Registration number: 05782908

Centrica Hive Limited

(Formerly Centrica Connected Home Limited)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2017

18/09/2018 **COMPANIES HOUSE**

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Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2017

The Directors present the Strategic Report for Centrica Hive Limited (the 'Company') for the year ended 31 December 2017. On 16 February 2018 the name of the Company was changed from Centrica Connected Home Limited to Centrica Hive Limited.

Principal activities

The principal activities of the Company are the development of a software platform, and associated hardware products related to virtual home monitoring, together with the sale of Hive Smart thermostats and other connected Hive products and services. This assists our customers in the areas of home energy management, home automation and peace of mind.

Review of the business

The results of the Company for the year, as set out on page 11, show a loss before income tax for the year of £75,691,000 (2016: £41,566,000 loss). The increase in losses from the previous year predominantly reflects investment in infrastructure, product development and capability to support business growth. Exceptional items of £348,000 were incurred in the year, representing the Company's share of Group restructuring costs (2016: £nil).

During the year, we introduced a number of new offerings including Hive Live: a home security package which has a 'mimic mode' that turns lights on and off around the home in a pattern designed to look like it is occupied. Boiler IQ and HVAC Diagnostics monitor the customers boiler and notify them when it stops heating the radiators or generating hot water. Our Energy Insights service helps customers understand how they use energy in their home and manage it better. New products launched in the year include smart lights, motion and contact sensors and the Hive Active Plug.

A notable success was our launch in Italy, together with a partnership with ENI Gas E Luce S.P.A. ENI are an Italian energy company with a power and gas customer base of eight million accounts. They are currently selling our heating kits through selected distribution channels and regions.

Following on from the Flowgem acquisition in 2016, the commercial launch in the UK of the HIVE leak detection proposition went ahead in November. Hive Leak Plan is a monthly subscription plan which helps customers detect a potential leak.

As at 31 December 2017, the Company had net liabilities of £93,782,000 (2016: net liabilities of £34,248,000). Cash balances at 31 December were £69,000 (2016: £1,509,000). The decrease from the prior year reflects investment in the business, as described above.

Principal risks and uncertainties

From the Company's perspective, the principal risks and uncertainties are integrated with the principal risks of the Centrica plc Group ('the Group') and are not managed separately. Accordingly, the principal risks and uncertainties of the Group, which include those of the Company, are disclosed on pages 52-62 of the Group Annual Report and Accounts 2017, which does not form part of this report. Further details can be found in the Directors' report on pages 3 and 4.

Exit from the European Union

The UK referendum vote in June 2016 to leave the European Union has added to the risks and uncertainties faced by the Company. However, it is considered that the direct impact on the Company is limited in the short-term. Many details of the implementation process remain unclear. Extricating from the European Union treaties is a task of immense complexity but the Company is well-positioned to manage market impacts. There are also potential tax consequences of the withdrawal and these will be reassessed at each reporting date to ensure our tax provisions reflect the most likely outcome following the withdrawal.

Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2017 (continued)

Key performance indicators ('KPIs')

The Directors of the Company use a number of KPIs to monitor progress against the strategy of the Group, which are primarily profit before tax and net liabilities, as described above. The development, performance and position of the Group, which includes the Company, is disclosed on pages 30 and 31 of the Group's Annual Report and Accounts 2017, which does not form part of this report.

Future developments

The Group continues to implement the results of the 2015 strategic review. This implementation includes a review of how the Group's businesses are structured and may result in future changes to underlying subsidiary business operations including those of the Company.

The Company is focussed on the development of various new products that complement the current home heating platform and on entry into new geographical markets.

The Company will continue to expand the Hive product range. In 2018 the Company launched two new products and several new offerings including Hive View Camera which will be a new smart indoor camera and Hive Hub 360 that will allow users to connect devices and detect important sounds around the house like smoke alarms.

The Company plans to build a global business providing new and innovative solutions for consumers across the world. Following our launch in Italy in 2017 we have entered the market in France in 2018 and intend to further expand our global footprint.

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Approved by the Board on \(\mathbb{G}\) September 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

By order of the Board for and on behalf of Centrica Secretaries Limited

Company Secretary

Company registered in England and Wales, No. 05782908

Registered office: Millstream Maidenhead Road Windsor Berkshire SL4 5GD

Directors' Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2017

The Directors present their annual report and the audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2017.

Directors of the Company

The Directors who held office during the year and up to the date of signing this report were as follows:

N Bhatia (resigned 15 December 2017)

C Gard (resigned 13 November 2017)

K Ringrose (appointed 7 November 2017)

The following directors were appointed after the year end:

R Callaghan (appointed 1 January 2018)

C Miles (appointed 1 January 2018)

Results and dividends

The results of the Company are set out on page 11. The loss for the financial year ended 31 December 2017 is £60,135,000 (2016: loss £33,296,000).

No dividends were paid during the year (2016: £nil) and the Directors do not recommend the payment of a final dividend (2016: £nil).

The financial position of the Company is presented in the Statement of Financial Position on page 12. Total equity at 31 December 2017 is £(93,782,000) (2016: £(34,248,000)).

Financial risk management

Objectives and policies

The Directors have established objectives and policies for managing financial risks to enable the Company to achieve its long-term shareholder value growth targets within a prudent risk management framework. These objectives and policies are regularly reviewed.

Exposure in terms of price risk, credit risk, liquidity risk and cash flow risk

Risk of financial loss due to exposure to market movements on hardware price risk arises in the normal course of business. Strategies to manage the risk include hedging, long lead time purchases, regular supplier evaluations and contract renegotiations, as appropriate.

Exposure to counterparty credit risk and liquidity risk arises in the normal course of the Company's business and is managed within parameters set by the Directors.

Counterparty credit exposures are monitored by individual counterparty and by category of credit rating, and are subject to approved limits. Exposure to credit risk is limited predominantly to exposure with other Group companies or arises in the normal course of operations as a result of the potential for a customer to default on their payable balance. In the case of business customers, credit risk is managed by checking a company's creditworthiness and financial strength both before commencing to trade and during a business relationship. An ageing of receivables is monitored and used to manage the exposure to credit risk.

Cash forecasts identifying the liquidity requirements of the Company are produced and reviewed periodically to ensure there is sufficient financial headroom for at least a twelve month period from the date of approval of these financial statements.

Exposure in terms of financial assets and reporting risks

The Company has material amounts of internally generated intangible assets capitalised in the prior and current years. The Company makes judgements in considering the cost capitalised and assessing whether those costs remain recoverable based on their continued utilisation to generate economic benefit.

