COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 00553014

POUNDSTRETCHER LIMITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 31 MARCH 2021



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31 March 2021

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POUNDSTRETCHER LIMITED OFFICERS AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

The board of directors

Mr N Lalani

Mr G M Loughran Mr X Y Pan Mr A A Tayub Mr S A Tayub

Registered office

Desford Lane Kirby Muxloe Leicestershire LE9 2BJ

Auditor

Kilsby & Williams LLP

Chartered Accountants & statutory auditor

Cedar House Hazell Drive Newport NP10 8FY

STRATEGIC REPORT

Year ended 31 March 2021

Review of the business

The principal activity of the Company is that of discount retailing of household products. The "Poundstretcher" brand is now a leading variety discount retailer in the UK for quality food, toiletries, garden essentials, home ware brands and pet care products under the Company's own brand "Pet Hut". Offering over 5,000 products at some of the lowest prices on the high street, the Company's stores provide shoppers with an incredible selection of value for money items.

The Company trades from 371 stores across the UK at the end of March 2021, and a large distribution centre in Leicester. The company's stores operate under the registered trading name of "Poundstretcher" and 68 stores operate under the registered trading name "Bargain Buys".

The Company imports approximately 70% of its products from suppliers based in China. The remaining products are acquired from suppliers based in the UK and in Europe. The Company employs around 5,000 people nationwide across its store network, distribution centre and head office.

The turnover dropped by £86m during the year. This was as a result of consolidating the store portfolio post CVA (effective date 3rd July 2020). The CVA gave the company the opportunity to close a number of loss making stores which had a drag on profits. The result of the company's restructuring shows a significant increase in statutory operating profits to £88m. The balance sheet also seen a significant improvement with over £58m in Shareholder Funds.

As a result of the above:

- Turnover for the Group has decreased from £411.6 million in FY2020 to £325.3 million in FY21 (a decrease of 21%);
- Profit before tax increased from a loss of £45.3 million in FY2020 to a profit of £88 million in FY2020; and
- Gross profit has increased from £5.1m FY2020 to £66.9m FY 2021.

The company is in the process of fully paying the Supervisor of the CVA early and plan to file a Notice of completion of voluntary arrangement in the next few weeks.

The Group is debt free having with no bank loans or overdrafts and actively pays suppliers ahead of terms to continue to build goodwill within our supplier base.

Post year end trading and cva

The CVA continues to be hugely successful and the company plans to exit the CVA by end of July 2022. The company has now restructured significant parts of its cost base and is now trading every week at a profit and adding to cash reserves every week. The average weekly cash in hand position of the company during 2021-2022 was £20m; the Group is also debt free.

The company has significantly improved the margins on it goods by a mixture of price increases, lower cost of buying and better sourcing and redesigning of products.

The company continues to be thankful to all of our strategic partners who have supported the company. The company has rewarded all colleagues who work hard every day in our stores, warehousing, distribution and Head office with a 10% pay increase which is more than the National Living Wage.

We have receive significant support from our suppliers and we have continued to pay them early to ensure we continue to receive the best deals who has continued to support the business and we want to say thanks as their support has been valuable to the continued turnaround of the company to make it successful.

Post year end, contracts have been put in place for its's foreign exchange to the end of March 2023 and beyond this has protected the margin for products delivered during the period and therefore the company is confident of the profit generated from these product ranges.

STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2021

Future developments

The UK economy is looking like it is heading for a high inflationary environment with higher interest rates than in recent times. Household incomes are being squeezed by increases in food, energy and fuel, however Poundstretcher is well situated as a discount retailer who will deliver exceptional everyday value to customers with their flight to value retailers like us.

This report was approved by the board of directors on 23 June 2022 and signed on behalf of the board by:

Mr A A Tayub

Director

DIRECTORS' REPORT

Year ended 31 March 2021

The directors present their report and the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Directors

The directors who served the company during the year were as follows:

Mr N Lalani Mr G M Loughran Mr X Y Pan Mr A A Tayub Mr S A Tayub Mr H Patel

(Resigned 20 July 2020)

Mr J Foister (Served from 23 July 2020 to 9 October

2020)

Dividends

The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend.

Future developments

The trading environment in which the company operates is an increasingly competitive and challenging one. However, management remain fully confident that with the current corporate voluntary arrangement and the strategy in place that the company will deliver improvements in profitability.

Greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption

Information not included

The company has taken exemption from disclosing its greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption as its ultimate parent company has provided the relevant reporting as part of the group accounts.

Employment of disabled persons

Disabled persons continue to receive consideration for employment taking into account of their particular abilities and the job requirements. All possible efforts are made to maintain continuity of employment for existing employees who become disabled. It is the policy of the company that the training, career development and promotion of a disabled person should, as far as possible, be identical to that of a person who does not suffer from a disability.

Employee involvement

In line with group policy to communicate, consult and involve staff, information is provided to employees through the regular dissemination of internal memos and by conducting meetings. A policy of equal opportunities enables all employees, irrespective of gender, race, religion or disability, to improve their skills through internal training and to develop their career through promotion.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2021

Financial instruments

The company's principal instruments comprise bank balances, trade creditors, trade debtors, and other loans due from/ to the company. The main purpose of these instruments is to raise funds and to finance the company's operations.

Cashflow risk:

The company's activities expose it primarily to financial risk of changes in foreign currency exchange rates. The company uses foreign exchange forward contracts to hedge these exposures,

Credit risk:

The company's principal financial assets are trade and other receivables. Trade debtors are managed in respect of credit and cash flow risk by policies concerning the credit offered to customers and the regular monitoring of amounts outstanding for both time and credit limits.

Liquidity risk:

In respect of bank balances, the liquidity risk is managed by maintaining a balance between the continuity of funding and flexibility through the use of overdrafts at floating rates of interest.

Trade creditors liquidity risk is managed by ensuring sufficient funds are available to meet amounts due.

Limitation of auditors' liability

The company has entered into a liability limitation agreement with it auditors limiting the auditors liability to a maximum of twenty times the fee payable to the auditor.

Directors' responsibilities statement

The directors are responsible for preparing the strategic report, 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 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 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 judgments and accounting 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;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2021

Auditor

Each of the persons who is a director at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditor is unaware; and
- they have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a director to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

This report was approved by the board of directors on 23 June 2022 and signed on behalf of the board by:

Mr A A Tayub

Director



Year ended 31 March 2021

Qualified opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Poundstretcher Limited (the 'company') for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the profit and loss account, balance sheet and the related notes, 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 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the basis for qualified opinion section of our report, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for qualified opinion

We were not appointed as auditors until after the company year end date of 31 March 2020. Therefore we did not observe the counting of physical stock at the end of that year. After we were appointed we undertook stocktakes on a sample basis at the company's warehouse and our findings from these samples showed the stock system to be 99% accurate in its reporting of stock. However we were unable to satisfy ourselves by alternative means concerning stock values at the warehouse totalling £18,451,204 of the total stock figure of £45,400,649. Therefore we were unable to determine whether any adjustment to this stock value was required or whether there was any consequential effect on the cost of sales for the year ended 31 March 2021.

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.



Year ended 31 March 2021

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 our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

As described in the basis for qualified opinion section of our report, our audit opinion is qualified on the basis that we were not able to undertake physical stock counts at the company's prior year end date. Where information relates to stock or related balances such as cost of sales or loss for the year, it may be materially misstated for the same reason.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

Except for the matter described in the basis for qualified opinion section of our report, in our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Except for the matter described in the basis for qualified opinion section of our report, 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 the directors' report.

Arising solely from the limitation on the scope of our relating to stock, referred to above:

- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; and
- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us.

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:

- · the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and the returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors remuneration specified by law are not made.



Year ended 31 March 2021

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We gained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the company and the industry in which it operates, and considered the risk of acts by the company that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud. We designed audit procedures to respond to the risk, recognising that the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

We focussed on laws and regulations which could give rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements, including, but not limited to, the Companies Act 2006 and UK tax legislation. Our tests included agreeing the financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation, enquiries with management and enquiries of legal counsel. There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. We did not identify any key audit matters relating to irregularities, including fraud. As in all our audits, we also addressed the risk of management override of internal controls, including testing journals and evaluating whether there was evidence of bias by the directors that represented a risk of material misstatement due to fraud.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:



Year ended 31 March 2021

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to
 fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit
 evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting
 a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may
 involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal
 control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures
 that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the
 effectiveness of the internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



Year ended 31 March 2021

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.

