



**NextGen Group PLC**  
**07 March 2008**

**NextGen Group plc ('NextGen' or the 'Company')**

**Placing to raise £1,500,000**

NextGen is pleased to announce that it has conditionally placed 500,000,000 ordinary shares of 0.1 pence each (the 'Placing Shares') through its Broker, Ellis Stockbrokers Limited, with an existing shareholder of the Company (the 'Placing'). The Placing Shares are to be issued at 0.3 pence per share to raise £1,500,000 before expenses, in order to provide development funding and general working capital for the Company, which the Directors believe will be sufficient for its current requirements.

In addition, for every 3 Placing Shares issued pursuant to the Placing, the Company will grant a warrant over 1 ordinary share of 0.1 pence each (the 'Ordinary Shares') with an exercise price of 0.3 pence per share. Accordingly, warrants over 166,666,667 Ordinary Shares will be granted pursuant to the Placing. The Warrants shall be exercisable for 3 years from the date of grant.

Following the Placing, the Company will have in issue 1,897,645,310 Ordinary Shares. The Placing Shares will represent 26.35 per cent of the enlarged issued share capital immediately following the issue of the Placing Shares and will rank *pari passu* in all respects with the existing Ordinary Shares.

The Placing Shares are being subscribed for by Family Trust Select - FIS - Teilfonds Zeus, a Luxembourg fund managed Family Trust Management S.a.r.l. (the 'Family Trust Select'). On completion of the Placing, Family Trust Select will hold 40.84% of the then issued share capital of the Company and if Family Trust Select was to immediately exercise the warrants after the Placing, it would hold 45.62% of the then issued share capital of the Company.

Under Rule 9 ('Rule 9') of the City Code on Takeovers and Mergers (the 'City Code'), any person, or group of persons acting in concert, which acquires an interest in shares which, when taken together with an interest in shares already held by him or an interest in shares held or acquired by persons acting in concert with him, carry 30% or more of the voting rights of a company which is subject to the City Code, that person is normally obliged to make a general offer in cash to all shareholders at the highest price paid by him or any person acting in concert with him within the preceding 12 months.

The Takeover Panel will normally waive the requirement for a general offer to be made in accordance with Rule 9 if the shareholders of the company, excluding any persons connected in any way with the offeror or any associated company (the 'Independent Shareholders'), pass an ordinary resolution on a poll (a 'Whitewash Resolution') approving such a waiver. The Takeover Panel has the power to waive the requirement for a Whitewash Resolution to be put to the shareholders of the company at an extraordinary general meeting where Independent Shareholders holding more than 50% of the company's shares capable of being voted on such a resolution confirm in writing that they would vote in favour of a Whitewash Resolution were one to be put to the shareholders of the company at an extraordinary general meeting.

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As stated above, the issue of Placing Shares to Family Trust Select will result in Family Trust Select holding 40.84% of the then issued share capital. The Company has, therefore, obtained such written confirmation from more than 50% of its shareholders (excluding Family Trust Select) and the Takeover Panel has waived the requirement for a Whitewash Resolution.

The Placing is conditional on shareholder approval which is being sought at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company to be held on 31 March 2008 (the 'EGM'). A circular is today to be dispatched to shareholders providing further information on the Placing, which is being carried out on a non pre-emptive basis, and to convene the EGM for the purpose of granting the directors of the Company the necessary authorities to effect the Placing. By voting in favour of the resolutions to be proposed at the EGM, the Placing will be effected without the requirement for Family Trust Select to make a general offer and the shareholders' shareholdings will, therefore, be diluted.

The Notice of the EGM will be set out at the end of the circular.

Application will be made for the Placing Shares to be admitted to trading on the AIM market of the London Stock Exchange, subject to shareholders' approval at the EGM. The warrants will not be admitted to trading on AIM. The Placing Shares and any new Ordinary Shares to be issued upon exercise of the warrants will rank *pari passu* with the existing Ordinary Shares of the Company.

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Notes to Editors:

About NextGen Sciences

NextGen Group PLC (LSE:NGG) is a provider of expert systems, services and reagents focused on enabling enhanced access to and understanding of the role of proteins in diagnosis and drug discovery. The expert systems are built out of NextGen's understanding of biological sciences and combine robotics, advanced engineering and rules based software in systems that range from partial to fully automated. NextGen also uses its systems and instruments to provide fee-for-service products under the Brand Name contractexpress(TM) to the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry as well as those in academic research.

NextGen Group PLC floated on the AIM market in London in December 2005 raising £2.4 million in an oversubscribed offering which included strong institutional investor support from Germany as well as in the UK. Further details relating to NextGen Group PLC and its products can be found at [www.nextgensciences.com](http://www.nextgensciences.com)

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