

**Supplement Number 4 dated 21st March, 2011
to the Base Prospectus dated 15th June, 2010**



BARCLAYS PLC
(incorporated with limited liability in England)

BARCLAYS BANK PLC
(incorporated with limited liability in England and Wales)

as Issuers

£60,000,000,000
Debt Issuance Programme

This base prospectus supplement (the "**Supplement**") is supplemental to, forms part of and must be read in conjunction with, the base prospectus dated 15th June, 2010, as supplemented by the base prospectus supplements dated 10th August, 2010, 10th November, 2010 and 3rd March, 2011 (together, the "**Base Prospectus**") prepared by Barclays PLC and Barclays Bank PLC (the "**Issuers**") with respect to their Debt Issuance Programme (the "**Programme**"). This Supplement constitutes a supplementary prospectus in respect of the Base Prospectus for the Issuers for the purposes of Section 87G of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.

Terms defined in the Base Prospectus shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the same meaning when used in this Supplement. The Supplement is supplemental to, and shall be read in conjunction with, the Base Prospectus and other supplements to the Base Prospectus issued by the Issuers.

This Supplement has been approved by the United Kingdom Financial Services Authority (the "**FSA**"), which is the United Kingdom competent authority for the purposes of Directive 2003/71/EC (the "**Prospectus Directive**") and relevant implementing measures in the United Kingdom, as a base prospectus supplement issued in compliance with the Prospectus Directive and relevant implementing measures in the United Kingdom.

This Supplement has been prepared in order to update the Risk Factors section of the Base Prospectus so as to disclose certain new risks that may arise as a result of the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision's proposed reforms to the regulatory capital framework being implemented. These risks are disclosed in the form of a new risk factor entitled "Basel III".

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Each of the Issuers accepts responsibility for the information contained in this Supplement and declares that, having taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case, the information contained in this Supplement is, to the best of its knowledge, in accordance with the facts and contains no omission likely to affect its import.

To the extent that there is any inconsistency between (a) any statement in this Supplement or any statement incorporated by reference into the Base Prospectus by this Supplement and (b) any other statement in, or incorporated by reference into, the Base Prospectus, the statements in (a) above will prevail.

Save as disclosed in this Supplement, no significant new factor, material mistake or inaccuracy relating to the information included in the Base Prospectus which is capable of affecting the assessment of the Notes issued under the Programme has arisen or been noted, as the case may be, since the publication of the Base Prospectus.

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

Investors should be aware of their rights under Section 87Q(4) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.

AMENDMENTS OR ADDITIONS TO THE BASE PROSPECTUS

With effect from the date of this Supplement the information appearing in, or incorporated by reference into, the Base Prospectus shall be amended and/or supplemented in the manner described below.

By virtue of this Supplement the following amendment shall be deemed to be made to the Base Prospectus:

To insert the following risk factor after the section entitled "Banking Act 2009" at page 23 of the Base Prospectus:

"Basel III

The Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (the "**Basel Committee**") has proposed a number of fundamental reforms to the regulatory capital framework for internationally active banks, the principal elements of which are set out in its papers released on 16th December, 2010 and on 13th January, 2011 (the "**January 2011 Press Release**").

The January 2011 Press Release states that the terms and conditions of all Additional Tier 1 and Tier 2 instruments must have a provision that requires such instruments, at the option of the relevant authority, to either be written off or converted into ordinary shares upon the occurrence of a specified trigger event (a "**Non-Viability Event**"). The Non-Viability Event will be the earlier of (a) a decision that a write-off, without which the firm would become non-viable, is necessary; and (b) the decision to make a public sector injection of capital, without which the financial institution would become non-viable, as determined by the relevant authority.

However, the January 2011 Press Release also states that it is not necessary to include a Non-Viability Event in the contractual terms of the instruments if (a) the governing jurisdiction of the bank has in place laws that (i) require such instruments to be written off upon the occurrence of such trigger event, or (ii) otherwise require such instruments to fully absorb losses before tax payers are exposed to loss; (b) a peer group review confirms that the jurisdiction so conforms; and (c) it is disclosed by the relevant regulator and by the issuing bank, in issuance documents going forward, that such instruments are subject to such loss.

Although the terms and conditions of the Dated Capital Notes and the Undated Capital Notes do not contain a provision which requires them to be converted into equity or written off on the occurrence of a Non-Viability Event, it is possible that the powers which currently exist under the Banking Act could be used in such a way as to result in the Dated Capital Notes or the Undated Capital Notes (as the case may be) issued under the Programme absorbing losses in the course of any resolution of the Bank and/ or the Company (subject to any rights to compensation under the Banking Act). It is also possible that there could be amendments to the Banking Act or further legislation passed that could result in such Dated Capital Notes or the Undated Capital Notes (as the case may be) absorbing losses in the course of any such resolution. The application of any such legislation may have an adverse effect on the position of Noteholders of the Dated Capital Notes and the Undated Capital Notes.

Furthermore, there can be no assurance that, prior to its implementation in 2013, the Basel Committee will not amend the package of reforms described above. Further, the European Union and/or authorities in the United Kingdom may implement the package of reforms, including the terms which capital securities are required to have, in a manner that is different from that which is currently envisaged or may impose more onerous requirements on UK banks."

21st March, 2011