Mr Ataf Salim (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of

Kilsby & Williams LLP
Chartered Accountants & statutory auditor
Cedar House
Hazell Drive
Newport
NP10 8FY

24 June 2022

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

Year ended 31 March 2021

		2021	2020 (restated)
	Note	£	£
TURNOVER	5	325,268,347	411,570,966
Cost of sales		(258,372,820)	(406,450,621)
GROSS PROFIT		66,895,527	5,120,345
Distribution costs Administrative expenses Other operating income	6		(30,914,295) (11,318,062) -
Exceptional provision against intergroup debts Exceptional impact due to the company voluntary arrangement		53,213,311	(8,226,707)
OPERATING PROFIT/(LOSS)	7	88,312,613	(45,338,719)
Interest payable and similar expenses	12	(242,671)	(8,182)
PROFIT/(LOSS) BEFORE TAXATION		88,069,942	(45,346,901)
Tax on profit/(loss)	13	(271,139)	5,024,000
PROFIT/(LOSS) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR AND TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		87,798,803	(40,322,901)
RETAINED (LOSSES)/EARNINGS AT THE START OF THE YEAR (PREVIOUSLY REPORTED) Prior period adjustments	(AS	(38,933,977) (6,084,974)	5,547,511 (10,243,561)
RETAINED LOSSES AT THE START OF THE YEAR (RESTATED)		(45,018,951)	(4,696,050)
RETAINED EARNINGS/(LOSSES) AT THE END OF THE YEAR		42,779,852	(45,018,951)

All the activities of the company are from continuing operations.

BALANCE SHEET

31 March 2021

		2021	2020 (restated)
	Note	£	£
FIXED ASSETS			-
Tangible assets	14	20,587,739	31,699,005
Investments	15	2	2
		20,587,741	31,699,007
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks	16	54,925,844	
Debtors	17	25,674,696	
Cash at bank and in hand		16,122,334	2,393,199
		96,722,874	77,269,959
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	18	(34,984,508)	(119,960,407)
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		61,738,366	(42,690,448)
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		82,326,107	(10,991,441)
CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year	19	(17,824,701)	(12,230,924)
PROVISIONS	21	(5,921,445)	(5,996,477)
NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		58,579,961	(29,218,842)
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Called up share capital	26	15,800,109	15,800,109
Profit and loss account	27	42,779,852	•
SHAREHOLDERS FUNDS		58,579,961	(29,218,842)

These financial statements were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 23 June 2022, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Mr A A Tayub Director

Company registration number: 00553014

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31 March 2021

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The company is a private company limited by shares, registered in England & Wales. The address of the registered office is Desford Lane, Kirby Muxloe, Leicestershire, LE9 2BJ.

2. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland'.

3. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through profit or loss.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the company will continue to trade for the foreseeable future. Despite making losses in the prior year the company has returned to profitability and a positive balance sheet position.

During the year the company launched a Company Voluntary Arrangement ("CVA") which was approved and became effective on 3 July 2020. The CVA has been hugely successful. The company has now restructured significant parts of its cost base and is now trading every week at a profit and adding to cash reserves every week. The current cash reserves stand at over £16m.

To enable the board to assess going concern and ongoing liquidity, profit and cash flow forecasts have been prepared by the company. We are currently achieving the budget we have set for the financial year to 31 March 2023.

As current Covid-19 restrictions have eased the impact on the company has been minimal as we have continued trading during the government lockdowns as we are classed as an essential retailer.

The impact of the CVA on performance in Poundstretcher has been very positive.

The impact of inflation and the general economic outlook will have a negative impact on household's disposable incomes and household's will therefore be seeking better value for money on their spend. As a discount retailer Poundstretcher, is situated perfectly in the market to serve the customers flight to value.

Given the current cash reserves in the group and trading vs budget the board believes the group is well placed to manage its risks successfully. The group has sufficient cash resources to continue trading for the foreseeable future. The directors are confident that the company will be able to meet its obligations for at least the next twelve months with the continuing support of the group companies. They therefore consider it appropriate to prepare the accounts on the going concern basis. The financial statements have therefore been prepared on a going concern basis. The financial statements do not include any adjustments should the going concern basis of preparation be inappropriate.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2021

3. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Disclosure exemptions

The entity satisfies the criteria of being a qualifying entity as defined in FRS 102. Its financial statements are consolidated into the financial statements of Crown Crest Group Limited, which can be obtained from Companies House, Crown Way, Cardiff, CF14 3UZ. As such, advantage has been taken of the following disclosure exemptions available under paragraph 1.12 of FRS 102:

- (a) Disclosures in respect of each class of share capital have not been presented.
- (b) No cash flow statement has been presented for the company.
- (c) Disclosures in respect of financial instruments have not been presented.
- (d) No disclosure has been given for the aggregate remuneration of key management personnel.

