## LaunchPAD Programme

Supplementary Prospectus dated 26 August 2011

# FOURTH SUPPLEMENT TO THE BASE PROSPECTUS IN RESPECT OF THE LAUNCHPAD PROGRAMME FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NOTES



## 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 LaunchPAD Programme

- This Supplement dated 26 August 2011 (this **Supplement**) constitutes the fourth supplement to the base prospectus dated 27 May 2011 in relation to the Issuer's LaunchPAD Programme for the issuance of Notes approved by the Netherlands Authority for the Financial Markets (*Stichting Autoriteit Financiële Markten*, the **AFM**) on 26 May 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 financial 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.
- 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 Issuer published via the Regulatory News Service of the London Stock Exchange plc (RNS), a registration document dated 5 August 2011 (the **Registration Document**). The Registration Document has previously been filed with the AFM..
- On 26 August 2011, the unaudited Interim Results 2011 of the Issuer for the six months ended 30 June 2011 were published via RNS (the **2011 RBS Interim Results**).
- **8** The 2011 RBS Interim Results shall, by virtue of this Supplement, be deemed to be incorporated in, and form part of, the Base Prospectus.
- The following amendments are made to the Base Prospectus as a result of the publication (and incorporation by reference in the Base Prospectus, by virtue of this Supplement) of the 2011 RBS Interim Results:
  - 9.1 the following paragraph under the heading "Issuer" in the section entitled "Summary":

"The Issuer Group had total assets of £1,307.3 billion and owners' equity of £57.0 billion as at 31 December 2010. As at 31 December 2010, the Issuer Group's capital ratios were a total capital ratio of 13.6 per cent., a Core Tier 1 capital ratio of 8.4 per cent. and a Tier 1 capital ratio of 10.1 per cent."

shall be deemed to be deleted and replaced with the following paragraph:

"The Issuer Group had total assets of £1,299.7 billion and owners' equity of £56.9 billion as at 30 June 2011. As at 30 June 2011, the Issuer Group's capital ratios were a total capital ratio of 14.0 per cent., a Core Tier 1 capital ratio of 8.7 per cent. and a Tier 1 capital ratio of 10.6 per cent.";

9.2 in the sections entitled "General Information" and "Form of Final Terms", the paragraphs under the heading "No Significant Change and No Material Adverse Change" shall be deleted in their entirety and replaced with the following:

"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 matters referred to on page 22 of the RBS Interim Results 2011, relating to Payment Protection Insurance, which the Issuer Group has made provisions for therein, 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)."; and

- 9.3 the paragraphs under the heading "No Significant Change and No Material Adverse Change" in the section of the Registration Document entitled "General Information", shall no longer be incorporated by reference.
- By virtue of paragraphs 8 and 9.3 of this Supplement (and following the amendments made to the Base Prospectus by virtue of paragraphs 9 and 10.5 of the Second Supplement to the Base Prospectus dated 8 August 2011 and paragraph 6 of the Third Supplement to the Base Prospectus dated 23 August 2011), the section in the Base Prospectus headed "Documents Incorporated by Reference" shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the amended version of such section set out in the Schedule to this Supplement.
- 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 <a href="http://markets.rbs.com/bparchive">http://markets.rbs.com/bparchive</a>, on the London Stock Exchange plc's website at <a href="https://www.londonstockexchange.com/exchange/prices-and-news/news/market-news-home.html">https://www.londonstockexchange.com/exchange/prices-and-news/news/market-news-home.html</a> 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.

- 12 If the documents which are incorporated by reference in the Base Prospectus 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 the Base Prospectus for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive except where such information or other documents are specifically incorporated by reference in, or attached to, the Base Prospectus by virtue of this Supplement.
- 13 To the extent that there is any inconsistency between (a) any statement in this Supplement or any statement incorporated by reference in the Base Prospectus by virtue of this Supplement and (b) any other statement in or incorporated by reference in the Base Prospectus, the statements referred to in (a) above will prevail.
- 14 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

#### **SCHEDULE**

#### DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

The following documents which have previously been published and have been filed with the Netherlands Authority for the Financial Markets (*Autoriteit Financiële Markten*) in its capacity as competent authority under the Act on Financial Supervision (*Wet op het financieel toezicht (Wft) 2007*) (the "Competent Authority") shall be deemed to be incorporated in, and to form part of, this Base Prospectus:

