REGISTERED No: 00247566

COGENT ELLIOTT GROUP LIMITED

GROUP STRATEGIC REPORT,

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017



CONTENTS OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 December 2017

	Page
Company Information	1
Group Strategic Report	2
Report of the Directors	4
Report of the Independent Auditors	6
Consolidated Income Statement	8
Consolidated Other Comprehensive Income	9
Consolidated Balance Sheet	10
Company Balance Sheet	11
Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity	12
Company Statement of Changes in Equity	13
Consolidated Cash Flow Statement	14
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements	15

COMPANY INFORMATION for the year ended 31 December 2017

DIRECTORS:

W.E. Husselby

F.A.A. Maude (Chairman)

M.S. Husselby B.W. Hutton P.C.J. Buckley

SECRETARY:

P.R. Pattison

REGISTERED OFFICE:

Heath Farm Hampton Lane Meriden West Midlands CV7 7LL

REGISTERED NUMBER:

00247566 (England and Wales)

AUDITORS:

Dafferns LLP One Eastwood Harry Weston Road Binley Business Park

Coventry CV3 2UB

GROUP STRATEGIC REPORT for the year ended 31 December 2017

The directors present their strategic report of the company and the group for the year ended 31 December 2017.

REVIEW OF BUSINESS

Cogent Elliott is a well-respected, market leading creative agency and is one of the few well known 'brands' in the marketing communications industry - having traded successfully for over eighty years.

Our principle business is in delivering integrated marketing campaigns to client companies, driving their growth, building their brands and ensuring strong ROI in an increasingly digital world.

Core capabilities include planning, strategy, digital, advertising, mobile, brand, social, PR, film, photography, CRM, media and content.

2017 was, as expected, a recovery year for the business, whereby profit was restored and operations stabilised. The business responded well to the strategy deployed late in 2016.

Household names such as BMW, Arriva, Worldline, Playmobil and Thornton's continued to spend with us.

Our renewed focus on existing client growth delivered significant contract increases from Kwik-Fit, Marston's and Yorkshire Water.

New business wins included Omega PLC, Rehau, PAYM and Lintbells as the new positioning resonated well in pitches.

Our technology led operating model helped deliver profitable work for fewer, bigger clients as we take the business into 2018.

The bulk of our business operation remains headquartered in the Midlands, where our location, outstanding office facilities and reputation allow us to attract world class talent, whilst also offering greater value to clients often shackled with covering London overheads via our competitors.

2017 came to an end with a reshaped Cogent, very much geared for growth with a motivated and invigorated team, superb clients and an offer that is alluring in this fast paced and exciting industry.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The business environment in which we operate continues to be challenging. The Marketing Communications industry in the UK is highly competitive and margins remain under pressure.

Going forward, following a reorganisation to fundamentally restructure the business with a more flexible operating model, we have seen the business restore its margin from a growth in retained clients in the current year.

We intend to focus on specific parts of the business that are underperforming and ensure that they make a greater contribution to the whole.

The directors aim to present a balanced and comprehensive review of the development and performance of our business during the year and its position at the year-end. Our review is consistent with the size and nature of our business and is written in the context of the risks and uncertainties we face.

The Directors have carried out an assessment and consider the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate.

GROUP STRATEGIC REPORT for the year ended 31 December 2017

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

We consider that our key financial performance indicators are those that communicate the financial performance and strength of the company as a whole, these being turnover and gross margin.

The turnover of the trading companies was as follows:

	2017	2016
	£'000	£'000
Cogent Elliott	7,417	7,763
Junction Eleven	1,106	1,014
IMO Agency	•	241

Overall, the Group operating profit for the year was £413k compared with a loss of £935k in 2016.

Return on capital employed was 8% (2016: -18%). Return on capital employed is calculated as profit before interest and tax divided by capital employed, which constitutes total assets less current liabilities, less investments, less cash, plus overdrafts and other short term borrowings.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:
B.W. Hutton - Director
Date:

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS for the year ended 31 December 2017

The directors present their report with the financial statements of the company and the group for the year ended 31 December 2017.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activities of the group in the year under review were those of an advertising and marketing agency and property investors and managers.

DIVIDENDS

No dividends will be distributed for the year ended 31 December 2017.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

Future developments have been detailed in the strategic report in accordance with s414C(11) CA 2006.

DIRECTORS

The directors shown below have held office during the whole of the period from 1 January 2017 to the date of this report.

W.E. Husselby P.C.J. Buckley M.S. Husselby

Other changes in directors holding office are as follows:

T.S. Pile - resigned 30 September 2017 F.A.A. Maude - appointed 2 October 2017 B.W. Hutton - appointed 2 October 2017

DIRECTORS INDEMNITY INSURANCE

The Group has indemnity insurance provisions for the benefit of its directors.

