

WOLSELEY CENTERS LIMITED (REGISTERED NUMBER 636445)

31 July 1993

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 1993

The directors submit their report and the audited financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 July 1993.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND BUSINESS REVIEW

The principal activity of the company continues to be that of the supply of central heating, plumbing, building materials and spares. The company also invests in plumbing, heating and sanitary equipment supply businesses in Europe.

On 1 August 1992 the trade, assets and liabilities of a fellow subsidiary, RSJ Plastics and Wood Veneers Limited, were transferred to the company at their net book amounts. The business supplies timber and plastic sheeting products.

The results for the year are set out in the profit and loss account on page 5.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The company continues to seek new opportunities in Europe through its French branch. In the UK the company will continue to seek areas of profitable expansion in the building material distribution sector.

DIVIDENDS AND TRANSFERS TO RESERVES

An interim dividend of £12,169,000 (1992 £10,676,000) has been paid. No final dividend is proposed. The sum of £8,784,000 (1992 £7,519,000) has been transferred to reserves.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The company is committed to developing new products and maintaining an attractive and profitable product range.

FIXED ASSETS

Details of tangible fixed assets are set out in Note 7 to the accounts.

On 31 July 1993 the company acquired certain properties from Wolseley Properties Limited, a fellow subsidiary. Consideration amounted to £12,909,000. Properties with a book value of £970,000 acquired in this transaction are not expected to be used by the company and are held as properties for resale.

On 31 July 1993 the directors reviewed the carrying value of the company's freehold and long leasehold properties. As a result of this review property with a net book value of £11,903,000 was written down by £1,479,000. The write-down was charged to the profit and ioss account.

In the opinion of the directors there is no significant difference between book and market value of land and buildings.

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 1993 (CONTINUED)

DIRECTORS

The directors of the company during the year ended 31 July 1993 were:

J\' Footman

(Chairman)

J Lancaster

MD Foord

(Resigned 30 November 1993)

D Bradley P Gauron AJ Hutton KHD Jones PW Sheppard RB Slater

JC Watson

DW Elliott

DE Moody

DJ Geeve

DIRECTORS' INTERESTS IN SHARES

The notifiable interest of the directors in the 25p ordinary shares of Wolseley plc and options on those shares granted pursuant to the terms of the various Wolseley share option schemes are shown below:

	Shares	Shares	Options			Options
	interest at	interest at	interest at	Granted	Exercised	interest at
	31 July	1 August	 August 	during	during	31 July
	<u>1993</u>	1992	<u>1992</u>	the year	the year	1993
MD Foord	19,341	28,759	38,494	7,724	582	45,636
RB Slater	•	•	40,936	7,449	-	48,385
AJ Hutton		-	55,633	6,000	1,940	59,693
KHD Jones	1,684	2,247	50,877	6,724	437	57,164
PW Sheppard	3,786	8,786	32,570	6,000	_	38,570
P Gauron	•	•	25,400	5,400	-	30,800
D Bradley	•	-	28,460	6,724	-	35,184
D Elliott		•	21,000	-	-	21,000
DE Moody		-	-	20,899	_	20,899
DJ Geeve	7,830	7,054	28,886	6,327	774	34,439

Mr J Lancaster, Mr JW Footman and Mr JC Watson are directors of Wolseley plc and their interests are disclosed in the accounts of that company.

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 1993 (CONTINUED)

EMPLOYMENT OF DISABLED PERSONS

It is company policy to give full and fair consideration to applications for employment made by disabled persons, to continue wherever possible the employment of staff who become disabled and to provide equal opportunities for the training and career development of disabled employees.

EMPLOYEE CONSULTATION

Considerable importance is placed on the involvement of employees. The management of the company continues to keep them informed on matters affecting them as employees and on the performance of the company. This is done through formal and informal meetings and in-house publications.

AUDITORS

The auditors, Price Waterhouse, are willing to continue in office and their re-appointment will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

On behalf of the Board

R CLAY Secretary

10 December 1993

Registered Office

PO Box 21 Boroughbridge Road Ripon HG4 1SL

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AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WGLSELEY CENTERS LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements on pages 5 to 20 in accordance with Auditing Standards.

