WEDNESDAY



B D COOKE INVESTMENTS LIMITED ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2018

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CORPORATE INFORMATION

DIRECTORS

Ms A. Duffy H. Sopher

S. Janes B.Sc, F.C.A.

Chairperson

SECRETARY

R.J. Ower, F.C.J.S., M.C.J.P.D.

AUDITORS

Ernst & Young LLP, London 25 Churchill Place London E14 5EY

BANKERS

NatWest Bank, London

REGISTERED OFFICE

2 Knoll Rise Orpington Kent BR6 0NX

REGISTERED NUMBER

Registered in England No. 04322456

STRATEGIC REPORT

The Directors of the Group present the strategic report for the year ended 31 December 2018.

Principal Activities

The main subsidiary undertaking, The Dominion Insurance Company Limited, ceased to trade in December 1994 and entered into solvent run-off. Since that time the Company's main activity has been the settlement and administration of claims and the collection of reinsurance. The majority of the liabilities outstanding relate to "long-tail" North American liability business including Environmental Pollution and Asbestos related claims.

Key Performance Indicators

	2018	2017	Change
	£'000	£'000	%
Balance on technical account – general business	(611)	2,479	-125%
(Loss)/Profit for the financial year	(467)	2,011	-123%
Capital and reserves	16,129	16,596	-3%
Investment (Expense)/Income	(1,226)	5,035	-124%
Gross Paid Claims	8,495	9,925	-14%
Gross Reserves	116,376	117,657	-1%
Asbestos and Pollution Related Gross Reserves (Undiscounted)	106,119	108,265	-2%
Reinsurance Reserves	34,899	34,198	2%
Discount Provided	17,605	17,987	-2%

There is a loss in the current financial year compared to a profit in 2017. This is mostly due to the poor investment performance in 2018.

The insurance business recorded a positive result of £0.4m compared to a negative result of £2.6m in 2017.

The Groups' information systems provide the ability to analyse claims. The Group continues to seek ways to ensure that its processes and administration are performed efficiently and this has resulted in a relatively stable level of operating expenses over the last few years.

The capital and reserves of the Group at 31 December 2018 were £16.1m (2017: £16.6.m)

Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risks and uncertainties facing the Group are broadly grouped as: insurance, regulatory and financial instrument risk.

The risk management objectives and policies are driven by the need to protect the Groups regulatory capital position, to meet obligations to policyholders when they fall due and to have the financial strength to conduct the run-off in an orderly fashion.

Insurance risk

The principal risk the Group faces under insurance risk is that actual claims payments or the timing thereof differ from expectation. This is influenced by frequency of claims, severity of claims, actual benefits paid and subsequent development of claims.

There are considerable uncertainties in the provision for claims outstanding. This is in part due to the long term nature of the claims and in part the vagaries of the American legal system. The Group constantly assesses its exposures and wherever possible seeks to make favourable settlements.

STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)

Principal risks and uncertainties (continued)

Insurance risk (continued)

Reinsurance recoveries are reviewed on a regular basis and where it is commercially viable to do so commutations are concluded with reinsurers. Such commutations convert long term reinsurance recoveries into present day cash and investments. The Group discounts its claims liabilities relating to "long-tail" North American liability business, including the run-off provision. Future investment income is expected to at least equal the discount provided.

Regulatory risk

The Group is subject to regulation by the Prudential Regulation Authority ("PRA"). The PRA rules stipulate that sufficient margins of regulatory solvency be maintained and that customers are treated fairly. The Group's insurance companies did not meet the capital requirements under Solvency II at any time during the year to 31 December 2018. The Group's insurance companies has submitted a plan to the regulators setting out how it intends to meet capital requirements in the future.

Financial instrument risk

The Group has established a risk and financial management framework, the primary objective of which is the protection of the Group from potential events that may hinder its performance.

The main risks facing the Group are:

- Price risk: Reduction in the fair value of investments through market fluctuations will restrict the assets available to meet policyholders' entitlements. The risk is mitigated by holding investments with a maturity profile which matches the estimated claims settlement pattern by currency in order to minimise exchange and reinvestment risk.
- Interest rate risk: Movements in interest rates will impact the value of fixed interest securities relative to the value of the related liabilities. This risk is managed by an effective asset liability management strategy.
- Cash flow risk: Cash flow risk is the risk of exposure to variability in cash flows that is attributable to a particular risk associated with a recognised asset or liability such as future interest payments on a variable debt rate. The Group manages this risk by holding cash and investments with a maturity profile which matches the estimated claims settlement pattern by currency.
- Liquidity risk: Liquidity risk is the risk that an insurance company will encounter difficulties in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Group aims to mitigate liquidity risk by monitoring cash generation from its operations. In addition, illiquidity in market trading may bring about an inability to close out a particular position resulting in less liquid assets to meet obligations. This is mitigated by investing primarily in listed investments.
- Credit risk: Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss to the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. Group policies are aimed at minimising such losses through careful selection and monitoring of third parties. The main credit risk the Group faces is from the inability of reinsurers to meet the obligations assumed under reinsurance arrangements. This is mitigated by placing reinsurance with reputable reinsurers and monitoring limits and receivables at regular intervals.

These risks are covered in substantial detail in note 20 to the financial statements.

S. Janes
Director

15 April 2019

DIRECTORS' REPORT

Registered in England No. 04322456

The Directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2018.

DETAILS OF THE DIRECTORS

The names of the Directors at t' = date of this Report appear on page 2. All Directors named on page 2 have served throughout the year.

Ms A Duffy and Mr H Sopher each own 1 share in the Company representing in total 100% of the issued share capital.

RESULTS AND DIVIDENDS

The loss for the year after taxation amounted to £466,276 (2017: £2,011,000 profit).

The Directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend.

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Details of financial instruments are provided in the Strategic Report.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The Group has not undertaken any research and development activities during the year.

CHARITABLE AND POLITICAL DONATIONS

No donations were made for charitable or political purposes during the year.

STAFF AND PENSION SCHEME

The retention of key employees has been achieved through flexible working conditions. The average length of service is in excess of 26 years and staff turnover is negligible.

The Group operates a defined contribution scheme.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The Group considers that its impact on the environment is minimal.

GOING CONCERN

The Groups' business activities, together with the factors likely to affect its future development, its financial position, financial risk management objectives, details of its financial instruments, and its exposures to price, credit, liquidity and cash flow risk are described in the Strategic Report.

As described in Note 1.2, there exists material uncertainty which may cast significant doubt upon the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. This uncertainty derives principally from the long term nature of the Group's insurance liabilities and not from short-term cash flow issues. The Group has considerable financial resources. The Group's investment strategy is to invest funds so as to match the projected settlement dates of its claims liabilities. In addition, the Group has significant reinsurance assets. The Directors therefore have a reasonable expectation that the Group has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual financial statements.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued)

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The Groups' long term objective is to ensure that it will continue to be able to pay all current and future valid claims as and when they fall due. The Group will continue to carry out its existing strategies of closely monitoring claims developments and minimising relevant risks as outlined above. There are no known changes to the American legal system or other outside factors that might affect the way claims are currently being assessed. There are no known new major claim types anticipated that could impact the Group.

