defined by APRA.

**Tier 1 Capital Ratio** means at any time the ratio so prescribed by APRA.

**Total Capital Ratio** means at any time the ratio so prescribed by APRA.

**Upper Tier 2 Capital** means the Upper Tier 2 capital of the Group as defined by APRA.

**VWAP** means, subject to any adjustments under clause 3.5, the average of the daily volume weighted average sale prices (rounded to the nearest full cent) of Ordinary Shares sold on ASX during the relevant period or on the relevant days but does not include any transaction defined in ASX Market Rules as 'special', crossings before the commencement of normal trading, crossings during the closing phase and the after hours adjust phase nor any overseas trades or trades under the exercise of options over Ordinary Shares or any overnight crossings as reasonably determined (in each case) by St.George.

## Schedule - Buy-Back Agreement

### 1. Agreement

- (a) This agreement is entered into between St.George and Holders and shall come into force and effect upon the happening of the last to occur of the following events:
- (i) St.George giving an Exchange Notice to each of the Holders that it has determined to buy back the SPS identified in the Exchange Notice; and
  - (ii) St.George obtaining all consents (if any) to the Buy-Back which are required to be obtained from Ordinary Shareholders or any regulatory authority or other person pursuant to, and in the manner required by, any applicable law or by the listing rules of any stock exchange on which the SPS are quoted.
- (b) The terms and conditions set out in this agreement are of no force and effect unless and until the agreement has become effective under clause 1(a).

### 2. Buy-Back

Each Seller agrees to sell to the Buyer the Buy-Back Shares on the terms set out in this agreement.

### 3. Consideration

The Buyer will pay to each Seller in respect of each Buy-Back Share an amount equal to the Face Value of each Buy-Back Share (namely, \$100).

### 4. Completion

The Buy-Back will be effected on the date specified in the Exchange Notice as the date for completion of the Buy-Back, which will be determined in accordance with the Terms of Issue, by the Buyer paying the amount determined under clause 3 to the Seller and the Seller delivering to the Buyer a duly executed transfer of the Buy-Back Shares.

### 5. Appointment of attorney

By virtue of its holding of the Buy-Back Shares, each Seller irrevocably appoints any director or officer or duly authorised attorney of St.George (each an Attorney) as the true and lawful attorney of the Seller to execute a transfer to the Buyer in registrable form of the Buy-Back Shares (or such other document by which title to the Buy-Back Shares may be vested in the Buyer) and to give any necessary direction to any other person or take any other action which may be required to facilitate the transfer to the Buyer of the Buy-Back Shares, and agrees that in exercising this power of attorney St.George or any Attorney shall be entitled to act in the interests of St.George (or a nominee) as the Buyer of the Buy-Back Shares.

## 6. Definitions and interpretation

All words and expressions used in this agreement which are defined in the Terms of Issue have the same meaning in this agreement.

**Buy-Back** means, in relation to the SPS, the purchase of the SPS from the Holder for the time being by the Buyer pursuant to this agreement.

**Buy-Back Shares** means the SPS referred to in the Exchange Notice which are the subject of the Buy-Back under this agreement.

**Buyer** means St.George or any permitted transferee of the Buy-Back Shares nominated by St.George to be the purchaser of the Buy-Back Shares.

**Exchange Notice** means a notice given by St.George to Holders from time to time under clause 3.1 of the Terms of Issue.

**Seller** means each Holder from time to time to whom St.George gives an Exchange Notice which indicates that SPS are to be bought back by St.George.



**APPENDIX B -  
APPLICATION  
FORM**

I/We declare that by lodging this Application Form, I/we represent and warrant that I/we have received the Prospectus and that this Application Form was attached to or accompanied by that Prospectus, I/we have read and understood the Prospectus to which this Application Form relates and agree to be bound by the Constitution, the Terms of Issue and the terms and conditions of the Offer (including the representations, warranties and agreements contained in the Prospectus) and I/we hereby apply for such number of SPS as may be Allocated to me/us in accordance with the Prospectus and accordingly agree to take such number of SPS equal to or less than the number of SPS indicated in box **A**.

