

Report of the Directors and

Consolidated Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2018

for

THE FORCES PENSION SOCIETY



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Company Information for the Year Ended 31st December 2018

DIRECTORS:

Sir G W Berragan

A J Burton
Ms C E Foxley
S P Goddard
W E Mahon
W H Moore
G W Spark
J C Westbrooke

Group Capt J K Wheeler Commander R E Williams

D J Marsh

Miss N A Murdoch

SECRETARY:

N Marshall

REGISTERED OFFICE:

68 South Lambeth Road

Vauxhall London SW8 1RL

REGISTERED NUMBER:

00418311 (England and Wales)

AUDITORS:

Knox Cropper LLP

Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors

65 Leadenhall Street

London EC3A 2AD The directors present their report with the financial statements of the company and the group for the year ended 31st December 2018.

REVIEW OF BUSINESS

The accounts presented comprise The Forces Pension Society (FPS) and its investment subsidiary, The Forces Pension Society Investment Company – referred to as "Investco". The financial statements that follow incorporate the results of both FPS and Investco together in one consolidated report, in order to give a full picture of the financial health of the whole organisation. During the process of preparing the accounts, any transactions between FPS and Investco have been eliminated to avoid any risk of confusion.

2018 represented a period of sustained growth for the Forces Pension Society - both in terms of membership numbers and the corresponding demand upon the Pension Advisory Team to provide timely and accurate technical Armed Forces pension advice to our members. We continued to work within the objectives set in our Articles of Association which require us to secure equitable and just pensions for all Armed Forces pensioners, and to advise and assist our members with pension enquiries.

We made progress in both of these areas. Examples of our interventions resulting in successful outcomes include a change in the rules concerning validity of death nomination forms to prevent a repetition of the Charlotte Hughes case (whereby a newly married widow was ruled ineligible for a death lump sum because an earlier nomination form had not been revoked), and our challenging the sudden introduction of a new UK/Cyprus double taxation treaty in Jan 19 which would have had a disproportionate effect on service pensioners. A five year moratorium on this proposal was eventually agreed, during which time Armed Forces pensioners will be able to choose which regime they wish to be taxed under.

Another key factor causing an increase in demand for our services was the Government's taxation policy - in particular the Annual Allowance (AA) / Pension Tax charge which now affects an increasing number of serving personnel. This, combined with the late announcement of the Armed Forces pay award, placed an enormous administrative demand on the Ministry of Defence / Veterans UK, severely testing their ability to inform those affected and to process over 3,000 AA letters in the latter part of 2018 to meet the 31 January 2019 Self-Assessment Tax Return deadline. This had a twofold effect on the Society; firstly Veterans UK stopped processing Annual Pension Forecasts (a mandated output) in order to concentrate on AA, which led to a corresponding increase in the number of such enquiries to the Society; secondly, the Society was deluged with a late surge of queries from those who had received AA letters from Veterans UK, seeking clarification and assistance. The Veterans UK forecast service has since been resumed and we have been assured that the measures necessary to maintain an uninterrupted service to serving Armed Forces Personnel should continue through 2019 - however another late pay announcement could yet trigger a repeat performance.

All this has led to the Society dealing with more member enquiries than ever before - some 14,649 enquiries were received in the year (against 10,900 in 2017 and 8,100 in 2016). Despite a net increase in the number of Pension Advisors (now six but with the position of Head of Pensions vacant since September 2018 but likely to be filled in mid-2019) and in order to maintain the high standard of personal service our members have become accustomed to and continue to expect, the time taken to answer members enquiries has lengthened considerably from 5 - 10 working days to over 20 towards the end of 2018. This trend seems set to continue into 2019 - generating additional pension advice capacity is the Society's highest operating priority for 2019.

As reported in 2018, we continue to contribute most successfully to the MoD's Veterans Gateway project, the one-stop shop for veterans seeking charitable assistance. Enquiries relating to potentially unclaimed pensions and a host of other issues has seen demand for our service increase significantly through 2018 and we answered a total of 1,599 enquiries. We still do not charge for this service and remain extremely grateful to the Royal British Legion whose grant to us - shown in these accounts - covered our extra cost.

We are also extremely grateful for the financial help we have received from the Forces Pension Society Charitable Fund, which continues to see this work in support of the veterans' community and our other charitable work (eg Roadshows to the serving community) as a whole as being in line with their charitable objectives.

Not surprisingly, all of this has led to a continued increase in our net membership over the year; however the scale of the increase exceeded expectations. Over the year this grew by 4,977 members of which 3,329 were paying memberships.

The actual operating surplus for 2018 was £53.8K but once adjusted for income for fixed asset investments (+£13.4K) and loss on revaluation of assets as at 31 Dec (-£46.8K), the surplus for the year stands at £20.4K. As at 31 December, the Society's cash at bank holding stood at £288K. A further £518K is invested through Investco. The management arrangements for Investco have been strengthened this year, with a Fund Manager appointed (Waverton), following a tender exercise, together with new arrangements for regular oversight and scrutiny of performance.

