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Diageo announces changes to its Finance Leadership Team

Today, Diageo has announced that Sharon Rolston, Head of Investor Relations, is to become Group Controller, effective 1 October 2018. Stephen Bolton, currently Group Controller, has decided to leave Diageo after 12 years to pursue new opportunities.

Sharon joined Diageo in 2010 from Nortel Networks where she held a number of senior finance leadership positions. Prior to her current role, she spent time in Diageo Europe; first as Finance Director Europe and latterly as Western Europe Finance and Strategy Director. Sharon became Group Treasurer in 2014 and then Head of Investor Relations in February 2017. She is also a Non-Executive Director of The John Lewis Partnership.

A new Head of Investor Relations will be announced in due course, with Sharon retaining accountability in the interim.

Kathryn Mikells, Chief Financial Officer said:

'I have really valued working with Steve over the past three years. His leadership of Diageo's business performance management processes has been instrumental in delivering strong cash performance, improving our forecasting and overall financial performance. Steve also pioneered the centralisation of our financial control function, as well as other changes that have greatly improved the efficiency and effectiveness of the overall finance organisation.'

'On behalf of Diageo I would like to thank Steve for his substantial contribution to the business and wish him the very best for the future. I would also like to congratulate Sharon on her appointment and wish her every success.'

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Enquiries:

Media relations:	Jessica Rouleau press@diageo.com	+44 (0)20 8978 1286
Investor relations:	Andy Ryan investor.relations@diageo.com	+44 (0)20 8978 6504

About Diageo

Diageo is a global leader in beverage alcohol with an outstanding collection of brands including Johnnie Walker, Crown Royal, J&B, Buchanan's and Windsor whiskies, Smirnoff, Cîroc and Ketel One vodkas, Captain Morgan, Baileys, Don Julio, Tanqueray and Guinness.

Diageo is a global company, and our products are sold in more than 180 countries around the world. The company is listed on both the London Stock Exchange (DGE) and the New York Stock Exchange (DEO). For more information about Diageo, our people, our brands, and performance, visit us at www.diageo.com. Visit Diageo's global responsible drinking resource, www.DRINKiQ.com, for information, initiatives, and ways to share best practice.

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