I/We hereby authorise St.George to complete and execute any documents necessary or do such other things as may be required to effect the allotment of any SPS. By lodging this Application Form, I/we declare that this Application Form is completed and lodged according to the Prospectus and that all statements made by me/us are complete and accurate. I/We represent and warrant that by lodging this Application Form, I/we am/are in compliance with all laws of any jurisdiction outside the Commonwealth of Australia relevant to this Application. I/We acknowledge that I/we am/are resident(s) of, and located in, Australia. I/We declare that I/we am/are not acting for the account or benefit of any person in the US or a US Person or any other foreign person and will not offer, sell or resell SPS in the US or to, or for the account or benefit of, any US Person.

**NO SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED.**

## How to complete this form

**A Number of SPS Applied for**  
Enter the number of SPS you wish to apply for. The Application must be for a minimum of 50 SPS.

**B Application Payment**  
Enter the amount of Application Payment. To calculate the amount, multiply the number of SPS applied for by the Issue Price (A\$100) per SPS. The minimum Application amount is A\$5,000.

**C Applicant name(s)**  
Enter the full name you wish to appear on your Holding Statement. This must be either your own name or the name of a company or other type of Holder as per the table below. Up to three joint Applicants may register. You should refer to the table below for the correct forms of registrable title(s). Applications using the wrong form of names may be rejected. CHES participants should complete their name identically to that presently registered in CHES.

**D Postal address**  
Enter your postal address for all correspondence. All communications to you from the Registry will be mailed to the person(s) and address as shown. For joint Applicants, only one address can be entered.

**E Contact details**  
Enter your contact details. These are not compulsory but will assist us if we need to contact you about your Application.

**F CHES participant**  
St.George will apply to ASX to participate in CHES, and, under the ASX Listing Rules and the ASX Settlement Rules, will maintain an electronic issuer sponsored subregister and an electronic CHES subregister. Together the two subregisters will make up St.George's principal register of securities. St.George will not be issuing certificates to Applicants in respect of SPS allotted. If you are a CHES participant (or are sponsored by a CHES participant) and you wish to hold SPS allotted to you under this Application on the CHES subregister, enter your CHES HIN. Otherwise, leave this section blank and on allotment, you will be sponsored by St.George and Allocated a Securityholder Reference Number (SRN).

**NO SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED.**

### Important notice

The Corporations Act prohibits any person from passing on to another person an Application Form in relation to the Offer, unless the Application Form is attached to, or accompanies, a complete and unaltered copy of the Prospectus. A person who gives another person access to the Application Form must at the same time, and by the same means, give the other person access to the Prospectus, and any supplementary or replacement prospectus. A paper copy of the Prospectus, any supplementary or replacement prospectus and the Application Form will be provided to you, at no charge, upon request by contacting the **St.George InfoLine on 1800 804 457**. Applications will only be accepted if made on an Application Form that is attached to or accompanies the Prospectus.

### Lodgement of Application Form and Application Payment

You should contact the Co-Manager or Participating Broker who offered you an Allocation (NOT the Registry) for instructions on submitting your Application Form and Application Payment. Application Forms and Application Payments need to be submitted in sufficient time to enable your Co-Manager or Participating Broker to arrange settlement on your behalf by the Settlement Date, expected to be 19 June 2006.

Your Co-Manager or Participating Broker will act as your agent in providing your Application Form and Application Payment to St.George.

### Privacy statement

Please refer to Section 3.7 of the Prospectus for details about the collection, holding and use of your personal information. If you do not provide the information required on the Application Form, St.George may not be able to accept or process your Application.

### Correct forms of registrable title(s)

Note that ONLY legal entities are allowed to hold SPS. Applications must be made in the name(s) of natural persons, companies or other legal entities in accordance with the Corporations Act. At least one full given name and the surname is required for each natural person. The name of the beneficial owner or any other registrable name may be included by way of an account designation if completed exactly as described in the examples of correct forms of registrable title(s) below.