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The directors are responsible for preparing the Group Strategic Report, the Report of the Directors 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 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 accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- 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 and the group's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and 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 company and the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS for the year ended 31 December 2017

STATEMENT AS TO DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS

So far as the directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information (as defined by Section 418 of the Companies Act 2006) of which the group's auditors are unaware, and each director has taken all the steps that he or she ought to have taken as a director in order to make himself or herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the group's auditors are aware of that information.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

B.W Hutton - Director

Date:

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF COGENT ELLIOTT GROUP LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Cogent Elliott Group Limited (the 'parent company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 December 2017 which comprise the Consolidated Income Statement, Consolidated Other Comprehensive Income, Consolidated Balance Sheet, Company Balance Sheet, Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity, Company Statement of Changes in Equity, Consolidated Cash Flow Statement and Notes to the Financial Statements, 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, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 a Report of the Auditors 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.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent company affairs as at 31 December 2017 and of the group's profit 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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group 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 relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you 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 group'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.

Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information in the Group Strategic Report and the Report of the Directors, but does not include the financial statements and our Report of the Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and 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, 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 this regard.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF COGENT ELLIOTT GROUP LIMITED

Opinion 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 Group Strategic Report and the Report of the Directors for the financial year
 for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Group Strategic Report and the Report of the Directors 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 Group Strategic Report or the Report of the Directors.

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent company, 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.

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities set out on page four, 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 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.

Our 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 a Report of the Auditors 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 Report of the Auditors.

Geoffrey Cox BA FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of Dafferns LLP

One Eastwood Harry Weston Road Binley Business Park

Coventry

CV3 2UB

Date: 20 April 2018

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT for the year ended 31 December 2017

		2017		2016	
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
TURNOVER	3		8,297		8,876
Other operating income			423		398
			8,720		9,274
Materials and external costs			2,634		3,140
			6,086		6,134
Staff costs Depreciation Other operating expenses	4	4,197 62 1,414		5,336 89 1,644	
			<u>5,673</u>		7,069
OPERATING PROFIT/(LOSS)	5		413		(935)
Group pension fund professional fees Reorganisation costs	6 6		(182) _(104)		(169) (305)
			127		(1,409)
Interest payable and similar expenses Other finance costs	7 21	34 97	131	23 	138
					
LOSS BEFORE TAXATION			(4)		(1,547)
Tax on loss	8		<u>(6</u>)		(12)
PROFIT/(LOSS) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR	L .		2		<u>(1,535</u>)
Profit/(loss) attributable to: Owners of the parent	•		2		<u>(1,535</u>)

CONSOLIDATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME for the year ended 31 December 2017

Notes	2017 £'000	2016 £'000
PROFIT/(LOSS) FOR THE YEAR	. 2	(1,535)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME Actuarial return less expected return Experience gains and losses Changes in present value assumptions Revaluation gain long-leasehold property Income tax relating to components of other comprehensive income	459 126 (82) - 	508 220 (1,409) 1,400
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR, NET OF INCOME TAX	418	<u>738</u>
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR	<u>420</u>	<u>(797</u>)
Total comprehensive income attributable to: Owners of the parent	<u>420</u>	<u>(797)</u>

COGENT ELLIOTT GROUP LIMITED (REGISTERED NUMBER: 00247566)

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET 31 December 2017

		2017		2016	
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
FIXED ASSETS Intangible assets	10				
Tangible assets	11		5,127		5,120
Investments	12		236		261
					5.004
			5,363		5,381
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	2,105		1,933	
Cash in hand		1		1	
		2,106		1,934	
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>2,704</u>		2,560	
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES			_(598)		<u>(626</u>)
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			4,765		4,755
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than o					
year	15 ·		<u>(388</u>)		<u>(472</u>)
NET ASSETS BEFORE PENSION L	IABILITY		4,377		4,283
PENSION LIABILITY	21		<u>(2,864</u>)		<u>(3,190</u>)
NET ASSETS			1,513		1,093
CAPITAL AND RESERVES					
Called up share capital	19		102		102
Share premium Revaluation reserve	20 20		17 1,806		17 1,806
Retained earnings	20		(412)		(832)
-					
SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS			<u>1,513</u>		<u>1,093</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on were signed on its behalf by:

AA. Maude - Director

3.W. Hutton - Director

COGENT ELLIOTT GROUP LIMITED (REGISTERED NUMBER: 00247566)

