# THIS DOCUMENT IS IMPORTANT AND REQUIRES YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

If you are in any doubt as to the action you should take, you should consult your stockbroker, bank manager, solicitor, accountant or other independent professional adviser.

If you have sold or otherwise transferred all of your shares in CVS Group plc ("Company"), please pass this document, together with the accompanying documents, as soon as possible to the purchaser or transferee, or to the stockbroker, bank or other agent through whom the sale or transfer was effected for transmission to the purchaser or transferee.

# **CVS** Group plc

Registered in England and Wales No. 06312831

CVS House Vinces Road Diss Norfolk IP22 4AY

11 November 2013

To ordinary shareholders

Dear Shareholder

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2013**

I am pleased to send you details of our 2013 annual general meeting ("AGM"), which will be held at The Pennoyer Centre, Station Road, Pulham St Mary, IP21 4QT on 5 December 2013 at 11am. I hope that you will be able to attend.

The formal notice of the AGM ("Notice") enclosed with this letter sets out the business to be considered at the AGM. The purpose of this letter is to provide you with further details about those items of business.

This year, shareholders will be asked to approve 11 resolutions. Resolutions 1 to 9 are proposed as ordinary resolutions. This means that, for each of those resolutions to be passed, more than 50 per cent of the votes cast must be in favour of the resolution. Resolutions 10 and 11 are proposed as special resolutions. This means that, for each of those resolutions to be passed, at least 75 per cent of the votes cast must be in favour of the resolution.

### **Resolution 1: Annual report and accounts**

The directors must present the Company's annual accounts and directors' and auditors' reports to shareholders at a general meeting. Those to be presented at the AGM are in respect of the year ended 30 June 2013, and are called the Annual Report 2013. The Annual Report 2013 is available on the Company's website <a href="https://www.cvsgroupplc.com">www.cvsgroupplc.com</a>

### Resolution 2: Final dividend

The directors are recommending a final dividend for the year ended 30 June 2013 of two pence per ordinary share. If approved, the final dividend will be paid on 20 December 2013 to shareholders whose names appear on the register at the close of business on 6 December 2013.

# **Resolutions 3 to 6: Reappointment of directors**

The Board has decided that it is good corporate governance for all directors to be reappointed each year, so in accordance with that decision, all directors are standing for re-election at the AGM.

Resolutions 3 and 4 propose the reappointment of Richard Connell and Simon Innes respectively as directors.

Resolutions 5 and 6 propose the reappointment of Mike McCollum and Nick Perrin respectively as directors. Under the Company's articles of association, any new director appointed by the board must retire and seek reappointment at the next AGM following his appointment. Accordingly, this gives shareholders the opportunity to confirm that appointment. As a non-executive director, the board believes that Mike McCollum's performance continues to be effective and that he continues to demonstrate commitment to the role.

Biographies of the directors are set out on page 18 of the Annual Report 2013.

# Resolutions 7 and 8: Appointment and remuneration of auditors

The Company is required to appoint auditors at each general meeting at which its annual accounts and reports are presented to shareholders. Therefore, resolution 7 proposes the appointment of Grant Thornton UK LLP as auditors (to hold office until the next such meeting), and, in accordance with normal practice, resolution 8 authorises the directors to determine the auditors' remuneration.

# **Resolution 9: Authority to allot shares**

Generally, the directors may only allot shares in the Company (or grant rights to subscribe for, or to convert any security into, shares in the Company) if they have been authorised to do so by shareholders in general meeting.

Resolution 9 renews a similar authority given at last year's AGM and, if passed, will authorise the directors to allot shares in the Company (and to grant such rights) up to an aggregate nominal amount of £38,132 (which represents approximately one-third of the issued ordinary share capital of the Company as at 8 November 2013, being the last practicable date before the publication of this document). If given, this authority will expire at the conclusion of the Company's next AGM or on 5 March 2015 (whichever is the earlier). It is the directors' intention to renew this authority each year.

The directors have no current intention to exercise the authority sought under resolution 9.

# Resolution 10: Disapplication of pre-emption rights

Generally, if the directors wish to allot new shares or other equity securities (within the meaning of section 560 of the Companies Act 2006 ("Act")) for cash then under the Act they must first offer such shares or securities to shareholders in proportion to their existing holdings. These statutory pre-emption rights may be disapplied by shareholders.

Resolution 10, which will be proposed as a special resolution, renews a similar power given at last year's AGM and, if passed, will enable the directors to allot equity securities for cash without having to comply with statutory pre-emption rights, but this power will be limited to allotments:

(a) in connection with a rights issue, open offer or other pre-emptive offer to ordinary shareholders and to holders of other equity securities (if required by the rights of those securities or the directors otherwise consider necessary), but (in accordance with normal practice) subject to such exclusions or other arrangements, such as for fractional entitlements and overseas shareholders, as the directors consider necessary; and

(b) in any other case, up to an aggregate nominal amount of £5,720 (which represents approximately five per cent of the issued ordinary share capital of the Company as at 8 November 2013, being the last practicable date before the publication of this document).