Consolidation

The entity has taken advantage of the exemption from preparing consolidated financial statements contained in Section 400 of the Companies Act 2006 on the basis that it is a subsidiary undertaking and its immediate and ultimate parent undertaking is established under the law of an EEA State.

Turnover

Turnover represents the value of goods sold excluding value added tax, and is recognised in the financial statements when cash has been received or is receivable.

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the company and the revenue can be reliably measured. Revenue is measured as the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, excluding discounts, rebates, value added tax and other sales taxes. The following criteria must also be met before revenue is recognised.

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when all of the following conditions are satisfied:

- the company has transferred the significant risks and rewards of ownership to the buyer;
- the company retains neither continuing managerial involvement to the degree usually associated with ownership nor effective control over the goods sold;
- the amount of revenue can be measured reliably;
- it is probable that the company will receive the consideration due under the transaction; and
- the costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transaction can be measured reliably.

Exceptional items

Exceptional items are disclosed separately in the financial statements in order to provide further understanding of the financial performance of the entity. They are material items of income or expense that have been shown separately because of their nature or amount.

Taxation

The taxation expense represents the aggregate amount of current and deferred tax recognised in the reporting period. Tax is recognised in profit or loss, except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity. In this case, tax is recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity, respectively.

Current tax is recognised on taxable profit for the current and past periods. Current tax is measured at the amounts of tax expected to pay or recover using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted at the reporting date.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2021

3. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Taxation (continued)

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences at the reporting date. Unrelieved tax losses and other deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that they will be recovered against the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future taxable profits. Deferred tax is measured using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date that are expected to apply to the reversal of the timing difference.

Foreign currencies

Foreign currency transactions are initially recorded in the functional currency, by applying the spot exchange rate as at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the exchange rate ruling at the reporting date, with any gains or losses being taken to the profit and loss account.

Operating leases

Lease payments are recognised as an expense over the lease term on a straight-line basis. The aggregate benefit of lease incentives is recognised as a reduction to expense over the lease term, on a straight-line basis.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity, except to the extent it reverses a revaluation decrease of the same asset previously recognised in profit or loss. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other comprehensive income to the extent of any previously recognised revaluation increase accumulated in equity in respect of that asset. Where a revaluation decrease exceeds the accumulated revaluation gains accumulated in equity in respect of that asset, the excess shall be recognised in profit or loss.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Short leasehold property

Over the shorter of the remaining period of the lease or 15

years

years

Fixtures and fittings

- 10-20% straight line

Motor vehicles

15-25% straight line

Improvements to leasehold

Over the shorter of the remaining period of the lease or 15

properties

Investments

Fixed asset investments are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated impairment losses.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2021

3. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Investments (continued)

Listed investments are measured at fair value with changes in fair value being recognised in profit or loss.

Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

Stocks

Stocks are measured at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost includes all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing the stock to its present location and condition.

Finance leases and hire purchase contracts

Assets held under finance leases and hire purchase contracts are recognised in the balance sheet as assets and liabilities at the lower of the fair value of the assets and the present value of the minimum lease payments, which is determined at the inception of the lease term. Any initial direct costs of the lease are added to the amount recognised as an asset.

Lease payments are apportioned between the finance charges and reduction of the outstanding lease liability using the effective interest method. Finance charges are allocated to each period so as to produce a constant rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability.

Government grants

Government grants are recognised at the fair value of the asset received or receivable. Grants are not recognised until there is reasonable assurance that the company will comply with the conditions attaching to them and the grants will be received.

Government grants are recognised using the accrual model and the performance model.

Under the accrual model, government grants relating to revenue are recognised on a systematic basis over the periods in which the company recognises the related costs for which the grant is intended to compensate. Grants that are receivable as compensation for expenses or losses already incurred or for the purpose of giving immediate financial support to the entity with no future related costs are recognised in income in the period in which it becomes receivable.

