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Kathryn Mikells, Chief Financial Officer announces changes in Finance Leadership at Diageo

Diageo has announced that **Catherine James**, Head of Investor Relations, has decided to leave Diageo after 32 years. Catherine will leave in early February 2017 in order to pursue new opportunities. She has a desire to work with young entrepreneurs and has decided now is the time to move on. Catherine will be succeeded by **Sharon Rolston**, Group Treasurer, Diageo plc, effective 3 February 2017.

Rolston joined Diageo in 2010 from Nortel Networks where she held a number of senior finance leadership positions. Prior to her current role, she spent time in Diageo Europe, first as Finance Director Europe and latterly as Western Europe Finance and Strategy Director, before taking on the role of Group Treasurer in 2014. She is also a Non Executive Director of The John Lewis Partnership.

Kathryn Mikells, said:

‘Personally, I have really valued working with Catherine over the past year. Her leadership of the Investor Relations team and the professionalism with which she and her team partner to build confidence and tell Diageo’s performance story, with real passion and authenticity, is best in class. Her relationships, knowledge and insight of the investor relations community has critically allowed Diageo to build both trust and respect while strengthening Diageo’s leadership position.’

‘On behalf of Diageo I would like to thank Catherine for her substantial contribution to the business and wish her the very best for the future, while congratulating Sharon on her appointment and wishing her every success.’

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About Diageo:

Diageo is a global leader in beverage alcohol with an outstanding collection of brands including Johnnie Walker, Crown Royal, J&B, Buchanan’s and Windsor whiskies, Smirnoff, Cîroc and Ketel One vodkas, Captain Morgan, Baileys, Don Julio, Tanqueray and Guinness.

Diageo is a global company, and our products are sold in more than 180 countries around the world. The company is listed on both the London Stock Exchange (DGE) and the New York Stock Exchange (DEO). For more information about Diageo, our people, our brands, and performance, visit us at www.diageo.com. Visit Diageo’s global responsible drinking resource, www.DRINKiQ.com, for information, initiatives, and ways to share best practice.

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