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Leading UK social care platform shop4support acquired by Public Consulting Group

Shop4support Limited ("S4S") is delighted to announce that the company, through acquisition, has joined forces with Public Consulting Group ("PCG"), an international management consulting, operations management and technology solution business, headquartered in the U.S. with offices in London (PCG Advisory Services), Poland, and Canada.

PCG was established in 1986, delivers a broad range of solutions across North America (43 offices), the EU and Canada in Personalisation Services, Social Care, Health Care finance, Education, and Technology advice. PCG has been at the forefront of 'consumer direction' solutions in the US, and is now the number one provider of such solutions, handling over \$1 billion of annual spend on behalf of some 60,000 individuals, for more information, go to www.publicpartnerships.com.

Having established a European presence since 2005, PCG opened its London office in 2012. Since then, PCG has worked with a number of leading local authorities to develop solutions in response to the challenges faced in local government today. The acquisition of shop4support complements PCG's focus on its core business, its belief in consumer-focussed solutions and its emerging presence in the UK. Bill Mosakowski (CEO and founder of PCG) said: "Here at PCG, we took the leap in to the 'consumer direction' movement many years ago. We have a fundamental affinity with the personalisation movement in the UK and elsewhere, hence our interest in shop4support. Further, I believe that personalisation will soon be extended to other public services including health care to improve quality, engagement and more efficient utilization of scarce resources. PCG intends to make immediate investments to the S4S technology, human capital and brand in the coming months, to take advantage of these burgeoning market opportunities. We are excited about the mutual commitment that S4S and PCG share in our view of serving public sector markets and bringing best business practice solutions to them".

PCG has confirmed that it intends to retain the team a shop4support. Mosakowski said: "David Bowes and Lee Jones have been involved in shop4support from the start. With the help of their dedicated team, they have developed a unique proposition with their local authority partners and the communities they serve. With the support of PCG's considerable expertise and resources, we believe that shop4support will consolidate the existing position and become the default solution for those with any health or social care support needs".

The Managing Director of shop4support, David Bowes, said: "Having already established a market-leading position within the adult social care sector, shop4support now faces a fresh set of challenges and opportunities, driven by areas such as the Care Bill, the local offer for special educational needs and personal health budgets. With PCG's expertise in delivering personalisation services and health care finance advisory services and its commitment to invest in S4S's growth in the U.K., the ultimate beneficiary will be the personalisation agenda in the UK. We are therefore delighted to have PCG on board as we move to the next chapter of our development".

Ends

Notes:

- PCG has acquired 100% of the share capital of shop4support Limited for an undisclosed sum.
- The shop4support platform can be found at www.shop4support.com
- Shop4support currently provides solutions to 16 local authority clients from its UK base in Wigan.
- PCG's corporate website is www.publicconsultinggroup.com, it's Consumer Direction website, Public Partnerships, is www.publicpartnerships.com and its UK website is www.pcgadvisoryservices.co.uk
- PCG has its headquarters in Boston and employs over 1,300 staff across the globe.
- This deal represents PCG's first acquisition outside of the USA.
- Questions should be directed to David Bowes of shop4support on 07932 678 845 or david.bowes@shop4support.com