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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

8 October 2024

**RECOMMENDED CASH OFFER**

**for**

**Ascential plc ("Ascential")**

**by**

**Informa PLC ("Informa")**

**to be effected by means of a scheme of arrangement under  
Part 26 of the UK Companies Act 2006**

**COURT SANCTION OF SCHEME OF ARRANGEMENT**

On 24 July 2024, the boards of directors of Ascential and Informa announced that they had reached agreement on the terms of a recommended cash offer to be made by Informa for the entire issued and to be issued share capital of Ascential (the "**Acquisition**"), to be implemented by way of a court-sanctioned scheme of arrangement under Part 26 of the Companies Act (the "**Scheme**"). On 12 August 2024, Ascential published a circular in relation to the Scheme (the "**Scheme Document**"). Capitalised terms used in this announcement shall, unless otherwise defined, have the same meanings as set out in the Scheme Document.

Ascential and Informa are pleased to announce that the Court has today sanctioned the Scheme pursuant to which the Acquisition is being implemented.

It is anticipated that the Effective Date will be 9 October 2024, which is when a copy of the Court Order is expected to be delivered to the Registrar of Companies. There have been no material changes to the expected timetable of principal events for the Acquisition as set out in the announcement made by Ascential in relation to the satisfaction or (where capable of waiver) waiver of conditions on 9 September 2024.

It is expected that the de-listing of Ascential Shares from the Official List of the Financial Conduct Authority and the cancellation of the admission to trading of Ascential Shares on the London Stock Exchange's main market for listed securities will take effect at 8:00 a.m. on 9 October 2024. The last day of dealings in, and for the registration of transfers of, Ascential Shares will be today, 8 October 2024.

A further announcement will be made when the Scheme has become Effective.

Full details of the Acquisition are set out in the Scheme Document. All references to times in this announcement are to London time.

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Slaughter and May is acting as legal adviser to Ascential. Clifford Chance LLP is acting as legal adviser to Informa.

### **Important notice**

*This announcement is for information purposes only and is not intended to and does not constitute or form part of any offer to sell or subscribe for or any invitation to purchase or subscribe for any securities or the solicitation of any vote or approval in any jurisdiction pursuant to the Acquisition or otherwise.*

*The Acquisition shall be made solely by means of the Scheme Document (or, if the Acquisition is implemented by way of an Offer, the offer document) which, together with the Forms of Proxy, contains the full terms and Conditions of the Acquisition.*

*This announcement has been prepared for the purpose of complying with English and Welsh law and the Code and the information disclosed may not be the same as that which would have been disclosed if this announcement had been prepared in accordance with the laws of jurisdictions outside England and Wales.*

*This announcement does not constitute a prospectus or prospectus-equivalent document.*

### **Disclaimers**

*BofA Securities, which is authorised by the PRA and regulated by the FCA and the PRA in the United Kingdom, is acting exclusively for Ascential and for no one else in connection with the Acquisition and will not be responsible to anyone other than Ascential for providing the protections afforded to its clients or for providing advice in relation to the matters referred to in this announcement.*

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*No person has been authorised to give any information or make any representations other than those contained in this announcement and, if given or made, such information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorised by Ascential, the Ascential Directors, Informa, the Informa Directors or by BofA Securities, Goldman Sachs, Deutsche Numis or Morgan Stanley or any other person involved in the Acquisition. Neither the publication of this announcement nor holding the Meetings, the Scheme Court Hearing, or filing the Court Order shall, under any circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of the Ascential Group or the Informa Group since the date of this Announcement or that the information in, or incorporated into, this announcement is correct as at any time subsequent to its date.*

### **Overseas Shareholders**

*The availability of the Scheme and the Acquisition to Overseas Shareholders may be affected by the laws of the relevant jurisdictions in which they are resident. Overseas Shareholders should inform themselves of, and observe, any applicable requirements. It is the responsibility of all Overseas Shareholders to satisfy themselves as to the full compliance of the laws of the relevant jurisdiction in connection therewith, including the obtaining of any governmental, exchange control or other consents which may be required, or the compliance with other necessary formalities which are required to be observed and the payment of any issue, transfer or other taxes due in such jurisdiction.*

*The release, publication or distribution of this announcement in jurisdictions other than the U.K. may be restricted by law and therefore any persons who are subject to the laws of any jurisdiction other than the U.K. should inform themselves about, and observe, any applicable requirements.*

*Unless otherwise determined by Informa or required by the Code, and permitted by applicable law and regulation, the Acquisition will not be made available, directly or indirectly, in, into or from a Restricted Jurisdiction where to do so would violate the laws in that jurisdiction. Copies of this announcement and any formal documentation relating to the Acquisition are not being, and must not be, directly or indirectly, mailed or otherwise forwarded, distributed or sent in or into or from a Restricted Jurisdiction and persons receiving such (including custodians, nominees and trustees) must not mail or otherwise forward, distribute or send it in or into or from any Restricted Jurisdictions.*

