

**NOT FOR RELEASE, PUBLICATION OR DISTRIBUTION, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, IN, INTO OR FROM ANY JURISDICTION WHERE TO DO SO WOULD CONSTITUTE A VIOLATION OF THE RELEVANT LAWS OR REGULATIONS OF THAT JURISDICTION**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**30 May 2024**

**RECOMMENDED CASH ACQUISITION**

**OF**

**IQGEO GROUP PLC ("IQGEO")**

**BY**

**GEOLOGIST BIDCO LIMITED ("BIDCO")**

**a newly formed company wholly-owned by funds advised by Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. L.P. and its affiliates ("KKR") to be effected by means of a Scheme of Arrangement**

**under Part 26 of the Companies Act 2006**

**Update on the letter of intent given by Charles Stanley & Co Ltd**

On 14 May 2024, the boards of IQGeo Group plc ("**IQG**") and Geologist Bidco Limited ("**Bidco**"), a newly formed company wholly-owned by funds advised by Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. L.P. and its affiliates ("**KKR**"), announced that they had reached agreement on the terms and conditions of a recommended cash acquisition by Bidco of the entire issued and to be issued share capital of IQG (the "**2.7 Announcement**") (the "**Acquisition**"). The Acquisition is to be implemented by way of a Court-sanctioned scheme of arrangement under Part 26 of the Companies Act 2006.

Unless otherwise defined in this announcement, capitalised words and phrases used in this announcement shall have the same meanings given to them in the 2.7 Announcement.

As set out in Appendix 3 of the 2.7 Announcement, Bidco had received a non-binding letter of intent from Charles Stanley & Co Ltd ("**Charles Stanley**") to vote in favour of the resolutions relating to the Acquisition at the Meetings in respect of 6,142,032 IQG Shares, representing 9.93 per cent. of IQG's existing ordinary issued share capital at the Latest Practicable Date (the "**Charles Stanley LOI**").

Since publication of the 2.7 Announcement on 14 May 2024, Charles Stanley has announced the following transactions in IQG Shares, subject to the Charles Stanley LOI:

<b>Date of Announcement</b>	<b>Purchase/Sale</b>	<b>Number of IQG Shares</b>
16 May 2024	Sale	2,500
20 May 2024	Sale	300,390
22 May 2024	Sale	128,700
24 May 2024	Sale	1,000,000
29 May 2024	Sale	6,075
30 May 2024	Sale	16,300

(together the “**Sold Shares**”). All of the Sold Shares were subject to the Charles Stanley LOI. As a result, with effect from completion of the sale of the Sold Shares:

- the Charles Stanley LOI has ceased to apply in respect of the Sold Shares; and
- the Charles Stanley LOI now applies in respect of Charles Stanley’s remaining holding of 4,688,067 IQG Shares, representing approximately 7.59 per cent. of the issued ordinary share capital of IQG as at close of business on 29 May 2024 (being the last business day prior to the date of this announcement).

Therefore, the total number of IQG Shares which are subject to either irrevocable undertakings or non-binding letters of intent in relation to IQG Shares is 34,527,609, representing approximately 55.88 per cent. of the issued ordinary share capital of IQG as at close of business on 29 May 2024 (being the last business day prior to the date of this announcement).

## **Enquiries**

### **IQGeo**

+44 (0) 12 2360 6655

Richard Petti, CEO

Haywood Chapman, CFO

### **Evercore (Lead Financial Adviser to IQGeo)**

+44 (0) 20 7653 6000

Ed Banks

Anil Rachwani

Harrison George

### **Cavendish (Joint Financial Adviser, Nomad, Broker to IQGeo)**

+44 (0) 20 7220 0500

Henrik Persson

Tim Redfern

Seamus Fricker

### **H/Advisors Maitland (PR Adviser to IQGeo)**

+44 7900 000777

Neil Bennett

## **IMPORTANT NOTICES**

This announcement is for information purposes only and is not intended to, and does not, constitute, or form part of, an offer, invitation or the solicitation of an offer to purchase, otherwise acquire, subscribe for, sell or otherwise dispose of any securities, or the solicitation of any vote or approval in any

jurisdiction, pursuant to the Acquisition or otherwise, nor shall there be any sale, issuance or transfer of securities of IQGeo in any jurisdiction in contravention of applicable law. The Acquisition will be implemented solely pursuant to the terms of the Scheme Document (or, if the Acquisition is implemented by way of a Takeover Offer, the offer document), which will contain the full terms and conditions of the Acquisition, including details of how to vote in respect of the Acquisition. Any vote in respect of the Scheme or other response in relation to the Acquisition should be made only on the basis of the information contained in the Scheme Document (or, if the Acquisition is implemented by way of a Takeover Offer, the offer document).