Grants relating to assets are recognised in income on a systematic basis over the expected useful life of the asset. Where part of a grant relating to an asset is deferred, it is recognised as deferred income and not deducted from the carrying amount of the asset.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2021

3. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Government grants (continued)

Under the performance model, where the grant does not impose specified future performance-related conditions on the recipient, it is recognised in income when the grant proceeds are received or receivable. Where the grant does impose specified future performance-related conditions on the recipient, it is recognised in income only when the performance-related conditions have been met. Where grants received are prior to satisfying the revenue recognition criteria, they are recognised as a liability.

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the entity has an obligation at the reporting date as a result of a past event, it is probable that the entity will be required to transfer economic benefits in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be estimated reliably. Provisions are recognised as a liability in the balance sheet and the amount of the provision as an expense.

Provisions are initially measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date and subsequently reviewed at each reporting date and adjusted to reflect the current best estimate of the amount that would be required to settle the obligation. Any adjustments to the amounts previously recognised are recognised in profit or loss unless the provision was originally recognised as part of the cost of an asset. When a provision is measured at the present value of the amount expected to be required to settle the obligation, the unwinding of the discount is recognised as a finance cost in profit or loss in the period it arises.

Dilapidation and onerous lease provision

Provision is made for the company's obligations to maintain properties to a standard as required by the various leases. In accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 Section 21 "Provisions and Contingencies" the provision is discounted to arrive at the present value of the expected future cashflows required to settle the obligation by using a real risk free discount rate derived from UK quoted gilts adjusted for risk specific to the liability. Such risks relate to the uncertainty over the timing of the cash flows for leases that are not at or near their termination date. In such cases the directors consider that this risk premium reduces the effect of discounting these obligations to nil%.

Provision is made for onerous lease contracts where, after detailed review of the leases by the directors, the expected future cash flows are not expected to cover the contractual lease payments. The expected future cash flows are based on the same financial projections as used in the impairment of the Cash Generating Unit. The cash flows have been discounted to give the present value. In line with Financial Reporting Standard 102 Section 21 "Provisions and Contingencies" the estimated discount rate is is calculated using a nominal risk free rate of 1.30% (2020 - 1.50%) based on UK government bonds.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the transaction price, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2021

3. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Financial instruments (continued)

Where investments in non-convertible preference shares and non-puttable ordinary shares or preference shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in profit or loss. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in profit or loss, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss immediately.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised in profit or loss immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as a finance cost in profit or loss in the period in which it arises.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2021

4. JUDGEMENTS IN APPLYING ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Impairment of fixed assets

For the purpose of the impairment review the recoverable amount of the tangible fixed assets are determined based on value-in-use calculations using estimated discounted future cash flow projections reflecting the time value of money and risks relating to the cash generating unit ("CGU"). These cash flow projections are based on financial budgets approved by management with the key assumptions being sales and margin growth and cost efficiencies. Cash flows are extrapolated based on the assumption of a 3% growth rate (2020 - 2%) which does not exceed the long term average growth rate for the sector in which the CGU operates.

The estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that is based on the company's weighted average cost of capital adjusted to reflect the risk specific to the business model and the cash generating unit or asset being tested. The directors consider an appropriate estimated pre-tax discount rate to be used in the value-in-use calculations to be 13.7% (2020 - 10%).

Useful lives of property, plant and equipment

Depreciation is provided so as to write down assets to their residual values over their estimated useful economic lives as set out in the company's accounting policy. The selection of these estimated useful economic lives requires the exercise of management judgement. Useful economic lives are regularly reviewed and should management's assessment of useful lives shorten then depreciation charges in the financial statements would increase and the carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment would reduce accordingly.

Stock provision

A provision has been included for any stock lines which are expected to be sold for less than the cost they are held at in the accounts. The difference between the amount the stock is expected to be sold for and the amount it is held at in the accounts has been calculated and provided for.

A shrinkage provision has been included. This is calculated using the average percentage stock losses or gains from stores stock takes. The sales since the last stock take attended up until the year end are multiplied by the average percentage to give the shrinkage provision for each store.

A third stock provision is included in the accounts. This provision is based on the age of the stock lines. A percentage of each sock line is provided for based on when it was last purchased and an estimate of its expected sell through rate.

