

Therium Capital Management Limited

("Therium" or "the Company")

Launch of Strategic Partnership to provide third party litigation funding

The Board of Therium today announces that it has signed heads of terms with City Of London Group Plc ("COLG") for a strategic partnership to build its third party litigation funding business. COLG will take equity in Therium and seed a fund to invest in litigation.

It is intended Therium will be appointed as the Investment Adviser to the Fund with responsibility for identifying litigation cases which it believes will generate an attractive financial return.

The UK and, in particular, London is a leading centre for resolution of commercial disputes and is a key location for many law firms with substantial litigation practices. The Company believes that only a small proportion of these disputes are funded by third party litigation funders.

Therium considers that the market for litigation funding in England and Wales is currently underserved. Recent interest in third party funding from solicitors and their clients is strong and Therium believes that this market will grow further as solicitors become more familiar with litigation funding, as awareness of litigation funding increases and as more capital is attracted to the market.

The returns available from litigation funding are not correlated with other asset classes such as equities or real estate, and within the portfolio of funded cases, the risks will not generally aggregate (i.e. one lost case will not have a "knock on" effect on other cases).

The investment objective of the Company is to build a diversified portfolio of investments which will provide above average investment returns. Investments will be made, directly and indirectly, predominantly in commercial litigation and arbitration cases taking place in England and Wales or which have a connection with the UK.

Therium is a company registered in England and Wales and is managed by John Byrne and Neil Purslow, both of whom are solicitors admitted in England and Wales.

Therium will source potential cases for litigation funding principally from solicitors, brokers, insolvency practitioners and other professionals advising on litigation. Therium has an established network of relationships with a wide range of firms of solicitors active in commercial litigation as well as strong links with a number of brokers for third party funding in the UK and other professionals advising on litigation.

John Byrne, Chief Executive of TCML said; ***"This transaction is a strong endorsement of our success to date. We have an exciting pipeline of cases ready to fund as well as those under review and we look forward to working with COLG to create a major fund management business serving this area"***.

Eric Anstee, Chief Executive of City Of London Group said; ***"This investment and associated funding is the first step in our strategy to acquire and develop specialist fund management teams to raise and create funds to meet the needs and opportunities in the market as the economy emerges from the credit crisis. Our initial focus will be in the legal services market, and in John Byrne, Neil Purslow and their team at Therium, we have identified a first class, experienced group who are already building a successful track record in this fast growing area."***

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Notes to Editors

Therium was launched at the start of 2009 for the purpose of providing third party litigation funding, principally in England and Wales. The founders have worked together to develop the litigation funding concept since November 2007. Therium has reviewed over 70 cases for funding. Therium's experience to date suggests that it will fund approximately 1 in 10 cases reviewed.

John Byrne (50)

John Byrne is an experienced and respected City lawyer with over 24 years of experience. He was formerly the head of the London office of law firm, Dorsey & Whitney where he was instrumental in building the firm's London office into a full service City practice with one of the strongest tax litigation practices in the City. During his time at Dorsey & Whitney, John was frequently responsible for coordinating and managing substantial teams of professionals on cross-border projects. John has been rated as one of the UK's "best business lawyers" in Chambers and Partners Guide to the Legal Profession. Prior to joining Dorsey & Whitney, John was a senior partner in the corporate department of Nabarro Nathanson where, amongst other things, he was heavily involved in the British Coal privatisation.

Having identified litigation funding as a significant business opportunity, John ceased to practise as a solicitor in October 2008 in order to focus on developing the concept. During that time he has built on his existing relationships and has developed new relationships with key litigation lawyers and teams in the City.

Neil Purslow (35)

Neil is a qualified solicitor with over 11 years experience in commercial litigation and is also a solicitor advocate with higher court rights of audience. Neil began his career with Withers and then joined Reed Smith before leaving private practice to take up the role of Litigation Counsel in London for Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc. Whilst in private practice, Neil gained extensive experience of commercial litigation, international arbitration, professional indemnity and Chancery and trust litigation, acting for both claimant and defendant. During his time at Marsh & McLennan, his role included assessing the merits of cases, developing case strategies, monitoring progress and ensuring proper case management and costs control. In that position he established relationships with a wide range of law firms advising on litigation for the company, including many of the 'magic circle' firms with whom Neil has strong links.

Neil first identified the opportunity in litigation funding in January 2007 and has worked on pursuing that opportunity since then. The Founders joined together in November 2007 and Neil left his role at Marsh & McLennan at the end of 2008 in order to devote himself full time to developing the business.