



Press Release

Synairgen plc (‘Synairgen’ or the ‘Company’)

Grant of options

Southampton, UK - 6 April 2018: Synairgen plc (LSE: SNG), the respiratory drug discovery and development company, announces that on 5 April 2018 the Board of Synairgen granted options (‘Options’) over 2,822,316 ordinary shares of one pence each in the capital of the Company (‘Ordinary Shares’) at an exercise price of one pence per Ordinary Share. The Options represent in aggregate 3.09 per cent. of the Company’s issued share capital. The last grant of options was made in October 2015.

The Options are issued under the Company’s existing Long Term Incentive Plan and are exercisable between 5 April 2021 and 4 April 2028, subject to achievement of performance criteria related to the increase in the total shareholder return of the Company. Following this grant, Synairgen has 7,281,348 options in issue, representing 7.96 per cent. of the Company’s issued share capital.

Included in the number of Options granted on 5 April 2018, the following Options were issued to directors:

| Director | Options Issued |
|------------------|----------------|
| Richard Marsden | 880,903 |
| Dr. Phillip Monk | 636,208 |
| John Ward | 685,147 |

Following the issue of the Options, the interests of the directors of the Company at 5 April 2018 are as follows:

| Director | Total options issued | Ordinary shares | Total interest | Percentage holding of fully diluted share capital |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|---|
| Richard Marsden | 2,658,786 | 154,432 | 2,813,218 | 2.85% |
| Dr. Phillip Monk | 1,316,592 | 183,439 | 1,500,031 | 1.52% |
| John Ward | 1,800,464 | 276,506 | 2,076,970 | 2.10% |
| Simon Shaw (Note 1) | - | 1,474,096 | 1,474,096 | 1.49% |
| Iain Buchanan | 212,765 | 112,741 | 325,506 | 0.33% |
| Dr. Bruce Campbell (Note 2) | - | 294,259 | 294,259 | 0.30% |
| Paul Clegg (Note 3) | 250,000 | 204,244 | 454,244 | 0.46% |
| Prof. Stephen Holgate (Note 4) | - | 858,360 | 858,360 | 0.87% |

Note 1. Simon Shaw’s shareholding includes 105,516 shares held in his pension plan.

Note 2. Dr Bruce Campbell’s shareholding includes 40,299 shares owned by his wife, Susan Campbell.

Note 3. Paul Clegg’s shareholding includes 180,149 shares held in his pension plan.

Note 4. The holding of Professor Stephen Holgate includes 1,923 shares owned by his wife, Elizabeth Holgate.

Jody Brookes, also a person discharging managerial responsibilities, was granted 141,818 Options.

This announcement contains inside information as defined in Article 7 of the Market Abuse Regulation No. 596/2014 ('MAR')

For further information, please contact:

Synairgen plc

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Notes for Editors

About Synairgen

Synairgen is a respiratory drug discovery and development company founded by University of Southampton Professors Stephen Holgate, Donna Davies and Ratko Djukanovic. The business, focused primarily on asthma and COPD, uses its differentiating human biology BioBank platform and world-renowned international academic KOL network to discover and develop novel therapies for respiratory disease. Leveraging scientific and clinical trial facilities at the University of Southampton and Southampton General Hospital, the Company uses *in vitro* and *ex vivo* models to progress opportunities into clinical development. The BioBank of human samples is used in these models to increase confidence in the likelihood of successful drug development. Core to Synairgen's business strategy is the realisation of value via licensing transactions. In August 2015 the Company entered into a collaboration with Pharmaxis to develop an oral LOXL2 inhibitor to reduce fibrosis in patients with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF). In December 2017 the collaboration agreement was amended as Pharmaxis took on full responsibility for the programme, with Synairgen receiving a £5 million upfront payment and circa 17% of any future partnering proceeds from all fibrotic indications. Synairgen is quoted on AIM (LSE: SNG). For more information about Synairgen, please see www.synairgen.com.

