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新威斯顿集团有限公司
NEW WESTERN GROUP LIMITED
(incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)
(Stock Code: 8242)

INSIDE INFORMATION
(1) RESIGNATION OF AUDITOR;
(2) DELAY IN PUBLICATION OF THE AUDITED ANNUAL RESULTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020; AND
(3) CONTINUED SUSPENSION OF TRADING

This announcement is made by New Western Group Limited (the “**Company**”, together with its subsidiaries, the “**Group**”) pursuant to Rule 17.10(2)(a) and 17.50(4) of the GEM Listing Rules and the Inside Information Provisions under Part XIVA of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Chapter 571 of the Laws of Hong Kong).

Reference is made to the announcements dated 29 March 2021 and 14 May 2021 (the “**Announcements**”) in relation to, among other things, delay in publication of the Annual Results for FY2020 and 2021 First Quarterly Results Announcement, respectively. Unless otherwise stated, the capitalised terms used herein shall have the same meaning as defined in the Announcements.

RESIGNATION OF AUDITOR

The board (the “**Board**”) of directors (the “**Director(s)**”) of the Company announces Baker Tilly Hong Kong Limited (“**BT**”) has resigned as auditor of the Company with effect from 4 June 2021.

According to BT’s resignation letter, it noted that there has been no tangible process up to the date of this announcement with respect to providing significant supporting documents and information for the purpose of the audit of the Group’s consolidated financial statements for FY2020 (the “**Audit**”), particularly those in relation to (i) the classification and impairment of the long-term equity investment; and (ii) management’s impairment assessment on certain loan receivables (the “**Issues**”). In view of these, BT is not able to reach a consensus with the Company on the estimated timetable to complete the Audit. As such, after due and careful consideration, BT has decided to tender its resignation as auditor of the Company and its subsidiaries incorporated in Hong Kong with effect from 4 June 2021.

As confirmed by BT in its resignation letter, save for the above, there is no other matter in respect of the resignation of auditor that needs to be brought to the attention of the Shareholders and creditors of the Company.

The Board would like to take this opportunity to express its gratitude and appreciation to BT for its professional and quality services rendered to the Company during its tenure.

The Board is in the process of identifying a new auditor to fill the casual vacancy following the resignation of BT. Further announcement in relation to the appointment of the Company's new auditor will be made by the Company as and when appropriate in accordance with the GEM Listing Rules.

DELAY IN PUBLICATION OF THE AUDITED ANNUAL RESULTS FOR FY2020

Following the resignation of BT, the Board currently expects that there will be a further postponement in the publication of the audited Annual Results for FY2020 and the despatch of the annual report for FY2020.

The Board acknowledges that the delay in the publication of the audited annual results for FY2020 and the despatch of the annual report for FY2020 constitute non-compliance with Rules 18.03, 18.48A, 18.49 and 18.50C of the GEM Listing Rules. The Board wishes to emphasise that the operation of the Group remains normal. The Company has published its unaudited annual results for FY2020, for further details, please refer to the announcement of the Company dated 4 May 2021. The Company will publish further announcement(s) regarding this matter in accordance with the GEM Listing Rules as and when appropriate.

CONTINUED SUSPENSION OF TRADING

Trading in the shares of the Company on the Stock Exchange has been suspended from 9:00 a.m. on 1 April 2021 at the request of the Company, and will remain suspended until further notice pending, among other matters, the publication of the Annual Results for FY2020 and 2021 First Quarterly Results Announcement.

Shareholders and potential investors of the Company are advised to exercise caution when dealing in the shares of the Company.

By order of the Board
New Western Group Limited
Yu Kwan Tseung Alvin
Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer

Hong Kong, 4 June 2021

As at the date of this announcement, the executive Directors are Mr. Zhang Qing, Mr. Gan Lin, Mr. Yu Kwan Tseung Alvin and Mr. Wong Kong; and the independent non-executive Directors are Mr. Chiu Yu Wang and Mr. Ng Wai Kee.

This announcement, for which the Directors collectively and individually accept full responsibility, includes particulars given in compliance with the GEM Listing Rules for the purpose of giving information with regard to the Company. The Directors, having made all reasonable enquiries, confirm that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, the information contained in this announcement is accurate and complete in all material respects and not misleading or deceptive, and there are no other matters the omission of which would make any statement herein or this announcement misleading.

This announcement will remain on the “Latest Listed Company Information” page of the GEM website at www.hkgem.com for at least 7 days from the date of the publication and will be published on the website of the Company at www.newwesterngroup.com.hk.