COMPANY BALANCE SHEET 31 December 2017

*		2017		2016	
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
FIXED ASSETS					
Intangible assets	10		-		
Tangible assets	11		-		-
Investments	12		<u>236</u>		<u>261</u>
			236 .	-	261
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	982		957	
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>954</u>		954	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			28		3
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT					
LIABILITIES			<u>264</u>		<u>264</u>
*					
CAPITAL AND RESERVES					
Called up share capital	19		102		102
Share premium	20		17		17
Retained earnings	20		<u> 145</u>		145
SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS			<u>264</u>		<u>264</u>
Company's profit/(loss) for the financi	al year		_		(1,259)
	-				****

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on were signed on its behalf by:

and

B.W. Hulton - Director

Maude - Director

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY for the year ended 31 December 2017

	Called up share capital £'000	Retained earnings £'000	Share premium £'000	Revaluation reserve £'000	Total equity
Balance at 1 January 2016	102	1,365	17	406	1,890
Changes in equity Total comprehensive income		(2,197)		1,400	<u>(797)</u>
Balance at 31 December 2016	102	(832)	17	1,806	1,093
Changes in equity Total comprehensive income		420	<u> </u>		420
Balance at 31 December 2017	102	(412)	17	1,806	1,513

COMPANY STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY for the year ended 31 December 2017

	Called up share capital £'000	Retained earnings £'000	Share premium £'000	Total equity £'000
Balance at 1 January 2016	102	1,404	17	1,523
Changes in equity Total comprehensive income		(1,259)		<u>(1,259</u>)
Balance at 31 December 2016	102	145	17	264
Changes in equity				-
Balance at 31 December 2017	102	145	17	264

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT for the year ended 31 December 2017

		2017	2016
	Notes	£'000	£'000
Cash flows from operating activities		•	
Cash generated from operations	26	(78)	(1,017)
Interest paid		(25)	(15)
Interest element of hire purchase			
payments paid		<u>(9</u>)	<u>(8)</u>
New years from a security and indicate		(112)	(1.040)
Net cash from operating activities		<u>(112</u>)	<u>(1,040</u>)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(8)	(19)
Sale of tangible fixed assets		-	1
Sale of fixed asset investments		<u>25</u>	-
Net cash from investing activities		<u> 17</u>	<u>(18</u>)
Cash flows from financing activities	ì		
Loan repayments in year		(100)	(100)
Capital repayments in year		(41)	(59)
Amount introduced by directors		72	150
Amount withdrawn by directors		<u>(98</u>)	
Net cash from financing activities		<u>(167</u>)	(9)
Decrease in cash and cash equivale	ents	(262)	(1,067)
Cash and cash equivalents at		(===)	(.,,,,,
beginning of year	27	(263)	804
Cash and cash equivalents at end o	.6		
year	27	<u>(525</u>)	(263)

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 December 2017

1. STATUTORY INFORMATION

Cogent Elliott Group Limited is a private company, limited by shares, registered in England and Wales. The company's registered number and registered office address can be found on the Company Information page.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

Basis of consolidation

The consolidated accounts incorporate the accounts of the company and all its subsidiaries.

Turnover

Turnover represents the fair value of services provided during the year on clients' assignments. Turnover is recognised as contract activity progresses and the right to consideration is earned. Fair value reflects the amount expected to be recoverable from clients and is based on the time spent, skills and expertise provided and expenses incurred. Turnover excludes value added tax.

Unbilled turnover on individual client assignments is included as accrued income within debtors.

Development costs

Development costs relating to a specific product have been capitalised and amortised over 3 years.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided on the cost of tangible fixed assets in equal instalments over the estimated useful lives, which are as follows:-

Short leasehold property - 10 years

Fixture and fittings - Between 3 and 5 years

The long leasehold property is revalued annually.

Taxation

Taxation for the year comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in the Consolidated Income Statement, except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity.

Current or deferred taxation assets and liabilities are not discounted.

Current tax is recognised at the amount of tax payable using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

Deferred tax

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date.

Timing differences arise from the inclusion of income and expenses in tax assessments in periods different from those in which they are recognised in financial statements. Deferred tax is measured using tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the year end and that are expected to apply to the reversal of the timing difference.

Unrelieved tax losses and other deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that it is probable that they will be recovered against the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future taxable profits.

Page 15 continued...

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 December 2017

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Assets obtained under hire purchase contracts or finance leases are capitalised in the balance sheet. Those held under hire purchase contracts are depreciated over their estimated useful lives. Those held under finance leases are depreciated over their estimated useful lives or the lease term, whichever is the shorter.