STATEMENT OF DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO THE AUDITORS

So far as each person who was a director at the date of approving this report is aware, there is no relevant audit information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing its report, of which the auditor is unaware. Having made enquiries of fellow directors and the auditor, each director has taken all the steps that he/she is obliged to take as a director in order to make himself/herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

RE-APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

Ernst & Young LLP are deemed to be reappointed as the Company's Auditors for the coming financial year in accordance with Section 487 (2) of the Companies Act 2006.

By Order of the Board

S. Janes
Director

15 April 2019

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Strategic Report, the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the Directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the Group and of the profit or loss of the Group for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the group will continue in business.

The Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Groups' transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and of the Group and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF B D COOKE INVESTMENTS LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of B D Cooke Investments Limited ('the parent company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 December 2018 which comprise the consolidated income statement, the consolidated statement of comprehensive income, the consolidated statement of changes in equity, the consolidated statement of financial position, the parent company statement of financial position, consolidated statement of cash flows and the related notes 1 to 25 (except for the information in note 20(b) which is marked as unaudited), including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and FRS 103 "Insurance Contracts".

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the group's and of the parent company's affairs as at 31 December 2018 and of the group's loss for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report below. We are independent of the group and parent company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Material uncertainty related to going concern

We draw attention to note 1.2 in the financial statements, which indicates that there exists material uncertainty over the ultimate exposure to future claims, related reinsurance recoveries and run-off expenses. As stated in note 1.2, these events or conditions, along with the other matters as set forth in notes 1.4, 16 and 19, indicate that a material uncertainty exists that may cast significant doubt on the group's ability to continue as a going concern, and that the financial statements do not include the adjustments that would result if the group was unable to continue as a going concern. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF B D COOKE INVESTMENTS LIMITED

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of the other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the strategic report and the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and directors' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report or directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF B D COOKE INVESTMENTS LIMITED

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement set out on page 7, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the group's and the parent company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the group or the parent company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Jonathan Bell (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of Ernst & Young LLP, Statutory Auditor

London

15 April 2019

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

for the year ended 31 December 2018

		Notes	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
TECHNICAL ACCOUNT - GENER	AL BUSINESS			
Gross premiums written: Outward reinsurance premiums			- -	-
Earned premiums, net of reinsurance		-	-	-
Investment income Unrealised (loss)/gain on investments Change in market value of property Investment expenses and charges Negative goodwill written back		9 9 10 9 12	3,062 (4,164) 100 (124) 116	3,544 1,608 - (117) 116
TOTAL TECHNICAL INCOME		-	(1,010)	5,151
CLAIMS INCURRED NET OF REIN Claims paid Change in claims outstanding	- gross amount - reinsurer's share - net of reinsurance - gross amount - reinsurer's share - net of reinsurance	3 -	8,495 (1,772) 6,723 (8,267) 1,145 (7,122)	9,925 (2,259) 7,666 (10,771) 5,777 (4,994)
Claims incurred net of reinsurance		3	(399)	2,672
TOTAL CLAIMS AND EXPENSES		-	(399)	2,672
BALANCE ON TECHNICAL ACCO	UNT FOR GENERAL	=	(611)	2,479
NON-TECHNICAL ACCOUNT				
BALANCE ON TECHNICAL ACCO BUSINESS	OUNT FOR GENERAL		(611)	2,479
(LOSS)/PROFIT ON ORDINARY AG BEFORE TAXATION	CTIVITIES	_	(611)	2,479
Tax on profit on ordinary activities		5	-	-
(LOSS)/PROFIT ON ORDINARY A	CTIVITIES	_	(611)	2,479
Minority Interests - Equity		14	144	(468)
(LOSS)/PROFIT FOR THE FINANCE ATRIBUTABLE TO MEMBERS OF		=	(467)	2,011

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME for the year ended 31 December 2018

	Notes	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
(Loss)/Profit for the financial year attributable to members of the parent company		(467)	2,011
Total Comprehensive Income for the year	-	(467)	2,011

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY for the year ended 31 December 2018

	Share capital	Profit and loss account	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 January 2018	-	16,596	16,596
Total Comprehensive Income for the year	-	(467)	(467)
At 31 December 2018		16,129	16,129
At 1 January 2017	-	14,585	14,585
Total Comprehensive Income for the year	-	2,011	2,011
At 31 December 2017		16,596	16,596

Accrued interest and rent

TOTAL ASSETS

Other prepayments and accrued income

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION as at 31 December 2018

COMPANY NUMBER 04322456	Notes	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
ASSETS			
INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS			
Negative goodwill	12	(342)	(458)
INVESTMENTS			
Other financial investments	11 _	81,997 81,997	85,499 85,499
TECHNICAL PROVISIONS			
Claims outstanding - reinsurers share	16	27,187	26,654
DEBTORS			
Debtors arising out of reinsurance operations		261	398
Other debtors		265	403
OTHER ASSETS			
Land and buildings	10	1,780	1,680
Cash at bank and in hand	24	7,748 9,528	8,348 10,028
PREPAYMENTS AND ACCRUED INCOME			

948

252

1,200

119,835

811

215

1,026

123,152

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

as at 31 December 2018
COMPANY NUMBER 04322456

COMPANY NUMBER 04322456			
N	otes	2018	2017
		£'000	£'000
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
SHAREHOLDER'S EQUITY			
Called up share capital	15	-	-
Profit and loss account	_	16,129	16,596_
Total capital and reserves	_	16,129	16,596
MINORITY INTERESTS - EQUITY	14	4,054	4,198
TOTAL EQUITY	-	20,183	20,794
LIABILITIES			
TECHNICAL PROVISIONS			
Claims outstanding - gross amount	16	99,217	101,979
CREDITORS			
Creditors arising out of direct insurance operations		_151_	151
	_	151	151
ACCRUALS AND DEFERRED INCOME		284	228
TOTAL LIABILITIES	-	99,652	102,358
TOTAL EQUITY and LIABILITIES	==	119,835	123,152

Approved at a meeting of the Board of Directors on 15 April 2019 and signed on its behalf

S. Janes Director

COMPANY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION as at 31 December 2018

COMPANY NUMBER 04322456

COMPANT NUMBER 04322430	Notes	2018 £	2017 £
ASSETS			
FIXED ASSETS			
Investments in subsidiary undertakings		2	2
TOTAL ASSETS	_	2	2
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
SHAREHOLDER'S EQUITY			
Called up share capital Profit and loss account	15	2	2
TOTAL EQUITY and LIABILITIES		2	2

Approved at a meeting of the Board of Directors on 15 April 2019 and signed on its behalf

S. Janes Director

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

	Notes	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Profit on ordinary activities before tax		(611)	2,479
Movement in general insurance outstanding claims		(2,762)	(19,466)
Movement in reinsurers' share of outstanding claims		(533)	8,694
Negative goodwill		(116)	(116)
Revaluation of land and buildings		100	-
Realised and unrealised investment gains including foreign exchange		(175)	4,111
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors		(36)	176
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors		56	(267)
NET CASH OUTFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		(4,077)	(4,389)
INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchases of debt and equity instruments		(30,067)	(24,027)
Sales of debt and equity instruments		33,200	29,007
NET CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		3,133	4,980
(Decrease)/Increase in cash and cash equivalents		(944)	591
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		8,348	8,165
Exchange differences on opening cash		344	(408)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT 31 DECEMBER	24	7,748	8,348

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

I ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Statement of compliance

B D Cooke Investments Limited is a limited liability company incorporated in England. The Registered Office is 2 Knoll Rise, Orpington BR6 0NX. The financial statements cover those of the individual entity and are prepared as at 31 December 2018 for the year ended 31 December 2018.

The financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102 and FRS 103, being applicable UK GAAP accounting standards, and in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 3 of the Large and Medium-sized Companies and Groups (Accounts and Reports) Regulations relating to insurance companies.

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention except for land and buildings and certain financial instruments which are measured at fair value.

1.2 Basis of preparation

The group's financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2018 were approved for issue by the Board of Directors on 15 April 2019.

The financial statements, which consolidate the financial statements of the Company and its subsidiary undertakings, are prepared in sterling which is the presentation and functional currency of the Group and rounded to the nearest £'000.

The Company has taken the advantage of the exemption under Section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 and is not presenting a Company Income Statement. The profit dealt with in the financial statements of the parent company for the year is £Nil (2017: £Nil).

The Directors consider that the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate. However as described in notes 1.4, 16, and 19, there exists material uncertainty over the ultimate exposure to future claims and related reinsurance recoveries and run-off expenses which may cast significant doubt upon the ability of the Group to continue as a going concern. Should the adjustments to these liabilities and recoveries be substantial, the going concern basis of preparation might no longer be appropriate. If the Group were unable to continue to run-off business in an orderly way, adjustments might have to be made to reduce the value of assets to their recoverable amount and to provide for any further liabilities that might arise. These adjustments might be material. The financial statements do not contain the adjustments that would result if the group was unable to continue as a going concern.

The Group has also taken advantage of the exemption permitted by FRS 102 Section 33, Related Party Disclosure, not to disclose amounts involved in contracts between members of a group where a party to the transaction is a wholly-owned subsidiary.

1.3 Basis of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the financial statements of the Company and all of its subsidiaries made up at 31 December 2018.

The group financial statements consolidate the financial statements of B D Cooke Investments Limited and the entities in controls (its subsidiary undertakings) drawn up to 31 December each year.

Subsidiaries are consolidated from the date of their acquisition, being the date on which the Group obtains control, and continue to be consolidated until the date that such control ceases. The financial statements of subsidiary undertakings are prepared for the same reporting year as the parent company, using consistent accounting policies. All inter-company balances and transactions are eliminated.

Minority interests represent the proportion of profit and loss and net assets in subsidiaries that is not held by the Group and is presented separately from parent shareholders' equity in the consolidated balance sheet.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

1.4 Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities as at the balance sheet date and the amounts reported for revenues and expenses during the year. However, the nature of estimation means that actual outcomes could differ from those estimates. The following are the Group's key sources of estimation uncertainty:

Insurance contract technical provisions

For insurance contracts, estimates have to be made both for the expected ultimate cost of claims reported at the reporting date and for the expected ultimate cost of claims incurred, but not yet reported, at the reporting date (IBNR). It can take a significant period of time before the ultimate claims cost can be established with certainty and in total, IBNR claims form the majority of the liability in the statement of financial position.

The Group uses a combination of exposure based techniques together with standard actuaries claims projection techniques such as the chain ladder method to arrive at a best estimate of the ultimate cost of outstanding claims.

The exposure based techniques are used for long tail APH claims which represent more than 90% of the technical reserves. The Group maintains a database of historical claims paid information and current notified reserves together with policy information including lines and limits underwritten. This information is used to estimate a range of possible ultimate claims amounts, together with a best estimate. The Group adopts the best estimate amount as the basis for its technical claims provisions reported in the statement of financial positions. The resulting liability is discounted for the time value of money.

Revaluation of mixed use property

Mixed use property is measured at fair value, with changes in fair value being recognised in profit or loss. The Group engaged independent valuation specialists to determine fair value at 31 December 2018. A valuation has taken place in the current year as the property is revalued every 3 years. The valuer used a valuation technique based on an open market basis. The determined fair value of the mixed use property is most sensitive to the estimated yield as well as the long term vacancy rate. The key assumptions used to determine the fair value of mixed use property are further explained in Note 10.

Additionally FRS 102 Section 17.8 states that Land and Buildings are separable assets, and an entity shall account for them separately, even when they are acquired together. The Directors have considered the property in the light of the reporting regulations and the most recent valuation and conclude that the fair value of the land of the mixed use property is materially equal to the latest valuation of the property. As the value of the land is considered to materially equal the fair value of the property, management considers there to be no need for depreciation of the building.

Taxation

The Group establishes provisions based on reasonable estimates.

Management estimation is required to determine the amount of deferred tax assets that can be recognised, based upon likely timing and level of future taxable profits. Further details are contained in Note 5.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

1.5 Significant accounting policies

Insurance contracts

Product classification

Insurance contracts are those contracts when the insurer has accepted significant insurance risk from another party (the policyholder) by agreeing to compensate the policyholder if a specified uncertain future event (the insured event) adversely affects the policyholders. As a general guideline, the Group determines whether it has significant insurance risk, by comparing benefits paid with benefits payable if the insured event did not occur. Insurance contracts can also transfer financial risk.

Once a contract has been classified as an insurance contract, it remains an insurance contract for the remainder of its lifetime, even if the insurance risk reduces significantly during this period, unless all rights and obligations are extinguished or expire.

Claims

Claims include all claims occurring during the year, whether reported or not, related internal and external claims handling costs that are directly related to the processing and settlement of claims, a reduction for the value of salvage and other recoveries, and any adjustments to claims outstanding from previous years.

Reinsurance claims are recognised when the related gross insurance claim is recognised according to the terms of the relevant contract.

Claims outstanding

The provision for claims outstanding (note 16) is based on the estimated ultimate cost of all claims notified but not settled by the balance sheet date, claims incurred but not reported together with the provision for related claims handling costs. Provisions are calculated allowing for reinsurance recoveries and a separate asset is recorded for the reinsurers' share, having regard to collectability. Net operating expenses paid in the year are classified as claims handling expenses paid (note 3).

The claims provision includes amounts in respect of potential claims relating to environmental pollution and asbestos related claims. These claims are not expected to be settled for many years and there is considerable uncertainty as to the amounts at which they will be settled. Legislative and judicial actions to date concerning environmental pollution have failed to determine the basis of liability to indemnify losses.

The level of the provisions for these losses has been set on the basis of the information which is currently available including potential outstanding claims advices and case law. The Directors take appropriate advice in setting an appropriate level of provision. The methods used, and the estimates made, are reviewed regularly. The level of related reinsurance recoveries is dependent upon both the accuracy of the estimated gross technical provisions and the ultimate ability to pay off the underlying security.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

The claims incurred but not reported amount is based on estimates calculated using statistical techniques in consultation with appropriate advisors. The techniques generally use projections, based on past experience of the development of claims over time, to form a view on the likely ultimate claims to be experienced. In addition factors such as knowledge of specific events and terms and conditions of policies are taken into account. The critical assumption used when estimating claims provisions is that past experience is a reasonable predictor of likely future claims development.

Whilst the directors consider that the gross provision for claims and the related reinsurance recoveries are fairly stated on the basis of the information currently available to them, there exists considerable uncertainty in respect of the ultimate liability as this will vary as a result of subsequent information and events and may result in material adjustments to the amount provided. Any difference between provisions at the balance sheet date and settlements and provisions in the following year is included in the underwriting result for that year.

Reinsurance assets

The Group cedes insurance risk in the normal course of business for all of its businesses. Reinsurance assets represent balances due from reinsurance companies. Amounts recoverable from reinsurers are estimated in a manner consistent with the outstanding claims provision or settled claims associated with the reinsurer's policies and are in accordance with the related reinsurance contract.

