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ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND GROUP PLC Form 424B5 January 23, 2012

> Filed under Rule 424(b)(5), Registration Statement No. 333-162219 Preliminary Pricing Supplement No. 3 dated January 23, 2012 (to: Prospectus dated September 30, 2009 and Prospectus Supplement dated November 21, 2011)

CUSIP / Aggregate Price

1st 1st

Principal **ISIN** Number Amount Public Commission Proceeds Type

Net

Selling

Coupon Coupon Coupon Maturity Coupon Coupon Survivor's Product

Rate Frequency Date

Date Amount Option Ranking

78012DAC7 /

4.25% per

US78012DAC74 \$ 100.00% 1.075% \$ FIXED annum MONTHLY 02/15/2015 03/15/2012 \$5.08 NO SENIOR

Redemption Information: Non-Callable/Non-Puttable

Lead Manager and Lead Agent: RBS Securities Inc.

The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc Offering Dates: 01/23/2012 through 01/30/2012

Trade Date: 01/30/2012 @ 12:00 P.M. ET

Settlement Date: 02/02/2012

Minimum Denomination/Increments:

\$1,000.00/\$1,000.00

Initial trades settle flat and clear SDFS: DTC

Book-Entry only

DTC Number 2230 via RBS Securities Inc.

The Royal Bank of Scotland Group

Retail Corporate Notes Prospectus dated September 30, 2009 and Prospectus Supplement dated

November 21, 2011

If the maturity date or an interest payment date for any note is not a business day (as that term is defined in the prospectus supplement), principal, premium, if any, and interest for that note is paid on the next business day, and no interest will accrue from, and after, the maturity date or interest payment date.

The notes will be treated as fixed rate debt instruments for U.S. federal income tax purposes.