

ASX RELEASE.

BELL FINANCIAL GROUP

Bell Financial Group half-year net profit – \$5.9 million

- First half net profit \$5.9m (\$5.7m in 1H 2016)
- 2 cents per share fully franked interim dividend (1.75 cents in 1H 2016)
- Revenues up 4.4% to \$88.5m
- Bell Potter Capital Margin Lending and Cash balances at near record levels
- Bell Direct revenues 16% up on 1H 2016
- Group Funds under Advice grew 8% to \$42.5bn

Wednesday, 9 August 2017 – Bell Financial Group Limited (ASX: BFG) today announced an interim net profit of \$5.9 million, and an interim fully franked dividend of 2 cents per share.

Executive Chairman Colin Bell said: “Trading conditions were somewhat mixed as markets tracked sideways for much of the period, therefore it is pleasing that we have been able to slightly improve on last year’s first half profit, and in turn increase the interim dividend payment from 1.75 cents to 2 cents per share this half.

The standout performer over the half was the Retail business where revenues grew strongly year on year, benefiting from the recent addition of new Advisers. This is also being reflected in strong growth in Funds under Advice, including our Margin Lending and Cash business where balances are at near record levels, and in our Portfolio Administration platform business where assets have increased in excess of \$500 million over the past 12 months, and now exceed \$2.9 billion.

Revenues in the Bell Direct business continue to grow, and increased 16% year on year. We expect this business will continue to make an increasingly meaningful contribution to results.

While conditions were a little more difficult for the Wholesale business, there remains a strong pipeline of potential transactions that we expect will complete in the second half of the year should market conditions allow.”

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About Bell Financial Group

Bell Financial Group Ltd (ASX:BFG) is an Australian-based provider of stockbroking, investment and financial advisory services to private, institutional and corporate clients. The Group has over 600 employees, operates across thirteen offices in Australia and has offices in London and Hong Kong. Bell Financial Group has a 56.6% holding in Third Party Platform Pty Ltd (Bell Direct), an online stockbroking business.

For more information, please contact: Cindy-Jane Lee, Phone: +61 3 9235 1961, Email: cjlee@bellfg.com.au