The Company has material long-lived assets that are assessed for impairment at each reporting date. The Company makes judgements and estimates in considering whether the carrying amounts of these assets are recoverable. The key assets that are subjected to impairment tests are internally generated software development costs and goodwill. For details of the amounts of key assets which are subject to impairment tests, see note 12.

Employees

The Company remains committed to employee involvement throughout the business. Employees are kept well informed of the performance and strategy of the Group through personal briefings, regular meetings, email and broadcasts at key points in the year.

The Group's all-employee share schemes are a long-established and successful part of our total reward package, encouraging and supporting employee share ownership. The Company offers Sharesave (HMRC's Save As You Earn Scheme) and the Share Incentive Plan (SIP), with good levels of take-up in these Group schemes across the Company.

The Company is committed to an active equal opportunities policy from recruitment and selection, through training and development, performance reviews and promotion, to retirement. It is our policy to promote an environment free from discrimination, harassment and victimisation, where everyone receives equal treatment regardless of gender, colour, ethnic or national origin, disability, age, marital status, sexual orientation or religion. All decisions relating to employment practices will be objective, free from bias and based solely upon work criteria and individual merit.

It is our policy that people with disabilities should have full and fair consideration for all vacancies. During the year, we continued to demonstrate our commitment to interviewing those people with disabilities who fulfil the minimum criteria, and endeavour to retain employees in the workforce if they become disabled during employment.

Safety is the top priority of the Group. We will continue to build safety capability across the business to keep our employees, customers and others who are affected by our activities safe.

Future developments

Future developments are discussed in the Strategic Report on page 2, and form part of this report by cross-reference.

Research and development

As in prior years, research and development ('R&D') mainly comprised two distinct work streams. The first was the further development of the software platform. The second was research into other potential revenue generating activities, both in terms of hardware and software development and in terms of data analytics from data gathered from the software platform.

Where the R&D expenditure meets the criteria for recognition as an intangible asset, the costs have been capitalised. All other expenditure has been expensed in the year, either within salary costs for internal staff, or within R&D expenditure for external costs.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as Centrica plc, the ultimate parent company, currently intends to support the Company to ensure it can meet its obligations as they fall due, provided the Company remains a member of the Group. The Directors have received confirmation that Centrica plc intends to support the Company for at least one year after the financial statements were authorised for issue.

Directors' and officers' liabilities

Directors' and officers' liability insurance has been purchased by the ultimate parent company, Centrica plc, and was in place throughout the year. The insurance does not provide cover in the event that the Director is proved to have acted fraudulently.

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Strategic Report, Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable UK 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), including Financial Reporting Standard 101 'Reduced Disclosure Framework' ('FRS 101'). 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 profit or loss of the Company 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 accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards including FRS 101 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 Company will continue in business.

The Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company 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 Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Disclosure of information to the auditors

Each of the Directors who held office at the date of approval of this Directors' Report confirm that so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditors are unaware, and they have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as Directors to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditors are aware of that information.

This information is given and should by interpreted in accordance with the provisions of s418(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

Auditors

Following a rigorous selection process by the Audit Committee of Centrica plc, Deloitte LLP was selected as the Group's external auditor for the financial year commencing 1 January 2017. Consequently, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP ('PwC') ceased to hold office as auditor of the Company in 2017. Pursuant to Section 519 of the Companies Act 2006, PwC has confirmed that there are no circumstances in connection with their ceasing to hold office that need to be brought to the attention of the members or creditors of the Company.

Following the resignation of PwC as auditors of the Company and, pursuant to Section 487 of the Companies Act 2006, Deloitte LLP were appointed as auditors of the Company. Deloitte LLP continue to be the auditors of the Company.

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Approved by the Board on 13 September 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

By order of the Board for and on behalf of Centrica Secretaries Limited

Company Secretary

Company registered in England and Wales, No. 05782908

Registered office: Millstream Maidenhead Road Windsor Berkshire SL4 5GD

Independent auditors' report to the members of Centrica Hive Limited

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements of Centrica Hive Limited (the 'Company'):

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31 December 2017 and of its loss for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice including Financial Reporting Standard 101 "Reduced Disclosure Framework" ('FRS 101'); and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements which comprise:

- · the Income Statement;
- · the Statement of Financial Position;
- · the Statement of Changes in Equity; and
- the related notes 1 to 26.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 101 (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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.

We are independent of the 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.

Conclusions related to going concern

We are required by ISAs (UK) to report in respect of the following matters where:

- the Directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Directors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may
 cast significant doubt about the Company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of
 accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are
 authorised for issue.

We have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

Independent auditors' report to the members of Centrica Hive Limited (continued)

Other information

The Directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our 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 this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

Responsibilities of Directors

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement, 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 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 company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' 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: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

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 the Directors' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the Strategic Report or the Directors' Report.

Independent auditors' report to the members of Centrica Hive Limited (continued)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report in respect of the following matters 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 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
- · received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

We have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

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.

D. Winston-e

Daryl Winstone (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of Deloitte LLP Statutory Auditor 1 New Street Square London EC4A 3BZ United Kingdom

September 2018

Income Statement for the Year Ended 31 December 2017

	Note	2017 £ 000	2016 £ 000
Revenue	4	69,717	32,481
Cost of sales	5 _	(58,938)	(23,986)
Gross profit		10,779	8,495
Operating costs	5	(79,678)	(49,518)
Exceptional items - restructuring costs	7	(348)	-
Operating (loss)		(69,247)	(41,023)
Finance income	8	142	
Finance cost	8 _	(6,586)	(543)
(Loss) before income tax		(75,691)	(41,566)
Tax credit	10 _	15,556	8,270
(Loss) for the year	· 	(60,135)	(33,296)

The above results were derived from continuing operations.

There was no other comprehensive income for 2017 (2016: £nil).

Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2017

	Note	31 December 2017 £ 000	31 December 2016 £ 000
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	11	5,994	9
Intangible assets	12	74,303	40,126
Deferred tax assets	. 10	-	. 9
Investments	13	20	20
		80,317	40,164
Current assets		-	
Trade and other receivables	14	75,902	21,744
Inventories .	15	30,605	8,263
Deferred tax asset	10	•	2
Cash and cash equivalents		69	1,509
		106,576	31,518
Total assets		186,893	71,682
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	17	(279,270)	(103,301)
Provisions for other liabilities and charges	18	(193)	(193)
		(279,463)	(103,494)
Non-current liabilities			
Deferred tax liabilities	10	-	(1,369)
Provisions for other liabilities and charges	18	(1,212)	(1,067)
		(1,212)	(2,436)
Total liabilities		(280,675)	(105,930)
Net liabilities		(93,782)	(34,248)
Equity			
Share capital	20	2,030	2,030
Share premium	20	47,383	47,383
Accumulated losses	20	(143,796)	(83,661)
Other reserves	20	601	
Total equity	•	(93,782)	(34,248)

The financial statements on pages 11 to 38 were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 13 September 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

K Ringrose, Director

Company number 05782908

Statement of Changes in Equity for the Year Ended 31 December 2017

	Share capital £ 000	Share premium £ 000	Other reserves £ 000	Accumulated losses £ 000	Total equity £ 000
At 1 January 2017	2,030	47,383		(83,661)	(34,248)
Loss for the year and total comprehensive loss Share based payments	-	-	601	(60,135)	(60,135)
At 31 December 2017	2,030	47,383	601	(143,796)	(93,782)
·	Share capital £ 000	Share premium £ 000	Other reserves £ 000	Accumulated losses	Total equity £ 000
At 1 January 2016	2,030	47,383		(50,365)	(952)
Loss for the year and total comprehensive loss	· <u>=</u>			(33,296)	(33,296)
At 31 December 2016	2,030	47,383		(83,661)	(34,248)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2017

1 General information

Centrica Hive Limited (formerly Centrica Connected Home L'imited, changed its name with effect from 16 February 2018) (the 'Company') is a private company limited by shares incorporated and domiciled and registered in England and Wales in the United Kingdom.

The registered office and principal place and business is:
Millstream
Maidenhead Road
Windsor
Berkshire
SL4 5GD

The nature of the Company's operations and its principal activities are set out in the Strategic Report on pages 1 to 2.

2 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The Company financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 101 Reduced Disclosure Framework ('FRS 101'). In preparing these financial statements the Company applies the recognition, measurement and disclosure requirements of International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU ('Adopted IFRSs'), but makes amendments where necessary in order to comply with Companies Act 2006 and has set out below where advantage of the FRS 101 disclosure exemptions has been taken.

From 1 January 2017, the following amendments are effective in the Company's financial statements. Their first time adoption did not have a material impact on the financial statements:

• Amendments to IAS 12: 'Income taxes' related to the recognition of deferred tax assets for unrealised losses

In these financial statements, the Company has applied the exemptions available under FRS 101 in respect of the following disclosures:

- The requirements of IAS 7 'Statement of Cash Flows';
- The statement of compliance with Adopted IFRSs;
- · The effects of new but not yet effective IFRSs;
- Comparative period reconciliations for property, plant and equipment and intangible assets;
- Comparative period reconciliations for share capital;
- Disclosures in respect of related party transactions with wholly-owned subsidiaries in a group;
- Disclosures in respect of the compensation of key management personnel;
- · Disclosures in respect of capital management; and
- Disclosures in respect of share based payment transactions.

2 Accounting policies (continued)

As the consolidated financial statements of the Centrica plc group (the 'Group'), which are available from its registered office, include the equivalent disclosures, the Company has also taken the exemptions under FRS 101 available in respect of the following disclosures:

- Certain disclosures required by IAS 36 'Impairment of assets' in respect of the impairment of goodwill and indefinite life intangible assets;
- Certain disclosures required by IFRS 13 'Fair Value Measurement' and the disclosures required by IFRS 7
 'Financial Instruments: Disclosures' have not been provided apart from those-which are relevant for the
 financial instruments which are held at fair value;
- Certain disclosures required by IFRS 3 'Business Combinations' in respect of business combinations undertaken by the Company;
- Disclosures of the net cash flows attributable to the operating, investing and financing activities of discontinued operations; and
- Certain disclosures required by IFRS 2 'Share based payments' in respect of share schemes operated by the Group.

Measurement convention

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis except for: investments in subsidiaries that have been recognised at deemed cost on transition to FRS 101 and the carrying value of recognised assets and liabilities qualifying as hedged items in fair value hedges that have been adjusted from cost by the changes in the fair values attributable to the risks that are being hedged.

Departures from requirements of the Companies Act and their financial impact

The Company has used a true and fair view override in respect of the non-amortisation of goodwill.

The UK Companies Act requires goodwill to be reduced by provisions for depreciation on a systematic basis over a period chosen by the Directors, its useful economic life. However, under IFRS 3 Business Combinations goodwill is not amortised. Consequently, the Company does not amortise goodwill, but reviews it for impairment on an annual basis or whenever there are indicators of impairment. The Company is therefore invoking a 'true and fair view override' to overcome the prohibition on the non-amortisation of goodwill in the Companies Act. The Company is not able to reliably estimate the impact on the financial statements of the true and fair override on the basis that the useful life of goodwill cannot be predicted with a satisfactory level of reliability, nor can the pattern in which goodwill diminishes be known.

Exemption from preparing group financial statements

The Company is exempt by virtue of the Companies Act 2006 (s400) from the requirement to prepare group financial statements as it is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Centrica plc. These financial statements present information about the Company as an individual undertaking and not about its group.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The Company is loss-making and will require equity or debt financing to fund its operations until such time as sales, revenues and gross margins are sufficient to support its operations. Centrica plc, the ultimate controlling party, has confirmed its intention to provide financial support to Centrica Hive Limited for at least 12 months after the date of signing these financial statements so that the Company will be able to meet its liabilities as they fall due. It is on this basis the Directors have concluded the Company is a going concern.

These financial statements do not reflect any adjustments that may be required if the Company was unable to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Revenue recognition

Revenue is shown net of sales/value added tax, returns, rebates and discounts and is recognised when the significant risks and rewards are considered to have been transferred to the buyer.

Revenue is recognised on an accruals basis. Amounts paid in advance are treated as deferred income, with any amount in arrears recognised as accrued income. For one-off services, such as installations, revenue is recognised at the date of service provision.

Revenue in respect of subscriptions is recorded on the basis of performance obligations satisfied.

Finance income

Interest income is accrued on a time basis, by reference to the principal outstanding and at the effective interest rate applicable, which is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset to that asset's net carrying value.

Employee share schemes

The Centrica plc group, to which the Company belongs, has a number of employee share schemes, detailed in the Remuneration Report on pages 78 to 89 and in note S2 to the Group financial statements, under which it makes equity-settled share-based payments to certain employees. Equity-settled share-based payments are measured at fair value at the date of grant (excluding the effect of non-market-based vesting conditions). The fair value determined at the grant date is expensed on a straight-line basis in the income statement together with a corresponding increase in equity over the vesting period, based on the Group's estimate of the number of awards that will vest, and adjusted for the effect of non-market-based vesting conditions.