- 1. The registration document of the Issuer dated 5 August 2011, which was published via the Regulatory News Service of the London Stock Exchange plc ("RNS") on 5 August 2011 (the "Registration Document"), excluding the paragraphs on page 59 under the heading "No Significant Change and No Material Adverse Change" in the section of the Registration Document entitled "General Information".
- 2. The prospectus dated 28 May 2010 relating to the Issuer's LaunchPAD Programme for Certificates (excluding the sections entitled "Summary" and "Form of Final Terms").
- 3. The annual report and accounts of the Issuer (including the audited consolidated annual financial statements of the Issuer, together with the audit report thereon) for the year ended 31 December 2010 (excluding the sections headed "Financial Review Risk factors" on page 5 and "Additional Information Risk factors" on pages 238 to 254), published on 15 April 2011.
- 4. The annual report and accounts of the Issuer (including the audited consolidated annual financial statements of the Issuer, together with the audit report thereon) for the year ended 31 December 2009 (excluding the section headed "Risk factors" on pages 5 to 23), published on 9 April 2010.
- 5. The following sections of the 2010 annual report and accounts of RBSG, which were published by RBSG on 17 March 2011 and filed with the Competent Authority:
  - (i) Independent auditor's report on page 267;
  - (ii) Consolidated income statement on page 268;
  - (iii) Consolidated statement of comprehensive income on page 269;
  - (iv) Balance sheets as at 31 December 2010 on page 270;
  - (v) Statements of changes in equity on pages 271 to 273;

- (vi) Cash flow statements on page 274;
- (vii) Accounting policies on pages 275 to 286;
- (viii) Notes on the accounts on pages 287 to 385;
- (ix) Essential reading We have met, and in some cases exceeded, the targets for the second year of our Strategic Plan on page 1;
- (x) Chairman's statement on pages 2 to 3;
- (xi) Group Chief Executive's review on pages 4 to 5;
- (xii) Our key targets on page 7;
- (xiii) Our business and our strategy on pages 8 to 19;
- (xiv) Divisional review on pages 20 to 41;
- (xv) Business review on pages 49 to 224;
- (xvi) Report of the Directors on pages 230 to 234;
- (xvii) Corporate governance on pages 235 to 245;
- (xviii) Letter from the Chair of the Remuneration Committee on pages 246 to 247;
- (xix) Directors' remuneration report on pages 248 to 263;
- (xx) Directors' interests in shares on page 264;
- (xxi) Financial summary on pages 387 to 395;
- (xxii) Exchange rates on page 395;
- (xxiii) Economic and monetary environment on page 396;
- (xxiv) Supervision on page 397;
- (xxv) Regulatory developments and reviews on pages 398 to 399;
- (xxvi) Description of property and equipment on page 399;
- (xxvii) Major shareholders on page 399;
- (xxviii) Material contracts on pages 399 to 404; and
- (xxix) Glossary of terms on pages 434 to 439.
- 6. The following sections of the 2009 annual report and accounts of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc ("**RBSG**" and, together with its subsidiaries, the Group), which were published by

## RBSG on 18 March 2010 and filed with the Competent Authority:

- (i) Independent auditors' report on page 240;
- (ii) Consolidated income statement on page 241;
- (iii) Consolidated statement of comprehensive income on page 242;
- (iv) Balance sheets at 31 December 2009 on page 243;
- (v) Statements of changes in equity on pages 244 to 246;
- (vi) Cash flow statements on page 247;
- (vii) Accounting policies on pages 248 to 258;
- (viii) Notes on the accounts on pages 259 to 348;
- (ix) What we have achieved on page 1 (excluding the financial information on that page which is indicated as being "pro forma");
- (x) Chairman's statement on pages 2 to 3;
- (xi) Group Chief Executive's review on pages 4 to 6;
- (xii) Our strategic plan and progress on pages 12 to 19;
- (xiii) Divisional review on pages 20 to 41;
- (xiv) Business review on pages 49 to 85 and pages 108 to 206 (excluding the financial information on pages 72 to 85 and pages 108 to 116 which is indicated as being "proforma");
- (xv) Report of the Directors on pages 208 to 213;
- (xvi) Corporate governance on pages 214 to 222;
- (xvii) Letter from the Chairman of the Remuneration Committee on pages 223 to 224;
- (xviii) Directors' remuneration report on pages 225 to 236;
- (xix) Directors' interests in shares on page 237;