**If you have any enquiries concerning your Application, please contact your Co-Manager or Participating Broker. Information is also available from the St.George website at [www.stgeorge.com.au](http://www.stgeorge.com.au)**

Type of investor	Correct form of registration	Incorrect form of registration
Individual - Use given name(s) in full, not initials	Mr John Alfred Smith	J.A. Smith
Joint - Use given name(s) in full, not initials	Mr John Alfred Smith & Mrs Janet Marie Smith	John Alfred & Janet Marie Smith
Company - Use company title, not abbreviations	ABC Pty Ltd	ABC P/L ABC Co
Trusts - Use trustee(s) personal name(s) - Do not use the name of the trust	Ms Penny Smith <Penny Smith Family A/C>	Penny Smith Family Trust
Deceased estates - Use executor(s) personal name(s) - Do not use the name of the deceased	Mr Michael Smith <Est John Smith A/C>	Estate of Late John Smith
Minor (a person under the age of 18) - Use the name of a responsible adult with an appropriate designation	Mr John Alfred Smith <Peter Smith A/C>	Peter Smith
Partnerships - Use partners' personal name(s) - Do not use the name of the partnership	Mr John Smith & Mr Michael Smith <John Smith & Son A/C>	John Smith & Son
Clubs/unincorporated bodies/business names - Use office bearer(s) personal name(s) - Do not use the name of the club etc	Mrs Janet Smith <ABC Tennis Association A/C>	ABC Tennis Association
Superannuation funds - Use the name of trustee of the fund - Do not use the name of the fund	John Smith Pty Ltd <Super Fund A/C>	John Smith Pty Ltd Superannuation Fund



Pin cheque here (do not staple)



St.George Bank Limited ABN 92 055 513 070

Broker code

Broker stamp

Adviser code

## SPS offer – Application Form

This Application Form is for St.George Step-up Preference Shares (SPS) to be issued under the Prospectus dated 8 June 2006. The Prospectus expires on 30 June 2007. If you have any questions as to how to deal with the Prospectus or this Application Form, please consult your Co-Manager, Participating Broker or other professional adviser. The Prospectus contains information relevant to a decision whether to invest in SPS and you should read the entire Prospectus carefully before deciding whether to apply for SPS.

Any supplementary or replacement prospectus that St.George issues will be accessible by the same means as the Prospectus. Under the Corporations Act, SPS may only be issued if the issuer has reasonable grounds to believe that the Application Form was included in or accompanied by the Prospectus. You may apply for SPS if you are: (a) an Institutional Investor who was invited by the Lead Manager to bid for SPS through the Bookbuild; or (b) an Australian resident retail client of a Co-Manager or Participating Broker. There is no general public offer of SPS or any general offer of SPS to Ordinary Shareholders or SAINTS Holders. Capitalised words and expressions used in this Application Form have the meanings given to them in the Prospectus.

**A** Number of SPS applied for (minimum of 50 SPS)

Issue Price  
per SPS

at A\$100

**B** I/we lodge full Application Payment of

**C** Individual/joint Applications - refer to naming standards overleaf for correct forms of registrable title(s)

Title or company name	Given name(s)	Surname
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Joint Applicant 2 or account designation
<input type="text"/>

Joint Applicant 3 or account designation
<input type="text"/>

**D** Postal address - include state and postcode

Unit	Street number	Street name or PO Box/other information
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

City/suburb/town	State	Postcode
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

**E** Contact details

**F** CHES participant

Please note that if you supply a CHES HIN but the name and address details on your Application Form do not correspond exactly with the registration details held at CHES, your Application will be deemed to be made without the CHES HIN, and any securities issued as a result of the offer under the Prospectus will be held on the St.George issuer sponsored subregister.

