

Swissport GB Limited

Annual report and financial statements

Registered number 00509585

31 December 2017

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Strategic report

The Directors present their strategic report for the year ended 31 December 2017.

Principal activities

The Company trades as an airport passenger ground handling and cargo handling agent along with airport lounge services at or near various airports in the United Kingdom.

Business review

The results for the Company show an operating profit of £5,819,000 for the year, which is a significant improvement on the operating loss in 2016 of £1,305,000. Turnover increased to £263,897,000 from £233,776,000 in 2016, partly as a result of the acquisition of the business and fixed assets of Swissport Limited on 1st January 2016 as part of the consolidation of Swissport's UK ground handling operations. This acquisition is expected to improve operating results going forward.

The aviation industry continues to face challenges, which also give rise to opportunities for strong market players such as Swissport. We remain confident we will maintain our current level of operational performance in a competitive market whilst returning to profitability.

Key Performance Indicators (KPI's)

The directors of Swissport GB Limited manage the group's operations on a divisional basis. For this reason, the Company's directors believe using detailed key performance indicators for the Company on a stand-alone basis is not necessary or appropriate for an understanding of the development, performance or position of the business of Swissport GB Limited. The development, performance and position of the Aviation division of Swissport International Ltd, which includes the Company, is discussed in the group's annual report which does not form part of this report.

High level KPI's applicable to this company are:

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Revenue	263,897	233,776
Profit/(Loss) for the financial year	5,935	(2,381)
Net assets/(liabilities)	551	(46,395)

Net assets/(liabilities) were favourably affected in the year by a significant decrease of £17,374,000 in its Defined Benefit Pension Scheme liability. Scheme liabilities decreased significantly following a remeasurement gain in the year of £14,012,000 which is recognised in Other Comprehensive Income. Further details of the pension scheme movements are shown in note 19 to the accounts. There was also a share capital issue in the year of £27,000,000 to Swissport Group Limited as shown in note 20 as part of the recapitalisation process across the UK Swissport companies.

Risks and uncertainties

It is the aim of the directors to increase risk awareness across the Company and promote a culture where both risk and opportunity are identified and managed. The Company seeks to mitigate impacts or reduce the likelihood of major risk events, where practicable, and to transfer risk to insurers where cost effective.

The principal risks that have been identified fall into the following categories:

Airline Alliances changes

There are three main airline alliances in our areas of operation - One World, Sky Team and Star Alliance, and there is significant risk that airlines joining an alliance will use a partner's ground handling services at hub locations. This risk is mitigated in part by the number of locations in which the business operates.

Strategic report (continued)

External Risks

Competition

The Company operates in very competitive markets. Previously airport operating licences limiting service alternatives at each airport minimised this risk, but this is increasingly less of a barrier to entry. The Company spends considerable resources on continuously improving productivity and unit labour costs, and planning and rostering systems in particular are regularly being improved. The Company is one of the strongest players and is now part of the largest global independent ground handling and cargo operator in the world, and we believe our market position will be strengthened further as a result of the Aerocare business acquisition across Australia and New Zealand.

Customer Liquidity

The Company's main customers are airlines for whom liquidity remains a problem and there is considerable risk of a major customer seeking creditor protection. A strong culture of treasury management within the Company ensures that exposure is limited as far as possible, and consequently risk transfer through credit risk insurance is not deemed cost effective.

Economic prosperity

Demand for services (by airlines) is driven primarily by economic prosperity, which tends to be adversely affected by terrorism, war, oil prices, etc. However, as the bulk of costs are labour related, maintaining an element of temporary staffing allows a significant degree of flexibility to allow for such occurrences.

Internal Risks

Health and Safety Breaches

Airside operations are inherently hazardous, and it is only through having operating procedures that in many cases exceed industry standards, aided by recurrent training and on-going internal audit that Swissport is able to maintain reasonable levels of residual risk.

Airframe damage

Although incidences are few, the Company strives to eradicate aircraft damage through a process of continuous improvement. Recurrent training is conducted with more rigour than industry standards dictate to minimise occurrences and most contracts with airlines include the standard IATA liability limits. For the rest, extensive insurance cover is available to mitigate the impact.

Inability to supply

Failure to deliver to contractual commitments is a risk, and good relations with the trade unions are actively managed locally. While any impact is again diminished by the large number of airports operated in, limited business continuity plans are also in place. Planned IT changes will complete key systems disaster recovery in the coming year.

Financial Risks

Price risk

The majority of sales contracts include annual inflation-linked rises, therefore protecting margins.

Credit risk

Credit risk is managed extremely carefully, with many customers operating on a prepay or reduced credit basis. Additional steps have been taken to reduce credit risk further, including securing bank and parental company guarantees from a number of customers.

Strategic report (continued)

Financial Risks (continued)

Liquidity risk

Liquidity is strong as the Company has the financial support of Swissport International, the world's largest provider of ground and cargo handling services in the aviation industry which generates annual operating revenues in excess of CHF 3 billion.

Interest rate risk

External borrowings are predominantly finance leases with fixed repayments including an interest element. Interest accrues on our receivable loan from our Group Treasury pooling facility at a margin of EURIBOR + 1.5%.

Future developments

Whilst trading had improved during 2017, the Directors expect the company to pursue sustainable profitability as a result of the novation of contracts from Flightcare Multiservices Limited into Swissport GB Limited this will further strengthen the financial performance.

On behalf of the board



L Wirth
Director

25 MAY 2018

Swissport GB Limited
Swissport House
Hampton Court
Manor Park
Runcorn
Cheshire
WA7 1TT

2018

Directors' report

The Directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2017.

