


About GSK

GlaxoSmithKline plc was incorporated as an English public limited company on 6 December 1999. We were formed by a merger between Glaxo Wellcome plc and SmithKline Beecham plc. GSK acquired these two English companies on 27 December 2000 as part of the merger arrangements.

Our shares are listed on the London Stock Exchange and the New York Stock Exchange.

 Read more at www.gsk.com

Brand names

Brand names appearing in italics throughout this report are trade marks either owned by and/or licensed to GSK or associated companies. All other trade marks are the property of their respective owners.

Acknowledgements

Printing

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Paper

Printed on Innovation Premium, an FSC certified paper. The pulps used are Totally Chlorine Free and the manufacturing mill has ISO 14001 environmental management certification. The mill's energy is produced from 100% biomass fuels sourced from local forestry and no fossil fuels are used. The carbon emissions have been measured and offset using the World Land Trust's Carbon Balanced scheme.

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Cautionary statement regarding forward-looking statements

The Group's reports filed with or furnished to the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), including this document, and any other written information released, or oral statements made, to the public in the future by or on behalf of the Group, may contain forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements give the Group's current expectations or forecasts of future events. An investor can identify these statements by the fact that they do not relate strictly to historical or current facts. They use words such as 'anticipate', 'estimate', 'expect', 'intend', 'will', 'project', 'plan', 'believe', 'target' and other words and terms of similar meaning in connection with any discussion of future operating or financial performance. In particular, these include statements relating to future actions, prospective products or product approvals, future performance or results of current and anticipated products, sales efforts, expenses, the outcome of contingencies such as legal proceedings, dividend payments and financial results. Other than in accordance with its legal or regulatory obligations (including under the Market Abuse Regulations, the UK Listing Rules and the Disclosure and Transparency Rules of the Financial Conduct Authority), the Group undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. The reader should, however, consult any additional disclosures that the Group may make in any documents which it publishes and/or files with the SEC. All readers, wherever located, should take note of these disclosures. Accordingly, no assurance can be given that any particular expectation will be met and investors are cautioned not to place undue reliance on the forward-looking statements.

Forward-looking statements are subject to assumptions, inherent risks and uncertainties, many of which relate to factors that are beyond the Group's control or precise estimate. The Group cautions investors that a number of important factors, including those in this document, could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in any forward-looking statement.

Such factors include, but are not limited to, those discussed under 'Principal risks and uncertainties' on pages 261 to 275 of this Annual Report and any impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Any forward-looking statements made by or on behalf of the Group speak only as of the date they are made and are based upon the knowledge and information available to the Directors on the date of this Annual Report.

A number of non-IFRS measures are used to report the performance of our business. These measures are defined on pages 51 to 53 and a reconciliation of Adjusted results to Total results is set out on page 64.

The information in this document does not constitute an offer to sell or an invitation to buy shares in GlaxoSmithKline plc or an invitation or inducement to engage in any other investment activities. Past performance cannot be relied upon as a guide to future performance. Nothing in this Annual Report should be construed as a profit forecast.

Assumptions related to 2021 guidance

In outlining the guidance for 2021, the Group has made certain assumptions about the healthcare sector, the different markets in which the Group operates and the delivery of revenues and financial benefits from its current portfolio, pipeline and restructuring programmes.

The Group has made planning assumptions for 2021 that healthcare systems and consumer trends will approach normality in the second half of the year, and we expect turnover to be flat to low single digit growth for the Pharmaceuticals and Vaccines businesses and low to mid-single digit growth for Consumer Healthcare excluding brands divested/under review. These planning assumptions as well as earnings guidance and dividend expectations assume no material interruptions to supply of the Group's products, no material mergers, acquisitions or disposals, no material litigation or investigation costs for the Company (save for those that are already recognised or for which provisions have been made), no share repurchases by the Company, and no change in the Group's shareholdings in ViV Healthcare. The assumptions also assume no material changes in the healthcare environment. The 2021 guidance factors in all divestments and product exits announced to date, including product divestments planned in connection with the formation of the Consumer Healthcare Joint Venture with Pfizer, and the non-core divestments planned to fund the cash costs of the Separation Preparation restructuring programme.

The Group's guidance assumes successful delivery of the Group's integration and restructuring plans. It also assumes that the integration and investment programmes following the creation of the Consumer Healthcare Joint Venture with Pfizer are delivered successfully. Material costs for investment in new product launches and R&D have been factored into the expectations given. Given the potential development options in the Group's pipeline, the outlook may be affected by additional data-driven R&D investment decisions. Our guidance assumes no significant new changes in tax regimes, and does not include the impact of the intended change in the UK corporation tax rate announced on 3 March 2021. The guidance is given on a constant currency basis.

Notice regarding limitations on Director Liability under English Law

Under the UK Companies Act 2006, a safe harbour limits the liability of Directors in respect of statements in and omissions from the Directors' Report (for which see page 109), the Strategic report and the Remuneration report. Under English law the Directors would be liable to the company, but not to any third party, if one or more of these reports contained errors as a result of recklessness or knowing misstatement or dishonest concealment of a material fact, but would otherwise not be liable. Pages 77 to 110, 140 to 141, and 261 to 298 inclusive comprise the Directors' Report, pages 1 to 76 inclusive comprise the Strategic report and pages 111 to 138 inclusive comprise the Remuneration report, each of which have been drawn up and presented in accordance with and in reliance upon English company law and the liabilities of the Directors in connection with these reports shall be subject to the limitations and restrictions provided by such law.

Website

GSK's website www.gsk.com gives additional information on the Group. Notwithstanding the references we make in this Annual Report to GSK's website, none of the information made available on the website constitutes part of this Annual Report or shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference herein.