The directors intend to follow the provisions in the 2008 Statement of Principles issued by the Pre-Emption Group regarding cumulative usage of authorities within a rolling three-year period. The Principles provide that a company should not issue shares representing more than 7.5 per cent of its issued ordinary share capital for cash in any rolling three-year period, other than on a pre-emptive basis, without prior consultation with shareholders.

If given, this power will expire at the conclusion of the Company's next AGM or on 5 March 2015 (whichever is the earlier). It is the directors' intention to renew this power each year.

# Resolution 11: Purchase by the Company of its own shares

Resolution 11, which will be proposed as a special resolution, renews a similar authority given at last year's AGM. If passed, it will allow the Company to purchase up to 5,719,711 ordinary shares in the market (which represents approximately 10 per cent of the issued ordinary share capital of the Company as at 8 November 2013, being the last practicable date before the publication of this document). The minimum and maximum prices for such a purchase are set out in the resolution. If given, this authority will expire at the conclusion of the Company's next AGM or on 5 March 2015 (whichever is the earlier). It is the directors' intention to renew this authority each year.

# Recommendation

The directors consider that all the resolutions set out in the Notice are in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders as a whole. The directors will be voting in favour of them, and unanimously recommend that you do so as well.

#### Action to be taken

If you would like to vote on the resolutions set out in the Notice but cannot come to the AGM, please appoint a proxy or proxies by completing the Proxy Form sent to you with this document, and returning it to our registrars;

Your proxy appointment must be received by 11 am on 3 December 2013. Further details relating to voting by proxy are set out in the notes to the Notice and in the Proxy Form.

Your sincerely

Richard Connell CHAIRMAN

### **CVS GROUP PLC**

# NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Notice is given** that the 2013 annual general meeting of CVS Group plc ("Company") will be held at The Pennoyer Centre, Station Road, Pulham St Mary IP21 4QT on 5 December 2013 at 11.00am for the following purposes:

# To consider and, if thought fit, to pass the following resolutions as ordinary resolutions:

- 1. To receive the Company's annual accounts and directors' and auditors' reports for the year ended 30 June 2013.
- 2. To declare a final dividend for the year ended 30 June 2013 of two pence per ordinary share in the capital of the Company, to be paid on 20 December 2013 to shareholders whose names appear on the register at the close of business on 6 December 2013.
- 3. To reappoint Richard Connell, who retires by rotation, as a director of the Company.
- 4. To reappoint Simon Innes, who retires by rotation, as a director of the Company.
- 5. To reappoint Mike McCollum, who has been appointed by the board since the last annual general meeting, as a director of the Company.
- 6. To reappoint Nick Perrin, who has been appointed by the board since the last annual general meeting, as a director of the Company.
- 7. To appoint Grant Thornton UK LLP as auditors of the Company.
- 8. To authorise the directors to determine the remuneration of the auditors.
- 9. That, pursuant to section 551 of the Companies Act 2006 ("Act"), the directors be and are generally and unconditionally authorised to exercise all powers of the Company to allot shares in the Company or to grant rights to subscribe for or to convert any security into shares in the Company up to an aggregate nominal amount of £38,132, provided that (unless previously revoked, varied or renewed) this authority shall expire at the conclusion of the next annual general meeting of the Company after the passing of this resolution or on 5 March 2015 (whichever is the earlier), save that the Company may make an offer or agreement before this authority expires which would or might require shares to be allotted or rights to subscribe for or to convert any security into shares to be granted after this authority expires and the directors may allot shares or grant such rights pursuant to any such offer or agreement as if this authority had not expired.

This authority is in substitution for all existing authorities under section 551 of the Act (which, to the extent unused at the date of this resolution, are revoked with immediate effect).

# To consider and, if thought fit, to pass the following resolutions as special resolutions:

10. That, subject to the passing of resolution 9 and pursuant to section 570 of the Companies Act 2006 ("Act"), the directors be and are generally empowered to allot equity securities (within the meaning of section 560 of the Act) for cash pursuant to the authority granted by resolution 9 as if section 561(1) of the Act did not apply to any such allotment, provided that this power shall be limited to the allotment of equity securities:

- in connection with an offer of equity securities (whether by way of a rights issue, open offer or otherwise):
  - 10.1.1 to holders of ordinary shares in the capital of the Company in proportion (as nearly as practicable) to the respective numbers of ordinary shares held by them; and
  - to holders of other equity securities in the capital of the Company, as required by the rights of those securities or, subject to such rights, as the directors otherwise consider necessary,

but subject to such exclusions or other arrangements as the directors may deem necessary or expedient in relation to treasury shares, fractional entitlements, record dates or any legal or practical problems under the laws of any territory or the requirements of any regulatory body or stock exchange; and

otherwise than pursuant to paragraph 10.1 of this resolution, up to an aggregate nominal amount of £5,720,

and (unless previously revoked, varied or renewed) this power shall expire at the conclusion of the next annual general meeting of the Company after the passing of this resolution or on 5 March 2015 (whichever is the earlier), save that the Company may make an offer or agreement before this power expires which would or might require equity securities to be allotted for cash after this power expires and the directors may allot equity securities for cash pursuant to any such offer or agreement as if this power had not expired.