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company at 31 July 1993 and of the profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

PRICE WATERHOUSE Chartered Accountants

Price Water

and Registered Auditor 10 December 1993

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 1993

	<u>Notes</u>	1993 £'000	<u>1992</u> £'000
TURNOVER	1, 2	552,071	521,679
Change in stocks of goods purchased for resale Own work capitalised Raw materials and consumables Staff costs Depreciation written off tangible fixed assets Other operating charges Income from shares in group undertakings Other operating income	3	8,828 (436,229) (47,467) (8,552) (45,372) 5,360 	6,814 475 (409,735) (47,858) (8,970) (41,953) - 8,221
OPERATING PROFIT	4	36,141	28,673
Net interest payable .	5	(11,534)	_(1,463)
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION		24,607	27,210
TAX ON PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	6	<u>(3,654</u>)	<u>(9,015</u>)
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER TAXATION		20,953	18,195
DIVIDENDS PAID		(12,169)	<u>(10,676</u>)
PROFIT RETAINED AND TRANSFERRED TO RESERVES	15	8,784	7,519

Movements on reserves are set out in Note 15.

BALANCE SHEET - 31 JULY 1993	<u>Notes</u>	<u> 1993</u>	1992
FIXED ASSETS		£'000	£,000
Tangible fixed assets investments	7 8	49,244 111,840	40,445 101,690
		. 161,084	142,135
CURRENT ASSETS			
Real property awaiting disposal Stocks Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	9 10	2,243 90,452 104,715 13,332 210,742	1,328 81,624 99,920 ————————————————————————————————————
CREDITORS (amounts failing due within one year)	11	(191,105)	(243,836)
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		19,637	(60,964)
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		180,721	81,171
CREDITORS (amounts falling due after more than one year)	11	(92,085)	(1,457)
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES			
Other provisions	13	(7,651)	(7,569)
		80,985	72,145
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Called up share capital Revaluation reserve Exchange reserve Other reserves Profit and loss account	14 15 15 15 15	31 428 (7) 98 <u>80,435</u>	31 428 (63) 98 <u>71,651</u>
		80,985	72,145
		SECRETARISM NAME OF THE PARTY	-

Approved by the Board on 10 December 1993

John Footman

STATEMENTS OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 1993

	<u>1993</u> £'000	<u>1992</u> £'000
Profit for the financial year Currency translation differences on foreign currency	20,953	18,195
net investments	56	(63)
Total recognised gains and losses for the financial year	21,009	18,132
NOTES OF HISTORICAL COST PROFITS AND LOSSES		
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation Difference between historical charge and the actual depreciation charge for the year calculated	24,607	27,210
on the revalued amount	<u>39</u>	<u>43</u>
Historical cost profit on ordinary activities before taxation	24,646	27,253
		pa ^{pe tradition}
Historical cost profit for the year retained after taxation and dividends	8,823	7,562

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 JULY 1993

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(1) Accounting convention

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention modified to include the revaluation of certain freehold and long leasehold properties and in accordance with applicable accounting standards,

(2) Group accounts

In accordance with Section 228, Companies Act 1985, group accounts have not been prepared as the company is itself a wholly owned subsidiary.

(3) <u>Turnover</u>

Turnover is the amount derived from the provision of goods and services falling within the company's ordinary activities, excluding trade discounts and Value Added Tax.

(4) Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets (except freehold land) on a straight line basis to write off the cost of those assets over their estimated useful lives. The principal rates of depreciation used are: freehold buildings and long leaseholds 2%, short leaseholds 15%, plant and machinery 15%, vehicles 25%, fixtures and fittings 15% and computers 20-25%.

(5) Property awaiting disposal

Property available for disposal is transferred to current assets at the lower of book written-down value and estimated net realisable value. Depreciation is not applied to property awaiting disposal but the carrying value is reviewed annually and written down through the profit and loss account to current estimated net realisable value if lower.

(6) Stocks

Stocks are consistently valued at the lower of cost and estimated net realisable value, due allowance being made for obsolete or slow-moving items.

Stock consists entirely of goods purchased for resale which are valued at cost on a first in, first out, basis.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 JULY 1993 (CONTINUED)

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(7) Deferred tax

Provision is made for deferred tax only in so far as payment is likely to be made in the foreseeable future.

(8) Investments

Investments held as fixed assets are stated at cost. Provisions are made in respect of any permanent diminution in value.

