

FRIENDS PROVIDENT

Friends Provident plc
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04 MAR 17 AM 7:21

Securities and Exchange Commission
Office of International Corporate Finance
Mail Stop 3 -2
450 Fifth Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20549

11 March 2004



SUPPL

Dear Sir

Friends Provident plc - File number ~~82-524~~

Since our previous submission to you on 3rd March 2004, I enclose a recent press release to the London Stock Exchange.

Increase of issued share capital - 5th March 2004

Should you require any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me by email to hornj@friendsprovident.co.uk.

Yours sincerely

Ms. Jenni Horn
Company Secretariat Assistant

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Full Text Announcement

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Company	Friends Provident PLC
TIDM	FP.
Headline	Increase of Issued Share Capital
Released	14:07 5 Mar 2004
Number	PRNUK-0503

FRIENDS PROVIDENT PLC

Increase of Share Capital

The Board of Friends Provident plc (the 'Company') announces that on 5th March 2004 the issued share capital of the Company has increased to 1,723,019,520 ordinary shares of 10 pence each to satisfy the exercise of options under the Friends Provident Executive Share Option Scheme and the Friends Provident ShareSave Scheme.

Application has been made for admission of the 110,408 new ordinary shares to trading on the London Stock Exchange.

Enquiries: Brian Sweetland, Director and Secretary 01306 653087

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