- (xx) Impairment review on pages 302 to 303;
- (xxi) Financial summary on pages 350 to 359;
- (xxii) Exchange rates on page 359;
- (xxiii) Economic and monetary environment on page 360;
- (xxiv) Supervision on page 361;
- (xxv) Regulatory developments and reviews on pages 361 to 362;
- (xxvi) Description of property and equipment on pages 362 to 363;
- (xxvii) Major shareholders on page 363; and
- (xxviii) Glossary of terms on pages 383 to 387.
- 7. The following sections of the Shareholder Circular published by RBSG on 27 November 2009:
  - (i) "Financial Information" on page 5;
  - (ii) "Part I Letter From the Chairman of RBS" on pages 10 to 20;
  - (iii) "Appendix 3 to the Letter From the Chairman of RBS Principal Terms of Issue of the B Shares and the Dividend Access Share" on pages 76 to 84;
  - (iv) "Appendix 4 to the Letter From the Chairman of RBS Key Terms of the State Aid Restructuring Plan" on pages 85 to 86;
  - (v) "Part VI Definitions" on pages 121 to 133; and
  - (vi) "Annex 1 Terms of Issue of the B Shares and the Dividend Access Share" on pages 134 to 170.
- 8. The press release headed "The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc, The Royal Bank of Scotland plc and National Westminster Bank Plc Clarification of Contractual Position Relating to Payments Under Preference Shares and Subordinated Securities" published via the RNS on 20 October 2009.
- 9. The press release entitled "Proposed transfers of a substantial part of the business activities of

RBS N.V. to RBS plc" (excluding (i) the statement therein which reads "Certain unaudited pro forma condensed consolidated financial information relating to RBS Holdings N.V. is set out in the Appendix to this announcement" and (ii) the Appendix thereto) which was published by RBSG via RNS on 19 April 2011 (the "**Press Release**").

- 10. The press release entitled "Details of Part VII Scheme Securities issued by, and guarantees granted by RBS N.V." which was published by RBSG via RNS on 22 July 2011.
- 11. The unaudited Interim Results 2011 of RBSG for the six months ended 30 June 2011 which were published via RNS on 5 August 2011.
- 12. The unaudited Interim Results 2011 of the Issuer for the six months ended 30 June 2011 which were published via RNS on 26 August 2011.

If the documents which are incorporated by reference in this Base Prospectus themselves incorporate any information or other documents therein, either expressly or implicitly, such information or other documents will not form part of this Base Prospectus for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive except where such information or other documents are specifically incorporated by reference in, or attached to, the Base Prospectus.

In relation to those documents of which only part thereof is incorporated by reference in this Base Prospectus, those parts of such documents which are not incorporated either are not relevant for the investor or are covered elsewhere in this Base Prospectus.

Copies of the above documents can be obtained from the registered office of the Issuer at 36 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, EH2 2YB, Scotland and on www.rbs.com; Tel. 00 44 (0)131 523 3636.

The Issuer will in the event of any significant new factor, material mistake or inaccuracy relating to the information included in this Base Prospectus which is capable of affecting the assessment of any Securities, prepare a supplement to this Base Prospectus for use in connection with any subsequent issue of Securities.

This Base Prospectus and any supplement will be valid for listing Securities on Euronext Amsterdam by NYSE Euronext and/or any other exchange in an unlimited aggregate nominal amount.

# Material Changes

Material changes of the Issuer's financial position since the date of this Base Prospectus will trigger the need for a supplement to this Base Prospectus under Article 16 of Directive 2003/71/EC and Swiss Listing Rule Scheme F 2.2.5. Any supplements to this Base Prospectus are accessible at http://markets.rbs.com/bparchive and can be obtained, on request, free of charge, by writing or telephoning, The Royal Bank of Scotland Group Investor Relations, 280 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4RB, United Kingdom, telephone +44 207 672 1758, email investor.relations@rbs.com or at the registered office of the Issuer at 250 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4AA, United Kingdom.