STATEMENT TO AUSTRALIAN SECURITIES EXCHANGE – March 23, 2020

FLIGHT CENTRE TRAVEL GROUP CANCELS INTERIM DIVIDEND AND REQUESTS SHORT-TERM ASX SUSPENSION TO FINALISE CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE

THE Flight Centre Travel Group (FLT) has today requested a voluntary short-term suspension from its Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) listing ahead of a further market announcement.

The suspension, which follows a two-day trading halt, will allow FLT to:

- Develop its comprehensive response to the unprecedented travel and trading restrictions that governments are implementing to slow the coronavirus’s spread. These restrictions have increased, with Prime Minister Scott Morrison yesterday advising against non-essential domestic travel in Australia in the near-term and some shops being forced to close temporarily in some locations.
- Continue the positive discussions it has been having with key stakeholders on ways to manage the financial impacts flowing from these restrictions and forced closures; and
- Liaise further with governments to discuss support packages for businesses and people who are adversely affected.

FLT’s response will outline new and more comprehensive cost reduction and cash preservation plans to help combat the virus’s impact in the short to medium-term.

Today, the company has also:

- Cancelled its 2020 fiscal year interim dividend. The 40-cents-per-share dividend was declared on February 27 and a total of $40.1 million was to have been paid to shareholders in April 2020; and
- Implemented a 50% pay-cut for FLT’s senior leaders (Task Force).

“ Cancelling the dividend was not a decision that was taken lightly, but we felt it was appropriate to preserve cash and protect long-term shareholder value, given the current uncertainty and the unprecedented actions that governments have been forced to adopt to slow the coronavirus’s spread,” FLT managing director Graham Turner said.

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This announcement has been approved by FLT’s managing director.