Reinsurance assets are reviewed for impairment at each reporting date, or more frequently, when an indication of impairment arises during the reporting year. Impairment occurs when there is objective evidence as a result of an event that occurred after initial recognition of the reinsurance asset that the company may not receive all outstanding amounts due under the terms of the contract and the event has a reliably measurable impact on the amounts that the Group will receive from the reinsurer. The impairment loss is recorded in the statement of profit or loss.

Gains or losses on buying reinsurance are recognised in the statement of profit or loss immediately at the date of purchase and are not amortised. There were no such gains or losses recognised in 2018 or 2017.

Ceded reinsurance arrangements do not relieve the Group from its obligations to policyholders.

Insurance Receivables

Insurance receivables are recognised when due and measured on initial recognition at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Subsequent to initial recognition, insurance receivables are measured at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method. The carrying value of insurance receivables is reviewed for impairment whenever events or circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable, with the impairment loss recorded in the statement of profit or loss.

Insurance receivables are derecognised when the derecognition criteria for financial assets have been met.

Insurance Payables

Insurance payables are recognised when due and measured on initial recognition at the fair value of the consideration received less directly attributable transaction costs.

Subsequent to initial recognition, they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. Insurance payables are derecognised when the obligation under the liability is settled, cancelled or expired.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Foreign Currencies

The Group's functional currency and presentational currency is Sterling.

Transactions in US dollars are translated at the average rate of exchange during the year. Transactions in other foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction.

All assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange ruling at the end of the year.

Exchange differences are included in the Claims Incurred Net of Reinsurance within the Income Statement.

Impairment of non-financial assets

The Group assesses at each reporting date whether an asset may be impaired. If any such indication exists the company estimates recoverable amount of the asset. If it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of the individual asset, the Group estimates, the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The recoverable amount of an asset or cash-generating unit is the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use. If the recoverable amount is less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is impaired and it is reduced to its recoverable amount through an impairment in profit and loss unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount where the impairment loss of a revalued asset is a revaluation decrease.

An impairment loss recognised for all assets, including goodwill, is reversed in a subsequent period if and only if the reasons for the impairment loss have ceased to apply.

Financial investments

As permitted by FRS 102, the company has elected to apply the recognition and measurement provisions of IAS 39 - Financial Instruments (as adopted for use in the EU) to account for all of its financial instruments.

The group classifies its financial investments as either financial assets at fair value through profit or loss, loans and receivables or available for sale. The group determines the classification of its financial assets at initial recognition. Financial assets are initially recognised at fair value plus, in the case of instruments not at fair value through profit or loss, directly attributable transaction costs.

The classification depends on the purpose for which the investments were acquired or originated. In general, financial assets are classified as fair value through profit or loss as the Group's documented investment strategy is to manage financial investments acquired on fair value basis. The available for sale category is used only in cases when the investments are passively managed.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

All regular way purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on the trade date i.e., the date the group commits to purchase or sell the asset. Regular way purchases or sales of financial assets require delivery of assets within the time frame generally established by regulation or convention in the market place.

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss has two sub categories namely financial assets held for trading and those designated at fair value through profit or loss at inception. Investments typically bought with the intention to sell in the near future are classified as held for trading as are all derivatives, including embedded derivatives, that are not designated as hedging instruments. For investments designated as at fair value through profit or loss, the following criteria must be met:

- the designation eliminates or significantly reduces the inconsistent treatment that would otherwise arise from measuring the assets or liabilities or recognising gains or losses on a different basis; or
- the assets and liabilities are part of a group of financial assets, financial liabilities or both which are managed and their performance evaluated on a fair value basis, in accordance with a documented risk management or investment strategy.

These investments are initially recorded at fair value. Subsequent to initial recognition, these investments are re-measured at fair value at each reporting date. Fair value adjustments and realised gains and losses are recognised in the profit and loss account.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents in the balance sheet comprise cash at banks and in hand and short term deposits with an original maturity date of three months or less. For the purpose of the cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents consist of cash and cash equivalents as defined above, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

Fair value of financial assets

The Group uses the following hierarchy for determining the fair value of financial instruments by valuation technique:

- Level 1: quoted (unadjusted) prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- Quoted in an active market in this context means quoted prices are readily and regularly available and those prices represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis. The quoted price is usually the bid price.
- Level 2: when quoted prices are unavailable the instrument is valued using inputs that are observable either directly or indirectly including quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets, inputs that are observable such as interest rates and yield curves observable at commonly quoted intervals, implied volatility or credit spreads and market-corroborated inputs.
- Level 3: when observable inputs are not available, unobservable inputs are used to measure fair value by use of valuation techniques. The objective of using the valuation technique is to estimate what the fair value would have been on the measurement date.

See Note 11 for details of financial instruments classified by fair value hierarchy.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Impairment of financial assets

For financial assets not held at fair value through profit or loss, the Group assesses at each reporting date whether the financial asset or group of financial assets is impaired. The Group first assesses whether objective evidence of impairment exists for financial assets. If it is determined that no objective evidence of impairment exists for an individually assessed financial asset, the asset is included in a group of financial assets with similar credit risk characteristics and that group of financial assets is collectively assessed for impairment.

For assets carried at cost, if there is objective evidence that an impairment loss on an unquoted equity investment that is not carried at fair value, because its fair value cannot be reliably measured, the amount of the loss is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the current market rate of return of a similar asset.

Derecognition of financial assets

A financial asset or, when applicable, a part of a financial asset is derecognised when:

- The rights to the cash flows from the asset have expired; or
- The Group retains the right to receive cash flows from the asset or has assumed an obligation to pay the received cash flows in full without material delay to a third party under a 'pass through' arrangement and either (a) the Group has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset; or (b) the Group has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset, but has transferred control of the asset.

When the Group has transferred its right to receive cash flows from an asset or has entered into a pass-through arrangement, and has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards nor transferred control of the asset, the asset is recognised to the extent of the group's continuing involvement in the asset. Continuing involvement that takes the form of a guarantee over the transferred asset is measured at the lower of the original carrying amount of the asset and the maximum amount of consideration that the group could be required to repay. In that case, the group also recognises an associated liability.

Offsetting of financial instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset and the net amount is reported in the statement of financial position if, and only if:

- There is a currently enforceable legal right to offset the recognised amounts; and
- There is an intention to settle on a net basis, to realise the assets and settle the liabilities simultaneously.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Investment return

Dividends are recognised when the investments to which they relate are declared 'ex-dividend'. Rent is recognised on an accrual basis Interest income is recognised on a time proportionate basis taking into account effective interest yield.

Unrealised and realised gains and losses on financial investments are recognised based on the appropriate classification of financial investments and are covered in detail under the accounting policy for financial investments.

All actual investment returns are on investments supporting the general insurance technical provisions. As all investment returns would be allocated from the non-technical account to the technical account they are reported directly in the technical account.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Expenditure on computer equipment, furniture and fixtures, and office equipment is capitalised and depreciated over the estimated useful economic lives of the assets on a straight line basis. The periods used are as follows:

Computer equipment 3 years
Furniture and fixtures 4 years
Office equipment 4 years

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Group has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, and it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

Pension Costs

The Group operates a defined contribution scheme. Group contributions paid and accrued during the year are charged in the Income Statement.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Taxation

Current tax

Current tax liabilities are measured at the amount expected to be recovered from or paid to the taxation authorities. The tax rates and tax laws used to compute the amount are those that are chacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date.