Research and Development

The company does not undertake any research and development (2016: *£nil*).

Financial instruments

The company's financial instruments comprise obligations under short leasehold property, finance leases for airport equipment, operating leases, share capital, loans received from other companies within its group (Swissport UK Holdings Limited, Swissport Limited and Swissport International Limited) and items arising from trading operations (trade debtors and trade creditors).

Proposed dividend

The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend (2016: *£nil*).

Directors

The directors who held office during the year were as follows:

D Harding	
J Gaskell	
Dr C Goseke	
L Wirth	(appointed 1 June 2017)
B Kay	(appointed 23 September 2017)
T Watt	(resigned 1 June 2017)

Company secretary

Eversecretary Ltd

Employees

Disabled persons are employed and trained whenever their aptitudes and abilities allow, subject to any overriding consideration of access and safety at the workplace. Where any employee becomes disabled during the period of their employment with the Company, retraining and continued employment is arranged wherever practicable.

Arrangements exist whereby the Company's representatives may meet regularly with employees' representatives who are able to enquire of matters of concern to them as employees, and may express their views on matters likely to affect their interests. Such meetings also enable the Company to seek to make employees aware of the financial and economic factors affecting the performance of relevant areas of the Company. The Company does not operate an employee share scheme.

Political contributions

The Company made no political donations or incurred any political expenditure during the year (2016: *£nil*).

Disclosure of information to auditor

The directors who held office at the date of approval of this directors' report confirm that, so far as they are each aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditor is unaware; and each director has taken all the steps that he ought to have taken as a director to make himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

Directors' report *(continued)*

Auditor

During the year, Ernst & Young LLP were appointed as auditors. Pursuant to Section 487 of the Companies Act 2006, Ernst & Young LLP have been reappointed and will continue in office.

By order of the board



L Wirth
Director

25 MAY 2018

Swissport GB Limited
Swissport House
Hampton Court
Manor Park
Runcom
Cheshire
WA7 1TT

2018

Statement of directors' responsibilities in respect of the Strategic report, Directors' report and the financial statements

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

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial period. Under that law they have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 101 *Reduced Disclosure Framework*.

Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

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

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They 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.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SWISSPORT GB LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Swissport GB Limited for the year ended 31 December 2017 which comprise of the Profit and Loss Account, the Statement of comprehensive income, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of changes in equity and the related notes 1 to 24, 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 FRS 101 Reduced Disclosure Framework (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2017 and of its 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 Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report below. We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

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

Use of our report

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

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 company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SWISSPORT GB LIMITED

Other information

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

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the 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 directors' responsibilities statement set out on page 6, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SWISSPORT GB LIMITED

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

Ernst & Young LLP

Colin Brown (Senior statutory auditor)
for and on behalf of Ernst & Young LLP, Statutory Auditor
Manchester

29 May 2018

Profit and Loss Account
for year ended 31 December 2017

	<i>Note</i>	2017 £000	2016 £000
Turnover	2	263,897	233,776
Raw materials and consumables		(619)	(562)
Staff costs	5	(161,513)	(144,150)
Depreciation and other amounts written off tangible and intangible fixed assets	11	(4,935)	(4,252)
Other operating charges		(91,011)	(86,117)
		(258,078)	(235,081)
Operating profit/(loss)		5,819	(1,305)
Other interest receivable and similar income	7	25	-
Interest payable and similar charges	8	(2,116)	(1,470)
Profit/(Loss) on ordinary activities before taxation		3,728	(2,775)
Tax on profit/(loss) on ordinary activities	9	2,207	394
Profit/(Loss) for the financial year		5,935	(2,381)

All results derive from continuing operations

Other Comprehensive Income
for year ended 31 December 2017

	<i>Note</i>	2017 £000	2016 £000
Profit/(Loss) for the financial year		5,935	(2,381)
Other comprehensive income/(expense)			
<i>Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss:</i>			
Remeasurements of defined benefit liability	19	14,012	(30,944)
Other comprehensive income/(expense) for the year, net of income tax		14,012	(30,944)
Total comprehensive income/(expense) for the year		19,947	(33,325)

All results derive from continuing operations

Balance Sheet
at 31 December 2017

	Note	2017 £000	2016 £000	£000
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	11		22,330	20,742
Investments	12		40,813	39,236
			<u>63,143</u>	<u>59,978</u>
Current assets				
Stocks	13	572	737	
Debtors	14	41,903	72,207	
Cash at bank and in hand			192	
		<u>42,475</u>	<u>73,136</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(64,209)	(120,957)	
Net current liabilities			(21,734)	(47,821)
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>41,409</u>	<u>12,157</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	17		(264)	(585)
Provisions for liabilities				
Pension liability	18		(40,594)	(57,968)
Net Assets/(Liabilities)			<u>551</u>	<u>(46,396)</u>
Capital and reserves				
Called up share capital	20	27,010		10
Share premium account		500		500
Other reserve	3	(6,264)		(6,264)
Profit and loss account		(20,695)		(40,642)
Shareholders' funds/(deficit)		<u>551</u>		<u>(46,396)</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of directors on behalf by:

2018 and were signed on its

L Wirth

L Wirth
Director

Company registered number: 509585

25 MAY 2018

Statement of Changes in Equity at 31 December 2017

	Called up share capital £000	Share premium account £000	Other reserves £000	Profit and loss account £000	Total equity £000
Balance at 1 January 2016	10	500	-	(7,317)	(6,807)
Total comprehensive expense for the period					
Loss	-	-	-	(2,381)	(2,381)
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-	(30,944)	(30,944)
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	-	-	(33,325)	(33,325)
Transaction with owners, recorded directly in equity					
Effect of common control transactions (note 3)	-	-	(6,264)	-	(6,264)
Total contributions by and distributions to owners	-	-	(6,264)	-	(6,264)
Balance at 31 December 2016	10	500	(6,264)	(40,642)	(46,396)