The Directors are pleased that the Society continues to be able to report a surplus whilst also continuing the work outlined above. The strong financial position of the Society gives it a firm foundation to grow and further strengthen its work on behalf of members. These accounts therefore present the financial numbers behind another highly satisfactory year's work. The Council will be content to present them to our Annual General Meeting.

DIRECTORS

The directors shown below have held office during the whole of the period from 1st January 2018 to the date of this report.

Sir G W Berragan

A J Burton

Ms C E Foxley

S P Goddard

W E Mahon

W H Moore

G W Spark

J C Westbrooke

Group Capt J K Wheeler

Commander R E Williams

Other changes in directors holding office are as follows:

V Adm P J Wilkinson - resigned 5th April 2018

D J Marsh - appointed 22nd January 2018

Miss N A Murdoch - appointed 18th April 2018

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The directors are responsible for preparing 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 surplus or deficit 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;

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.

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.

AUDITORS

The auditors, Knox Cropper LLP, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Report of the Directors for the Year Ended 31st December 2018

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

•

Date:

15/19

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Forces Pension Society (the 'parent company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31st December 2018 which comprise the Consolidated Income Statement, Consolidated Other Comprehensive Income, Consolidated Balance Sheet, Company Balance Sheet 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).

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 31st December 2018 and of the group's surplus 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 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.

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 Report of the Directors for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Directors has 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 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; or
- the directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption from the requirement to prepare a Group Strategic Report or in preparing the Report of the Directors.

Responsibilities of directors

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

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 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.

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 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.

Greg Stevenson (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of Knox Cropper LLP Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors 65 Leadenhall Street

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London EC3A 2AD

Date: 22 My 2019

Consolidated Income Statement for the Year Ended 31st December 2018

		201	8	201	7
	Notes	£	£	£	£
TURNOVER			1,186,718		1,071,609
Cost of sales		•	1,094		1,352
GROSS SURPLUS			1,185,624		1,070,257
Administrative expenses			1,231,766		1,049,136
			(46,142)		21,121
Other operating income			99,977		108,737
OPERATING SURPLUS	4		53,835		129,858
Income from fixed asset investments		13,380		11,537	
Interest receivable and similar income		24	13,404	16	11,553
Gain/loss on revaluation of assets			67,239 (46,797)		141,411 32,978
SURPLUS BEFORE TAXATION			20,442		174,389
Tax on surplus			2,678		(1,338)
SURPLUS FOR THE FINANCIAL YE	AR		<u>17,764</u>		175,727
Surplus attributable to: Owners of the parent			17,764		175,727

Consolidated Other Comprehensive Income for the Year Ended 31st December 2018

•	2018 Notes £	2017 £
SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	17,764	175,727
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME Revaluation of leasehold property Income tax relating to other	-	379,824
comprehensive income		(14,079)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR, NET OF INCOME T		365,745
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR	17,764	541,472
Total comprehensive income attributal Owners of the parent	ole to:	541,472

THE FORCES PENSION SOCIETY (REGISTERED NUMBER: 00418311)

Consolidated Balance Sheet 31st December 2018

		20 ⁻	18	201	7
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS	6		981,643		982,495
Tangible assets Investments	6 7		517,876		455,844
mvosumonto	•				
			1,499,519		1,438,339
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks		2,260		2,783	
Debtors	8	45,441		65,554	
Cash at bank		288,743		248,906	
		336,444		317,243	
CREDITORS		000,		017,210	
Amounts falling due within one year	9	560,101		488,553	
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES			(223,657)		<u>(171,310</u>)
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			1,275,862		1,267,029
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than or	ne				
year	10		(10,008)		(13,153)
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES			(8,332)		<u>(14,118</u>)
NET ASSETS			1,257,522		1,239,758
RESERVES					
Revaluation reserve	11		365,745		365,745
Income and expenditure account			891,777		874,013
					4.000.755
			1,257,522		1,239,758

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

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

Director

WH MAHON

THE FORCES PENSION SOCIETY (REGISTERED NUMBER: 00418311)

Company Balance Sheet 31st December 2018

		2018	<u> </u>	2017	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	6		31,643		32,495
Investments	7		100		100
			31,743		32,595
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks		2,260		2,783	
Debtors	8	525,602		558,888	
Cash at bank		218,613		<u>118,971</u>	
OPERITORS		746,475		680,642	
CREDITORS Amounts falling due within one year	9	549,164		477,810	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>197,311</u>		202,832
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			229,054		235,427
CREDITORS Amounts falling due after more than on			40,000		40.450
year	10		10,008		<u>13,153</u>
NET ASSETS			219,046		222,274
		•			
RESERVES Income and expenditure account			219,046		222,274
			219,046		222,274
Company's (loss)/profit for the financial year	l		(3,228)		86,517

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on $\frac{20 \sqrt{5}/19}{19}$ and were signed on its behalf by:

Sir G W Berragan - Director

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2018

1. STATUTORY INFORMATION

The Forces Pension Society is a private company, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The company's registered number and registered office address can be found on the General Information page.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is the Pound Sterling (£).

