MIDLAND BANK TRUST COMPANY LIMITED ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 31 DECEMBER 1996



Annual report for the year ended 31 December 1996

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Directors' report for the year ended 31 December 1996

1. PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND BUSINESS REVIEW

During 1996 the company continued to trade under the brand name of Midland Private Banking, providing a wide range of investment management and advisory services. Customers are provided a full financial relationship management service through offices in the UK which are polarised as independant intermediaries.

Operating profit increased significantly in the year reflecting growth in customers and funds under management, together with reductions in operational costs.

2. RESULTS AND DIVIDENDS

£,000
9,465
(8,000)
1,465

3. DIRECTORS

Listed below are the names of all directors who served on the board during the year under review.

	Appointed	Resigned
N V Moss (Chairman) S A Donohoe (Managing Director)	18:11:96	
S M Davey-Evans P E Dillnutt	12:02:96	
K M Hamilton D Longmore		
D J Mills		17:11:96

4. DIRECTORS' INTERESTS

All directors' interests which require disclosure in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 1985 are stated below.

HSBC Holdings plc

	31.12.96		01.01.96	
			(or date of app	ointment, if later)
	Ord Shares	Bonds of	Ord Shares	Bonds of
	75p each	£1 each	75p each	£1 each
S A Donohoe	1,572		1,263	
S M Davey-Evans	452	245	452	245
P E Dillnutt	2,943	1,133	3,046	1,133
K M Hamilton	1,224	222	1,183	222
D Longmore	600		1,000	
N V Moss	3,385		3,385	

Directors' report for the year ended 31 December 1996

4. DIRECTORS' INTERESTS (continued)

In addition, during the year (or from date of appointment, if later) the following directors were granted / exercised options to acquire the number of HSBC Holdings plc ordinary shares of 75p each set against their respective names:-

	Granted	Exercised
S A Donohoe	5,165	1,392

5. DIRECTORS' LIABILITY INSURANCE

Liability insurance is maintained for the company's directors.

6. SUPPLIER PAYMENT POLICY

The company has subscribed to the Confederation of British Industry Prompt Payers Code for all suppliers. Information about the code may be obtained from the CBI.

7. AUDITORS

KPMG resigned as auditors of the company on 27 June 1996 and KPMG Audit Plc were appointed auditors of the company in their place.

By order of the\board

N Barker Secretary 27/32 Poultry

London. EC2P 2BX

24 February 1997

Statement of directors' responsibilities

The following statement, which should be read in conjunction with the auditors' statement of their responsibilities set out in their report on page 4, is made with a view to distinguishing for shareholders the respective responsibilities of the directors and of the auditors in relation to the financial statements.

The directors are required by the Companies Act 1985 to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of the profit or loss for the financial year. The directors are required to prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is not appropriate.

The directors consider that in preparing the financial statements (on pages 5 to 12), the company has used appropriate accounting policies, consistently applied and supported by reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates, and that all accounting standards which they consider to be applicable have been followed.

The directors have responsibility for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the company and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985.

The directors have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Report of the auditors, KPMG Audit Plc

To the members of Midland Bank Trust Company Limited

We have audited the financial statements on pages 5 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 3, the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 1996 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

KPMG Audit Ple
Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditors

8 Salisbury Square London EC4Y 8BB

14 February 1997

Profit and loss account for the year ended 31 December 1996

	Note	1996 £`000	1995 £`000
Interest receivable Other interest receivable and similar income		6,515	5,881
Interest payable		(2,123)	(1,696)
NET INTEREST INCOME		4,392	4,185
Dividend income from shares in group undertakings		50	80
Fees and commissions receivable		46,586	37,139
OPERATING INCOME		51,028	41,404
Administrative expenses		(34,035)	(34,949)
Depreciation and amortisation	10	(221)	(401)
OPERATING PROFIT		16,772	6,054
Exceptional charge in respect of provision for contingent loss	3	(2,640)	-
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAX	3	14,132	6,054
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	5	(4,667)	(1,871)
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER TAX		9,465	4,183
Dividends	6	(8,000)	(6,000)
RETAINED PROFIT/(LOSS) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		1,465	(1,817)
PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT Balance at 1 January		511	2,328
Retained profit/(loss) for the year		1,465	(1,817)
Balance at 31 December		1,976	511

All profits relate to continuing operations.