Current income tax relating to items recognised directly in equity is recognised in equity and not in the income statement

Deferred tux

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences, which are differences between taxable profits and total comprehensive income that arise from the inclusion of income and expenses in tax assessments in periods different from those in which they are recognised in the financial statements, except that:

- where there are differences between amounts that can be deducted for tax for assets (other than goodwill) and liabilities compared with the amounts that are recognised for those assets and liabilities in a business combination a deferred tax liability/(asset) shall be recognised. The amount attributed to goodwill is adjusted by the amount of the deferred tax recognised; and
- unrelieved tax losses and other deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that the directors consider that it probable that they will be recovered against the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future taxable profits.

Deferred tax is measured on an undiscounted basis at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the periods in which timing differences reverse, based on tax rates and laws enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date.

Dividends

Dividends on ordinary shares are recognised as a liability and deducted from equity when they are approved by the shareholders. Interim dividends are deducted from equity when they are paid.

Negative Goodwill

Negative goodwill arising on consolidation has been capitalised and is amortised through the Income Statement over a period of 20 years, estimated by the Directors to be the period over which the claims outstanding will be settled.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 December 2018

2 ANALYSIS BY CLASS OF BUSINESS

The underwriting result is analysed as follows:

2018	Third party liability £'000	Total £'000
Gross Premium Written - UK		
Gross Premium Earned Gross Claims Incurred	228	228
Gross Claims meared	220	220
Reinsurance balance	(627)	(627)
2017	£'000	£'000
Gross Premium Written - UK	-	-
Gross Premium Earned	-	-
Gross Claims Incurred	(846)	(846)
Reinsurance balance	3,518	3,518

The reinsurance balance is the aggregate total of all those items included in the technical account which relate to reinsurance outwards transactions including items recorded as reinsurance commissions and profit participation.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

3 CLAIMS INCURRED NET OF REINSURANCE

	Gross	Reinsurance	Net
2018	£'000	£'000	£'000
Claims paid	6,879	1,772	5,107
Claims handling expenses paid	1,616	<u>-</u>	1,616
	8,495	1,772	6,723
Outstanding claims carried forward (note 16)	99,217	27,187	72,030
Outstanding claims brought forward	101,979	26,654	75,325
Exchange	5,505	1,678	3,827
Revalued Outstanding claims brought forward	107,484	28,332	79,152
Decrease	(8,267)	(1,145)	(7,122)
Claims incurred	228	627	(399)
2017			
Claims paid	7,519	2,259	5,260
Claims handling expenses paid	2,406	-	2,406
	9,925	2,259	7,666
Outstanding claims carried forward	101,979	26,654	75,325
Outstanding claims brought forward	121,445	35,348	86,097
Exchange	(8,695)	(2,917)	(5,778)
Revalued Outstanding claims brought forward	112,750	32,431	80,319
Decrease	(10,771)	(5,777)	(4,994)
Claims incurred	(846)	(3,518)	2,672

Included in Claims paid - Reinsurance, is cash received from reinsurers with whom the Group has commuted its protections.

Of the change in outstanding claims net of reinsurance of £7.1m (2017 - £5.0m), £1.5m relates to the effect of discounting unwind (2017 - £2.0m)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

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4	PROFIT/(LOSS)	ON ORDINARY	ACTIVITIES BEFORE	TAXATION
---	---------------	-------------	--------------------------	----------

22.(-444)	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
This is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Auditor's remuneration, including expenses (note 8)	84	136
Investment expenses and charge	124	117
Rental income from land and buildings	(80)	(80)
Operating lease - obligations up to 5 years	82	148
TAXATION		
(a) Tax reconciliation	2019	2017
	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Profit/(Loss) on ordinary activities before taxation	(611)	2,479
Expected tax at 19.0%	(116)	477
Factors affecting the current tax charge		
Offset against losses brought forward for which no deferred tax is recognised	216	(372)
Adjustment in respect of prior years	(22)	-
Non-taxable investment incomes and gains	(83)	(90)
Other items	5	(15)
Total tax charge for the year		
•		

Finance Act 2013 legislation was enacted to reduce the UK corporation tax rate. The previous tax rates were 20% from 1 April 2015. New legislation was passed on 18 November 2015 to further reduce the UK corporation tax rate to 19% form 1 April 2017 and 18% from 1 April 2020. The rate from 1 April 2020 was then further reduced to 17% on 6 September 2016. As a result the current year corporation tax is 19.0% (19.25% blended rate as at 31 December 2017).

Finance Bill 2017 will, once enacted, limit the utilisation of tax losses to 50% of profits subject to a £5m allowance per group from 1 April 2017.

(b) Deferred tax

There are gross tax losses available in excess of £25m to offset against taxable profits in future periods. No deferred tax asset has been recognised in respect of these losses due to uncertainty over the quantum, source and timing of any future taxable profits.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

6 STAFF COSTS

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Wages and salaries	1,133	1,365
Pension contributions	184	210
Social security costs	130	152
	1,447	1,727

Staff costs include the remuneration paid to Executive Directors of the Group (see note 7) and are included in claims handling expenses paid (see note 3).

The average weekly number of employees, including Executive Directors, during the year was comprised as follows:

	2018	2017
	Number	Number
	,	
Management	i	1
Administration	16	16
	17	17

7 DIRECTORS' EMOLUMENTS

The aggregate amount of remuneration paid to or received by directors during the year was as follows:

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Aggregate remuneration in respect of qualifying services	431	302
Aggregate contributions made to money purchase schemes	28	33
	459	335
Number of directors accruing benefits under money purchase schemes	1	1

The aggregate remuneration in respect of the highest paid director in the year was £209k (2017 - £239k). The aggregate contribution made to money purchase schemes in respect of the highest paid director was £28k (2017 - £33k). No amounts were paid to any director for loss of office during the year (2017 - £nil) and no amounts have been paid to past directors for any services rendered (2017 - £nil). No directors have any share options within the Company.

Directors' emoluments are included in claims handling expenses paid (see note 3).

8 AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Audit of financial statements of parent company and the group	14	14
Other fees to auditors:		
Audit of subsidiary companies	70	75
Other services pursuant to legislation		
	_	47
	84	136

Auditors' remuneration is included in claims handling expenses paid (see note 3).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

9 INVESTMENT RETURN

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Income from other financial investments and cash at bank	3,069	3,233
Realised (losses)/gain	(7)	311_
Total investment income	3,062	3,544
Unrealised (losses)/gain on investments	(4,164)	1,608
Investment expenses and charges	(124)	(117)
	(1,226)	5,035

All investment income is received from financial investments held at fair value.

10 LAND AND BUILDINGS

	Mixed Use Property £'000
Fair value	
At 1 January 2018	1,680
Surplus on revaluation	100
At 31 December 2018	1,780
Depreciation and impairment At 1 January 2018 Provided during the year	- -
At 31 December 2018	
Carrying value At 31 December 2018	1,780
At 1 January 2018	1,680

The historical cost of the properties held at fair value is £2,324,000 (2017: £2,324,000). No land and buildings have a restricted title or are pledged for liabilities.