(9) Goodwill

Goodwill arising on the acquisition of businesses, representing the excess of cost over the fair value ascribed to the net tangible assets at acquisition, is charged to reserves.

(10) Leases

Costs in respect of operating leases are charged in arriving at trading profit.

(11) Pension costs

Contributions to the Wolseley Group Retirement Benefits plan are assessed by a qualified actuary and are charged to the profit and loss account in the period for which they become payable.

(12) Dilapidation costs

Provision is made against the estimated costs to be incurred under leasehold property dilapidation claims anticipated in respect of properties within five years of the end of the lease period.

(13) Foreign Exchange

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at rates prevailing at the balance sheet date. The trading results of overseas branch operations are translated into sterling using average rates of exchange ruling during the relevant financial period. Exchange differences are dealt with through the profit an account.

Exchange differences arising between the translation into sterling of the net assets of overseas operations at rates ruling at the beginning and end of the year, or date of investment, are dealt with through reserves, as are exchange differences on foreign currency borrowings raised to finance overseas assets.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 JULY 1993 (CONTINUED)

2	TURHOVER		
		1993 £'000	<u>1932</u> £'000
	United Kingdom Exports Group sales	550,815 131 36	521,480 74 37
		550,982	521,591
	Service recharges to subsidiaries	1,089	88
		552,071	521,679
			S. Marie Const. Ma
3	EMPLOYEES		
		<u>1993</u> £'000	<u>1992</u> £'000
	Staff costs: Wages and salaries Social security costs Other pension costs (Note 19) Redundancy payments	41,016 3,212 2,513 726	41,435 3,067 2,715 <u>641</u>
		47,467	47,858
		Difference in the second	MACHINE .
		Number	Number
	Average numbers employed: Staff	3,434	3,518

MOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 JULY 1993 (CONTINUED)

4 OPERATING PROFIT

or Libring (Hoff)	<u>1993</u> £'000	<u>1992</u> £'000
This is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Directors' remuneration	1,049	939
Operating lease rentals:		
Plant and machinery	6	-
Other	9,832	9,175
Auditors' remuneration	122	125
Profit on sale of fixed assets	(40)	(256)
Rent receivable	(774)	(769)
Write-down of properties	1,479	` _'
Write-down of property held for resale	634	-
Directors' remuneration comprises:		
Executive remuneration (including pension contributions)	1,049	939
Emoluments (excluding pension contributions)	-	Name and Associated
of the Chairman and highest paid director	174	159

The number of directors' performing their duties mainly within the United Kingdom, whose emoluments (excluding pension contributions) were within the following bands are:

feverents is	Parision design design was within the lone wing design die.	Number	Number
£0	- £5,000	1	1
£15,001	- £20,000	-	1
£20,001	- £25,000	-	1
£25,001	- £30,000	-	1
£30,001	- £35,000	1	-
£55,000	- 260,000	•	1
£60,001	- £65,000	1	4
£65,001	- £70,000	1	2
£70,001	- £75,000	6	1
£90,001	- £95,000	1	•
£115,001	- £120,000	-	1
£155,001	- £160,000	-	1
£170,001	- £175,000	1	-

Mr J Lancaster is a director of Wolseley plc. He receives no emoluments for services to Wolseley Centers Limited. His emoluments for services to Wolseley plc are disclosed in the accounts of that company.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 JULY 1993 (CONTINUED)

5 INTEREST PAYABLE/(RECEIVABLE)

100

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	·		
		1993 £'000	1992 £'000
	Interest payable on bank loans and overdrafts wholly repayable within 5 years:		
	On bank overdrafts On bank loans	3,162 10,614	368 3,455
	Interest receivable: Third parties Group undertakings	(55) (2,187)	(40) (<u>2,320</u>)
	·	11,534	1,463
6	TAX ON PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES		
		<u>1993</u> £'000	1992 £'000
	Corporation tax at 33% (1992 - 33.67%) Deferred taxation (note 12) Over-provision in respect of previous years	6,964 (3,310)	9,832 (252) (565)
		3,654	9,015

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 JULY 1993 (CONTINUED)