This announcement does not constitute a prospectus or a prospectus-equivalent document.

### ***Important notices about financial advisers***

*Evercore Partners International LLP ("**Evercore**"), which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority in the United Kingdom, is acting exclusively as financial adviser to IQGeo and no one else in connection with the matters described in this Announcement and will not be responsible to anyone other than IQGeo for providing the protections afforded to clients of Evercore nor for providing advice in connection with the matters referred to herein. Neither Evercore nor any of its subsidiaries, branches or affiliates owes or accepts any duty, liability or responsibility whatsoever (whether direct or indirect, whether in contract, in tort, under statute or otherwise) to any person who is not a client of Evercore in connection with this Announcement, any statement contained herein, any offer or otherwise. Apart from the responsibilities and liabilities, if any, which may be imposed on Evercore by the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and successor legislation, or the regulatory regime established thereunder, or under the regulatory regime of any jurisdiction where exclusion of liability under the relevant regulatory regime would be illegal, void or unenforceable, neither Evercore nor any of its affiliates accepts any responsibility or liability whatsoever for the contents of this Announcement, and no representation, express or implied, is made by it, or purported to be made on its behalf, in relation to the contents of this Announcement, including its accuracy, completeness or verification of any other statement made or purported to be made by it, or on its behalf, in connection with IQGeo or the matters described in this Announcement. To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, Evercore and its affiliates accordingly disclaim all and any responsibility or liability whether arising in tort, contract or otherwise (save as referred to above) which they might otherwise have in respect of this Announcement or any statement contained herein.*

*Cavendish Capital Markets Limited ("**Cavendish**"), which is authorised and regulated by the FCA in the UK, is acting as joint financial adviser, nominated adviser and corporate broker exclusively for IQGeo and no one else in connection with the matters referred to in this Announcement and will not be responsible to anyone other than IQGeo for providing the protections afforded to its clients or for providing advice in relation to matters referred to in this announcement. Neither Cavendish, nor any of its affiliates, owes or accepts any duty, liability or responsibility whatsoever (whether direct or indirect, whether in contract, in tort, under statute or otherwise) to any person who is not a client of Cavendish in connection with this Announcement, any statement contained herein or otherwise.*

### ***Overseas jurisdictions***

*The release, publication or distribution of this Announcement in jurisdictions other than the United Kingdom, and the availability of the Acquisition (including the Alternative Offer) to IQGeo Shareholders who are not resident in the United Kingdom, may be restricted by the laws of those jurisdictions and therefore persons into whose possession this Announcement comes should inform themselves about and observe such restrictions. Further details in relation to the Overseas Shareholders will be contained in the Scheme Document. Any failure to comply with any such restrictions may constitute a violation of the securities laws of any such jurisdiction. To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, the*

companies and persons involved in the Acquisition disclaim any responsibility or liability for the violation of such restrictions by any person.

Unless otherwise determined by Bidco or required by the Takeover Code, and permitted by applicable law and regulation, the Acquisition will not be made available, directly or indirectly, in, into or from a Restricted Jurisdiction. Accordingly, copies of this Announcement and all documents relating to the Acquisition are not being, and must not be, directly or indirectly, mailed or otherwise forwarded, distributed or sent in, into or from a Restricted Jurisdiction, and persons receiving this Announcement and all documents relating to the Acquisition (including custodians, nominees and trustees) must not mail or otherwise distribute or send them in, into or from such. If the Acquisition is implemented by way of Takeover Offer (unless otherwise permitted by applicable law or regulation), the Takeover Offer may not be made, directly or indirectly, in or into or by use of the mails or any other means or instrumentality (including, without limitation, facsimile, e-mail or other electronic transmission, telex or telephone) of interstate or foreign commerce of, or any facility of a national, state or other securities exchange of any Restricted Jurisdiction and the Takeover Offer will not be capable of acceptance by any such use, means, instrumentality or facilities or from within any Restricted Jurisdiction.