Fair value is measured using methods appropriate to each of the different schemes detailed in note S2 of the Group financial statements.

The Company's share of the Group schemes is accounted for in equity (see note 21).

Leases

The determination of whether an arrangement is, or contains, a lease is based on the substance of the arrangement and requires an assessment of whether the fulfilment of the arrangement is dependent on the use of a specific asset or assets and whether the arrangement conveys a right to use the asset or assets. Leases are classified as finance leases whenever the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to the lessee. All other leases are classified as operating leases.

Payments under operating leases are charged to the Income Statement on a straight-line basis over the term of the relevant lease.

Exceptional items

Exceptional items are those items that, in the judgement of the Directors, need to be disclosed separately by virtue of their nature, size or incidence. To ensure the business performance reflects the underlying results of the Company, these exceptional items are disclosed separately in the income statement. Items which may be considered exceptional in nature include disposals of businesses, business restructurings, significant onerous contract charges and asset write-downs/impairments..

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Foreign currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are initially recorded at the functional currency rate prevailing at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated into the functional currency of the Company at the rates prevailing at the reporting date, and associated gains and losses are recognised in the income statement for the year. Foreign exchange gains and losses that relate to borrowings and cash and cash equivalents are presented in the income statement within 'finance income or finance costs'. All other foreign exchange gains and losses are presented in the income statement in the respective financial line item to which they relate.

Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs not arising in connection with the acquisition, construction or production of a qualifying asset are expensed.

Taxation

Current tax, including UK corporation tax, is provided at amounts expected to be paid (or recovered) using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date. Tax is recognised in the income statement, except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in equity. In this case, the tax is recognised in equity.

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all temporary differences identified at the reporting date, except to the extent that the deferred tax arises from the initial recognition of goodwill or the initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction which is not a business combination and at the time of the transaction affects neither accounting profit nor taxable profit and loss. Temporary differences are differences between the carrying amount of the Company's assets and liabilities and their tax base.

Deferred tax is provided on temporary differences arising on investments in subsidiaries, joint ventures and associates, except where the timing of the reversal of the temporary difference can be controlled and it is probable that the temporary difference will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

Deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that it is probable that the deductible temporary differences will reverse in the future and there is sufficient taxable profit available against which the temporary differences can be utilised.

The amount of deferred tax provided is based on the expected manner of realisation or settlement using tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted at the reporting date.

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Business combinations and goodwill

The acquisition of assets that constitute a business is accounted for using the acquisition method (at the point the Company gains control over a business as defined by IFRS 3 ('Business combinations')). The cost of the acquisition is measured as the cash paid and the aggregate of the fair values, at the date of exchange, of other assets transferred, liabilities incurred or assumed, and equity instruments issued by the Company in exchange for control of the acquiree. The consideration transferred includes the fair value of any asset or liability resulting from a contingent consideration arrangement at the acquisition date. Goodwill arising on a business combination represents the excess of the consideration transferred and the acquisition date fair value of any previously held interest in the acquiree over the Company's interest in the fair value of the identifiable net assets acquired.

Consideration which is contingent on future events is recognised based on the estimated amount if the contingent consideration is probable and can be measured reliably. Certain subsequent changes to the amount within 12 months are treated as an adjustment to the cost of the acquisition.

Acquisition-related costs are expensed as incurred. The acquiree's identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities that meet the conditions for recognition under IFRS 3, are recognised at their fair value at the acquisition date, except for non-current assets (or disposal groups) that are classified as held for resale in accordance with IFRS 5: 'Non-current assets held for sale and discontinued operations', which are recognised and measured at fair value less costs of disposal.

Goodwill is not subject to amortisation after the transition to FRS 101 but is tested for impairment.

On disposal of a business, any amount of goodwill attributed to that business is included in the determination of the profit or loss on disposal.

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Other intangible assets

Intangible assets acquired separately are measured on initial recognition at cost. The cost of intangible assets acquired in a business combination is the fair value at the date of acquisition. Intangible assets include patents, application software and development costs.

Capitalisation begins when expenditure for the asset is being incurred and activities necessary to prepare the asset for use are in progress. Capitalisation ceases when substantially all the activities that are necessary to prepare the asset for use are complete. Amortisation commences at the point of commercial deployment. The cost of intangible assets acquired in a business combination is their fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Following initial recognition, intangible assets are carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses. The useful lives of intangible assets are assessed to be either finite or indefinite. Intangible assets with finite lives are amortised over their useful economic life and assessed for impairment whenever there is an indication that the intangible asset could be impaired. The amortisation period and the amortisation method for an intangible asset are reviewed at each financial year end. Changes in the expected useful life or the expected pattern of consumption of future economic benefits embodied in the asset are accounted for on a prospective basis by changing the amortisation period or method, as appropriate, and treated as changes in accounting estimates.

Intangible assets are derecognised on disposal, or when no future economic benefits are expected from their use.

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are tested for impairment annually, and whenever there is an indication that the intangible asset could be impaired, either individually or at the CGU level. Such intangibles are not amortised. The useful life of an intangible asset with an indefinite useful life is reviewed annually to determine whether the indefinite life assessment continues to be supportable. If not, the change in the useful life assessment from indefinite to finite is made on a prospective basis.

Amortisation of intangible assets

Amortisation is provided so as to write off the cost, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class

Acquired software development costs Internally generated software development costs Trademarks, patents and licences

Amortisation method and rate

Straight line, up to 6 years Straight line, up to 5 years Straight line, up to 5 years

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Impairment

The carrying amounts of the Company's non-financial assets, other than inventories and deferred tax assets, are reviewed at each reporting date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If any such indication exists, then the asset's recoverable amount is estimated. For goodwill, and intangible assets that have indefinite useful lives or that are not yet available for use, the recoverable amount is estimated each year at the same time.

The recoverable amount of an asset or cash-generating unit ('CGU') is the greater of its value in use and its fair value less costs of disposal. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. For the purpose of impairment testing, assets that cannot be tested individually are grouped together into the smallest group of assets that generates cash inflows from continuing use that are largely independent of the cash inflows of other assets or groups of assets (the CGU). The goodwill acquired in a business combination, for the purpose of impairment testing, is allocated to CGUs.