Dilapidations provision

Leasehold dilapidation relate to the estimated cost of returning a leasehold property to its original state at the end of the lease in accordance with the lease terms. The main assumption is in relation to the expected costs of the rectification of the wear and tear incurred. The company has a team managing the property portfolio and uses the historical experience when making a provision.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2021

5. TURNOVER

Turnover arises from:	2021	2020
	£	£
Sale of discounted household goods	325,268,347	411,570,966

The whole of the turnover is attributable to the principal activity of the company wholly undertaken in the United Kingdom.

6. OTHER OPERATING INCOME

6.	OTHER OPERATING INCOME		
		2021 £	2020 £
	Government grant income	890,437	
7.	OPERATING PROFIT		
	Operating profit or loss is stated after charging/crediting:		
		2021 £	2020 £
	Depreciation of tangible assets	6,972,088	10,928,797
	Impairment of tangible assets recognised in:	4.006.574	2 524 546
	Cost of sales	4,836,574	3,531,546
	Operating lease rentals	203,263	83,411
	Foreign exchange differences	1,012,881	90,119
	Loss on disposal of fixed assets	(21,205) 22,975,855	811,848 51,562,358
	Land and building operating lease rentals Other operating lease rentals	1,273,149	532,068
8.	AUDITOR'S REMUNERATION		
		2021 £	2020 £
	Fees payable for the audit of the financial statements	42,000	42,000

Statutory information on remuneration for other services provided by the company's auditors and its subsidiaries/ associates is given on a consolidated basis in the group accounts of the parent company, Crown Crest Group Limited.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2021

9. STAFF COSTS

The average number of persons employed by the company during the year, including the directors, amounted to:

	2021 No.	2020 No.
Administrative staff	333	335
Number of retail staff	4,645	5,586
	4,978	5,921

The aggregate payroll costs incurred during the year, relating to the above, were:

2021	2020
£	£
47,241,829	58,698,303
3,659,379	3,234,375
1,370,078	731,469
52,271,286	62,664,147
	47,241,829 3,659,379 1,370,078

10. DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION

The directors' aggregate remuneration in respect of qualifying services was:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Remuneration	691, 44 7	878,351
		-

Remuneration of the highest paid director in respect of qualifying services:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Aggregate remuneration	142,902	128,312

11. EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS

	2021 £	2020 £
Exceptional provision against intergroup debts	_	8,226,707
Exceptional impact due to the company voluntary arrangement	(53,213,311)	_
	(53,213,311)	8,226,707

Exceptional items relate to the write down of debts from group companies to their recoverable amounts and the impact of the commencement of a Company Voluntary Arrangement.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2021

12. INTEREST PAYABLE AND SIMILAR EXPENSES

2021 £	2020 £
32,819	4,190
	•
	1,297
206,460	_
3,392	2,695
242,671	8,182
	206,460 3,392

13. TAX ON PROFIT/(LOSS)

Major components of tax expense/(income)

	2021 £	2020 £
Current tax: UK current tax expense	3,061,114	-
Deferred tax: Origination and reversal of timing differences	(2,789,975)	(5,024,000)
Tax on profit/(loss)	271,139	(5,024,000)

Reconciliation of tax expense/(income)

The tax assessed on the profit/(loss) on ordinary activities for the year is lower than (2020: higher than) the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19% (2020: 19%).

	2021	2020 (restated)
	£	£
Profit/(loss) on ordinary activities before taxation	88,069,942	(45,346,901)
Profit/(loss) on ordinary activities by rate of tax	16,733,288	(8,615,911)
Adjustment to tax charge in respect of prior periods	(2,164,039)	(3,729,252)
Effect of expenses not deductible for tax purposes	(10,916,433)	1,594,785
Effect of capital allowances and depreciation	428,664	328,169
Effect of different UK tax rates on some earnings	_	(697,088)
Utilisation of tax losses	(3,810,833)	_
Unused tax losses	_	5,922,522
Group relief surrendered	_	400,740
Other tax adjustment	(4,759)	(227,965)
Transfer pricing adjustment	5,251	
Tax on profit/(loss)	271,139	(5,024,000)

The deferred tax asset is expected to reverse next year by £7,091,612.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2021