The properties were valued by and independent valuer with a recognised and relevant professional qualification and with recent experience in the location and category of the investment property being valued, JLL Consultancy as at 31 December 2018, on the basis of fair value in accordance with the Appraisal and Valuation Manual of The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. The critical assumption made relating to the valuation was an 8% yield to the let space and 9% to the owner occupied/vacant space given the future residential potential of the property.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

11 FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS

	Carrying	Purchase	
	Value	Price	Listed
2018	£'000	£'000	£'000
Shares and other variable yield securities and units in unit trusts			
- Designated at fair value through profit or loss	15,215	12,946	15,215
Debt securities and other fixed income securities			
- Designated at fair value through profit or loss	63,464	65,094	63,464
Deposits with credit institutions	3,318	3,318	3,318
	81,997	81,358	81,997
	Carrying	Purchase	
	Value	Price	Listed
2017	£'000	£'000	£'000
Shares and other variable yield securities and units in unit trusts			
- Designated at fair value through profit or loss	18,081	13,410	18,081
Debt securities and other fixed income securities			
- Designated at fair value through profit or loss	58,486	58,536	58,486
Deposits with credit institutions	8,932	8,932	8,932
	85,499	80,878	85,499

There was no material change in fair value for financial instruments held at fair value attributable to own credit risk in the current or comparative period.

They have been no day 1 profits recognised in respect of financial instruments designated at fair value through profit or loss.

£4m (2017: £4m) of US Government Bonds are held by a bank as collateral for letter of credit facilities which the Group has with the bank. The terms of the collateralisation are that an amount of US government bonds equal to the amount of the issued letters of credit be held in the custody of the bank at all times.

The following table shows financial investments recorded at fair value analysed between the three levels in the fair value hierarchy.

•	Level 1 £'000	Level 2 £'000	Level 3 £'000	Total £'000
2018				
Shares and other variable yield securities and units in unit trusts	15,215	-	-	15,215
Debt securities and other fixed income securities	62,668	796	-	63,464
	77,883	796		78,679
2017				
Shares and other variable yield securities and units in unit trusts	18,081	-	-	18,081
Debt securities and other fixed income securities	58,486	-	-	58,486
_	76,567		<u>-</u>	76,567

Included in the level 1 category are financial assets that are measured by reference to published quotes in an active market. A financial instrument is regarded as quoted in an active market if quoted prices are readily and regularly available from an exchange, dealer, broker, industry group, pricing service or regulatory agency and those prices represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis.

Included in level 2 category are financial assets that would be included in level 1 but quoted prices are not publicly available.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

12 INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Intangible assets represent negative goodwill arising on the acquisition of The Dominion Insurance Company Limited. There was no goodwill arising on the acquisition of the Trent Insurance Company Limited.

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Balance as at 31 December 2017	(458)	(574)
Amortisation	116	116
Balance as at 31 December 2018	(342)	(458)

Negative goodwill is being written off in equal instalments over the estimated economic life of 20 years.

13 TANGIBLE ASSETS

	Computer Equipment $\pounds'000$	Office Equipment £'000	Furniture and Fixtures £'000	Total £'000
Cost At 1 January 2018	32	23	72	127
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2018	32	23	72	127
Depreciation At 1 January 2018	32	23	72	127
Charge for the year	-	-	-	-
On disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2018	32	23	72	127
Carrying value At 31 December 2018			<u> </u>	
At 31 December 2017				

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

14 SUBSIDIARY UNDERTAKINGS

The principal subsidiary undertakings at 31 December 2018 are set out below:

Group Services:- Landel Insurance Holdings Limited, registered office 2 Knoll Rise.

Orpington, Kent, BR6 0NX, United Kingdom.

insurance companies:- The Dominion Insurance Company Limited (Registered in

Scotland), registered office c/o DLA Piper (Scotland) LLP, Collins House, Rutland Square, Edinburgh, EH1 2AA, United Kingdom.

Trent Insurance Company Limited (indirectly held), registered office 2 Knol! Rise, Orpington, Kent, BR6 0NX, United Kingdom.

Insurance underwriting and management

companies:-

B.D.Cooke & Partners Limited, registered office 2 Knoll Rise,

Orpington, Kent, BR6 0NX, United Kingdom.

C.F. & A.U. Limited, registered office 2 Knoll Rise, Orpington,

Kent, BR6 0NX, United Kingdom.

Underwriting Management Agency Limited, registered office 2 Knoll Rise, Orpington, Kent, BR6 0NX, United Kingdom.

2010

2017

All the above are wholly owned with the exception of The Dominion Insurance Company Limited and Trent Insurance Company Limited which are both 19.8% owned by other parties. Each company has issued shares of one class only.

The parent company has given a statutory guarantee of all outstanding liabilities to which subsidiary companies B.D. Cooke & Partners Limited and Underwriting Management Agency Limited are subject to at the end of the financial year.

The subsidiary companies B.D. Cooke & Partners Limited and Underwriting Management Agency Limited have made use of the audit exemption for subsidiary companies provided in section 479a of the Companies Act 2006. Landel Insurance Holdings Limited and C.F. & A.U. Limited are all dormant companies.

The minority interest in the statement of financial position is represented as follows:

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Minority interest holdings at start of the year	4,198	3,730
Minority interest share of profit or loss for the year plus prior year	(144)	468
Minority interest holdings at year-end	4,054	4,198

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

15	AUTHORISED AND	ALLOTTED	SHARE	CAPITAL
13	AUTEURISED AND	ALLUITU	SHARE	CALIFAL

15	AUTHORISED AND ALLOTTED SHARE CAPITAL			
			2018	2017
			£'000	£'000
	Authorised:			
	2 ordinary shares of £1		2	2
	Allotted, called up and fully paid:		_	_
	2 ordinary shares of £1		2	2
1.0	CLAIMS OUTSTANDING			
16	CLAIMS OUTSTANDING	Gross	Reinsurance	Net
		£'000	£'000	£'000
	2018	2.000	2 000	2000
	Provision before discounting	116,376	34,899	81,477
	Discounting adjustment	(25,317)	(7,712)	(17,605)
	Discounting adjustment	91,059	$\frac{(7,712)}{27,187}$	63,872
	Claims handling expenses (note 19)	8,158		8,158
	Claims handling expenses (mile 17)	99,217	27,187	72,030
	·	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		.2,000
	2017			
	Provision before discounting	117,657	34,198	83,459
	Discounting adjustment	(25,531)	(7,544)	(17,987)
		92,126	26,654	65,472
	Claims handling expenses (note 19)	9,853	-	9,853
		101,979	26,654	75,325
	Individual in the annulations above for areas claims systemating and not	alaima autata	nding often disc	ounting but
	Included in the provisions above for gross claims outstanding and net			
	before claims handling expenses are the following in respect of pote	ntial claims a	insing from en	vironmentai
	pollution and asbestos related claims:			
			2018	2017
			\$m	\$m
	Gross Claims		107	115
	Net Claims			80
	£ equivalent of US\$ amounts above			
	Gross Claims		84	85
	Net Claims		58	59
				

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

16 CLAIMS OUTSTANDING - continued

There is considerable uncertainty as to the amounts at which these claims will be ultimately settled and the amounts which may be recoverable from reinsurers because of the long-tail nature of the claims and the absence of clarity in the legal position.

The provisions for outstanding claims relating to "long-tail" North American liability business including provisions for irrecoverable reinsurance on unpaid liabilities have been discounted at 3% (2017: 3.0%).

