

The acquisition of Allenbridge by Close

## Key information for Allenbridge clients

### **Why is this acquisition happening?**

With increased regulation making it harder for smaller companies to provide a full client service, Allenbridge wanted to join forces with a large and highly respected investment management company. Close can offer Allenbridge clients easy access to a wide range of savings and investments according to their stage in life and their personal objectives. It is a much fuller service.

### **Why Close?**

Having considered approaches from several asset management companies, Allenbridge chose Close as it believes their research-focused investment philosophy will appeal to its clients. Close draws on first class research and information straight from the City via its renowned fund management arm, Close Asset Management. They are also committed to developing further services and features for savers and investors willing to make their own decisions.

### **Who are Close?**

Close is part of Close Brothers Group, a leader in banking for over 130 years and a FTSE 250 company. It is a stable and secure business, and required no government assistance during the recent banking crisis. Close Asset Management currently invests over £8 billion of client assets and was voted Best Discretionary Wealth Manager by readers of What Investment in 2008, 2009 and 2010.

### **What will happen to my existing investments?**

The investments you have arranged through Allenbridge will remain unchanged and we will continue to update you on their performance. You can also continue to monitor their value through the Allenbridge website. Close will be looking to build further on the service excellence Allenbridge already provides to its clients.

### **What additional services does Close offer?**

As well as offering the execution-only investment services provided by Allenbridge, Close offers bespoke financial advice and discretionary portfolio management. Close also provides a highly personal financial planning service covering investment planning, retirement planning, protection planning and estate planning. You only pay for these services should you choose to use them.

### **How can I access these services?**

Close offers you the flexibility to use their services as best suits you. You can arrange investments over the phone or the internet or by post. If you wish to use our advisory services, please call a Close Account Associate on 0800 917 4536.

### **What kind of investment solutions will Close provide?**

Close offers a range of investment funds that you can invest in through SIPPS, ISAs and other investment vehicles. These cater for a range of investment profiles but if you feel they are not suited to your personal requirements you can access a wider range of investment solutions.

### **Do I need to do anything?**

No. Your existing investments remain exactly as they were.