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**Retro-Finance Programme (Finland)**

**Supplementary Prospectus dated 8 November 2011**

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**FOURTH SUPPLEMENT TO THE BASE PROSPECTUS IN RESPECT OF THE RETRO-FINANCE PROGRAMME (FINLAND) FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NOTES**



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**The Royal Bank of Scotland plc**

*(incorporated in Scotland with limited liability under the Companies Acts 1948 to 1980,  
registered number SC090312)  
(the “Issuer”)*

**The Royal Bank of Scotland plc**

**Retro-Finance Programme (Finland)**

*(the “Programme”)*

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- 1 This Supplement dated 8 November 2011 (this “**Supplement**”) constitutes the fourth supplement to the base prospectus dated 15 September 2011 in relation to the Issuer’s Retro-Finance Programme (Finland) for the issuance of Notes approved by the Netherlands Authority for the Financial Markets (*Stichting Autoriteit Financiële Markten*, the “**AFM**”) on 15 September 2011 (the “**Base Prospectus**”).
- 2 The Base Prospectus was approved as a base prospectus pursuant to Directive 2003/71/EC (the “**Prospectus Directive**”) by the AFM. This Supplement constitutes a supplemental prospectus to the Base Prospectus for the purposes of Article 5:23 of the Financial Supervision Act (*Wet op het financieel toezicht*).
- 3 This Supplement is supplemental to, and should be read in conjunction with, the Base Prospectus and any other supplements thereto issued by the Issuer. Terms defined in the Base Prospectus have the same meaning when used in this Supplement.
- 4 In accordance with Article 5:23(6) of the Financial Supervision Act (*Wet op het financieel toezicht*), investors who have agreed to purchase or subscribe for securities issued under the Base Prospectus before this Supplement is published have the right, exercisable before the end of the period of two working days beginning with the working day after the date on which this Supplement was published, to withdraw their acceptances.
- 5 The Issuer accepts responsibility for the information contained in this Supplement. To the best of the knowledge of the Issuer (which has taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case), the information

contained in this Supplement is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information.

- 6 On 5 August 2011, the registration document of The Royal Bank of Scotland plc dated 5 August 2011 (the “**Registration Document**”) was published via the Regulatory News Service of the London Stock Exchange plc (“**RNS**”). The Registration Document is incorporated by reference in each of the Base Prospectuses and has previously been filed with the AFM.
- 7 On 4 November 2011, the unaudited “Interim Management Statement Q3 2011” of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc (the “**RBSG Interim Management Statement**”) for the third quarter ended 30 September 2011 was published via RNS.
- 8 By virtue of this Supplement, the RBSG Interim Management Statement shall be deemed to be incorporated in, and form part of, the Base Prospectus.
- 9 By virtue of this Supplement, the tenth paragraph under the section entitled “Introduction” of the Registration Document shall no longer be incorporated by reference in the Base Prospectus.
- 10 By virtue of this Supplement, the following shall be inserted as the new first paragraph on page i of the Base Prospectus:
- 11 “The credit ratings included and referred to in this Base Prospectus (including documents incorporated by reference herein) have been issued by Standard & Poor’s Credit Market Services Europe Limited, Fitch Ratings Limited and Moody’s Investors Service Limited, each of which is established in the European Union and is registered under Regulation (EC) No 1060/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 September 2009 on credit rating agencies.”.
- 12 By virtue of this Supplement, the sub-section entitled “Other securitisation and securities related litigation in the United States” in the section of the Registration Document entitled “Description of The Royal Bank of Scotland plc – Litigation” shall no longer be incorporated by reference in the Base Prospectus.
- 13 By virtue of this Supplement, the sub-section entitled “Litigation” in the section of the Base Prospectus entitled “General Information – Recent Developments” shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

*“Litigation - Other securitisation and securities related litigation in the United States*

Group companies have been named as defendants in their various roles as issuer, depositor and/or underwriter in a number of claims in the United States that relate to the securitisation and securities underwriting businesses. These cases include purported class action suits and actions by individual purchasers of securities. The cases involve the issuance of mortgage-backed securities and/or collateralised debt obligations for more than US\$35 billion of securities issued by over 100 securitisation trusts. Although the allegations vary by claim, in general, plaintiffs in these actions claim that certain disclosures made in connection with the relevant offerings of such securities contained materially false or misleading statements and/or omissions regarding the underwriting standards pursuant to which the mortgage loans underlying the securities were issued.

In many of these actions, the Group has contractual rights to indemnification from the issuers of the securities (where a Group company is underwriter) and/or the underlying mortgage originator (where a Group company is issuer), but certain of those indemnity rights may prove effectively unenforceable where the issuers or originators are defunct or otherwise unable to perform.

Certain other institutional investors have threatened to assert claims against the Group in connection with various mortgage-related offerings. The Group cannot predict with any certainty whether any of these individual investors will pursue these threatened claims.