	Called up share capital £000	Share premium account £000	Other reserves £000	Profit and loss account £000	Total equity £000
Balance at 1 January 2017	10	500	(6,264)	(40,642)	(46,396)
Total comprehensive income for the period					
Profit	-	-	-	5,935	5,935
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-	14,012	14,012
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	-	-	19,947	19,947
Transaction with owners, recorded directly in equity					
Issue of Share Capital	27,000	-	-	-	27,000
Total contributions by and distributions to owners	27,000	-	-	-	27,000
Balance at 31 December 2017	27,010	500	(6,264)	(20,695)	551

The notes on pages 14 to 31 form an integral part of these statements.

Notes

(forming part of the financial statements)

1 Accounting policies

Swissport GB Limited (the “company”) is a private company incorporated, domiciled and registered in the UK.

These financial statements were prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 101 *Reduced Disclosure Framework* (“FRS 101”). The amendments to FRS 101 (2015/16 Cycle) issued in July 2016 and effective immediately have been applied.

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

The Company’s ultimate parent undertaking, HNA Group Co Limited includes the Company in its consolidated financial statements. The consolidated financial statements of 31 December 2017 are prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and are available to the public and may be obtained from HNA Group Co Limited Haixiu Road, Haikou, Hainan Province, Peoples Republic of China.

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

- a Cash Flow Statement and related notes;
- Comparative period reconciliations for share capital and tangible fixed assets;
- The effects of new but not yet effective IFRSs;
- An additional balance sheet for the beginning of the earliest comparative period following the retrospective change in accounting policy and
- Disclosures in respect of the compensation of Key Management Personnel.

As the consolidated financial statements of ultimate parent undertaking include the equivalent disclosures, the Company has also taken the exemptions under FRS 101 available in respect of the following disclosures:

- Certain disclosures required by IFRS 13 *Fair Value Measurement* and the disclosures required by IFRS 7 *Financial Instrument Disclosures*

The accounting policies set out below have, unless otherwise stated, been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements.

The financial statements are presented in Pounds Sterling, which is the Company’s functional currency. All amounts have been rounded to the nearest thousand, unless otherwise indicated.

1.2 Measurement convention

The financial statements are prepared on the historical cost basis.

1.3 Going concern

The company meets its day to day working capital requirements through funding provided by the ultimate parent group, HNA Group Co Limited. In this regard, Aguila Bid AG, the operating and funding subsidiary of the ultimate parent undertaking, has confirmed its intention to continue to provide such financial and other support as may be required by the company and not seek repayment of amounts made available, for the next 12 months following approval of these financial statements, to enable the company to meet its liabilities as they fall due in the normal course of business.

Notwithstanding net current liabilities of £21,734,000 and net assets of £551,000 at the balance sheet date, after making enquiries the directors have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate financial resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, these financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Notes (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.4 Foreign currency

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated to the Company's functional currencies at the foreign exchange rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are retranslated to the functional currency at the foreign exchange rate ruling at that date. Non-monetary assets and liabilities that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction. Non-monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies that are stated at fair value are retranslated to the functional currency at foreign exchange rates ruling at the dates the fair value was determined. Foreign exchange differences arising on translation are recognised in the profit and loss account.

1.5 Classification of financial instruments issued by the Company

Following the adoption of IAS 32, financial instruments issued by the Company are treated as equity only to the extent that they meet the following two conditions:

- (a) they include no contractual obligations upon the company to deliver cash or other financial assets or to exchange financial assets or financial liabilities with another party under conditions that are potentially unfavourable to the company; and
- (b) where the instrument will or may be settled in the company's own equity instruments, it is either a non-derivative that includes no obligation to deliver a variable number of the company's own equity instruments or is a derivative that will be settled by the company's exchanging a fixed amount of cash or other financial assets for a fixed number of its own equity instruments.

To the extent that this definition is not met, the proceeds of issue are classified as a financial liability. Where the instrument so classified takes the legal form of the company's own shares, the amounts presented in these financial statements for called up share capital and share premium account exclude amounts in relation to those shares.

1.6 Non-derivative financial instruments

Non-derivative financial instruments comprise trade and other debtors, cash and cash equivalents, loans and borrowings, and trade and other creditors.

Trade and other debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised initially at fair value. Subsequent to initial recognition they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses.

Trade and other creditors

Trade and other creditors are recognised initially at fair value. Subsequent to initial recognition they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Interest-bearing borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are recognised initially at fair value less attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, interest-bearing borrowings are stated at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses.

Investments in debt and equity securities

Investments in jointly controlled entities and subsidiaries are carried at cost less impairment.

1.7 Intra-group financial instruments

Where the Company enters into financial guarantee contracts to guarantee the indebtedness of other companies within its group, the company considers these to be insurance arrangements and accounts for them as such. In this respect, the company treats the guarantee contract as a contingent liability until such time as it becomes probable that the company will be required to make a payment under the guarantee.

Notes (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.8 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Where parts of an item of tangible fixed assets have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items of tangible fixed assets.

