NOTIFICATION OF TRANSACTIONS OF DIRECTORS, PERSONS DISCHARGING MANAGERIAL RESPONSIBILITY OR CONNECTED PERSONS

This form is intended for use by an *issuer* to make a *RIS* notification required by *DR* 3.1.4R(1).

(1) An *issuer* making a notification in respect of a transaction relating to the *shares* or debentures of the *issuer* should complete boxes 1 to 16, 23 and 24.
(2) An *issuer* making a notification in respect of a derivative relating the *shares* of the *issuer* should complete boxes 1 to 4, 6, 8,13, 14, 16, 23 and 24.
(3) An *issuer* making a notification in respect of options granted to a *director/person discharging managerial responsibilities* should complete boxes 1 to 3 and 17 to 24.
(4) An *issuer* making a notification in respect of a *financial instrument* relating to the *shares* of the *issuer* (other than a debenture) should complete boxes 1 to 4, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 16, 23 and 24.

Please complete all relevant boxes should in block capital letters.

1. Name of the *issuer*

ASTERAND PLC

2. State whether the notification relates to (i) a transaction notified in accordance with *DR* 3.1.4R(1)(a); or

(ii) *DR* 3.1.4(R)(1)(b) a disclosure made in accordance with section 324 (as extended by section 328) of the Companies Act 1985; or

(iii) both (i) and (ii)

(i)

3. Name of *person discharging managerial responsibilities*/*director*

JAMES RONALD OPENSHAW

4. State whether notification relates to a *person* connected with a *person discharging managerial responsibilities*/*director* named in 3 and identify the *connected person*

N/A

5. Indicate whether the notification is in respect of a holding of the *person* referred to in 3 or 4 above or in respect of a non-beneficial interest

HOLDING

6. Description of *shares* (including *class*), debentures or derivatives or financial instruments relating to *shares*

ORDINARY SHARES OF 5P EACH

7. Name of registered shareholders(s) and, if more than one, the number of *shares* held by each of them

JAMES RONALD OPENSHAW 27,056

8 State the nature of the transaction

AWARD OF PARTNERSHIP AND MATCHING SHARES UNDER THE PHARMAGENE PLC 2002 INLAND REVENUE APPROVED SHARE INCENTIVE PLAN

9. Number of *shares*, debentures or financial instruments relating to *shares* acquired

JAMES RONALD OPENSHAW 4,000

10. Percentage of issued *class* acquired (*treasury shares* of that *class* should not be taken into account when calculating percentage)

JAMES RONALD OPENSHAW 0.00001%

11. Number of *shares*, debentures or financial instruments relating to *shares* disposed

N/A

12. Percentage of issued *class* disposed (*treasury shares* of that *class* should not be taken into account when calculating percentage)

N/A

13. Price per *share* or value of transaction

£0.0625 p - PARTNERSHIP SHARES £0.0625p – MATCHING SHARES

14. Date and place of transaction

08 AUGUST 2006

15. Total holding following notification and total percentage holding following notification (any *treasury shares* should not be taken into account when calculating percentage)

JAMES RONALD OPENSHAW 31,056 (0.0001%)

16. Date issuer informed of transaction

08 AUGUST 2006

If a *person discharging managerial responsibilities* has been granted options by the *issuer* complete the following boxes

17 Date of grant

……

18. Period during which or date on which it can be exercised

……

19. Total amount paid (if any) for grant of the option

……

20. Description of *shares* or debentures involved (*class* and number)

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21. Exercise price (if fixed at time of grant) or indication that price is to be fixed at the time of exercise

……

22. Total number of *shares* or debentures over which options held following notification

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23. Any additional information

PLEASE REFER TO ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING INTRODUCTION OF THE SHARE INCENTIVE PLAN DATED 24 DECEMBER 2002

24. Name of contact and telephone number for queries

AMANDA LONG – TEL: 01763 211657

Name and signature of duly authorised officer of *issuer* responsible for making notification

RONALD OPENSHAW, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER AND COMPANY SECRETARY

Date of notification

11 AUGUST 2006

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END