The interest element of these obligations is charged to profit or loss over the relevant period. The capital element of the future payments is treated as a liability.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The group makes contributions to a money purchase pension scheme and a defined benefit scheme. Money purchase pension contributions are charged to the profit and loss account when payable.

Defined benefit scheme assets are valued at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The resulting asset or liability, net of deferred tax, is presented separately after other net assets on the face of the balance sheet.

The amount charged to operating profit are the current service costs and gains and losses on settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs. Past service costs are recognised immediately in the profit and loss account if the benefits have vested. If the benefits have not vested immediately, the costs are recognised over the period until vesting occurs. The interest cost and the expected return on assets are shown as a net amount of the other finance costs or credits adjacent to interest. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in the statement of total recognised gains and losses.

3. TURNOVER

The turnover and loss before taxation are attributable to the principal activities of the group.

An analysis of turnover by geographical market is given below:

		2017 £'000	2016 £'000
	United Kingdom	8,158	8,613
	Rest of World	139	263
			
		<u>8,297</u>	<u>8,876</u>
	EMBLOVEES AND DIDESTADO		
4.	EMPLOYEES AND DIRECTORS	2017	2016
		2017 £'000	£'000
	Wages and salaries	3,616	4,572
	Social security costs	3,010 411	543
	Other pension costs	170	221
	Other pension costs		
		4,197	<u>5,336</u>
			
	The average number of employees during the year was as follows:		
		2017	2016
	Agency, studio and design	76	91
	Finance and administration	9	13
		<u>85</u>	<u> 104</u>

Page 16

continued...

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 December 2017

4. EMPLOYEES AND DIRECTORS - continued

The average number of employees by undertakings that were proportionately consolidated during the year was 85 (2016 - 104).

		2017	2016
	Directors' remuneration Directors' pension contributions to money purchase schemes	£ 270,957 <u>30,469</u>	£ 393,894 45,771
	The number of directors to whom retirement benefits were accruing was a	as follows:	
	Money purchase schemes	1	2
	Information regarding the highest paid director is as follows:	2017 £	2016 £
	Emoluments etc Pension contributions to money purchase schemes	116,991 	141,165
5 .	OPERATING PROFIT/(LOSS)		
	The operating profit (2016 - operating loss) is stated after charging/(credit	ting):	
,	Depreciation - owned assets Depreciation - assets on hire purchase contracts Auditors' remuneration Auditors' remuneration - other services Operating lease charges - equipment Operating lease charges - land and buildings Rents receivable	2017 £'000 27 36 5 18 23 162 (432)	2016 £'000 56 32 3 15 36 186 (398)
6.	EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS	2017	2016
	Group pension fund professional fees Reorganisation costs	£'000 (182) (104)	£'000 (169) _(305)
		<u>(286</u>)	<u>(474</u>)
7.	INTEREST PAYABLE AND SIMILAR EXPENSES	2017 £'000	2016 £'000
	Bank interest Bank loan interest Interest payable Hire purchase interest	14 10 1 <u>9</u>	3 10 2 8
		<u>34</u>	23