An impairment loss is recognised if the carrying amount of an asset or its CGU exceeds its estimated recoverable amount. Impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss. An impairment loss in respect of goodwill shall not be reversed in a subsequent period. In respect of other assets, impairment losses recognised in prior periods are assessed at each reporting date for any indications that the loss has decreased or no longer exists. An impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount.

The Company provides for impairments of financial assets when there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of events that impact the estimated future cash flows of the financial assets.

Property, plant and equipment ('PP&E')

PP&E is included in the Statement of Financial Position at cost, less accumulated depreciation and any provisions for impairment. The initial cost of an asset comprises its purchase price or construction cost and any costs directly attributable to bringing the asset into operation. The purchase price or construction cost is the aggregate amount paid and the fair value of any other consideration given to acquire the asset.

Subsequent expenditure in respect of items of PP&E such as the replacement of major parts, major inspections or overhauls, are capitalised as part of the cost of the related asset where it is probable that future economic benefits will arise as a result of the expenditure and the cost can be reliably measured. All other subsequent expenditure, including the costs of day-to-day servicing, repairs and maintenance, is expensed as incurred.

PP&E is depreciated on a straight-line basis at rates sufficient to write off the cost, less estimated residual values, of individual assets over their estimated useful lives.

Depreciation

Depreciation is charged as follows:

Asset class

Furniture, fittings and equipment

Depreciation method and rate

Straight line, over 3 years

The carrying values of PP&E are tested annually for impairment and are reviewed for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. Residual values and useful lives are reassessed annually and if necessary changes are accounted for prospectively.

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Investments in subsidiaries

Fixed assets investments in subsidiaries' are held at deemed cost on transition to FRS 101 and in accordance with IAS 27, less any provision for impairment as necessary.

Inventories

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost and estimated net realisable value after allowance for redundant and slow-moving items. Cost is calculated using the weighted average method.

Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade receivables are initially recognised at fair value, which is usually the original invoice amount and are subsequently held at amortised cost using the effective interest method (although in practice the discounting is often immaterial) less an allowance for any uncollectible amounts. Provision is made when there is objective evidence that the Company may not be able to collect the trade receivable. Balances are written off when recoverability is assessed as being remote. If collection is due in one year or less receivables are classified as current assets. If not they are presented as non-current assets.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash in hand and current balances with banks and similar institutions, which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value and have an original maturity of three months or less.

Trade and other payables

Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers.

Trade payables are initially recognised at fair value, which is usually the original invoice amount and are subsequently held at amortised cost using the effective interest method (although, in practice, the discount is often immaterial). If payment is due within one year or less payables are classified as current liabilities. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Loans and other borrowings

All interest-bearing and interest free loans and other borrowings are initially recognised at fair value net of directly attributable transaction costs. After initial recognition, these financial instruments are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, except when they are the hedged item in an effective fair value hedge relationship where the carrying value is also adjusted to reflect the fair value movements associated with the hedged risks. Such fair value movements are recognised in the Company's income statement. Amortised cost is calculated by taking into account any issue costs, discount or premium, when applicable.

Financial assets and liabilities

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised in the Company's statement of financial position when the Company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Financial assets are de-recognised when the Company no longer has the rights to cash flows, the risks and rewards of ownership or control of the asset. Financial liabilities are de-recognised when the obligation under the liability is discharged, cancelled or expires.

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Company has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, that can be measured reliably, and it is probable that the Company will be required to settle that obligation. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the obligation at the reporting date, and are discounted to present value where the effect is material.

Pensions and other post-employment benefits

The Company's employees participate in a number of the Group's defined benefit pension schemes. As the Company's share of the Group's defined benefit pension scheme surplus or deficit cannot be accurately calculated, the Company's contributions to the Group's defined benefit pension schemes are accounted for as a defined contribution scheme in the Company's financial statements. The Company's contributions to the Group's defined benefit pension schemes are recognised in the Company's Income Statement as they fall due.

The Company's share of the Group's payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are recognised in the Company's Income Statement as they fall due.

Share capital

Ordinary shares are classified as equity. Equity instruments are measured at the fair value of the cash or other resources received or receivable. Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of new shares are shown in equity as a deduction from the proceeds received. Own equity instruments that are re-acquired (treasury or own shares) are deducted from equity. No gain or loss is recognised in the Company's Income Statement on the purchase, sale, issue or cancellation of the Company's own equity instruments.

3 Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the Company's accounting policies, the Directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Management has made the following key judgements in applying the Company's accounting policies that have the most significant effect on the Company's financial statements. Additionally, the key assumptions concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the balance sheet date, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year, are discussed below.

3 Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty (continued)

Critical judgements in applying the Company's accounting policies

Capitalisation of intangible assets

The Company has material amounts of internally generated intangible assets capitalised in the prior and current years. The Company makes judgements in considering the cost capitalised and assessing whether those costs remain recoverable based on their continued utilisation to generate economic benefit.

Impairment of intangible assets

The Company has material long-lived assets that are assessed for impairment at each reporting date. The Company makes judgements and estimates in considering whether the carrying amounts of these assets are recoverable. The key assets that are subjected to impairment tests are internally generated software development costs and goodwill. For details of the amounts of key assets which are subject to impairment tests, see note 12.

Business combinations

In 2016, the Company purchased Flowgem Limited which required a fair value exercise to be undertaken to allocate the purchase price (cost) to the fair value of the acquired identifiable assets, liabilities, contingent liabilities and goodwill. As a result of the nature of fair value assessments a purchase price allocation exercise requires subjective judgements based on a wide range of complex variables at a point in time. Management uses all available information to make the fair value determinations. Details of the fair values are in note 16.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Contingent consideration

The Flowgem acquisition included the potential payment of deferred consideration. Consideration is payable to the vendors at the rate of £1 for each unit that is sold or supplied to a customer and activated on the platform for a three year period. The contingent consideration is capped at a maximum. IFRS 3 requires contingent consideration to be measured at fair value at the acquisition date. The fair value calculations include estimates of probabilities of different outcomes including likelihood and timing of volumes supplied in the earn-out period. Details of the liability can be found in notes 16 and 18.

4 Revenue

The analysis of the Company's revenue for the year from continuing operations is as follows:

·	2017 £ 000	2016 £ 000
Sale of goods	68,130	32,481
Subscription income	1,587	<u> </u>
	69,717	32,481
Revenue - by geography (based on location of customer)		
	2017 £ 000	2016 £ 000
United Kingdom	37,395	32,150
North America	31,980	331
Rest of the world	342	
	69,717	32,481

5 Analysis of costs by nature

Research and development costs expensed in the period totalled £5,242,000 (2016: £816,000). These were included within Wages and salaries and Other employee expenses within Other operating costs below.