*If the Acquisition is implemented by way of an Offer (unless otherwise permitted by applicable law and regulation), the Offer may not be made directly or indirectly, in or into, or by the use of mails or any means or instrumentality (including, but not limited to, facsimile, e-mail or other electronic transmission, telex or telephone) of interstate or foreign commerce of, or of any facility of a national, state or other securities exchange of any Restricted Jurisdiction and the Offer may not be capable of acceptance by any such use, means, instrumentality or facilities.*

### **Additional information for US investors**

*The Acquisition relates to shares in a U.K. company and is proposed to be made by means of a scheme of arrangement under English company law. U.S. holders of Ascential Shares should note that the Scheme relates to the shares of a U.K. company that are not registered under the U.S. Exchange Act and will be governed by English law. Neither the proxy solicitation rules nor the tender offer rules under the U.S. Exchange Act will apply to the Scheme. Moreover, the Scheme will be subject to the disclosure requirements and practices applicable in the U.K. to schemes of arrangement, which differ from the disclosure requirements of the U.S. proxy solicitation rules and tender offer rules. Financial information included in this announcement has been prepared in accordance with accounting standards applicable in the U.K. that may not be comparable to financial statements of U.S. companies. If Informa exercises its right to implement the acquisition of the Ascential Shares by way of a takeover offer, such offer will be made in compliance with applicable U.S. securities laws and regulations to the extent applicable.*

*Financial information included in this announcement has been or will have been prepared in accordance with accounting standards applicable in the U.K. that may not be comparable to financial information of U.S. companies or companies whose financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States.*

*The receipt of cash pursuant to the Acquisition by a U.S. holder of Ascential Shares as consideration for the transfer of its Ascential Shares pursuant to the Scheme may be a taxable transaction for United States federal income tax purposes and under applicable United States state and local, as well as foreign and other, tax laws. Each Ascential Shareholder is urged to consult with independent professional advisers immediately regarding the tax consequences of the Acquisition applicable to it.*

*It may be difficult for U.S. holders of Ascential Shares to enforce their rights and any claim arising out of the U.S. federal laws, since Informa and Ascential are located in non-U.S. jurisdictions, and some or all of their officers and directors may be residents of a non-U.S. jurisdiction. U.S. holders of Ascential Shares may not be able to sue a non-U.S. company or its officers or directors in a non-U.S. court for violations of the U.S. securities laws. Further, it may be difficult to compel a non-U.S. company and its affiliates to subject themselves to a U.S. court's judgement.*

*Neither the United States Securities and Exchange Commission nor any U.S. state securities commission has approved or disapproved the Acquisition, passed upon the merits or fairness of the Acquisition or passed any opinion upon the accuracy, adequacy or completeness of this announcement. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offence in the United States.*

### **Forward looking statements**

*This announcement, oral statements made regarding the Acquisition, and other information published by Ascential, any member of the Ascential Group, Informa or the Informa Group contain statements which are, or may be deemed to be, "forward-looking statements". Such forward-looking statements are prospective in nature and are not based on historical facts, but rather on current expectations and on numerous assumptions regarding the business strategies and the environment in which Ascential, any member of the Ascential Group, Informa or the Informa Group shall operate in the future and are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by those statements.*

*Forward-looking statements include, among other things, statements concerning the potential exposure of Ascential and the Ascential Group and Informa and the Informa Group to market risks, statements as to accretion and statements expressing management's expectations, beliefs, estimates, forecasts, projections and assumptions, including as to future potential cost savings, synergies, earnings, cash flow, return on capital employed, production and prospects. These forward-looking statements are identified by their use of terms and phrases such as "aims", "anticipate", "believe", "could", "estimate", "expect", "goals", "hopes", "intend", "may", "objectives", "outlook", "plan", "probably", "project", "risks", "seek", "should", "target", "will", "would" and similar terms and phrases.*

*By their very nature, forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties. There are a number of factors that could affect the future operations of Informa and the Informa Group and Ascential and the Ascential Group and could cause those results to differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements included in this announcement. Neither Ascential, the Ascential Group, Informa nor the Informa Group, nor any of their respective associates or directors, officers or advisers, provide any representation, assurance or guarantee that the occurrence of the events expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements in this announcement will actually occur. Given these risks and uncertainties, potential investors are cautioned not to place any reliance on these forward-looking statements.*

*The forward-looking statements contained in this announcement speak only as at the date of this announcement and are not intended to give any assurance as to future results. Other than in accordance with their legal or regulatory obligations, neither Ascential, the Ascential Group, Informa nor the Informa Group is under any obligation, and each such person expressly disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.*

### **Publication on a website**

*A copy of this announcement and the documents required to be published pursuant to Rule 26.3 of the Code, shall be made available, subject to certain restrictions relating to persons resident in Restricted Jurisdictions, on Ascential and Informa's websites at <https://www.ascential.com/investors/recommended-offer-for-ascential-by-informa> and [www.informa.com/investors/informaandascential/](https://www.informa.com/investors/informaandascential/) respectively by no later than 12 noon (London time) on the Business Day following the date of this announcement. For the avoidance of doubt, the content of these websites is not incorporated into and do not form part of this announcement.*