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Section 1A "Small Entities" of 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 group comprises The Forces Pension Society and its subsidiary, The Forces Pension Society Investment Company Limited. These financial statements incorporate the results of both the company and the subsidiary. In preparing the consolidated financial statements any intra-group transactions have been eliminated.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

- Fair value of land and buildings

Land and buildings are measured at each reporting date at fair value less accumulated depreciation. The directors assess the fair value based on recent market values and periodically obtain an appraisal from a professionally qualified valuer. In determining fair value on this basis. The valuation remains sensitive to fluctuations in the property market.

- Useful life of tangible fixed assets

The depreciation charge on tangible fixed assets is based on management's estimate of useful life. This is subject to uncertainty and reviewed by management at each reporting date.

- Life member subscriptions

Subscriptions for life membership are recognised as income over a period of 20 years, with amounts relating to future years recorded as creditors due in less than and more than one year as appropriate.

Turnover

Turnover is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, excluding discounts, rebates, value added tax and other sales taxes.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Land and buildings

2% on cost

Plant and machinery etc

- at varying rates on cost

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st December 2018

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

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.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to surplus or deficit on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The group operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the group's pension scheme are charged to profit or loss in the period to which they relate.

3. EMPLOYEES AND DIRECTORS

The average number of employees during the year was 15 (2017 - 13).

The average number of employees by undertakings that were proportionately consolidated during the year was NIL (2017 - NIL).

4. OPERATING SURPLUS

The operating surplus is stated after charging:

	2018	2017
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>7,491</u>	<u>8,602</u>

5. 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.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st December 2018

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Gre	Dι	מנ

·	Land and buildings £	Plant and machinery etc £	Totals £
COST			
At 1st January 2018	950,000	55,292	1,005,292
Additions	<u> </u>	6,639	6,639
At 31st December 2018	950,000	61,931	1,011,931
DEPRECIATION			
At 1st January 2018	-	22,797	22,797
Charge for year	<u> </u>	7,491	7,491
At 31st December 2018		30,288	30,288
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31st December 2018	950,000	31,643	981,643
At 31st December 2017	950,000	32,495	982,495

Land and buildings were valued on a fair value basis on 13th January 2018 by Cluttons LLP.

The historical cost of land and buildings at 31 December 2018 was £570,176 (2017 - £570,176).

If land and buildings had not been revalued they would have been included at the following historical cost:

	2018	2017
	£	£
Cost	570,176	570,176
Accumulated depreciation	(171,051)	(159,648)
Carrying value	<u>399,125</u>	410,528

7.

NET BOOK VALUE At 31st December 2018

At 31st December 2017

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st December 2018

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS - continued

Company	Plant and
	machinery etc £
COST At 1st January 2018 Additions	55,292 6,639
At 31st December 2018	61,931
DEPRECIATION At 1st January 2018 Charge for year	22,797
At 31st December 2018	30,288
NET BOOK VALUE At 31st December 2018	31,643
At 31st December 2017	32,495
FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS	
Group	Other investments £
COST OR VALUATION At 1st January 2018 Additions Revaluations	455,844 108,829 (46,797)
At 31st December 2018	517,876

The historical cost of investments at 31 December 2018 was £459,750 (2017 - £350,921).

517,876

455,844

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st December 2018

7. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS - continued

Group Company

· ·	Shares in group undertakings £
COST	
At 1st January 2018 and 31st December 2018	100
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31st December 2018	100
At 31st December 2017	<u>100</u>

8. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Group		Company	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors	9,493	9,070	9,493	9,070
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	484,841	497,114
Other debtors	35,948	_56,484	31,268	52,704
	<u>45,441</u>	65,554	525,602	558,888

9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Group		Company	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	5,075	1,778	5,075	1,778
Taxation and social security	31,141	25,120	22,676	16,777
Other creditors	523,885	461,655	521,413	459,255
	560,101	488,553	549,164	477,810

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

	Group		Company	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
	£	£	£	£
Other creditors	10,008	13,153	10,008	13,153

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st December 2018

11. RESERVES

Group

Revaluation reserve £

At 1st January 2018 and 31st December 2018

365,745

12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

During the year, the Society received donations totalling £60,000 (2017: £90,000) from The Forces Pension Society Charitable Fund. Under this charity's trust deed, the Society appoints its trustee board.