			2017
		Other	
	Cost of sales	operating costs	Total costs
	£ 000	£ 000	£ 000
Hardware and installation costs	58,938	-	58,938
Wages and salaries	-	23,443	23,443
Other employee expenses (including subcontractors			
and agency staff)	-	33,449	33,449
Depreciation, amortisation, impairment and			
write-downs	-	9,918	9,918
Foreign exchange (gains) / losses	-	(448)	(448)
Other costs	•	13,165	13,165
Impairment of trade receivables		151	151
	58,938	79,678	138,616
			2016
		Other	
•	Cost of sales	operating costs	Total costs
	£ 000	£ 000	£ 000
Hardware and installation costs	23,751	-	23,751
Wages and salaries	-	22,326	22,326
Other employee expenses (including subcontractors			
and agency staff)	205	17,519	17,724
Depreciation, amortisation, impairment and		•	
write-downs	-	1,764	1,764
Foreign exchange (gains) / losses	-	253	253
Other costs	30	7,656	7,686
	23,986	49,518	73,504

6 Employees' costs

The disclosures in this note reflect the costs and number of all Centrica plc Group employees that work in the Centrica Hive Limited business regardless of whether they have a contract of employment with Centrica Hive Limited or another Group company. The Directors believe that the disclosures given on this basis are the fullest representation of the cost borne by the Company and of the number of employees working in the business.

6 Employees' costs (continued)

The aggregate employee costs (including Directors' remuneration) were as follows:

	2017 £ 000	2016 £ 000 .
Wages and salaries	19,033	18,968
Social security costs	2,359	1,800
Pension and other post-employment benefit costs	1,450	1,206
Share-based payment expenses	601	352
•	23,443	22,326

In respect of the Directors' remuneration, refer to note 25 'Related parties transactions'.

The monthly average number of persons employed by the Company (including Directors) during the year, analysed by category was as follows:

	2017 No. of employees	2016 No. of employees ⁽ⁱ⁾
Administration and support	92	56
Product development and sales	237	205
	329	261

⁽i) 2016 numbers include Flowgem employees from the date of acquisition.

7 Exceptional items

The following exceptional items were recognised in arriving at operating loss for the reporting period:

	2017	2016
	£ 000	£ 000
Restructuring costs	348	

Restructuring costs represent a share of costs incurred in the transformation of the Group Shared Services function. This includes redundancy payments, consultancy and costs associated with implementing global information technology systems.

8 Net finance income/(cost)

Finance income

Interest income from amounts owed by Group undertakings	2017 £ 000 142	2016 £ 000
Finance (cost)		
	2017 £ 000	2016 £ 000
Interest on amounts owed to Group undertakings	(6,642)	(272)
Net foreign exchange gains/(losses) on financing transactions	56	(271)
Total finance (cost)	(6,586)	(543)
Net finance (cost)	(6,444)	(543)

9 Auditors' remuneration

The Company paid the following amounts to its auditors in respect of the audit of the financial statements provided to the Company.

	2017	2016
	£ 000	£ 000
Audit fees	40	48

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption not to disclose amounts paid for non-audit services as these are disclosed in the Group financial statements of its ultimate parent, Centrica plc.

10 Tax

Tax (credited) in the Income Statement

	2017 £ 000	2016 £ 000
Current tax		
UK corporation tax at 19.25% (2016: 20.00%)	(14,076)	(8,724)
UK corporation tax adjustment to prior years	(120)	
	(14,196)	(8,724)
Deferred tax		
Arising from origination and reversal of temporary differences - UK	(1,489)	454
Arising from changes in tax rates and laws	173	-
Arising from tax adjustments to prior years	(44)	
Total deferred taxation	(1,360)	454
Tax credit in the Income Statement	(15,556)	(8,270)

The Company incurs the majority of its losses in the UK. Its activities are subject to the standard rate for UK corporation tax, which for 2017 was 19.25% (2016: 20.00%).

10 Tax (continued)

The differences between the taxes shown above and the amounts calculated by applying the standard rate of UK corporation tax to the loss before tax are reconciled below:

	2017 £ 000	2016 £ 000
Loss before tax	(75,691)	(41,566)
Tax (credit) at standard UK corporation tax rate of 19.25% (2016: 20.00%)	(14,571)	(8,313)
Effects of:		
Net expenses non-deductible for tax purposes	58	43
Adjustment for prior periods	(164)	(17)
Revenues exempt from taxation	-	(664)
Decrease from tax losses for which no deferred tax asset was recognised	-	1
Effect of exercise of employee share options	12	•
Effects of Group relief tax reconciliation	204	-
Transfer pricing adjustments	(204)	-
Deferred tax expense/(credit) relating to changes in tax rates or laws	173	(79)
Non qualifying assets		759
Credit from utilisation of tax losses	(1,064)	
Total tax	(15,556)	(8,270)

The main rate of corporation tax for the year to 31 December 2017 was 19.25%. The corporation tax rate will reduce to 17% with effect from 1 April 2020 following the enactment of Finance Act 2016. The deferred tax assets and liabilities included in these financial statements are based on the reduced rate of 17% having regard to their reversal profiles.

Deferred tax

		Other timing differences including	,	
	Accelerated tax	losses carried	Financial	
	depreciation £ 000	forward £ 000	instruments £ 000	Total £ 000
1 January 2017	-	1,369	(9)	1,360
Prior year adjustments	(44)	•	-	(44)
Charged/(credited) to the Income Statement	44	(1,369)	. 9	(1,316)
31 December 2017		-	-	•

Other timing differences including losses carried forward includes £1,369,000 of deferred tax liability from temporary timing differences and a £1,369,000 deferred tax asset recognised on carried forward trading losses.

There is £38,728,000 of deductible temporary differences (2016: £45,519,000) and £nil of fixed assets (2016: £262,000) and £(3,000) of other temporary differences (2016: £(3,000)) for which no deferred tax asset is recognised in the Statement of Financial Position.

11 Property, plant and equipment

	Furniture, fittings and equipment
	£ 000
Cost or valuation	
At 1 January 2017	962
Additions	3,930
Transfers from parent undertaking (i)	3,189
At 31 December 2017	8,081
Accumulated depreciation	
At 1 January 2017	953
Charge for the year	1,134
At 31 December 2017	2,087
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2017	5,994
At 31 December 2016	9

⁽i) Transfers from parent undertaking are assets utilised by the Company but originally purchased by the parent company, pre-acquisition. The transfers were at net book value.

