

9 October 2006



MAMA Group plc

Statement regarding Possible Offer by MAMA Group plc ("MAMA Group")

For The Sanctuary Group Plc ("Sanctuary")

Following a meeting with the Sanctuary Board on the 27th July, and their subsequent rejection after a cursory examination of MAMA Group's proposals on the 28th July, MAMA Group has been seeking to formulate a proposal which would be in the best interests of both MAMA Group's and Sanctuary's shareholders.

However, Sanctuary has made it clear, through their advisers, that they are not prepared to engage in any meaningful dialogue with regard to MAMA Group's proposals.

MAMA Group, having further considered its position regarding Sanctuary, now believes that there is little merit in attempting to continue to seek an acquisition of Sanctuary and therefore has today withdrawn the proposals made and is no longer considering making an offer for Sanctuary. For the purposes of Rule 2.8 of the City Code on Takeovers and Mergers, MAMA Group reserves the right to make or participate in an offer within the next six months if there is a material change of circumstances or if any of the following occurs:

- i) the agreement or recommendation of the Board of Sanctuary to an offer from MAMA Group or from a person with whom MAMA Group is acting in concert, or to a joint offer from MAMA Group and a concert party, or
- ii) if a third party announces an offer for Sanctuary; or
- iii) the announcement by Sanctuary of a whitewash proposal or of a reverse takeover.

For further information contact:

Adam Driscoll or Dean James , Co-Chief Executives, MAMA Group Plc Tel: 020 7691 4555

David Bick, Holborn PR Tel: 020 7929 5599

Mark Percy/Nicola Marrin, Seymour Pierce Limited Tel: 020 7107 8000