14. TANGIBLE ASSETS

	Short leasehold Fixtures property and fittings £ £	Improvem ents to Motor leasehold vehicles property Total £ £ £
Cost		
At 1 April 2020	8,693,085 82,511,109	1,266,872 37,654,519 130,125,585
Additions	270,898 1,449,879	6,800 810,799 2,538,376
Disposals	(1,565,526) (12,615,092)	(398,967) (5,926,093) (20,505,678)
Transfers	(23,967) 1,013,558	(1,544,808) (555,217)
At 31 March 2021	7,374,490 72,359,454	874,705 30,994,417 111,603,066
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2020	6,028,875 64,190,626	789,046 27,418,033 98,426,580
Charge for the year	703,798 2,015,576	208,396 4,044,318 6,972,088
Disposals	(1,373,346) (11,820,573)	(294,168) (5,176,614) (18,664,701)
Transfers	(39,092) 874,779	- (1,390,901) (555,214)
Impairment losses	352,819 3,098,664	<u> </u>
At 31 March 2021	5,673,054 58,359,072	703,274 26,279,927 91,015,327
Carrying amount		
At 31 March 2021	1,701,436 14,000,382	171,431 4,714,490 20,587,739
At 31 March 2020	2,664,210 18,320,483	477,826 10,236,486 31,699,005

15. INVESTMENTS

	Shares in group undertakings £
Cost	
At 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021	2
Impairment	
At 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021	
Carrying amount	2
At 31 March 2021	<u>Z</u>
At 31 March 2020	2

Subsidiaries, associates and other investments

	1	Percentage of
	Class of share	shares held
Subsidiary undertakings		
Trison Estates Limited	Ordinary	100
PS Imports Limited	Ordinary	100

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2021

16. STOCKS

	2021	2020
		(restated)
	£	£
Goods for resale	54,925,844	45,400,649

An impairment loss of £12,405,834 (2020 - £22,820,104) was recognised against stock in the year.

17. DEBTORS

	2021	2020
Tinde debters	£ 206 5 42	459,513
Trade debtors	296,543	•
Amounts owed by group undertakings	12,173,978	11,917,795
Deferred tax asset	10,009,975	7,220,000
Prepayments and accrued income	3,185,764	9,630,304
Other debtors	8,436	248,499
	25,674,696	29,476,111

18. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	E
Trade creditors	4,371,687	30,073,491
Amounts owed to group undertakings	206,461	66,997,724
Accruals and deferred income	16,480,411	9,426,037
Corporation tax	3,061,114	_
Social security and other taxes	8,459,771	10,095,013
Obligations under finance leases and hire purchase contracts	_	14,700
Other creditors	2,405,064	3,353,442
	34,984,508	119,960,407
	-	

Included within other creditors are deferred operating lease incentives amounting to £2,154,236 (2020 - £2,305,644)

19. CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Amounts owed to group undertakings	7,865,148	_
Obligations under finance leases and hire purchase contracts	-	34,300
Other creditors	9,959,553	12,196,624
	17,824,701	12,230,924

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2021

19. CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year (continued)

The finance leases and hire purchase contracts are secured on the assets to which they relate.

Amounts owed to group undertakings are unsecured, interest free and have no fixed repayment date.

Included within other creditors are deferred operating lease incentives as follows:

To be released:

	2021 £	2020 £
To be released later than 1 year and not later than 5	_	_
years	6,753,567	8,119,052
To be released after 5 years	3,205,985	4,077,572
	9,959,552	12,196,624
•		

20. FINANCE LEASES AND HIRE PURCHASE CONTRACTS

The total future minimum lease payments under finance leases and hire purchase contracts are as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Not later than 1 year	_	14,700
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	- ,	34,300
	_	49,000

21. PROVISIONS

	Onerous contracts	Dilapidations provision	Total
	£	£	£
At 1 April 2020	3,706,496	2,289,981	5,996,477
Movement in the year	(886,051)	811,019	(75,032)
At 31 March 2021	2,820,445	3,101,000	5,921,445

The dilapidations provision is expected to be utilised at the end of the lease term for the individual property concerned. The timing of the cash flows may be uncertain for leases that are not at or near their termination dates and overall the directors consider the effect of discounting the dilapidation to be negligible. The obligation for the dilapidations provision is recognised over the period to which it relates and is specifically calculated for each individual property within the portfolio and reviewed on an annual basis.

