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For immediate release

15 October 2014

Shire plc

Statement re: AbbVie's intention to reconsider recommendation

The Board of Shire plc (LSE: SHP, NASDAQ: SHPG) notes the announcement by AbbVie Inc. ("AbbVie") of its Board's intention to reconsider its recommendation of the offer for Shire.

Shire confirms that overnight it received notice from AbbVie under the Cooperation Agreement of the AbbVie Board's intention to consider whether to withdraw or modify its recommendation in light of the impact of the US Treasury Notice of 22 September 2014.

The Board of Shire has not been provided with a detailed analysis of AbbVie's tax assumptions and AbbVie's notice does not quantify the anticipated financial impact of the US Treasury Notice on the combination.

The Board of Shire believes that AbbVie should proceed with the recommended offer on the agreed terms in accordance with the Cooperation Agreement.

The Board will meet to consider the current situation and a further announcement will be made in due course.

The Board of Shire notes that, in the event that the AbbVie Board adversely changes its recommendation and AbbVie stockholder approval is not obtained (or another triggering event occurs), a break fee of approximately \$1.635 billion would be payable by AbbVie to Shire.

Shire will be announcing its Q3 results on 24 October 2014. Shire announced record quarterly revenues in Q2 2014 and the Board confirms that Shire's trading since the end of Q2 has remained strong.

Terms defined in the announcement of the recommended combination of AbbVie and Shire dated 18 July 2014 bear the same meaning herein.

NOTES TO EDITORS

Shire enables people with life-altering conditions to lead better lives.

We provide treatments in Rare Diseases, Neuroscience, Gastrointestinal and Internal Medicine and we are developing treatments for symptomatic conditions treated by specialist physicians in other targeted therapeutic areas.

Shire's product sales from continuing operations have increased from US\$2,754 million in the financial year to 31 December 2008 to US\$4,757 million in the financial year to 31 December 2013, representing a five-year compound annual growth rate of 11.6%. Shire's Non GAAP diluted earnings per ADS have increased from US\$3.86 in the financial year to 31 December 2008 to US\$7.66 in the financial year to 31 December 2013, representing a five-year compound annual growth rate of 14.7%. Shire's US GAAP diluted earnings per ADS have increased from US\$0.86 in the financial year to 31 December 2008 to US\$3.53 in the financial year to 31 December 2013, representing a five-year compound annual growth rate of 32.7%.

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A copy of this announcement will be available at www.shire.com. The content of the website referred to in this announcement is not incorporated into and does not form part of this announcement.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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