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| 1. | Details of Persons Discharging Managerial Responsibilities ('PDMR') / person closely associated with them ('PCA') |
| a) | Name Richard Marsden |
| 2. | Reason for notification |
| a) | Position / status Chief Executive Officer |
| b) | Initial notification / amendment Initial Notification |
| 3. | Details of the issuer, emission allowance market participant, auction platform, auctioneer or auction monitor |
| a) | Name Synairgen plc |

| | |
|--|---|
| b) LEI | 213800IMMTOPPDF8HD24 |
| 4. Details of the transaction(s): | |
| a) Description of the financial instrument | Options over ordinary shares of 1p each |
| Identification code | GB00B0381Z20 |
| b) Nature of the transaction | Award of Options under the Synairgen LTIP |
| c) Price(s) and volume(s) | 880,903 Options awarded |
| d) Aggregated information | n/a |
| Aggregated volume Price | |
| e) Date of the transaction | 5 April 2018 |
| f) Place of the transaction | Outside a trading venue |

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|---|---|
| 1. Details of Persons Discharging Managerial Responsibilities ('PDMR') / person closely associated with them ('PCA') | |
| a) Name | Dr Phillip Monk |
| 2. Reason for notification | |
| a) Position / status | Chief Scientific Officer |
| b) Initial notification / amendment | Initial Notification |
| 3. Details of the issuer, emission allowance market participant, auction platform, auctioneer or auction monitor | |
| a) Name | Synairgen plc |
| b) LEI | 213800IMMTOPPDF8HD24 |
| 4. Details of the transaction(s): | |
| a) Description of the financial instrument | Options over ordinary shares of 1p each |
| Identification code | GB00B0381Z20 |
| b) Nature of the transaction | Award of Options under the Synairgen LTIP |
| c) Price(s) and volume(s) | 636,208 Options awarded |
| d) Aggregated information | n/a |
| Aggregated volume Price | |
| e) Date of the transaction | 5 April 2018 |
| f) Place of the transaction | Outside a trading venue |

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|---|----------------------|
| 1. Details of Persons Discharging Managerial Responsibilities ('PDMR') / person closely associated with them ('PCA') | |
| a) Name | John Ward |
| 2. Reason for notification | |
| a) Position / status | Finance Director |
| b) Initial notification / amendment | Initial Notification |
| 3. Details of the issuer, emission allowance market participant, auction platform, auctioneer or auction monitor | |
| a) Name | Synairgen plc |

| | |
|--|---|
| b) LEI | 213800IMMTOPPDF8HD24 |
| 4. Details of the transaction(s): | |
| a) Description of the financial instrument | Options over ordinary shares of 1p each |
| Identification code | GB00B0381Z20 |
| b) Nature of the transaction | Award of Options under the Synairgen LTIP |
| c) Price(s) and volume(s) | 685,147 Options awarded |
| d) Aggregated information | n/a |
| Aggregated volume Price | |
| e) Date of the transaction | 5 April 2018 |
| f) Place of the transaction | Outside a trading venue |

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|---|---|
| 1. Details of Persons Discharging Managerial Responsibilities ('PDMR') / person closely associated with them ('PCA') | |
| a) Name | Jody Brookes |
| 2. Reason for notification | |
| a) Position / status | Head of Clinical Operations |
| b) Initial notification / amendment | Initial Notification |
| 3. Details of the issuer, emission allowance market participant, auction platform, auctioneer or auction monitor | |
| a) Name | Synairgen plc |
| b) LEI | 213800IMMTOPPDF8HD24 |
| 4. Details of the transaction(s): | |
| a) Description of the financial instrument | Options over ordinary shares of 1p each |
| Identification code | GB00B0381Z20 |
| b) Nature of the transaction | Award of Options under the Synairgen LTIP |
| c) Price(s) and volume(s) | 141,818 Options awarded |
| d) Aggregated information | n/a |
| Aggregated volume Price | |
| e) Date of the transaction | 5 April 2018 |
| f) Place of the transaction | Outside a trading venue |