12 Intangible assets

	.Goodwill £ 000	Trademarks, patents and licences £ 000	Internally generated software development costs	Total £ 000
Cost or valuation				
At 1 January 2017	13,065	250	30,070	43,385
Additions	-	-	30,996	30,996
Transfers from parent undertaking (i)			11,965	11,965
At 31 December 2017	13,065	250	73,031	86,346
Accumulated amortisation				
At 1 January 2017	-	154	3,105	3,259
Amortisation charge		50	· 8,734	8,784
At 31 December 2017		204	11,839	12,043
Carrying amount				
At 31 December 2017	13,065	46	61,192	74,303
At 31 December 2016	13,065	96	26,965	40,126

⁽i) Transfers from parent undertaking are assets utilised by the Company but originally purchased by the parent company, pre-acquisition. The transfers were at net book value.

The maximum remaining useful economic life of the the individually material assets within Internally generated software development costs is four years. This represents the Hive software platform and its subsequent enhancements, which has a carrying value of £11,563,000 (2016: £9,502,000).

12 Intangible assets (continued)

Individually material intangible assets

Impairment of goodwill and intangibles with indefinite lives

Goodwill acquired through business combinations, and indefinite-lived intangible assets, have been allocated for impairment testing purposes to individual CGUs representing the lowest level at which the goodwill or indefinite-lived intangible asset is monitored for internal management purposes.

Goodwill and indefinite life intangible assets considered significant in comparison to the Company's total carrying amount of such assets have been allocated to cash generating units as follows:

Cash generating unit:	Goodwill 2017	2016
	0003	£000
Connected Home	13,065	13,065
•	13,065	13,065

The recoverable amounts of cash generating units have been calculated with reference to their value in use.

The VIU calculations use pre-tax cash flow projections based on Board-approved business plans for five years. The business plans are based on past experience and adjusted to reflect market trends, economic conditions, key risks, and the implementation of strategic objectives, as appropriate.

Cash flows beyond the planned period have been extrapolated using long-term growth rates in the market where the CGU operates. Long-term growth rates are determined using a blend of publicly available historical data and long-term growth rate forecasts published by external analysts. Cash flows are discounted using a discount rate specific to each CGU. Discount rates reflect the current market assessments of the time value of money and are based on the estimated cost of capital of each CGU. Additionally, risks specific to the cash flows of the CGUs are reflected within cash flow forecasts. Each CGU's weighted average cost of capital is then adjusted to reflect the impact of tax in order to calculate an equivalent pre-tax discount rate. Long-term growth rates and pre-tax discount rates used in the VIU calculations were 2.6% and 9.5% respectively.

The inflation rate used for the VIU calculations was 2.6%.

Amortisation and impairment charge

The amortisation and impairment charges are recognised in the following line items in the Income Statement:

	2017	2016
	£ 000	£ 000
Other operating costs	8,784	1,708
	8,784	1,708

13 Investments

Investments classified as non-current

Equity investments	Shares in group undertakings (subsidiaries) £ 000
Cost	
At 1 January 2016	. 20
Additions (i)	16,311
Disposals (i)	(16,311)
At 31 December 2016	
At 1 January 2017	20
At 31 December 2017	20
Net book value	
At 31 December 2017	
At 31 December 2016	

Details of the equity interests of the Company in its subsidiaries can be found in note 24.

14 Trade and other receivables

	2017	2016
	Current	Current
	£ 000	£ 000
Trade receivables	8,514	4,120
Amounts owed by associated group companies	61,913	16,256
Other receivables	4	18
Prepayments	1,307	-
Accrued income	4,164	1,350
	75,902	21,744

The amounts receivable from associated group companies include nil (2016: £2,208,000) that bears interest at a quarterly rate determined by Group Treasury and linked to the Group cost of funds. The quarterly rates ranged between 3.66 and 3.86% per annum during 2017 (2016: 3.04 and 4.04%). The other amounts receivable from associated group companies are interest-free. All amounts receivable from associated group companies are unsecured and repayable on demand.

⁽i) As detailed in note 16, in 2016 the Company acquired the issued share capital of Flowgem Limited. Subsequently the trade and assets of Flowgem Limited were hived up into Centrica Hive Limited.

15 Inventories

	2017	2016
	£ 000	£ 000
Finished goods and goods for resale	30,605	8,263

There is no significant difference between the replacement cost of inventories and their carrying amounts.

The Company consumed £50,648,000 of inventories (2016: £16,061,000) during the year. Write-downs amounting to £1,485,000 (2016: £272,000) were charged to the Income Statement in the year and are disclosed as Other costs within Other operating costs.

16 Acquisitions - business combinations

Business combinations completed in 2016

On 25 August 2016, the Company acquired 100% of the issued share capital of Flowgem Limited ('Flowgem') for net cash consideration of £11,730,000 and contingent consideration with a fair value of £4,581,000 (a total net consideration of £16,311,000). Subsequent to acquisition, there was a delay in the expected roll-out of the leak propositions due to additional development required to the platform and infrastructure post-acquisition to bring the product to market. As a result, management updated the fair value calculations relating to the contingent consideration giving rise to a credit of £3,321,000 in the 2016 Income Statement. This was disclosed as part of Other costs within Other operating costs. The contingent consideration included in note 18 of £1,260,000 (2016: £1,260,000) is reviewed in light of the latest estimates of likely sales of the leak products.

There have been no significant updates in 2017 to the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities recognised for this acquisition.

17 Trade and other payables

•	2017	2016
	Current	Current
	£ 000	£ 000
Trade payables	2,800	383
Accrued expenses	7,051	437
Amounts owed to parent company	203,183	95,627
Social security and other taxes	885	•
Amounts owed to associated group companies	65,351	6,854
	279,270	103,301

The amounts payable to the parent company and associated group companies include £214,243,000 (2016: £26,873,000) that bears interest at a quarterly rate determined by Group Treasury and linked to the Group cost of funds. The quarterly rates ranged between 3.66 and 3.86% per annum during 2017 (2016: 3.04 and 4.04%). The other amounts payable to associated group companies are interest-free. All amounts payable to the parent company and associated group companies are unsecured and repayable on demand.

18 Provisions for other liabilities and charges

	Employee benefits ⁽ⁱ⁾ £ 000	Other provisions ⁽ⁱⁱ⁾ £ 000	Total £ 000
Non-current liabilities	145	1,067	1,212
Current liabilities		193	. 193
At 1 January 2017	-	1,260	1,260
Additional provisions	145	<u>-</u>	145
At 31 December 2017	145	1,260	1,405

⁽i) Employee benefits consist of national insurance on the Company's share of Group share based payments.

