

FOREWORD

1 **This Committee on Corporate Governance was established in November 1995 on the initiative of the Chairman of the Financial Reporting Council, Sir Sydney Lipworth. This followed the recommendations of the Cadbury and Greenbury committees that a new committee should review the implementation of their findings. The present committee's remit and membership appear in the Annex.**

2 **The committee's sponsors are the London Stock Exchange, the Confederation of British Industry, the Institute of Directors, the Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies, the National Association of Pension Funds and the Association of British Insurers. We should like to acknowledge their help, without which it would not have been possible to publish this report.**

3 **The Committee has consulted widely. Before the preliminary report the Committee issued a questionnaire in answer to which over 140 submissions were received, and members of the Committee took part in over 200 individual and group discussions. We received a further 167 written submissions on the preliminary report and we have had a substantial number of further discussions. In total 252 organisations or individuals responded in writing to one or both of these consultations. The breakdown of these respondents by category was:**

Public companies	114
Institutional investors	14
Professional partnerships	12
Representative bodies	24
Other organisations	29
Individuals	59

The Committee would like to thank all those who have taken the time and trouble to contribute to its work.

4 **We have been encouraged by the response to the preliminary report,. Whilst some comment has been critical, there has been wide support for the general thrust of our views and recommendations. This consensus, building on that of Cadbury and Greenbury, is a welcome feature of the developing thinking in this field.**

I would like to thank all members of the Committee for the very considerable effort which they have devoted to our work. Particular thanks are due to the Committee's Secretary, John Healey, without whose single-minded commitment we could not have completed our task.

RONNIE HAMPEL
January 1998