Although there was a negative investment return on the assets supporting the liabilities being discounted of £1,226,000 (2017: £5,036,000 positive return), the 3% discount rate is justified by the long term reserve prospective and is supported by the historic 5-year average investment return experienced on those assets.

The discounting adjustment is based upon net provisions before discounting of US\$107m (2017: US\$ 106m) with the amount of net applicable discount of US\$23m (2017: US\$ 23m). The assumed claims settlement pattern on which the discount is calculated is based upon prudent projections of past settlement patterns and other known factors considered relevant by the Directors. The average settlement period is in excess of 5 years.

Additionally included in the technical provisions are provisions for irrecoverable reinsurance on unpaid liabilities.

17 CREDITORS

All creditors are payable within the next financial year.

18 PENSION COMMITMENTS

Defined Contribution Scheme

Defined contribution expenses of £184k (2017: £210k), of which £nil was outstanding at the year end, have been charged in the Profit and Loss account.

19 RUN-OFF PROVISION

The Directors reassess the adequacy of the run-off provision annually. In arriving at the net cost, it has been necessary to make assumptions as to the length of the run-off period, the return on investments and the quantum of future expenses incurred. The ultimate cost of the run-off is dependent on future events and could be materially different from the amount provided.

The run-off provision comprises:

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Expenses	8,884	10,848
Income	(726)	(995)
Provision	8,158	9,853
The run-off provision is included in the balance sheet:		
Claims outstanding (note 16)	8,158	9,853

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

20 RISK MANAGEMENT

(a) Governance

The primary objective of the Group's risk and financial management framework is to protect the Group's policyholders from events that hinder the payment of valid claims when they fall due.

With a small number of staff, the Directors are heavily involved in the running of the business.

(b) Capital management objectives, policies and approach

The Group ceased issuing policies in December 1994 and entered into solvent run-off.

The Group's approach to managing capital involves managing assets, liabilities and risks in a coordinated way with investments held with a maturity profile which matches the estimated claims settlement pattern by currency in order to minimise exchange and reinvestment risk. The Group discounts its claims liabilities relating to "long-tail" North American liability business, including the run-off provision. Future investment income is expected to at least equal the discount provided.

The Group is subject to capital requirements imposed by the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA). Throughout the year the Group has been Companies Act compliant but has not met Solvency II, which is used to calculate the Group's capital requirement.

At 31 December 2018 the Group had a regulatory deficit against its minimum consolidated SCR of approximately £6m (2017: £9m)(unaudited).

The Group has provided a plan to the PRA setting out how it intends to meet MCR by 2019. This will be achieved mainly through the natural reduction in Technical Reserves.

(c) Insurance risk

The principal risk the Group faces under insurance contracts is that actual claims payments or the timing thereof differ from expectation. This is influenced by frequency of claims, severity of claims, actual benefits paid and subsequent development of claims.

There are considerable uncertainties in the provision for claims outstanding. This is in part due to the long term nature of the claims and in part the vagaries of the American legal system. The Group constantly assesses the exposures and wherever possible seeks to make favourable settlements.

The Group purchased reinsurance as part of its risks mitigation programme. Reinsurance ceded was placed on both a proportional and non-proportional basis. The majority of proportional reinsurance was quota-share reinsurance which was taken out to reduce the overall exposure to certain classes of business. Non-proportional reinsurance is primarily excess—of—loss reinsurance designed to mitigate the Group's net exposure to catastrophe losses. Retention limits for the excess—of—loss reinsurance vary by product line and territory.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

20 RISK MANAGEMENT - continued

Amounts recoverable from reinsurers are estimated in a manner consistent with the outstanding claims provision and are in accordance with the reinsurance contracts. Although the Group has reinsurance arrangements, it is not relieved of its direct obligations to its policyholders and thus a credit exposure exists with respect to coded insurance, to the extent that any reinsurer is unable to meet its obligations assumed under such reliesurance agreements. The Group's placement of reinsurance was diversified such that it is neither dependent on a single reinsurer nor are the operations substantially dependent upon any single reinsurance contract.

The Group's remaining liabilities principally relate to general liability policies issued to US corporations.

The most significant remaining risks arise from claims caused by latent diseases which by their nature take many years to manifest themselves. There is also a significant risk to environmental pollution claims. These are long tail claims that take some years to settle, there is also litigation risk.

The table below confirms that all remaining claim liabilities relate to General Liability contracts.

		2018			2017		
	Gross	Reinsurance	Net	Gross	Reinsurance	Net	
	liabilities	of liabilities	liabilities	liabilities	of liabilities	liabilities	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
General Liability	99,217	27,187	72,030	101,979	26,654	75,325	
Total	99,217	27,187	72,030	101,979	26,654	75,325	

The geographical concentration of the outstanding claim liabilities is noted below. The disclosure is based on the location of the claimants.

		2018			2017	
	Gross	Reinsurance	Net	Gross	Reinsurance	Net
	liabilities	of liabilities	liabilities	liabilities	of liabilities	liabilities
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
United Kingdom	3,669	-	3,669	4,142	-	4,142
USA	95,000	27,187	67,813	97,235	26,654	70,581
EEA	548	-	548	602	-	602
Total	99,217	27,187	72,030	101,979	26,654	75,325

Sensitivities

The outstanding claim liabilities represent a best estimate of a range of possible outcomes. As disclosed elsewhere these are long tail claims subject to a significant range of possible outcomes. As a guide other possible outcomes could be 25% less than the best estimate or 70% more and a 1% increase or decrease in the discount rate would lead to a 7% increase or 6% decrease in net liabilities.

Claims development table

The Group ceased issuing all new and renewal insurance contracts in 1994 more than 20 years ago. An analysis of claims development by underwriting year or accident year is not therefore meaningful and has not been prepared. Notes 3 and 16 give an analysis of claims movements during the year including the effects of exchange.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

20 RISK MANAGEMENT - continued

d) Financial risk

(1) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss to the other party by failing to discharge an obligation.

The following policies and procedures are in place to mitigate the exposure to credit risk:

- The Group sets the maximum amounts and limits that may be advanced to corporate counterparties by reference to their long term credit ratings.
- As the Group is in claims run-off no reinsurance policies have been written for more than 20 years.
- Reinsurance debtors are subject to regular reviews by the credit committee, chaired by the Managing Director, with reviews for creditworthmess and the provision for impairment is revised annually as necessary. The credit committee minutes are circulated to the Board of Directors who provide appropriate feedback.

The tables below show the maximum exposure to credit risk (including an analysis of financial assets exposed to credit risk) for the components of the statement of financial position. The maximum exposure is shown gross, before the effect of mitigation through collateral agreements.

	Neither			
	past due			
	nor			
2018	impaired	Past due	Impaired	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Other financial investments – debt securities	63,464	-	-	63,464
Deposits with credit institutions	3,318	_	-	3,318
Reinsurers' share of claims outstanding	27,187	-	-	27,187
Debtors arising out of direct insurance operations	261	•	-	261
Other debtors	4	=	-	4
Cash at bank and in hand	7,748	-	-	7,748
	101,982			101,982
2017				
Other financial investments – debt securities	58,486	-	_	58,486
Deposits with credit institutions	8,932	_	-	8,932
Reinsurers' share of claims outstanding	26,654	_	-	26,654
Debtors arising out of direct insurance operations	398	-	_	398
Other debtors	5	-	-	5
Cash at bank and in hand	8,348	-	•	8,348
	102,823			102,823

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

20 RISK MANAGEMENT - continued

The table below provides information regarding the credit risk exposure of the Group at 31 December 2017 by classifying assets according to Moody's credit ratings of the counterparties. AAA is the highest possible rating. Assets that fall outside the range of AAA to BBB are classified as speculative grade and have not been rated. Debtors, other than amounts due from reinsurers, have been excluded from the table as these are not rated.