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 December 2017

8. TAXATION

Analysis of the tax credit			
The tax credit on the loss for the year was as follows:			•
·		2017	2016
		£'000	£'000
Current tax:			
UK corporation tax		-	(32)
Adjustment of prior years			<u>(9</u>)
Total aurrent toy			(41)
Total current tax			(41)
Deferred tax:			
Deferred tax		12	43
Deferred tax on pension liability		(18)	8
Adjustment to prior years			<u>(22</u>)
Total deferred tax		(6)	29
Total deletred tax		(0)	
Tax on loss		<u>(6</u>)	<u>(12</u>)
Reconciliation of total tax credit included in profit an	nd loss	•	
The tax assessed for the year is lower than the stan-		oration tax in	the UK. The
difference is explained below:	теле теле т. т.		
	•		
		2017	2016
		£'000	£'000
Loss before tax			
	the LIV of	£'000	£'000
Loss multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in	the UK of	£'000 (4)	£'000 (<u>1,547</u>)
	the UK of	£'000	£'000
Loss multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in	the UK of	£'000 (4)	£'000 (<u>1,547</u>)
Loss multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in 19.246% (2016 - 20%) Effects of:	the UK of	£'000 (4)	£'000 (<u>1,547</u>)
Loss multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in 19.246% (2016 - 20%)	the UK of	£'000 (4)	£'000 (1,547) (309)
Loss multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in 19.246% (2016 - 20%) Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Utilisation of tax losses Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous periods		£'000 (4) (1)	£'000 (1,547) (309) 3 - 13
Loss multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in 19.246% (2016 - 20%) Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Utilisation of tax losses		£'000 (4) (1)	£'000 (1,547) (309)
Loss multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in 19.246% (2016 - 20%) Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Utilisation of tax losses Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous periods Tax losses carried forward		£'000 (4) (1) 12 (17)	£'000 (1,547) (309) 3 - 13 281
Loss multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in 19.246% (2016 - 20%) Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Utilisation of tax losses Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous periods		£'000 (4) (1)	£'000 (1,547) (309) 3 - 13
Loss multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in 19.246% (2016 - 20%) Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Utilisation of tax losses Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous periods Tax losses carried forward		£'000 (4) (1) 12 (17)	£'000 (1,547) (309) 3 - 13 281
Loss multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in 19.246% (2016 - 20%) Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Utilisation of tax losses Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous periods Tax losses carried forward	·	£'000 (4) (1) 12 (17)	£'000 (1,547) (309) 3 - 13 281
Loss multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in 19.246% (2016 - 20%) Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Utilisation of tax losses Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous periods Tax losses carried forward Total tax credit	·	£'000 (4) (1) 12 (17) 	£'000 (1,547) (309) 3 - 13 281
Loss multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in 19.246% (2016 - 20%) Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Utilisation of tax losses Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous periods Tax losses carried forward Total tax credit	e income	£'000 (4) (1) 12 (17) (6) 2017	£'000 (1,547) (309) 3 - 13 281 (12)
Loss multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in 19.246% (2016 - 20%) Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Utilisation of tax losses Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous periods Tax losses carried forward Total tax credit	e income Gross	£'000 (4) (1) 12 (17) (6) 2017 Tax	£'000 (1,547) (309) 3 - 13 281 (12)
Loss multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in 19.246% (2016 - 20%) Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Utilisation of tax losses Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous periods Tax losses carried forward Total tax credit Tax effects relating to effects of other comprehensiv	e income Gross £'000	£'000 (4) (1) 12 (17) 	£'000 (1,547) (309) 3 - 13 281 (12)
Loss multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in 19.246% (2016 - 20%) Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Utilisation of tax losses Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous periods Tax losses carried forward Total tax credit Tax effects relating to effects of other comprehensiv Actuarial return less expected return	e income Gross	£'000 (4) (1) 12 (17) 	£'000 (1,547) (309) 3 - 13 - 281 (12) Net £'000
Loss multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in 19.246% (2016 - 20%) Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Utilisation of tax losses Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous periods Tax losses carried forward Total tax credit Tax effects relating to effects of other comprehensiv	e income Gross £'000 459	£'000 (4) (1) 12 (17) 	£'000 (1,547) (309) 3 - 13 - 281 (12) Net £'000 381
Loss multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in 19.246% (2016 - 20%) Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Utilisation of tax losses Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous periods Tax losses carried forward Total tax credit Tax effects relating to effects of other comprehensiv Actuarial return less expected return Experience gains and losses	Gross £'000 459 126	£'000 (4) (1) 12 (17) - (6) 2017 Tax £'000 (78) (21)	£'000 (1,547) (309) 3 - 13 - 281 (12) Net £'000 381 105

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 December 2017

8. TAXATION - continued

	2016		
	Gross	Tax	Net
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Actuarial return less expected return	508	(86)	422
Experience gains and losses	220	(37)	183
Changes in present value assumptions	(1,409)	239	(1,170)
Changes in deferred tax rate	-	(97)	(97)
Revaluation gain long-leasehold property	1,400	_	1,400
	<u>719</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>738</u>

9. INDIVIDUAL INCOME STATEMENT

As permitted by Section 408 of the Companies Act 2006, the Income Statement of the parent company is not presented as part of these financial statements.

10. INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

_		
c		-

	Development costs £'000
COST At 1 January 2017 and 31 December 2017	
AMORTISATION At 1 January 2017 and 31 December 2017	164
NET BOOK VALUE At 31 December 2017	
At 31 December 2016	

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 December 2017

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

G	r۸	 n

Cloup			Fixtures -	
	Short	Long	and	
	leasehold	leasehold	fittings	Totals
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
COST OR VALUATION			4.000	
At 1 January 2017	540	5,000	1,296	6,836
Additions	-	-	70	70
Disposals			<u>(11</u>)	<u>(11</u>)
At 31 December 2017	540	5,000	<u>1,355</u>	6,895
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 January 2017	475	-	1,241	1,716
Charge for year	15	-	48	63
Eliminated on disposal			(11)	<u>(11</u>)
At 31 December 2017	490		1,278	1,768
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 December 2017	50	5,000	77	5,127
7. (0 1 2 0 0 0 1 1 2 0 1 7 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		<u> </u>	<u>———</u>	<u> </u>
At 31 December 2016	65	_5,000	<u>55</u>	5,120