With respect to all of these mortgage-backed securities related claims, the Group considers that it has substantial and credible legal and factual defences to these claims and will continue to defend them vigorously. The Group cannot predict the outcome of these claims at this stage and is unable reliably to estimate the liability, if any, that may arise, or its effect on the Group's consolidated net assets, operating results or cash flows in any particular period.

In addition to the above, on 2 September 2011, the US Federal Housing Finance Agency (“**FHFA**”) as conservator for the Federal National Mortgage Association (“**Fannie Mae**”) and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Company (“**Freddie Mac**”) filed 17 lawsuits in the United States against a number of international banks and individual defendants, including RBSG, certain other Group companies and five individual officers and directors of the Group's subsidiaries.

The lawsuits involve allegations that certain disclosures made in connection with the relevant offering or underwriting of securities contained materially false or misleading statements and/or omissions regarding the underwriting standards pursuant to which the mortgage loans underlying the securities were issued. Group entities are named as defendants in their capacities as issuers and underwriters of securities, not as originators of any underlying mortgage loans. The plaintiffs' claims against the Group are currently unquantified.

The FHFA primary lawsuit against Group entities relates to approximately US\$32 billion of AAA rated RMBS issuance during the period 2005-2008 pursuant to which Group entities acted as sponsor/depositor and/or lead underwriter. The aggregate principal amount has been reduced to approximately US\$14 billion outstanding by repayments and recoveries of approximately US\$18 billion and losses to date of approximately US\$0.2 billion.

FHFA has also filed five lawsuits against each of Ally Financial Group, Countrywide Financial Corporation, JP Morgan, Morgan Stanley and Nomura in relation to some of the offerings where a Group entity acted as underwriter and is named amongst the defendants.

Group entities believe they have a variety of substantial and credible legal and factual defences available to all of the FHFA lawsuits and the Group will defend each of the matters vigorously. Additionally, Group entities potentially have recourse to indemnities from the relevant mortgage originators or sponsors/depositors although the amount and extent of any recovery is uncertain and subject to a number of factors, including the ongoing creditworthiness of the indemnifying party. Given the early stages of these matters, the Group cannot predict the outcome of these claims and is unable reliably to estimate the liability, if any, that may arise or its effect on the Group's consolidated net assets, operating results or cash flows in any particular period.”.

- 14** By virtue of this Supplement, the second paragraph under the entitled “No significant change and no material adverse change” in the section headed “Form of Final Terms” shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

“Save in relation to (i) matters referred to on page 22 of the RBS Interim Results 2011 relating to Payment Protection Insurance, in respect of which the Issuer Group has made provisions for therein; and (ii) the effect on revenues of Global Banking and Markets of the current subdued operating environment (see pages 43-45 of the RBSG Interim Management Statement), there has been no material adverse change in the prospects of the Issuer Group taken as a whole since 31 December 2010 (the last date to which the latest audited published financial information of the Issuer Group was prepared).”.

- 15** By virtue of this Supplement, the following shall be inserted in the section entitled “General Information” after the sub-section headed “Recent Developments”:

**“No Significant Change and No Material Adverse Change**

There has been no significant change in the financial position of the Issuer Group taken as a whole since 30 June 2011 (the end of the last financial period for which either audited financial information or interim financial information has been published).

Save in relation to (i) matters referred to on page 22 of the RBS Interim Results 2011, relating to Payment Protection Insurance, in respect of which the Issuer Group has made provisions for therein; and (ii) the effect on revenues of Global Banking and Markets of the current subdued operating environment (see pages 43-45 of the RBSG Interim Management Statement), there has been no material adverse change in the prospects of the Issuer Group taken as a whole since 31 December 2010 (the last date to which the latest audited published financial information of the Issuer Group was prepared).”.

- 16** A copy of this Supplement, the Base Prospectus and all other supplements thereto and all documents incorporated by reference in the Base Prospectus are accessible on <http://markets.rbs.com/bparchive>, on the London Stock Exchange plc's website at <http://www.londonstockexchange.com/news/market-news/rns/rns.htm> and can be obtained from the registered office of the Issuer at 36 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YB, United Kingdom, telephone +33 131 523 3636.
- 17** If the documents which are incorporated by reference in each of the Base Prospectuses by virtue of this Supplement themselves incorporate any information or other documents therein, either expressly or implicitly, such information or other documents will not form part of each of the Base Prospectuses for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive except where such information or other documents are specifically incorporated by reference in, or attached to, each of the Base Prospectuses by virtue of this Supplement.
- 18** To the extent that there is any inconsistency between (a) any statement in this Supplement and (b) any other statement in the Base Prospectus, the statements referred to in (a) above will prevail.
- 19** Save as disclosed in this Supplement, no other significant new factor, material mistake or inaccuracy relating to information included in the Base Prospectus (as supplemented at the date hereof) has arisen or been noted since the publication of the Base Prospectus.

**The Royal Bank of Scotland plc**