2018	AAA £'000	AA £'000	A £'000	BBB £'000	Not rated £'000	Total £'000
Other financial investments						
 debt securities 	20,292	3,904	10,943	25,431	2,894	63,464
Deposits with credit institutions	-	3,133	i 85	-	-	3,318
Reinsurers' share of claims outstanding	-	2,667	15,049	4,659	4,812	27,187
Debtors arising out of reinsurance	-	_	-	-	261	261
Cash at bank and in hand	-	1,299	6,449	-	-	7,748
	20,292	11,003	32,626	30,090	7,967	101,978
2017						
Other financial investments						
- debt securities	17,212	3,542	13,496	21,522	2,714	58,486
Deposits with credit institutions	, -	1,669	7,263	-	-	8,932
Reinsurers' share of claims outstanding	-	2,679	14,476	4,567	4,932	26,654
Debtors arising out of reinsurance	-	-	-	-	398	398
Cash at bank and in hand	-	826	7,668	-	-	8,494
-	17,212	8,716	42,903	26,089	8,044	102,964

(2) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that an insurance company will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial instruments.

The following policies and procedures are in place to mitigate the Group's exposure to liquidity risk:

• Guidelines on asset allocation, portfolio limit structures and maturity profiles of assets are set, in order to ensure that sufficient funding is available to meet its obligations under insurance and investment contracts.

Maturity profiles

The table below summarises the maturity profile of the Group's financial liabilities based on remaining undiscounted contractual obligations, including interest payable, and outstanding claim liabilities based on the estimated timing of claim payments resulting from recognised insurance liabilities. Repayments which are subject to notice are treated as if notice were to be given immediately.

						Total and
	Up to a			5-10	Over 10	carrying
At 31 December 2018 Outstanding claim liabilities Creditors	year £'000 14,331 486	1–2 years £'000 8,972	2–5 years £'000 24,748	years £'000 28,326	years £'000 39,999	amount £'000 116,376 486
At 31 December 2017 Outstanding claim liabilities Creditors	14,230 430	10,293	23,669	28,767 -	40,698	117,657 430

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

20 RISK MANAGEMENT - continued

(3) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk comprises three types of risk:

- (a) currency risk;
- (b) interest rate risk; and
- (c) equity price risk.

The following policies and procedures are in place to mitigate the exposure to market risk:

- The Directors have approved a range of investment holdings which they have assessed as being appropriate to meet the Group's requirements of a prudent liability driven investment policy. Compliance with this policy is monitored and exposures and breaches are reported to the Board quarterly. The policy is reviewed regularly for pertinence and for changes in the risk environment.
- For assets backing outstanding claims provisions, market risk is managed by matching the duration and profile of assets to the technical provisions they are backing. This helps manage market risk to the extent that changes in the values of assets are matched by a corresponding movement in the values of the technical provisions.

(a) Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates.

The Group is exposed to currency risk (US Dollar) in respect of certain liabilities under policies of insurance in the USA. The Group seeks to mitigate the risk by matching the estimated foreign currency denominated liabilities with assets denominated in the same currency.

The table below summarises the exposure of the financial assets and liabilities to foreign currency exchange risk at the reporting date, as follows:

	2018	2017
	USD exposure	USD exposure
	£'000	£'000
Other financial investments	58,596	59,388
Debtors	1,047	954
Cash at bank	4,678	6,427
	64,321	66,769
Creditors including Technical Provisions	59,924	60,846

(b) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates.

Floating rate instruments expose the Group to cash flow interest risk, whereas fixed rate instruments expose the Group to fair value interest risk.

The Group's interest risk policy requires it to manage the interest rate risk by maintaining a portfolio of predominantly fixed rate instruments the profile and maturity of which matches that of the insurance liabilities. As the insurance liabilities are fully discounted at a rate reflecting the recent historical returns of the portfolio an increase or decrease in interest rates is unlikely to have a material impact on either profit before tax or equity.

The Group has no significant concentration of interest rate risk.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

20 RISK MANAGEMENT - continued

(c) Equity price risk

Equity price risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk or currency risk), whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual financial instrument or its issuer, or factors affecting all similar financial instruments traded in the market.

The Group's equity price risk exposure relates to financial assets and financial liabilities whose values will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices, principally investment securities.

The equity price risk policy requires it to manage such risks by setting and monitoring objectives and constraints on investments.

There is no significant concentration of equity price risk.

The analysis below is performed for reasonably possible movements in market indices on financial instruments, showing the impact on profit before tax due to changes in fair value of financial assets and liabilities (whose fair values are recorded in the income statement) and equity (that reflects adjustments to profit before tax and changes in fair value of available for sale financial assets that are equity instruments).

		31 December 2018 Impact on		31 December 2017 Impact on	
	Change in	profit	Impact on	profit	Impact on
	variables	before tax	equity*	before tax	equity*
Changes in variables - market indices	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
FTSE 100 / S&P 500	+10%	1,522	1,522	1,808	1,808
FTSE 100 / S&P 500	-10%	(1,522)	(1,522)	(1,808)	(1,808)

^{*}There is no difference on the impact on profit before tax and equity as the Group has significant brought forward

The method used for deriving sensitivity information and significant variable did not change from the previous period.

21 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

£4 million (2017: £4 million) of US Government Bonds are held by a bank as collateral for letter of credit facilities which the Group has with the bank.

22 RELATED PARTIES

Companies treated as related parties of the Group for disclosure purposes under FRS 102, together with the nature of the relationship, are listed below:

Companies with common Directors: Isis Consulting Inc.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2018

23 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Details of the emoluments paid to Directors can be found in note 6.

Ms A Duffy and Mr H Sopher. Firectors of The Dominion Insurance Company Limited, and owners of the entire share capital of BD Cooke Investments Limited, are also directors of Isis Consulting Inc. During 2018 Isis Consulting Inc provided The Dominion Insurance Company Limited with consultancy services for fees totalling US\$380,000 (2017: US\$742,000), of which US\$90,000 (2017: US\$Nil) was outstanding at 31 December 2018.

Key management personnel

All directors and certain senior employees who have authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Group are considered to be key management personnel. Total remuneration is respect of these individuals is £329,000 (2017 - £404,000).

24 NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Cash and cash equivalents comprise the following:

, ,	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Cash at bank and in hand Short-term deposits with credit institutions	7,083 665	7,048 1,300
	7,748	8,348

25 OBLIGATIONS UNDER LEASES AND HIRE PURCHASE CONTRACTS

Future minimum rentals payable under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Not later than one year	66	66
Later than one year and not later than five years	82	82
Later than five years	-	-
	148	148

Operating lease agreements where the Group is lessor

The Group owns one building which is a mixed use property, as disclosed in Note 10, part of which is let to third parties. These non-cancellable leases have remaining terms of between 1 and 3 years. No contingent rentals have been recognised as income.

Future minimum rentals receivable under non-cancellable operating leases for future periods are as follows:

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Not later than one year Later than one year and not later than five years	74 173	74 173
	247	247