**PLEASE RETURN YOUR APPLICATION FORM AND APPLICATION PAYMENT TO,  
AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS OF,  
THE CO-MANAGER OR PARTICIPATING BROKER WHO OFFERED YOU AN ALLOCATION.**

See overleaf for completion guidelines

I/We declare that by lodging this Application Form, I/we represent and warrant that I/we have received the Prospectus and that this Application Form was attached to or accompanied by that Prospectus, I/we have read and understood the Prospectus to which this Application Form relates and agree to be bound by the Constitution, the Terms of Issue and the terms and conditions of the Offer (including the representations, warranties and agreements contained in the Prospectus) and I/we hereby apply for such number of SPS as may be Allocated to me/us in accordance with the Prospectus and accordingly agree to take such number of SPS equal to or less than the number of SPS indicated in box **A**.

I/We hereby authorise St.George to complete and execute any documents necessary or do such other things as may be required to effect the allotment of any SPS. By lodging this Application Form, I/we declare that this Application Form is completed and lodged according to the Prospectus and that all statements made by me/us are complete and accurate. I/We represent and warrant that by lodging this Application Form, I/we am/are in compliance with all laws of any jurisdiction outside the Commonwealth of Australia relevant to this Application. I/We acknowledge that I/we am/are resident(s) of, and located in, Australia. I/We declare that I/we am/are not acting for the account or benefit of any person in the US or a US Person or any other foreign person and will not offer, sell or resell SPS in the US or to, or for the account or benefit of, any US Person.

**NO SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED.**

## How to complete this form

**A Number of SPS Applied for**  
Enter the number of SPS you wish to apply for. The Application must be for a minimum of 50 SPS.

**B Application Payment**  
Enter the amount of Application Payment. To calculate the amount, multiply the number of SPS applied for by the Issue Price (A\$100) per SPS. The minimum Application amount is A\$5,000.

**C Applicant name(s)**  
Enter the full name you wish to appear on your Holding Statement. This must be either your own name or the name of a company or other type of Holder as per the table below. Up to three joint Applicants may register. You should refer to the table below for the correct forms of registrable title(s). Applications using the wrong form of names may be rejected. CHES participants should complete their name identically to that presently registered in CHES.

**D Postal address**  
Enter your postal address for all correspondence. All communications to you from the Registry will be mailed to the person(s) and address as shown. For joint Applicants, only one address can be entered.

**E Contact details**  
Enter your contact details. These are not compulsory but will assist us if we need to contact you about your Application.

**F CHES participant**  
St.George will apply to ASX to participate in CHES, and, under the ASX Listing Rules and the ASX Settlement Rules, will maintain an electronic issuer sponsored subregister and an electronic CHES subregister. Together the two subregisters will make up St.George's principal register of securities. St.George will not be issuing certificates to Applicants in respect of SPS allotted. If you are a CHES participant (or are sponsored by a CHES participant) and you wish to hold SPS allotted to you under this Application on the CHES subregister, enter your CHES HIN. Otherwise, leave this section blank and on allotment, you will be sponsored by St.George and Allocated a Securityholder Reference Number (SRN).

**NO SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED.**

### Important notice

The Corporations Act prohibits any person from passing on to another person an Application Form in relation to the Offer, unless the Application Form is attached to, or accompanies, a complete and unaltered copy of the Prospectus. A person who gives another person access to the Application Form must at the same time, and by the same means, give the other person access to the Prospectus, and any supplementary or replacement prospectus. A paper copy of the Prospectus, any supplementary or replacement prospectus and the Application Form will be provided to you, at no charge, upon request by contacting the **St.George InfoLine on 1800 804 457**. Applications will only be accepted if made on an Application Form that is attached to or accompanies the Prospectus.

### Lodgement of Application Form and Application Payment

You should contact the Co-Manager or Participating Broker who offered you an Allocation (NOT the Registry) for instructions on submitting your Application Form and Application Payment. Application Forms and Application Payments need to be submitted in sufficient time to enable your Co-Manager or Participating Broker to arrange settlement on your behalf by the Settlement Date, expected to be 19 June 2006.