Cost or valuation at 31 December 2017 is represented by:

		_	Fixtures	
	Short	Long	and	
	leasehold	leasehold	fittings	Totals
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Valuation in 2016	-	1,806	-	1,806
Cost	540	3,194	<u>1,355</u>	5,089
	540	5,000	<u>1,355</u>	6,895

If long-term leasehold property had not been revalued it would have been included at the following historical cost:

	2017	2016
	£'000	£'000
Cost	<u>3,194</u>	<u>3,194</u>

The long-leasehold property was valued on an open market basis on 24 August 2017 by D & P Holt Property Consultants.

The directors have adopted this valuation as appropriate at 31 December 2017.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 December 2017

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS - continued

Group

Fixed assets, included in the above, which are held under hire purchase contracts are as follows:

Tixed assets, included in the above, which are near under time paromass somitable are	Fixtures and fittings £'000
COST OR VALUATION At 1 January 2017 Additions Disposals Transfer to ownership	103 63 (1) (48)
At 31 December 2017	117
DEPRECIATION At 1 January 2017 Charge for year Eliminated on disposal Transfer to ownership	70 36 (1) (48)
At 31 December 2017	57
NET BOOK VALUE At 31 December 2017	60
At 31 December 2016	33

12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

Group

	investments £'000
COST At 1 January 2017 Disposals	261 (25)
At 31 December 2017	236
NET BOOK VALUE At 31 December 2017	<u>236</u>
At 31 December 2016	<u>261</u>

Unlisted

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 December 2017

12. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS - continued

Company

	Unlisted investments £'000
COST At 1 January 2017 Disposals	261 (25)
At 31 December 2017	236
NET BOOK VALUE At 31 December 2017	<u>236</u>
At 31 December 2016	<u>261</u>

The company owns the whole of the ordinary share capital of the following companies, except where indicated*, all of which are registered in England and Wales:

Advertising services	<u>Dormant</u>
Cogent Elliott Limited* Cogent Elliott Investments Limited Junction Eleven Limited	Cogent Consultants Limited ARM Communications Limited Cogent Elliott Public Relations Limited Lobelia Investment Company Limited Cogent Group Limited The Creative Company Limited Elliott Advertising Limited Cogent Advertising Limited The Drury Lane Company Limited* IMO Agency Limited*

^{*}These are wholly-owned subsidiaries of Cogent Group Limited.

13. **DEBTORS**

	Gro	up	Company	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Amounts falling due within one year:				
Trade debtors	1,384	1,327	-	-
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	982	957
Other debtors	167	155	-	-
Directors' current accounts	-	11	-	-
Deferred tax asset	11	23	-	-
Accrued income	265	177	-	-
Prepayments	223	240		
	2,050	1,933	982	957

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 December 2017

13. **DEBTORS - continued**

	Group	•	Compan	У
Amounts falling due ofter more than one year:	2017 £'000	2016 £'000	2017 £'000	2016 £'000
Amounts falling due after more than one year: Directors' loan accounts	<u>55</u>		_	
Aggregate amounts	<u>2,105</u>	<u>1,933</u>	982	957
Deferred tax asset			Group	
Accelerated capital allowances Short term timing differences			2017 £'000 9 2	2016 £'000 15 8
			11	23

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Gro	up	Company	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Bank loans and overdrafts (see note 16)	626	364	-	-
Hire purchase contracts (see note 17)	39	34	-	-
Payments on account	559	537	-	-
Trade creditors	697	774	1	1
Amounts owed to group undertakings	-	•	953	953
Social security and other taxes	109 ·	133	-	-
VAT	330	260	-	-
Other creditors	28	38	- ·	-
Directors' current accounts	18	-	-	-
Accruals	<u>298</u>	420		
	2,704	2,560	<u>954</u>	<u>954</u>

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

		Group	
		2017	2016
		£'000	£'000
Bank loan (see note 16)		200	300
Hire purchase contracts	(see note 17)	37	21
Other creditors	,	114	114
Directors' loan accounts	37	37	
		388	472

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 December 2017

16. **LOANS**

17.