This Announcement has been prepared in connection with proposals in relation to a scheme of arrangement pursuant to and for the purpose of complying with English law and the Takeover Code and information disclosed may not be the same as that which would have been disclosed if this Announcement had been prepared in accordance with the laws of jurisdictions outside the United Kingdom. Nothing in this Announcement should be relied on for any other purpose.

The Acquisition shall be subject to the applicable requirements of the Takeover Code, the Panel, the London Stock Exchange and the Financial Conduct Authority.

#### **Additional information for US investors**

The Acquisition relates to the shares of an English company and is being made by means of a scheme of arrangement provided for under English company law. A transaction effected by means of a scheme of arrangement is not subject to the tender offer or proxy solicitation rules under the US Exchange Act. Accordingly, the Acquisition is subject to the disclosure requirements and practices applicable in the United Kingdom to schemes of arrangement which differ from the disclosure requirements of the US tender offer and proxy solicitation rules.

If, in the future, Bidco exercises its right to implement the Acquisition by way of a Takeover Offer, which is to be made into the US, such Takeover Offer will be made in compliance with the applicable US laws and regulations, including Section 14(e) and Regulation 14E under the US Exchange Act. Such a Takeover Offer would be made in the US by Bidco and no one else.

In the event that the Acquisition is implemented by way of Takeover Offer, in compliance with applicable UK laws, Bidco, its dealer manager (and their advisers or affiliates), or its nominees, or its brokers (acting as agents), may from time to time make certain purchases of, or arrangements to purchase, shares or other securities of IQGeo other than pursuant to such Takeover Offer during the period in which such Takeover Offer would remain open for acceptance. These purchases may occur either in the open market at prevailing prices or in private transactions at negotiated prices. Any information about such purchases or arrangements to purchase shall be disclosed as required under UK laws, shall be reported to a Regulatory Information Service and shall be available on the London Stock Exchange website at [www.londonstockexchange.com](http://www.londonstockexchange.com). To the extent that such information is required to be publicly disclosed in the UK in accordance with applicable regulatory requirements, this information will, as applicable, also be made publicly available in the United States.

It may be difficult for US holders of IQGeo Shares to enforce their rights and any claim arising out of the US federal securities laws in connection with the Acquisition, since Bidco and IQGeo are located in a non-US jurisdiction, and some or all of their officers and directors may be residents of a non-US jurisdiction. US holders of IQGeo Shares may not be able to sue a non-US company or its officers or

directors in a non-US court for violations of the US securities laws. Further, it may be difficult to compel a non-US company and its affiliates to subject themselves to a US court's judgement.

The Topco Investor Shares to be issued under the Alternative Offer have not been registered under the US Securities Act or under any laws or with any securities regulatory authority of any state, district or other jurisdiction, of the US and will not be listed on any stock exchange in the US. The Topco Investor Shares may only be offered or sold in the US in reliance on an exemption from registration requirements of the US Securities Act including in the case of the proposed scheme of arrangement, Section 3(a)(10) thereunder.

The financial information included in this Announcement, or that may be included in the Scheme Document, has been prepared in accordance with accounting standards applicable in the United Kingdom and thus may not be comparable to financial information of US companies or companies whose financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the US ("US GAAP"). US GAAP differs in certain significant respects from accounting standards applicable in the United Kingdom. None of the financial information in this announcement has been audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States or the auditing standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States).

Neither the Acquisition (including the Alternative Offer) nor this Announcement have been approved or disapproved by the US Securities and Exchange Commission, any state securities commission in the United States or any other US regulatory authority, nor have such authorities approved or disapproved or passed judgement upon the fairness or the merits of the Acquisition (including the Alternative Offer), or determined if the information contained in this Announcement is adequate, accurate or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offence in the United States.

The receipt of cash pursuant to the Acquisition by a US holder as consideration for the transfer of its IQGeo Shares pursuant to the Acquisition will likely be a taxable transaction for US federal income tax purposes and under applicable US state and local, as well as foreign and other, tax laws. Each US holder of IQGeo Shares is urged to consult their independent legal, tax and financial advisers regarding the tax consequences of the Acquisition applicable to them, including under applicable US state and local, as well as overseas and other, tax laws.