Your Co-Manager or Participating Broker will act as your agent in providing your Application Form and Application Payment to St.George.

### Privacy statement

Please refer to Section 3.7 of the Prospectus for details about the collection, holding and use of your personal information. If you do not provide the information required on the Application Form, St.George may not be able to accept or process your Application.

### Correct forms of registrable title(s)

Note that ONLY legal entities are allowed to hold SPS. Applications must be made in the name(s) of natural persons, companies or other legal entities in accordance with the Corporations Act. At least one full given name and the surname is required for each natural person. The name of the beneficial owner or any other registrable name may be included by way of an account designation if completed exactly as described in the examples of correct forms of registrable title(s) below.

**If you have any enquiries concerning your Application, please contact your Co-Manager or Participating Broker. Information is also available from the St.George website at [www.stgeorge.com.au](http://www.stgeorge.com.au)**

Type of investor	Correct form of registration	Incorrect form of registration
Individual - Use given name(s) in full, not initials	Mr John Alfred Smith	J.A. Smith
Joint - Use given name(s) in full, not initials	Mr John Alfred Smith & Mrs Janet Marie Smith	John Alfred & Janet Marie Smith
Company - Use company title, not abbreviations	ABC Pty Ltd	ABC P/L ABC Co
Trusts - Use trustee(s) personal name(s) - Do not use the name of the trust	Ms Penny Smith <Penny Smith Family A/C>	Penny Smith Family Trust
Deceased estates - Use executor(s) personal name(s) - Do not use the name of the deceased	Mr Michael Smith <Est John Smith A/C>	Estate of Late John Smith
Minor (a person under the age of 18) - Use the name of a responsible adult with an appropriate designation	Mr John Alfred Smith <Peter Smith A/C>	Peter Smith
Partnerships - Use partners' personal name(s) - Do not use the name of the partnership	Mr John Smith & Mr Michael Smith <John Smith & Son A/C>	John Smith & Son
Clubs/unincorporated bodies/business names - Use office bearer(s) personal name(s) - Do not use the name of the club etc	Mrs Janet Smith <ABC Tennis Association A/C>	ABC Tennis Association
Superannuation funds - Use the name of trustee of the fund - Do not use the name of the fund	John Smith Pty Ltd <Super Fund A/C>	John Smith Pty Ltd Superannuation Fund

# Corporate directory

## Registered office of St.George

St.George House  
4 - 16 Montgomery Street  
Kogarah NSW 2217  
Telephone: (02) 9236 1111  
Website: [www.stgeorge.com.au](http://www.stgeorge.com.au)

## Legal adviser

Allens Arthur Robinson  
Deutsche Bank Place  
Corner Hunter and Phillip Streets  
Sydney NSW 2000

## Auditor

KPMG  
10 Shelley Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

## Tax adviser

Greenwoods & Freehills Pty Limited  
Level 39, MLC Centre  
19 - 29 Martin Place  
Sydney NSW 2000

## Registry

Computershare Investor Services Pty Limited  
Level 3  
60 Carrington Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

St.George InfoLine 1800 804 457  
Monday to Friday (8.30am-5.30pm)

## Lead Manager

UBS AG, Australia Branch  
Level 25, Governor Phillip Tower  
1 Farrer Place  
Sydney NSW 2000

## Co-Managers

Goldman Sachs JBWere Pty Ltd  
Level 42, Governor Phillip Tower  
1 Farrer Place  
Sydney NSW 2000

Macquarie Equities Limited  
No. 1 Martin Place  
Sydney NSW 2000

Ord Minnett Limited  
Level 8, NAB House  
255 George Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

St.George  
St.George House  
4 - 16 Montgomery Street  
Kogarah NSW 2217

UBS Wealth Management Australia Limited  
Level 27, Governor Phillip Tower  
1 Farrer Place  
Sydney NSW 2000

4-16 Montgomery Street  
Kogarah NSW 2217  
Telephone: (02) 9236 1111  
Website: [www.stgeorge.com.au](http://www.stgeorge.com.au)  
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