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	Grou	up
Amounts falling due within one year or	2017 £'000	2016 £'000
on demand: Bank overdrafts Bank loan	526 100	264
	<u>626</u>	<u>364</u>
Amounts falling due between one and two years:		
Bank loan	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
Amounts falling due between two and five years:		
Bank loan	100	
LEASING AGREEMENTS		
Minimum lease payments fall due as follows:		
Group	Hire purchas	se contracts
	2017 £'000	2016 £'000
Net obligations repayable: Within one year	39	34
Between one and five years	37	21
	<u>76</u>	55
Group		
	Non-can operating	
	2017 £'000	2016 £'000
Within one year	180	185
Between one and five years In more than five years	414 <u>535</u>	489 <u>531</u>
	<u>1,129</u>	1,205

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 December 2017

18. SECURED DEBTS

The following secured debts are included within creditors:

	Gro	up
	2017	2016
	£'000	£'000
Bank overdrafts	526	264
Bank loan	300	400
Hire purchase contracts	76	55
	902	<u>719</u>

Bank borrowings are secured by a fixed charge over the group's properties and a floating charge over all the group's assets. Hire purchase contracts are secured by certain specific fixed assets.

19. CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL

	Allotted, issue Number: 51,240 51,240	ed and fully paid: Class: Ordinary 'A' shares		Nominal value: £1 £1	2017 £'000 51 51 102	2016 £'000 51 51 102
20.	RESERVES					
	Group		Retained earnings £'000	Share premium £'000	Revaluation reserve £'000	Totals £'000
	At 1 January Profit for the Actuarial loss	year	(832) 2	17	1,806 -	991 2
	scheme		<u>418</u>			418
	At 31 Decem	ber 2017	<u>(412</u>)	17	<u>1,806</u>	1,411
	Company			Retained earnings £'000	Share premium £'000	Totals £'000
	At 1 January Profit for the			145 	17 	162
	At 31 Decem	ber 2017		<u> </u>	<u>17</u>	<u>162</u>

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 December 2017

20. RESERVES - continued

a) Retained earnings

The retained earnings reserve represents cumulative profits and losses net of dividends and other adjustments.

b) Share premium

The share premium account represents the premium arising on the issue of shares net of issue costs.

c) Revaluation reserve

The revaluation reserve represents the cumulative effect of revaluations of tangible fixed assets where a policy of revaluation has been adopted.

21. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The company operates an occupational pension plan in the UK which has both a defined benefit and defined contribution section. This report only relates to the defined benefit section. The defined benefit section is closed to new entrants. A full valuation has been carried out at 31 March 2014 and the results have been updated to 31 December 2017 by a qualified actuary, independent of the scheme's sponsoring employer.

The Scheme assets do not include investments issued by Cogent Elliott Group Limited nor any property occupied by Cogent Elliott Group Limited.

The major assumptions used by the actuary are shown below.

This most recent actuarial valuation showed a deficit of £3,978,000. The company had agreed with the Trustees that it will aim to eliminate the deficit over a period of 14 years 9 months from 1 October 2014 by the payment of contributions of £248,750 by 31 December 2015, plus contributions of £185,000 by 31 December 2016, £335,000 by 31 December 2017 and annual contributions of £435,000 for the period to 30 June 2029 in respect of the deficit. In addition, with effect from 1 January 2016, and in accordance with the actuarial valuation, the company agreed with the Trustees that it will pay £65,000 per annum in respect of the cost of expenses of the scheme. The cost of levies to the Pension Protection Fund will be payable in addition. However, the company suspended payments in respect of the deficit in October 2016 but continued to pay its contribution to the scheme expenses. The company has restarted contributions in respect of the deficit with effect from 1 January 2018.

A new actuarial valuation as at 31 March 2017 is in progress which is currently being discussed with the Trustees and the contributions expected to be paid for the year ending 31 December 2018 are £256,000, as well as £65,000 to meet the expenses of the Scheme.

Page 26 continued...

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 December 2017

21. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued

The amounts recognised in the balance sheet are as follows:

unit unit unit unit unit unit unit unit		
	Defined	benefit
	pension	
	2017	2016
	£'000	£'000
Present value of funded obligations	(11,841)	(12,300)
Fair value of plan assets	8,391	`8,457 [´]
, an value of practical and a second		
	(3,450)	(3,843)
Present value of unfunded obligations	-	-
y		
Deficit	(3,450)	(3,843)
Deferred tax asset	586	653
		
Net liability	(2,864)	(3,190)
•		
The amounts recognised in profit or loss are as follows:		
·		
	Defined	
	pensior	
	2017	2016
	£'000	£'000
Current service cost	, -	-
Net interest from net defined benefit		
liability	97	115
Past service cost	-	-
Expenses	<u>78</u>	59
	475	. 474
	<u> 175</u>	<u> 174</u>
	450	500
Actual return on plan assets	<u>459</u>	508
Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation are as follow	/S:	
	Defined	hanafit
·	pension	
	2017	2016
	£'000	£'000
Opening defined honefit obligation	12,300	11,424
Opening defined benefit obligation Interest cost	299	409
Expenses	78	59
Actuarial (gains)/losses	(44)	1,189
Benefits paid	(792)	(781)
Denemo palu	<u> (132</u>)	
	11,841	12,300
	11,571	