Depreciation is charged to the profit and loss account on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of each part of an item of tangible fixed assets. Estimated useful lives for some assets were revised at the start of the year to bring in line with Swissport International accounting policy. Land is not depreciated. The estimated useful lives are as follows:

Airport equipment	-	4 to 10 years
Fixtures and fittings	-	4 years
Computers	-	4 years
Motor vehicles	-	4 to 10 years
Land and buildings	-	10 years

1.9 Goodwill and negative goodwill

Goodwill

Goodwill is stated at cost less any accumulated impairment losses. Goodwill is allocated to cash-generating units. It is not amortised but is tested annually for impairment. This is not in accordance with the UK Companies Act which requires that all goodwill be amortised. The directors consider that this would fail to give a true and fair view of the profit for the year and that the economic measure of performance in any period is properly made by reference only to any impairment that may have arisen. It is not practicable to quantify the effect on the financial statements of this departure.

Negative goodwill

Negative goodwill arising on business combinations in respect of acquisitions is included within fixed assets and released to the profit and loss account in the periods in which the non-monetary assets arising on the same acquisition are recovered, whether through depreciation or sale. Any excess exceeding the fair value of non-monetary assets acquired shall be recognised in profit or loss in the periods expected to benefit.

1.10 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is based on the first-in first-out principle and includes expenditure incurred in acquiring the stocks, production or conversion costs and other costs in bringing them to their existing location and condition.

1.11 Impairment excluding stocks and deferred tax assets

Financial assets (including trade and other debtors)

A financial asset not carried at fair value through profit or loss is assessed at each reporting date to determine whether there is objective evidence that it is impaired. A financial asset is impaired if objective evidence indicates that a loss event has occurred after the initial recognition of the asset, and that the loss event had a negative effect on the estimated future cash flows of that asset that can be estimated reliably.

An impairment loss in respect of a financial asset measured at amortised cost is calculated as the difference between its carrying amount and the present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. For financial instruments measured at cost less impairment is calculated as the difference between its carrying amount and the best estimate of the amount that the Company would receive for the asset if it were to be sold at the reporting date. Interest on the impaired asset continues to be recognised through the unwinding of the discount. When a subsequent event causes the amount of impairment loss to decrease, the decrease in impairment loss is reversed through profit or loss.

Notes (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.11 Impairment excluding stocks and deferred tax assets (continued)

Non-financial assets

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

The recoverable amount of an asset or cash-generating unit is the greater of its value in use and its fair value less costs to sell. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. For the purpose of impairment testing, assets that cannot be tested individually are grouped together into the smallest group of assets that generates cash inflows from continuing use that are largely independent of the cash inflows of other assets or groups of assets (the "cash-generating unit"). The goodwill acquired in a business combination, for the purpose of impairment testing, is allocated to cash-generating units, or ("CGU"). Subject to an operating segment ceiling test, for the purposes of goodwill impairment testing, CGUs to which goodwill has been allocated are aggregated so that the level at which impairment is tested reflects the lowest level at which goodwill is monitored for internal reporting purposes. Goodwill acquired in a business combination is allocated to groups of CGUs that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination.

An impairment loss is recognised if the carrying amount of an asset or its CGU exceeds its estimated recoverable amount. Impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss. Impairment losses recognised in respect of CGUs are allocated first to reduce the carrying amount of any goodwill allocated to the units, and then to reduce the carrying amounts of the other assets in the unit (group of units) on a pro rata basis.

In respect of other assets, impairment losses recognised in prior periods are assessed at each reporting date for any indications that the loss has decreased or no longer exists. An impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount. An impairment loss is reversed only to the extent that the asset's carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss had been recognised.

1.12 Employee benefits

Defined contribution plans

A defined contribution plan is a post-employment benefit plan under which the company pays fixed contributions into a separate entity and will have no legal or constructive obligation to pay further amounts. Obligations for contributions to defined contribution pension plans are recognised as an expense in the profit and loss account in the periods during which services are rendered by employees.

Defined benefit plans

A defined benefit plan is a post-employment benefit plan other than a defined contribution plan. The Company's net obligation in respect of defined benefit pension plans and other post-employment benefits is calculated by estimating the amount of future benefit that employees have earned in return for their service in the current and prior periods; that benefit is discounted to determine its present value, and the fair value of any plan assets (at bid price) are deducted. The Company determines the net interest on the net defined benefit liability/(asset) for the period by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the annual period to the net defined benefit liability/(asset).

The discount rate is the yield at the reporting date on bonds that have a credit rating of at least AA that have maturity dates approximating the terms of the Company's obligations and that are denominated in the currency in which the benefits are expected to be paid.

Remeasurements arising from defined benefit plans comprise actuarial gains and losses, the return on plan assets (excluding interest) and the effect of the asset ceiling (if any, excluding interest). The Company recognises them immediately in other comprehensive income and all other expenses related to defined benefit plans in employee benefit expenses in profit or loss.

Notes (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.12 Employee benefits (continued)

Defined benefit plans (continued)

The calculation of the defined benefit obligations is performed by a qualified actuary using the projected unit credit method. When the calculation results in a benefit to the Company, the recognised asset is limited to the present value of benefits available in the form of any future refunds from the plan or reductions in future contributions and takes into account the adverse effect of any minimum funding requirements.

Short-term benefits

Short-term employee benefit obligations are measured on an undiscounted basis and are expensed as the related service is provided. A liability is recognised for the amount expected to be paid under short-term cash bonus or profit-sharing plans if the Company has a present legal or constructive obligation to pay this amount as a result of past service provided by the employee and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

Termination benefits

Termination benefits are recognised as an expense when the company is demonstrably committed, without realistic possibility of withdrawal, to a formal detailed plan to either terminate employment before the normal retirement date, or to provide termination benefits as a result of an offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy. Termination benefits for voluntary redundancies are recognised as an expense if the company has made an offer of voluntary redundancy, it is probable that the offer will be accepted, and the number of acceptances can be estimated reliably. If benefits are payable more than 12 months after the reporting date, then they are discounted to their present value.