This power is in substitution for all existing powers under section 570 of the Act (which, to the extent unused at the date of this resolution, are revoked with immediate effect).

- 11. That, pursuant to section 701 of the Companies Act 2006 ("Act"), the Company be and is general and unconditionally authorised to make market purchases (within the meaning of section 693(4) of the Act) of ordinary shares of 0.2p each in the capital of the Company ("Shares"), provided that:
- the maximum aggregate number of Shares which may be purchased is 5,719,711;
- the minimum price (excluding expenses) which may be paid for a Share is 0.2p;
- the maximum price (excluding expenses) which may be paid for a Share is an amount equal to 105 per cent of the average of the middle market quotations for a Share as derived from the Daily Official List of the London Stock Exchange plc for the five business days immediately preceding the day on which the purchase is made, and (unless previously revoked, varied or renewed) this authority shall expire at the conclusion of the next annual general meeting of the Company after the passing of this resolution or on 5 March 2015 (whichever is the earlier), save that the Company may enter into a contract to purchase Shares before this authority expires under which such purchase will or may be completed or executed wholly or partly after this authority expires and may make a purchase of Shares pursuant to any such contract as if this authority had not expired.

By order of the board
R Cleal Secretary
11 November 2013

Registered office CVS House Vinces Road Diss Norfolk IP22 4AY

Registered in England and Wales No. 06312831

#### Notes

#### Entitlement to attend and vote

1. The right to vote at the meeting is determined by reference to the register of members. Only those shareholders registered in the register of members of the Company as at 6.00pm on 3 December 2013 (or, if the meeting is adjourned, 6.00pm on the date which is two working days before the date of the adjourned meeting) shall be entitled to attend and vote at the meeting in respect of the number of shares registered in their name at that time. Changes to entries in the register of members after that time shall be disregarded in determining the rights of any person to attend or vote (and the number of votes they may cast) at the meeting.

#### **Proxies**

2. A shareholder is entitled to appoint another person as his or her proxy to exercise all or any of his or her rights to attend and to speak and vote at the meeting. A proxy need not be a shareholder of the Company.

A shareholder may appoint more than one proxy in relation to the meeting, provided that each proxy is appointed to exercise the rights attached to a different share or shares held by that shareholder. Failure to specify the number of shares each proxy appointment relates to or specifying a number which when taken together with the numbers of shares set out in the other proxy appointments is in excess of the number of shares held by the shareholder may result in the proxy appointment being invalid.

A proxy may only be appointed in accordance with the procedures set out in notes 2 and 3 and the notes to the proxy form.

The appointment of a proxy will not preclude a shareholder from attending and voting in person at the meeting.

3. A form of proxy is enclosed. When appointing more than one proxy, complete a separate proxy form in relation to each appointment. Additional proxy forms may be obtained by contacting the Company's registrar on 0121 585 1131 or the proxy form may be photocopied. State clearly on each proxy form the number of shares in relation to which the proxy is appointed.

To be valid, a proxy form must be received by post or (during normal business hours only) by hand at the offices of the Company's registrar, Neville Registrars Limited, Neville House, 18 Laurel Lane, Halesowen, West Midlands B63 3DA, no later than 11 am on 3 December 2013 (or, if the meeting is adjourned, no later than 48 hours (excluding any part of a day that is not a working day) before the time of any adjourned meeting).

### Corporate representatives

4. A shareholder which is a corporation may authorise one or more persons to act as its representative(s) at the meeting. Each such representative may exercise (on behalf of the corporation) the same powers as the corporation could exercise if it were an individual shareholder, provided that (where there is more than one representative and the vote is otherwise than on a show of hands) they do not do so in relation to the same shares.

## Documents available for inspection

- 5. The following documents will be available for inspection during normal business hours at the registered office of the Company from the date of this notice until the time of the meeting. They will also be available for inspection at the place of the meeting from at least 15 minutes before the meeting until it ends.
- 5.1 Copies of the service contracts of the executive directors.
- 5.2 Copies of the letters of appointment of the non-executive directors.

# Biographical details of directors

6. Biographical details of all those directors who are offering themselves for reappointment at the meeting are set out on page 18 of the annual report and accounts for the year ended 30 June 2013.

7.	Except as provided above, shareholders who wish to communicate with the Company in relation to the meeting should do so by calling the Company's registrar on 0121 585 1131.