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 December 2017

21. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	2017	2016
	£'000	£'000
Opening fair value of scheme assets	8,457	8,216
Contributions by employer	65	220
Interest income	202	294
Actuarial gains	459	508
Benefits paid	_(792)	<u>(781</u>)
	<u>8,391</u>	8,457

The amounts recognised in other comprehensive income are as follows:

		Defined benefit pension plans	
Actuarial gains/(losses)		2017 £'000 	2016 £'000 (618)
	٩	503	<u>(618</u>)

The major categories of scheme assets as a percentage of total scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit	
	pensio	n plans
	2017	2016
Equities	63.10%	65.80%
Corporate bonds	16.60%	13.40%
Cash	4.90%	5.40%
Other	<u>15.40%</u>	<u>15.40%</u>
	100.00%	100.00%

None of the fair values of the assets shown above include any direct investments in the group's own financial instruments or any property occupied by, or other assets used by, the group.

Principal actuarial assumptions at the balance sheet date (expressed as weighted averages):

	2017	2016
Discount rate	2.30%	2.50%
Future pension increases	2.10%	2.20%
Rate of revaluation of deferred pensions	2.10%	2.20%
Inflation (CPI)	2.10%	2.20%

Defined contribution scheme

The group also operates a defined contribution scheme in the UK.

The charge for the year in respect of the defined contribution scheme was £240,182 (2016: £220,463).

Page 28 continued...

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 December 2017

22. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The parent company has guaranteed borrowings by subsidiary companies amounting to £880,148 (2016: £745,411).

23. DIRECTORS' ADVANCES, CREDITS AND GUARANTEES

The following advances and credits to directors subsisted during the years ended 31 December 2017 and 31 December 2016:

W.E. Husselby Balance outstanding at start of year Amounts advanced Amounts repaid Balance outstanding at end of year	2017 £'000	2016 £'000
	11 24 (53) <u>(18</u>)	3 27 (19) <u>11</u>
B.W. Hutton Balance outstanding at start of year Amounts advanced Amounts repaid Balance outstanding at end of year	75 (20) 55	- - - -

The outstanding loan from Mr B.W. Hutton is subject to an agreement under which interest is accrued at 3% per annum and the loan is repayable by 28 September 2021.

24. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

During the year the group had a loan with 20 (London) Limited, a company connected with Mr W E Husselby and Mr M S Husselby. The balance outstanding at the year end was £39,825 (2016: £39,825).

During the year the Group had a loan with J & BH Investments Limited, a company connected with Mr W E Husselby. The balance outstanding at the year end was £113,794 (2016: £113,794).

During the year a total of key management personnel compensation of £420,449 was paid.

25. ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

The ultimate controlling party is Mr W.E. Husselby.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 December 2017

26. RECONCILIATION OF LOSS BEFORE TAXATION TO CASH GENERATED FROM OPERATIONS

	2017	2016
	£'000	£'000
Loss before taxation	(4)	(1,547)
Depreciation charges	62	89
Defined benefit pension contribution	(65)	(220)
Pension scheme expenses in provision	78	59
Finance costs	131	138
	202	(1,481)
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other debtors	(140)	416
(Decrease)/increase in trade and other creditors	<u>(140</u>)	48
Cash generated from operations	<u>(78</u>)	<u>(1,017</u>)

27. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

The amounts disclosed on the Cash Flow Statement in respect of cash and cash equivalents are in respect of these Balance Sheet amounts:

Year ended 31 December 2017

Cash and cash equivalents Bank overdrafts	31.12.17 £'000 1 (526)	1.1.17 £'000 1 (264)
	<u>(525</u>)	<u>(263</u>)
Year ended 31 December 2016	31.12.16 £'000	1.1.16 £'000
Cash and cash equivalents Bank overdrafts	1 <u>(264</u>)	804 —
	(263)	<u>804</u>

28. COGENT ELLIOTT GROUP LIMITED ENTERPRISE MANAGEMENT INCENTIVE PLAN

This was established in 2011 for a contractual life of 10 years from the date of grant of the option. The vesting conditions are that they would normally only be exercised on the occurrence of a sale or flotation of the company.

On 2 June 2011 an option was granted over 6,542 B Ordinary 1p shares, with an exercise price of 50p.