1.13 Provisions

A provision is recognised in the balance sheet when the Company has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, that can be reliably measured and it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation. Provisions are determined by discounting the expected future cash flows at a pre-tax rate that reflects risks specific to the liability.

1.14 Turnover

Turnover represents amounts derived from the provision of airport ground handling and cargo handling services during the year, exclusive of trade discounts, rebates and value added tax. Turnover is recognised on completion of services.

1.15 Expenses

Operating lease payments

Payments (excluding costs for services and insurance) made under operating leases are recognised in the profit and loss account on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. Lease incentives received are recognised in the profit and loss account as an integral part of the total lease expense.

Finance lease payments

Minimum lease payments are apportioned between the finance charge and the reduction of the outstanding liability. The finance charge is allocated to each period during the lease term so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability. Contingent rents are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

Interest receivable and Interest payable

Interest payable and similar charges include interest payable, finance charges on shares classified as liabilities and finance leases recognised in profit or loss using the effective interest method, unwinding of the discount on provisions, and net foreign exchange losses that are recognised in the profit and loss account (see foreign currency accounting policy). Borrowing costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of an asset that takes a substantial time to be prepared for use, are capitalised as part of the cost of that asset. Other interest receivable and similar income include interest receivable on funds invested and net foreign exchange gains.

1.15 Expenses (continued)

Interest receivable and Interest payable (continued)

Interest income and interest payable is recognised in profit or loss as it accrues, using the effective interest method. Dividend income is recognised in the profit and loss account on the date the entity's right to receive payments is established. Foreign currency gains and losses are reported on a net basis.

1.16 Taxation

Tax on the profit or loss for the year comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in the profit and loss account except to the extent that it relates to items recognised directly in equity or other comprehensive income, in which case it is recognised directly in equity or other comprehensive income.

Current tax is the expected tax payable or receivable on the taxable income or loss for the year, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date, and any adjustment to tax payable in respect of previous years.

Deferred tax is provided on temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes. The following temporary differences are not provided for: the initial recognition of goodwill; the initial recognition of assets or liabilities that affect neither accounting nor taxable profit other than in a business combination, and differences relating to investments in subsidiaries to the extent that they will probably not reverse in the foreseeable future. The amount of deferred tax provided is based on the expected manner of realisation or settlement of the carrying amount of assets and liabilities, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date.

A deferred tax asset is recognised only to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which the temporary difference can be utilised.

1.17 Business Combination

In a common control transaction, when the trade and assets are acquired from another group entity, the company recognises acquired assets and liabilities at book values as reported in the transferor, with the difference between the book values and considerations paid recognised directly in other reserves.

2 Turnover

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Airport passenger groundhandling	208,022	186,240
Cargo handling	55,875	47,536
Total turnover	263,897	233,776

Turnover arises wholly in the United Kingdom.

3 Business Combination

On 1 January 2016 the Company acquired the trade and fixed assets of Swissport Limited for £8,700,000. As part of this the company acquired groundhandling operations at several UK airports together with a central load planning operation used by the company. In the 12 months to 31 December 2016 the business contributed revenue of £25,446,000 and net profit of £1,123,000 to the revenue and results for the year.

The acquisition was part of the process to consolidate Swissport group's main UK ground handling activities into one company.

Effect of acquisition

The acquisition had the following effect on the Company's assets and liabilities in 2016.

Notes (continued)

3 Business Combination (Continued)

	Recognised values on acquisition
	£000
Consideration payable	8,700
Tangible fixed assets acquired	(2,436)
	<hr/>
Other reserve arising on acquisition	6,264
	<hr/>

As this is a common control transaction the company has recognised the acquired assets and liabilities at book values as reported in the transferor, with the difference between book values and the consideration paid recognised directly in other reserves.

4 Expenses and auditor's remuneration

Included in the profit are the following:

Auditor's remuneration:

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Audit of these financial statements	195	163
	<hr/>	<hr/>

5 Staff numbers and costs

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

	Number of employees	
	2017	2016
Operations	7,067	6,267
Administration	237	210
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	7,304	6,477
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Notes (continued)

5 Staff numbers and costs (continued)

The aggregate payroll costs of these persons were as follows:

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Wages and salaries	149,493	133,717
Social security costs	10,899	9,329
Contributions to defined contribution plans (note 19)	803	678
Expenses related to defined benefit plans (note 19)	318	426
	<u>161,513</u>	<u>144,150</u>

6 Directors' remuneration

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Directors' remuneration	792	588
Amounts receivable under long term incentive schemes	35	21
	<u>827</u>	<u>609</u>

The aggregate of remuneration and amounts receivable under long term incentive schemes of the highest paid director was £179,000 (2016: £189,000).

	Number of directors	
	2017	2016
Retirement benefits are accruing to the following number of directors under:		
Money purchase schemes	2	2
Defined benefit schemes	2	2
	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

7 Other interest receivable and similar income

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Interest income on unimpaired financial assets	25	2
	<u>25</u>	<u>2</u>

Interest income on unimpaired financial assets is from group undertakings.