⁽ii) Other provisions carried forward of £1,260,000 are in respect of deferred consideration (2016: £1,260,000); £193,000 of which is due within one year (2016: £193,000). More information on this is disclosed in note 16.

19 Post-retirement benefits

(a) Defined benefit pension schemes

The Company's employees participate in a number of Group defined benefit pension schemes. Information on these schemes is provided in note 22 to the Group financial statements. The Company is unable to accurately identify its share of the overall pension scheme surplus or deficit and therefore accounts for the schemes as if they were a defined contribution scheme. Contributions payable of £309,000 (2016: £nil) were recognised as an expense payable in the Income Statement.

(b) Defined contribution pension scheme

The cost charged to the Income Statement of £1,141,000 (2016: £1,206,000) represents the Company's share of contributions due to the scheme by the Group at rates specified in the rules of the scheme.

20 Share capital and reserves

Allotted, called up and fully paid shares

	. 2017			2016
	No. 000	£ 000	No. 000	£ 000
Ordinary shares of £0.001 each	-	-	2,523	3
Preferred shares of £0.060 each	-	-	18,641	1,118
B preferred shares of £0.060 each	-	-	11,785	. 707
C preferred shares of £0.060 each	-	-	. 3,369	202
Ordinary shares of £0.060 (1				
January 2016 - £0.000) each	33,837	2,030		<u>=</u>
	33,837	2,030	36,318	2,030

The Company consolidated the Ordinary shares of £0.001 each as Ordinary shares of £0.06 each, whilst cancelling the three classes of Preferred shares, on 14 October 2017.

Share premium

Consideration transferred in excess of the nominal value of shares is allocated to share premium.

Other reserves

Other reserves are the share-based payments reserve which reflects the obligation to deliver shares to employees under the existing share schemes in return for services provided to the Company.

Accumulated losses

The balance classified as accumulated losses includes the profits and losses realised by the Company in previous years that were not distributed to the shareholder of the Company at the balance sheet date.

21 Share-based payments

Employee share schemes are designed to encourage participants to align their objectives with those of shareholders. The Company participates in several employee share schemes which gave rise to a charge of £601,000 which is shown under the financial line item 'other operating costs'. The schemes that Centrica Hive employees participated in are described below.

On Track Incentive Plan

Awards under the OTIP are available to senior executives, senior and middle management. Shares vest subject to continued employment within Group in two stages: half after two years, the other half after three years. Leaving prior to the vesting date will normally mean forfeiting rights to the invested share awards. Further information on the operation of the OTIP, and the related performance conditions can be found on pages 78 to 89 of the Centrica plc 2017 Annual Report and Accounts.

Share Incentive Plan (SIP)

SIP is available to all employees who may purchase shares through monthly salary deductions - these are termed 'partnership shares'. The Group then awards one matching share for every two partnership shares, up to a maximum of 22 matching shares per employee per month. These shares have a 3 year vesting period and the shares are all held in trust. Partnership shares can be withdrawn at any time; however matching shares are forfeited if the related partnership shares are withdrawn within the vesting period.

Fair value is measured using methods appropriate to each of the different schemes detailed in note S2 of the Group financial statements.

22 Operating leases

At 31 December 2017 the Company had total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases for property with the following maturities:

•	2017 £ 000	2016 £ 000
Within one year	4,291	765
In two to five years	1,520	2,012
In over five years	<u> </u>	273
•	5,811	3,050

The amount of non-cancellable operating lease payments recognised as an expense during the year as Other operating costs was £2,354,000 (2016: £972,000). Lease arrangements comprise property rentals.

23 Other commitments and contingencies

As at 31 December 2017, the Company is obligated to the following commitments.

	2017	2016
	£ 000	£ 000
Other commitments	16,273	7,788

Included within other commitments are stock purchase commitments of £8,020,000 (2016: £6,290,000), advertising retainers for marketing purposes of £3,122,000 (2016: £1,380,000) and other commitments of £5,131,000 (2016: £118,000). Stock purchase commitments will unwind over periods ranging from four to 13 months. Advertising retainers are for three months and other commitments expire in 11 months.

24 Related undertakings

The Company holds investments in the following entities:

Name	Principal activity	Country of incorporation	Registered address key ⁽ⁱ⁾	Class of shares held	Direct investment and voting rights (%)	Indirect interest and voting rights (%)
Alertme.com GmbH	Non-trading	Germany	Α	Ordinary shares	100	-
Alertme.com Inc.	Non-trading	United . States	В	Ordinary shares	100	•
Flowgem Limited	Dormant	United Kingdom	C	Ordinary shares	100	-

⁽i) For list of registered addresses, refer to below table

All companies principally operate within their country of incorporation.

List of registered addresses

Registered address key	Address
Α	Thomas-Wimmer-Ring 1-3, 80539, Munich, Germany
В	1521 Concord Pike #3003, Wilmington, DE 19803, United States
С	Millstream, Maidenhead Road, Windsor, SL4 5GD, United Kingdom

25 Related party transactions

Directors' remuneration

The Directors' remuneration for the year was as follows:

	2017 £ 000	2016 £ 000
Directors' emoluments ·	683	678
Compensation for loss of office	77	-
Contributions to pension schemes	51	49
	811	727

The aggregate of emoluments and amounts receivable under long term incentive schemes of the highest paid Director was £442,247 (2016: £516,000), and company pension contributions of £22,000 (2016: £nil) were made to a money purchase scheme on their behalf. The highest paid Director did not exercise any share options, but did receive shares under a long term incentive scheme.

During the year the number of Directors who received post-employment benefits and share incentives was as follows:

	2017	2016
	No.	No.
Received or were entitled to receive shares under long term incentive schemes	3	. 1
Accruing benefits under defined benefit pension scheme	2	1
Accruing benefits under money purchase pension scheme	1	1

Other

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption within FRS 101 from disclosure of transactions with other wholly-owned Centrica plc Group companies and key management personnel compensation.

26 Parent and ultimate parent undertaking

The immediate parent undertaking is British Gas Trading Limited, a company registered in England and Wales.

The ultimate parent undertaking is Centrica plc, a company registered in England and Wales, which is the only company to include these financial statements in its consolidated financial statements. Copies of the Centrica plc consolidated financial statements may be obtained from www.centrica.com. The financial statements can also be obtained from the following address;

Millstream Maidenhead Road Windsor Berkshire SL4 5GD England and Wales