

22 July 2019

DEBENHAMS GROUP
Further CVA Update

Further to the announcement of 8 July 2019, Debenhams notes that Sports Direct International plc and Sportsdirect.com Retail Ltd ("SDI") have now withdrawn as parties to the outstanding challenge to the Debenhams' CVAs. This challenge was brought jointly by SDI and the Combined Property Control Group ("CPC"). However, SDI is continuing to fund the ongoing challenge by CPC and has agreed to bear any costs award eventually made against CPC and in Debenhams' favour at the conclusion of the challenge. Debenhams will continue to defend the outstanding challenge as being without merit.

As previously noted, the CVAs are a vital step for Debenhams as it restructures to adapt to the changing retail environment, and will provide a platform for the sustainable future growth of the business. The CVAs will benefit all Debenhams' stakeholders, including landlords, over 80% of whom voted in favour of each of the two proposals.

Terry Duddy, Debenhams' chairman, said:

"As Sports Direct has now acknowledged, it did not have sufficient interest to challenge the CVAs, as its businesses are not adversely impacted by the proposals and therefore had no legal basis for a challenge. However, by continuing to fund CPC's challenge, Sports Direct is deliberately acting against the vast majority of Debenhams' stakeholders, including the more than 90% of our creditors who supported our CVAs. I call on CPC to withdraw its action, which we will vigorously defend. In the meantime, we continue to make good progress with the company's restructuring plans, which are a vital step in preserving as many as possible of the jobs of the 25,000 people who work for Debenhams."

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Notes to editors:

Administrators were appointed to Debenhams plc (in administration) on 9 April 2019. The underlying group operating companies are unaffected and all businesses are continuing to trade as normal. Celine Group Holdings Limited, its subsidiaries and certain dormant companies, which together make up the Debenhams Group, were transferred to the ownership of Celine UK NewCo 1 Ltd. on 9 April 2019.