8 Interest payable and similar charges

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Total interest expense on financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	426	153
Net interest on net defined benefit pension plan liability (note 19)	1,472	1,094
Net foreign exchange loss	218	223
	<u>2,116</u>	<u>1,470</u>
Total other interest payable and similar charges	<u>2,116</u>	<u>1,470</u>

Notes (continued)

9 Taxation

Recognised in the profit and loss account

	2017 £000	£000	2016 £000	£000
<i>UK corporation tax</i>				
Current tax on income for the period	-		-	
Group relief receivable	(2,207)		(394)	
Adjustments in respect of prior periods	-		-	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
Total current tax		(2,207)		(394)
<i>Deferred tax (note 15)</i>				
Origination and reversal of temporary differences	-		-	
Recognition of previously unrecognised tax losses	-		-	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
Total deferred tax		-		-
		<hr/>		<hr/>
Tax on loss on ordinary activities		(2,207)		(394)

Reconciliation of effective tax rate

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Profit/(Loss) for the year	5,935	(2,381)
Total tax (credit)	(2,207)	(394)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Profit/(Loss) excluding taxation	3,728	(2,775)
Tax using the UK corporation tax rate of 19.25% (2016:20%)	717	(555)
Fixed asset differences	31	225
Non-deductible expenses	25	421
Income not taxable for tax purposes	(19)	-
Amounts (charge)/credited directly to equity or otherwise transferred	2,697	-
Current year losses for which no deferred tax asset was recognised	(3,535)	(485)
Under / (over) provided in prior years	(2,123)	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total tax credit	(2,207)	(394)

The company has an unrecognised deferred tax asset of £14,847,000 (2016: £17,191,000) available to offset against future trading profits (note 15).

Factors that may affect the future tax charge

A reduction in the UK corporation tax rate to 19% (effective from 1 April 2017) and to 18% (effective 1 April 2020) were substantively enacted on 26 October 2015, and an additional reduction to 17% (effective 1 April 2020) was substantively enacted on 6 September 2016. This will reduce the company's future current tax charge accordingly. The deferred tax asset at 31 December 2017 has been calculated based on these rates. The reduction in the rate of corporation tax to 17% is not forecast to have a significant impact on future charges to the profit and loss account.

Notes (continued)

10 Intangible assets

	Goodwill £000	Negative goodwill £000
Cost		
At 1 January 2017 and 31 December 2017	11,529	(3,957)
Accumulated amortisation		
At 1 January 2017 and 31 December 2017	11,529	(3,957)
Net book value		
At 31 December 2017	-	-
At 31 December 2016	-	-

In prior years management conducted an impairment review of intangible assets which indicated that the carrying amount exceeded its recoverable amount and consequently goodwill was fully written down by this amount.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £000	Airport equipment £000	Fixtures and fittings £000	Motor vehicles £000	Computers £000	Total £000
Cost						
Balance at 31 December 2016	11,541	17,780	5,629	41,300	4,523	80,773
Additions	360	1,263	487	5,659	745	8,514
Disposals	(80)	(953)	(297)	(2,108)	(18)	(3,456)
Balance at 31 December 2017	11,821	18,090	5,819	44,851	5,250	85,831
Accumulated depreciation						
Balance at 31 December 2016	5,325	14,678	4,863	31,830	3,335	60,031
Charge for the year	1,029	1,187	371	1,882	466	4,935
Disposals	(61)	(156)	(284)	(957)	(7)	(1,465)
Balance at 31 December 2017	6,293	15,709	4,950	32,755	3,794	63,501
Net book value						
Balance at 31 December 2017	5,528	2,381	869	12,096	1,456	22,330
Balance at 31 December 2016	6,216	3,102	766	9,470	1,188	20,742

Notes (continued)

11 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

Land and Buildings

The net book value of land and buildings comprises:

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Freehold	604	633
Leasehold improvements	4,924	5,553
	<u>5,528</u>	<u>6,216</u>

Leased plant and machinery

At 31 December 2017 the net carrying amount of leased equipment, motor vehicles and computers was £2,951,000 (2016: £4,369,000). The leased equipment secures lease obligations (see note 18).

12 Fixed asset investments

Cost	Share in group undertakings £000
At beginning of year	47,299
Additions	1,577
At end of year	<u>48,876</u>
Impairments	
At beginning and end of year	<u>8,063</u>
Net Book Value	
As at 31 December 2017	<u>40,813</u>
At 31 December 2016	<u>39,236</u>

On 22 November 2017 the Company acquired 100% voting shares of Swissport Jersey Limited, a private company based in Jersey. Swissport Jersey Limited was acquired for a consideration of £1,577,000 satisfied in cash.

The Company has the following investments in subsidiaries and jointly controlled entities:

Subsidiary undertaking	Country of incorporation	Principal activity	Proportion of ordinary shares %
Servisair (Contract Handling) Limited	England and Wales	Dormant	100
Airway Handling Limited	England and Wales	Dormant	100
Shamrock Logistics Limited	England and Wales	Dormant	100
Shamrock Logistics Limited Ireland	Ireland	Distribution agent	*100
Trading Spaces Limited	Ireland	Dormant	100
Flightcare Multiservices UK Limited	England and Wales	Cleaning and Catering	100
Flightcare Multiservices Ireland	Ireland	Cleaning and Catering	*100
Swissport Stansted Limited	England and Wales	Aircraft handling agent	100
Swissport Fuelling Services Limited	England and Wales	Aircraft refueller	100
Swissport Fuelling Limited	England and Wales	Aircraft refueller	100
Swissportald Limited	England and Wales	Airport lounge operator	51
Swissport Jersey Limited	England and Wales	Aircraft handling agent	100

(* = indirectly held)

Notes (continued)

13 Stocks

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Raw materials and consumables	572	737

Raw materials and consumables recognised as cost of sales in the year amounted to £619,000 (2016: £562,000). There were no write downs of stock during the year (2016: £nil).