7 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Cost or valuation	Land and buildings	Plant and equipment £'000	Fixtures and fittings	<u>Vehicles</u> £'000	Total £'000
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
At 31 July 1992	34,781	17,540	8,944	19,846	81,111
Additions	1,506	2,054	659	4,554	8,773
Disposais	(31)	(1,699) 176	(18) 180	(3,358) 514	(5,106)
Transfers from group companies Reclassification	12,905 12	129	(141)	514	13,775
Transfers to property	12	123	(141)	•	•
awaiting disposal	(1,044)	-	_	-	(1,044)
Write down of properties	(1,479)				(1,479)
• •				-	
At 31 July 1993	46,650	18,200	9,624	21,556	96,030
	-				71.F
<u>Depreciation</u>					
At 31 July 1992	9,356	12,015	6,639	12,656	40,666
Disposals	(11)	(1,082)	(17)	(2,708)	-
Transfers from group companies	762	88	131	348	1,329
Charge for the year	1,801	2,157	774	3,819	8,551
Reclassification	8	107	(115)	-	-
Transfers from property					
awaiting disposal	58		-		58
At 31 July 1993	11,974	13,285	7,412	14,115	46,786
Het book amount	Parameter	-	ins. Since page	Internation of the last of the	
At 31 July 1993	34,676	4,915	2,212	7,441	49,244
			-		
At 31 July 1992	25,425	5,525	2,305	7,190	40,445
	-		Samuel Colored	-	-

NOTES 70 THE ACCOUNTS - 31 JULY 1993 (CONTINUED)

7 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS (CONTINUED)

Cost or valuation of land and buildings comprises:	1 <u>993</u> £'000	<u>1992</u> £'000
Freehold Long term leasehold Short term leasehold	29,356 3,356 <u>13,938</u>	19,404 2,662 <u>12,715</u>
	46,650	34,781
Cost Valuation - 1974	35,531 695	34,010 771
Valuation - 1993	<u>10,424</u>	
	46,650	34,781

Freehold land, which is included above and amounts to £10,234,000 (1992 £6,902,000) is not depreciated.

At 31 July 1974 the company's ireehold and long-term leasehold properties held at that date were valued on an existing use basis. The revaluation surplus arising was credited to a revaluation reserve.

The carrying value of the company's freehold and long leasehold properties was reviewed by the directors at 31 July 1993. As a result of that review property with a net book value of £11,903,000 was written down by £1,479,000. The write-down was charged to the profit and loss account.

if all those properties had not been revalued, the total amounts of land and buildings would have been:

	<u>1993</u> £'000	<u>1992</u> £'000
Historical cost Accumulated depreciation based on cost	46,216 (<u>11,845</u>)	31,572 (<u>10,008</u>)
Net historical book amount	34,371	21,564
		-

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 JULY 1993 (CONTINUED)

7 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS (CONTINUED)

Future capital expenditure authorised by directors:

	<u>1993</u> £'000	<u>1992</u> £'000
Contracted for but not provided in the accounts Not contracted for	909	606

8 FIXED ASSETS - INVESTMENTS

	Shares at			
	cost	Loans	Provision	Net
	£,000	5,000	£'000	£,000
Interest in group undertakings:				
At 1 August 1992	104,500	409	(3,219)	101,690
Acquired in the year	1,189	_	24	1,189
Exchange gain on retranslation	<u>8,961</u>	-		8,961
At 31 July 1993	114,650	409	(3,219)	111,840
		Electric .	-	-

Principal interests in undertakings:

Name of company	Country of incorporation/ registration	Proportion held	Activity
Brossette SA	France	100%	Investment holding company.
Brossette BTI SA	France	100%	Plumbing and heating distribution,
Boulay SA	France	100%	Ditto.
Degryse et Lesage SA	France	100%	Ditto.
Baty SA	France	100%	Ditto.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 JULY 1993 (CONTINUED)

8 FIXED ASSETS - INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

The company owns 48.4% of Brossette SA directly and the remaining 51.6% through two subsidiary companies. The shares in the remaining principal subsidiaries are held indirectly through subsidiaries of the company.

In accordance with S228 of the Companies Act 1985 group accounts have not been prepared. In the opinion of the directors the value of investments in subsidiary undertakings is not less than the aggregate amounts at which they are stated in the accounts.