The onerous lease provision represents the commitment to pay rents over the remaining period of the relevant lease which is between one and ten years and where, after detailed review of the leases by the directors, the expected future cash flows are not expected to cover the contractual lease payments. The expected future cash flows are based on the same financial projections as used in the impairment of the Cash Generating Unit. The cash flows have been discounted to give the present value. In line with Financial Reporting Standard 102 Section 21 "Provisions and Contingencies" the estimated discount rate is calculated using a nominal risk free rate of 1.30%.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2021

22. DEFERRED TAX

The deferred tax included in the balance sheet is as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Included in debtors (note 17)	10,009,975	7,220,000
The deferred tax account consists of the tax effect of timing difference	s in respect of: 2021 £	2020 £
Accelerated capital allowances	4,656,651	1,684,000
Unused tax losses	5,344,806	5,533,000
Other timing differences	8,518	3,000
	10,009,975	7,220,000

23. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in profit or loss as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £1,370,078 (2020: £731,469).

24. GOVERNMENT GRANTS

The amounts recognised in the financial statements for government grants are as follows:

-	2021 £	2020 £
Recognised in other operating income:		
Government grants recognised directly in income	890,437	-
·		

25. PRIOR PERIOD ERRORS

In prior years stock purchased in USD were valued at the incorrect foreign exchange rate. A prior year adjustment has been made to reduce the 2020 opening stock by £10.2m and 2020 closing stock by £6m. The result of this adjustment is to reduce 2020 opening profit and loss reserves by £10.2m to a debit balance of £4,696,050 and decrease the 2020 loss before tax from £49,505,488 to £45,346,901.

26. CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL

Issued, called up and fully paid

	2021		2020	
	No.	£	No.	£
Ordinary shares of £0.01 each	30,000,000	300,000	30,000,000	300,000
Ordinary shares of £1 each	15,500,109	15,500,109	15,500,109	15,500,109
	45,500,109	15,800,109	45,500,109	15,800,109

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2021

26. CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL (continued)

Both classes of shares rank pari-passu on a winding up and carry equal rights on voting and dividends.

27. RESERVES

Called up share capital - Represents the nominal value of shares that have been issued.

Profit and loss account - represents cumulative profits and losses, net of dividends and other adjustments.

28. OPERATING LEASES

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2021	2020
•	£	£
Not later than 1 year	11,882,812	44,247,948
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	31,838,237	115,376,076
Later than 5 years	10,380,807	48,840,912
	54,101,856	208,464,936

2020

29. CONTINGENCIES

The company has assigned a number of leases in respect of leasehold properties to third parties. These leases all expire in between 1 and 7 years. The maximum potential annual liability under the leases is £nil (2020 - £117,166).

The company's assets are subject to a debenture providing security over the banking facilities of Crown Crest (Leicester) Limited, Modern Market Retailing limited, Poundstretcher Properties Limited and Instore Limited.

The company is party to a cross guarantee arrangement in relation to the banking facilities of Crown Crest (Leicester) Limited, Modern Market Retailing limited, Poundstretcher Properties Limited and Instore Limited. At the year end the company had a contingent liability of £Nil (2020 - £1,699,114) under this guarantee.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2021

30. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Included within creditors is the following amounts due to the following group company:

	2021 £	2020 £
Crown Crest (Leicester) Limited	8,071,608	66,997,723

Interest of £206,460 (2020 - £nil) was charged in the year on the loan balance.

During the year the company made sales and purchases from related companies as follows:

	Sales/other income	2021 Purchases/ other costs £	Sales/other income £	2020 Purchases/ other costs £
Crown Crest (Leicester) Limited (Group Company) Crown Crest Pension Fund (Director Mr A	552,774	3,467,154	3,896,537	5,482,194
A Tayub is a member) Crown Crest Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Director Mr S A Tayub is a	-	-	-	76,847
Trustee)	-	1,300,000	-	-

In accordance with FRS102, transactions with wholly owned entities within the group are not disclosed.

31. CONTROLLING PARTY

The company is controlled by its ultimate controlling party, Mr A A Tayub.

The company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Modern Market Retailing Limited, a company registered in England and Wales.

The ultimate parent company is Crown Crest Group Limited, a company registered in England and Wales.

The registered office address of all these companies is Desford Lane, Kirby Muxloe, Leicestershire, LE9 2BJ.

The parent undertaking of the smallest and largest group, which includes the company and for which group accounts are prepared, is Crown Crest Group Limited. Copies of group accounts can be obtained from Companies House, Crown Way, Cardiff, CF14 3UZ.