14 Debtors

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Trade debtors	31,086	21,902
Loans owed by group undertakings	-	22,562
Amounts owed by group undertakings	4,262	17,416
Other debtors	2,391	1,531
Prepayments and accrued income	4,164	8,796
Corporation Tax	-	-
	41,903	72,207

All debtors are repayable within one year.

Amounts owed by group undertakings include an unsecured interest-bearing loan for £nil (2016: £22,562,000). The loan has an interest rate of 1.5% and is repayable in 2018. All other amounts owed by group undertakings are unsecured, interest free, have no fixed date of repayment and are repayable on demand.

15 Deferred tax assets and liabilities

Recognised deferred tax assets and liabilities

No deferred tax assets or liabilities were recognised at the end of 2017 or 2016. There were no movements of recognised deferred tax assets or liabilities during 2017.

Details of unprovided deferred tax assets are as follows:

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Tangible fixed assets	1,951	1,194
Employee benefits	6,932	9,740
Other	5,964	6,257
	14,847	17,191

£5,254,000 for unused tax losses were transferred from Swissport Limited following acquisition of its business on 1 January 2016.

Notes (continued)

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Trade creditors	7,343	8,833
Loan to group undertakings	1,000	10,497
Amounts owed to group undertakings	19,418	64,550
Bank Overdraft	397	-
Obligations under finance leases (see note 17)	322	746
Taxation and social security	2,454	2,334
Accruals and deferred income	33,275	33,997
	<u>64,209</u>	<u>120,957</u>

Amounts owed to group undertakings include unsecured interest-bearing loans totalling £1,000,000 (2016: £10,497,000), with no fixed repayment date. The details are set out in note 18. The remaining amounts owed to group undertakings are unsecured, interest free, have no fixed date of repayment and are repayable on demand.

17 Creditors: amounts falling after more than one year

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Obligations under finance leases (see note 18)	<u>264</u>	<u>585</u>

18 Interest-bearing loans and borrowings

This note provides information about the contractual terms of the Company's interest-bearing loans and borrowings, which are measured at amortised cost.

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Creditors falling due more than one year		
Finance lease liabilities	<u>264</u>	<u>585</u>
Creditors falling due within one year		
Loan from group undertakings	1,000	10,497
Finance lease liabilities	<u>322</u>	<u>746</u>
	<u>1,322</u>	<u>11,243</u>

Terms and debt repayment schedule

	Currency	Nominal interest rate	Year of maturity	Face value 2017 £000	Carrying amount 2017 £000	Face value 2016 £000	Carrying amount 2016 £000
Loans from group undertaking	Swedish	4.5%	On demand	1,000	1,000	10,497	10,497
Finance lease liabilities	Swedish	2.39% - 3.80%	2022	586	586	1,331	1,331
				<u>1,586</u>	<u>1,586</u>	<u>11,828</u>	<u>11,828</u>

Notes (continued)

18 Interest-Bearing loans and borrowings (continued)

Finance lease liabilities

Finance lease liabilities are payable as follows:

	Minimum lease payments 2017 £000	Interest 2017 £000	Principal 2017 £000	Minimum lease payments 2016 £000	Interest 2016 £000	Principal 2016 £000
Less than one year	283	19	264	783	37	746
Between one and five years	330	8	322	612	27	585
More than five years	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>613</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>586</u>	<u>1,395</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>1,331</u>

19 Employee benefits

The Company operates a defined benefit pension scheme that pays out pensions at retirement based on service and previous levels of pay. The defined benefit section of the Servisair Pension Scheme ("the scheme") is closed to new employees of the Company.

An actuarial valuation of the Servisair Pension Scheme, using the projected unit basis, was carried out at 5 April 2013 by a qualified independent actuary and updated at 31 December 2017.

The information disclosed below is in respect of the whole of the plans for which the Company is the sponsoring employer.

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Total defined benefit asset	122,479	108,761
Total defined benefit liability	(163,073)	(166,729)
Total employee benefits (see following table)	(40,594)	(57,968)

Notes (continued)

19 Employee benefits (continued)

Movements in net defined benefit liability

	Defined benefit obligation		Fair value of plan assets		Net defined benefit liability	
	2017 £000	2016 £000	2017 £000	2016 £000	2017 £000	2016 £000
Balance at 1 January	166,729	123,785	(108,761)	(93,449)	57,968	30,336
Included in profit or loss						
Current service cost	-	-	318	426	318	426
Past service cost	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest cost/(income)	4,372	4,765	(2,900)	(3,671)	1,472	1,094
	<u>4,372</u>	<u>4,765</u>	<u>(2,582)</u>	<u>(3,245)</u>	<u>1,790</u>	<u>1,520</u>
Included in OCI						
Remeasurements loss/(gain):						
Actuarial loss (gain) arising from						
Changes in demographic					(2,619)	(1,438)
Assumptions	(2,619)	(1,438)	-	-		
Change in financial assumptions	(938)	40,640	-	-	(938)	40,640
Experience adjustment	(962)	2,245	-	-	(962)	2,245
Return on plan assets	-	-	(9,493)	(10,503)	(9,493)	(10,503)
excluding interest income	-	-	-	-	-	-
Effect of movements in exchange rates	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>(4,519)</u>	<u>41,447</u>	<u>(9,493)</u>	<u>(10,503)</u>	<u>(14,012)</u>	<u>30,944</u>
Other						
Contributions paid by the employer	-	-	(5,152)	(4,832)	(5,152)	(4,832)
Contributions by scheme participants	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benefits paid	(3,509)	(3,268)	3,509	3,268	-	-
	<u>(3,509)</u>	<u>(3,268)</u>	<u>(1,643)</u>	<u>(1,564)</u>	<u>(5,152)</u>	<u>(4,832)</u>
Balance at 31 December	<u>163,073</u>	<u>166,729</u>	<u>(122,479)</u>	<u>(108,761)</u>	<u>40,594</u>	<u>57,968</u>

