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**THIS IS AN ANNOUNCEMENT FALLING UNDER RULE 2.4 OF THE CITY CODE ON TAKEOVERS AND MERGERS (THE "CODE") AND DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF A FIRM INTENTION TO MAKE AN OFFER UNDER RULE 2.7 OF THE CODE. THERE CAN BE NO CERTAINTY THAT ANY OFFER WILL BE MADE, NOR AS TO THE TERMS ON WHICH ANY OFFER MIGHT BE MADE.**

**THIS ANNOUNCEMENT CONTAINS INSIDE INFORMATION FOR THE PURPOSES OF ARTICLE 7 OF REGULATION (EU) NO 596/2014 ("MAR").  UPON THE PUBLICATION OF THIS ANNOUNCEMENT, THE INSIDE INFORMATION IS NOW CONSIDERED TO BE IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN FOR THE PURPOSES OF MAR.**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**6 January 2022**

**M&C Saatchi plc**

**("M&C Saatchi" or the "Company")**

**Statement regarding possible offer**

The Board of M&C Saatchi notes the recent press speculation and confirms that it has received a preliminary approach from AdvancedAdvT Limited, a vehicle connected with Vin Murria, a director of the Company, which may or may not result in an offer for the Company.

No proposal has been received but the Board has been told to expect one in the near term. Accordingly, there can be no certainty that an offer will be made, nor as to the terms on which any offer might be made. Vin Murria is both a director of the Company and the Executive Chairperson of AdvancedAdvT Limited and, as such, if a proposal is received, the Board would convene an independent committee to consider it. A further announcement will be made in due course. In the meantime M&C Saatchi shareholders are advised to take no action.

The Board confirms that the new strategy announced in Q1 2021 is already delivering, with the Company’s performance consistently exceeding expectations, demonstrated by a succession of positive trading upgrades.

Under Rule 2.6(a) of the City Code on Takeovers and Mergers (the "Code"), AdvancedAdvT Limited must, by no later than 5.00 p.m. on 3 February, 2022, either announce a firm intention to make an offer for the Company in accordance with Rule 2.7 of the Code or announce that it does not intend to make an offer, in which case the announcement will be treated as a statement to which Rule 2.8 of the Code applies. This deadline can be extended with the consent of the Panel in accordance with Rule 2.6(c) of the Code.

The person responsible for arranging this announcement on behalf of M&C Saatchi is Gareth Davis, Chairman.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
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**Important Notices**

This announcement is not intended to, and does not, constitute or form part of any offer, invitation or the solicitation of an offer to purchase, otherwise acquire, subscribe for, sell or otherwise dispose of, any securities whether pursuant to this announcement or otherwise, or the solicitation of any vote in favour or approval of any offer in any jurisdiction where to do so would constitute a violation of the laws of such jurisdiction and any such offer (or solicitation) may not be extended in any such jurisdiction.

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**Relevant securities in issue**

In accordance with Rule 2.9 of the Code, M&C Saatchi confirms that as at the date of this announcement, it has 122,743,435 ordinary shares of 1 pence each in issue and admitted to trading on AIM, the market operated by the London Stock Exchange (and holds 485,970 shares in treasury). The total number of voting rights in the Company is therefore 122,257,465. The International Securities Identification Number ("ISIN") for M&C Saatchi’s ordinary shares is GB00B01F7T14.

**Disclosure requirements of the Code**

Under Rule 8.3(a) of the Code, any person who is interested in 1% or more of any class of relevant securities of an offeree company or of any securities exchange offeror (being any offeror other than an offeror in respect of which it has been announced that its offer is, or is likely to be, solely in cash) must make an Opening Position Disclosure following the commencement of the offer period and, if later, following the announcement in which any securities exchange offeror is first identified. An Opening Position Disclosure must contain details of the person's interests and short positions in, and rights to subscribe for, any relevant securities of each of (i) the offeree company and (ii) any securities exchange offeror(s). An Opening Position Disclosure by a person to whom Rule 8.3(a) applies must be made by no later than 3.30 pm (London time) on the 10th business day following the commencement of the offer period and, if appropriate, by no later than 3.30 pm (London time) on the 10th business day following the announcement in which any securities exchange offeror is first identified. Relevant persons who deal in the relevant securities of the offeree company or of a securities exchange offeror prior to the deadline for making an Opening Position Disclosure must instead make a Dealing Disclosure.

Under Rule 8.3(b) of the Code, any person who is, or becomes, interested in 1% or more of any class of relevant securities of the offeree company or of any securities exchange offeror must make a Dealing Disclosure if the person deals in any relevant securities of the offeree company or of any securities exchange offeror. A Dealing Disclosure must contain details of the dealing concerned and of the person's interests and short positions in, and rights to subscribe for, any relevant securities of each of (i) the offeree company and (ii) any securities exchange offeror(s), save to the extent that these details have previously been disclosed under Rule 8. A Dealing Disclosure by a person to whom Rule 8.3(b) applies must be made by no later than 3.30 pm (London time) on the business day following the date of the relevant dealing.

If two or more persons act together pursuant to an agreement or understanding, whether formal or informal, to acquire or control an interest in relevant securities of an offeree company or a securities exchange offeror, they will be deemed to be a single person for the purpose of Rule 8.3.

Opening Position Disclosures must also be made by the offeree company and by any offeror and Dealing Disclosures must also be made by the offeree company, by any offeror and by any persons acting in concert with any of them (see Rules 8.1, 8.2 and 8.4).

Details of the offeree and offeror companies in respect of whose relevant securities Opening Position Disclosures and Dealing Disclosures must be made can be found in the Disclosure Table on the Takeover Panel's website at www.thetakeoverpanel.org.uk, including details of the number of relevant securities in issue, when the offer period commenced and when any offeror was first identified. You should contact the Panel's Market Surveillance Unit on +44 (0)20 7638 0129 if you are in any doubt as to whether you are required to make an Opening Position Disclosure or a Dealing Disclosure.

**Publication on a website**

In accordance with Rule 26.1 of the Code, a copy of this announcement will be made available on the Company's website (www.mcsaatchiplc.com) no later than 12 noon (London time) on 7 January 2022. The content of the website referred to in this announcement is not incorporated into and does not form part of this announcement.