

4 June 2009

## **WH SMITH PLC**

### **Interim Management Statement**

WH Smith PLC is today publishing its Interim Management Statement as required by the UK Listing Authority's Disclosure and Transparency Rules, relating to the period from 1 March 2009 to 30 May 2009.

#### **CURRENT TRADING**

Total Group sales in the first 13 weeks of the second half of the financial year were up 1% with like-for-like sales down 4% compared to the same period last year.

WHSmith High Street like-for-like sales were down 5% in the period.

WHSmith Travel like-for-like sales were down 2% in the period. Whilst airport passenger numbers have, as expected, remained soft, we have outperformed.

#### **FINANCIAL POSITION**

As required by the Disclosure and Transparency Rules, we confirm that our financial position is in line with market expectations. Our balance sheet remains strong and we continue to generate high levels of cash from our operations.

#### **PROSPECTS**

The economic environment remains uncertain and, whilst we continue to be cautious about consumer spending, we are confident in the outcome for the full year.

- ENDS -

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