Plan assets

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Cash and cash equivalents	3,674	6,091
Equity instruments	19,597	22,781
Debt instruments - bonds	78,386	51,696
Real estate	12,248	9,848
Derivatives - Hedge fund	-	-
Multi asset credit and diversified growth funds	8,574	18,345
Total	<u>122,479</u>	<u>108,761</u>

All equity securities and government bonds have quoted prices in active markets. All government bonds are issued by European governments and are AAA- or AA-rated. All other plan assets are not quoted in an active market.

Notes (continued)

19 Employee benefits (continued)

Actuarial assumptions

The following are the principal actuarial assumptions at the reporting date (expressed as weighted averages)

	2017 %	2016 %
Discount rate at 31 December	2.55	2.65
Future salary increases	-	-
Inflation assumption (RPI)	3.25	3.40
Future pension increases RPI up to 2.5% maximum each year	2.30	2.30
Future pension increases RPI up to 5% maximum each year	3.20	3.35
Future pension increases CPI up to 3% maximum each year	2.05	2.15

The assumptions relating to longevity underlying the pension liabilities at the balance sheet date are based on standard actuarial mortality tables and include an allowance for future improvements in longevity. The assumptions are equivalent to expecting a 65-year old to live for a number of years as follows:

- Current pensioner aged 65: 21.3 years (male), 23.1 years (female).
- Future retiree upon reaching 65: 22.6 years (male), 24.6 years (female).

Sensitivity analysis

The calculation of the defined benefit obligation is sensitive to the assumptions set out above. The following table summarises how the impact on the defined benefit obligation at the end of the reporting period would have increased (decreased) as a result of a change in the respective assumptions by plus or minus %

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Discount rate		
- Plus 0.50%	(15,100)	(16,200)
- Minus 0.50%	17,300	18,700
Life Expectancy		
- Plus 1 year	6,700	6,700
- Minus 1 year	(6,700)	(6,700)
Inflation (RPI, CPI)		
- Plus 0.5%	14,000	14,200
- Minus 0.5%	(12,700)	(13,700)

The above sensitivities are based on the average duration of the benefit obligation determined at the date of the last full actuarial valuation at 5 April 2013 and are applied to adjust the defined benefit obligation at the end of the reporting period for the assumptions concerned. Whilst the analysis does not take account of the full distribution of cash flows expected under the plan, it does provide an approximation to the sensitivity of the assumptions shown.

Funding

The Company expects to pay £4,166,000 in contributions to its defined benefit plans in 2018. The weighted average duration of the defined benefit obligation at the end of the reporting period is 21 years (2016: 19 years).

Defined contribution plans

The Company operates a defined contribution pension plan.

The total expense relating to these plans in the current year was £803,000 (2016: £678,000).

Notes (continued)

20 Capital and reserves

Share capital

	2017 £'000	2016 £'000
<i>Allotted and fully paid</i>		
10,100 (2016: 10,100) Ordinary Shares of £1 each	10	10
27,000,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each issued in the year	27,000	-
	<u>27,010</u>	<u>10</u>

The holders of ordinary shares are entitled to receive dividends as declared from time to time and are entitled to one vote per share at meetings of the Company. Shares issued in the year have the same voting rights and class as those previously declared.

Other reserve

The business and tangible fixed assets of Swissport Limited, a business under common control with this company, were acquired on 1 January 2016. The company has opted to account for this transaction using book value accounting. The amount paid in excess of book value of the assets acquired, of £6,264,000, has been taken to the other reserve (see note 3).

21 Operating leases

Non-cancellable operating lease rentals are payable as follows:

	2017 £000	2016 £000
Less than one year	7,060	6,311
Between one and five years	15,472	13,763
More than five years	1,276	380
	<u>23,808</u>	<u>20,454</u>

The operating leases are predominantly short-term property leases at various United Kingdom airports.

During the year £17,292,000 was recognised as an expense in the profit and loss account in respect of operating leases (2016: £14,876,000).

22 Commitments

Capital commitments

During the year ended 31 December 2017, the Company entered into a contract to purchase vehicles, equipment, furniture and fittings for £2,661,000 (2016: £3,745,000). These commitments are expected to be settled in the following financial year.

23 Contingencies

The company, together with its ultimate parent undertaking, and certain other group companies, is party to an arrangement under which its assets have been pledged as security in respect of group borrowings. At the balance sheet date, the amounts utilised, to which the pledge relates, amounted to approximately £1.1m (2016: £1.3m).

24 Ultimate parent company and parent company of larger group

The company is a subsidiary undertaking of Swissport UK Holding Limited, incorporated in England and Wales.

The ultimate parent company is HNA Group Co Limited, a company organised and existing under the laws of China, having its registered offices at No 29 Haixiu Road, Haikou, Hainan Province, Peoples Republic of China.

The results of the company are consolidated in the group that is headed by Swissport Group S.a.r.l, incorporated in Luxemburg. The consolidated financial statements of this group are available to the public and may be obtained from Swissport Group S.a.r.l, 6 Rue Guillaume Schneider, L-2522, Luxemburg.