### **Disclosure requirements of the Takeover Code**

Under Rule 8.3(a) of the Takeover Code, any person who is interested in 1% or more of any class of relevant securities of an offeree company or of any securities exchange offeror (being any offeror other than an offeror in respect of which it has been announced that its offer is, or is likely to be, solely in cash) must make an Opening Position Disclosure following the commencement of the Offer Period and, if later, following the announcement in which any securities exchange offeror is first identified. An Opening Position Disclosure must contain details of the person's interests and short positions in, and rights to subscribe for, any relevant securities of each of (i) the offeree company and (ii) any securities exchange offeror(s). An Opening Position Disclosure by a person to whom Rule 8.3(a) applies must be made by no later than 3.30 pm (London time) on the 10th business day following the commencement of the Offer Period and, if appropriate, by no later than 3.30 pm (London time) on the 10th business day following the announcement in which any securities exchange offeror is first identified. Relevant persons who deal in the relevant securities of the offeree company or of a securities exchange offeror prior to the deadline for making an Opening Position Disclosure must instead make a Dealing Disclosure.

Under Rule 8.3(b) of the Takeover Code, any person who is, or becomes, interested in 1% or more of any class of relevant securities of the offeree company or of any securities exchange offeror must make a Dealing Disclosure if the person deals in any relevant securities of the offeree company or of any securities exchange offeror. A Dealing Disclosure must contain details of the dealing concerned and of the person's interests and short positions in, and rights to subscribe for, any relevant securities of each of (i) the offeree company and (ii) any securities exchange offeror(s), save to the extent that these

details have previously been disclosed under Rule 8. A Dealing Disclosure by a person to whom Rule 8.3(b) applies must be made by no later than 3.30 pm (London time) on the business day following the date of the relevant dealing.

If two or more persons act together pursuant to an agreement or understanding, whether formal or informal, to acquire or control an interest in relevant securities of an offeree company or a securities exchange offeror, they will be deemed to be a single person for the purpose of Rule 8.3.

Opening Position Disclosures must also be made by the offeree company and by any offeror and Dealing Disclosures must also be made by the offeree company, by any offeror and by any persons acting in concert with any of them (see Rules 8.1, 8.2 and 8.4).

Details of the offeree and offeror companies in respect of whose relevant securities Opening Position Disclosures and Dealing Disclosures must be made can be found in the Disclosure Table on the Panel's website at [www.thetakeoverpanel.org.uk](http://www.thetakeoverpanel.org.uk), including details of the number of relevant securities in issue, when the Offer Period commenced and when any offeror was first identified. You should contact the Panel's Market Surveillance Unit on +44 (0)20 7638 0129 if you are in any doubt as to whether you are required to make an Opening Position Disclosure or a Dealing Disclosure.

### **Publication on website**

A copy of this Announcement and the documents required to be published pursuant to Rule 26 of the Takeover Code will be available, free of charge, subject to certain restrictions relating to persons resident in Restricted Jurisdictions, on Bidco's website at <https://www.documentdisplay.com> and IQGeo's website at <https://www.iqgeo.com/investor-center/disclaimer-offer> by no later than 12.00 noon (London Time) on the Business Day following the publication of this Announcement.

For the avoidance of doubt, the contents of these websites and any websites accessible from hyperlinks on these websites are not incorporated into and do not form part of this Announcement.

### **Right to receive documents in hard copy form**

In accordance with Rule 30.3 of the Takeover Code, IQGeo Shareholders, participants in the IQGeo Share Plans and persons with information rights may request a hard copy of this Announcement, free of charge, by contacting IQGeo's registrars, Link Group, at Central Square, 29 Wellington Street, Leeds, LS1 4DL, United Kingdom or by calling Link Group on +44 (0) 371 664 0300 or via email at [shareholderenquiries@linkgroup.co.uk](mailto:shareholderenquiries@linkgroup.co.uk). Calls are charged at the standard geographic rate and will vary by provider. Calls outside the United Kingdom will be charged at the applicable international rate. Lines are open between 8.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. (London time), Monday to Friday (except public holidays in England and Wales). For persons who receive a copy of this Announcement in electronic form or via a website notification, a hard copy of this Announcement will not be sent unless so requested. Such persons may also request that all future documents, announcements and information in relation to the Acquisition are sent to them in hard copy form.