Recognised gains and losses

There are no recognised gains or losses other than the profit on ordinary activities shown above.

The accounting policies and notes on pages 7 to 12 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Balance sheet at 31 December 1996

ASSETS	Note	£'000	1995 £`000
Loans and advances to banks	8	133,822	96,916
Loans and advances to customers	9	2,581	2,600
Tangible fixed assets	10	408	724
Other assets	11	2,481	1,809
Prepayments and accrued income		1,919	1,840
TOTAL ASSETS		141,211	103,889
LIABILITIES			
Customer accounts	12	89,948	65,042
Other liabilities	13	28,150	19,718
Accruals and deferred income		1,823	2,182
Provisions for liabilities and charges	14	4,214	1,336
Called up share capital	15	15,000	15,000
Share premium account		100	100
Profit and loss account		1,976	511
Shareholders' funds	16	17,076	15,611
TOTAL LIABILITIES		141,211	103,889

The accounts were approved by the board of directors on 24th February 1997 and were signed on its behalf by:

24.2.1997

The accounting policies and notes on pages 7 to 12 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Notes to the accounts

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material to the company's financial statements.

a. Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to banking companies, and with applicable accounting standards.

A cash flow statement has not been prepared as the company's parent undertaking prepares a consolidated cash flow statement.

b. Depreciation

The cost of fixed assets is written off by equal instalments over their expected useful lives as follows:

Vehicles: 5 years

Furniture and equipment: 3 to 5 years Premises improvements: 10 years

c. Deferred taxation

Provision is made for deferred taxation, using the liability method, on short term timing differences and all other material timing differences to the extent that it is probable that the liability or asset will crystallise.

d. Income

Interest income and fee income are accounted for in the profit and loss account on an accruals basis.

2. OPERATING INCOME

Operating income represents fees, commissions and net interest receivable from the provision of asset management services including executorship, trusteeship, investment advice and management and the sale of broked insurance products.

3. PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAX

1996	1995
£,000	£,000
221	401
25	37
28	49
2,640	-
	£`000 221 25 28

In the year the company made a provision of £2,640,000 in respect of potential losses that may arise in connection with a trust for which the company acts as trustee.

Notes to the accounts

4. DIRECTORS' EMOLUMENTS

Two directors who served during the year were remunerated by other group undertakings which make no specific charge to this company for their services.

All emoluments relate to payments made for services in connection with the management of the affairs of the company. Remuneration paid to directors amounted to £283,000 (1995: £232,000).

The emoluments, excluding pension contributions, of the highest paid director, amounted to £68,000 (1995: £62,000). The Chairman received no emoluments from this company (1995: £nil).

The following table shows the number of directors whose emoluments, excluding pension contributions, receivable from the company, fell within the bands stated:

	1996	1995
nil to £ 5,000 £30,001 to £35,000	2	2
£35,001 to £40,000 £40,001 to £45,000	<u>.</u>	1
£45,001 to £50,000 £55,001 to £60,000	2	1 -
£60,001 to £65,000	2	1 1

The company does not have any direct employees, but receives a recharge from Midland Bank plc in respect of staff who are engaged in the business.

5. TAX ON PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES

	4,667	1,871
Adjustments relating to prior years	1	102
Deferred	(1,723)	(420)
Current	6,389	2,189
UK Corporation tax at 33% (1995 : 33%) :		
	£,000	£,000
The charge for taxation comprises:	1996	1995
The charge for taxation comprises:		

Notes to the accounts

6. DIVIDENDS

	1996 £`000	1995 £`000
First interim paid of 133p per share (1995: 133p)	4,000	4,000
Second interim payable of 133p per share (1995: 67p)	4,000	2,000
	8,000	6,000

7. INVESTMENTS IN SUBSIDIARY UNDERTAKINGS

The subsidiary undertakings of the company at 31 December 1996 were:

Con	npany	Country of registration	Class of share	Interest of Midland Bank Trust Company Limited
	land Bank st Company (HK) Limited	England	Ordinary	100%
Mid	land Nominees Limited	England	Ordinary	100%
8. LOANS AN	D ADVANCES TO BANKS			
			1996	1995
Rep	ayable by group undertakings:		£,000	£,000
- Wi	thin 3 months		133,822	96,916
9. LOANS AN	D ADVANCES TO CUSTOM	ERS		
			1996	1995
			£,000	£.000
- Re	payable on demand		2,581	2,600

Notes to the accounts

10.	TA	NGIRI	E.	FIXED	ASSETS

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Motor Vehicles	Premises Improvements	Furniture, Fittings & Equipment	Total
COST	£,000	£,000	£`000	£,000
At 1 January 1996	571	102	1,323	1,996
Additions	_	_	96	0.0
Transfers	(59)	<u>-</u>	96 (77)	96 (136)
Disposals	(248)	•	-	(248)
At 31 December 1996	264	102	1,342	1,708
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 January 1996	217	19	1,036	1,272
Charge for year	91	11	119	221
Transfers	(22)	-	(35)	(57)
Disposals	(136)	-	-	(136)
At 31 December 1996	150	30	1,120	1,300
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 December 1996	114	72	222	408
At 31 December 1995	354	83	287	724
11.OTHER ASSETS				
			1996	1995
a) Analysis of Other assets			£.000	£,000
Pensions relief at source			383	381
Deferred tax (See (b) below)			1,490	542
Commission receivable			249	166
Due from group undertakings			356	717
Other			2,481	3 1,809
				2,000
b) Deferred tax				
	Amount provided		Amount unpro	vided
	1996 £`000	1995 £`000	1996 £`000	1995 £`000
Tax effect of short term				2000
timing differences	(1,422)	(472)	-	-
Accelerated capital				
allowances	(68)	(70)	-	
	(1,490)	(542)		-

Notes to the accounts

12. CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS		
	£'000	1995 £`000
Repayable on demand	89,948	65,042
13. OTHER LIABILITIES		
	1996 £`000	1995 £`000
Corporation tax Proposed dividend Due to group undertakings Other liabilities	5,614 4,000 17,344 1,192 28,150	2,189 2,000 14,385 1,144 19,718
14. PROVISION FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES		
Provisions against business risks:	1996 £`000	1995 £`000
At 1 January	1,336	829
Profit and loss account	2,878	507
At 31 December	4,214	1,336
15. SHARE CAPITAL		
Authorised: Ordinary shares of £5 each	1996 £`000 50,000	1995 £`000 50,000
Allotted, called up and fully paid: Ordinary shares of £5 each	15,000	15,000
16. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN SHAREH		
	1996 £`000	1995 £`000
Opening shareholders' funds	15,611	17,428
Profit for the financial year	9,465	4,183
Dividends	(8,000)	(6,000)
Closing shareholders' funds	17,076	15,611

Notes to the accounts

17. FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

In December 1993 the company entered into £5 million of 3 to 6 year interest rate swaps and in June 1994 entered into £2.5 million of 2 to 5 year interest rate swaps both with Midland Bank plc. The transactions were entered into for hedging purposes.

18. CONTINGENT LIABILITY

The company is registered as a member of a group for VAT purposes and, accordingly, is jointly and severally liable on behalf of members of the group in respect of amounts of unpaid VAT.

The Securities and Investments Board concluded its review of past business conduct in relation to pension transfers and opt-outs in October 1994 and published its findings and recommendations. A provision for the amount of compensation potentially payable to customers has been made on the basis of information currently available.

19. ULTIMATE PARENT COMPANY AND PARENT UNDERTAKING OF LARGER GROUP OF WHICH THE COMPANY IS A MEMBER

The company is a subsidiary undertaking of HSBC Holdings plc which is registered in England and Wales.

The largest group in which the results of the company are consolidated is that headed by HSBC Holdings plc. The smallest group in which they are consolidated is that headed by Midland Bank plc which is registered in England and Wales. The consolidated accounts of these groups are available to the public and may be obtained from their registered offices at Midland Bank plc, 27/32 Poultry, London, EC2P 2BX and HSBC Holdings plc, 10 Lower Thames Street, London, EC3R 6AE.