9 STOCKS

6,000	<u>1993</u> £'000	<u>1992</u> £'000
Goods purchased for resale	90,452	81,624

In the opinion of the directors there is no material difference between the amount of stocks as disclosed in the balance sheet and their replacement cost at the balance sheet date.

10 DEBTORS

	<u>1993</u>	1992
Amounts falling due within one year:	€,000	€'000
Trade debtors	95,109	84,937
Amounts owed by group undertakings	5,992	11,546
Other debtors	52	360
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>3,562</u>	3,077
	104,715	99,920

In 1992 other debtors included real property awaiting disposal amounting to £1,328,000. The amount has been separately disclosed on the face of the balance sheet this year and the comparative amounts adjusted accordingly.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 JULY 1993 (CONTINUED)

11 CREDITORS (amounts failing due within one year)

	<u>1993</u> £'000	1992 £'000
	2000	2000
Bank loan	**	84,585
Bank overdrait	28,718	5,533
Loan from Wolseley plc	60,241	50,545
Trade creditors	82,889	70,967
Amounts owed to group undertakings	295	3,505
Corporation tax	8,352	13,101
Other taxation and social security	2,658	4,081
Other creditors	1,273	5,742
Accruais and deferred income	<u>6,679</u>	5,777
	191,105	243,836
	Patricular Space	
Amounts falling due after more than one year		
	<u> 1993</u>	1992
	5,000	€,000
Term loan	90,498	
Other creditors	<u>1,587</u>	<u>1,457</u>
	92,085	1,457
	Stabinium,	

On 28 January 1993 Woiseley Centers France, the French branch of the company, entered into a FF800,000,000 5 year Term Loan facility arranged by Lloyds Bank. The proceeds of the loan were used to refinance existing borrowings. The loan is unsecured and bears interest at a commercial rate. The facility is committed until 1998.

12 DEFERRED TAXATION

In accordance with the accounting policy, no provision is required for deferred taxation (1992 £Nil). There is no potential liability for deferred taxation (1992 £Nil).

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 JULY 1993 (CONTINUED)

13 OTHER PROVISIONS

	<u>1992</u> £'000	Provided in year £'600	<u>Utilised</u> £'000	<u>Released</u> £'000	<u>1993</u> £'000
Acquisition provisions Dilapidations provision	5,319 <u>2,250</u>	1,701 	(1,059)	<u>(560</u>)	5,961 <u>1,690</u>
	7,569	1,701	(1,059)	(560)	7,651
	-				

Acquisition provisions comprise provisions for the cost of integrating the business of Wolseley Building Supplies Limited with that of Wolseley Centers Limited and provisions for potential additional consideration in respect of the acquisition of Brossette SA.

14 SHARE CAPITAL

<u>1993</u> £'000	<u>1992</u> £'000
42	42
 :	
31	31
	£'000 42

15 RESERVES

At 31 July 1993	(7)	428	98	80,435	80,954
Exchange translation	<u>56</u>	**			56
Profit for the year	-	-	-	8,784	8,784
At 31 July 1992	(63)	428	98	71,651	72,114
	Exchange reserve £'000	reserve £'000	reserves £'000	loss <u>account</u> £'000	Total £'000
	Cuchoner	Revaluation	Other	Profit and	

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 JULY 1993 (CONTINUED)

16 RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN SHAREHOLDERS FUNDS

	<u>1993</u> £'000	1992 £'000
Profit for the financial year Dividends Exchange gains/(losses)	20,953 (12,169) 56	18,195 (10,676) <u>(63</u>)
Net addition to shareholders funds Opening shareholders funds	8,840 <u>72,145</u>	7,456 <u>64,689</u>
Closing shareholders funds	80,985	72,145
	Since expensive	

17 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

In addition to its own bank accounts, the company has a joint bank account with Wolseley plc and certain other Wolseley companies which is taken into the accounts of Wolseley plc and is not therefore taken into these accounts.

The company, together with certain other Wolseley companies, has given the bank authority at any time to transfer any sum outstanding to the credit of the company against or towards satisfaction of the liability to the bank of these other group companies.

The company has a contingent liability for the value added tax of certain subsidiaries under a group registration.

18 OBLIGATIONS UNDER LEASES

The comparation of the entered into operating leases and has annual commitments under leases expiring as follows:

Land and buildings	<u>1993</u> £'000	<u>1992</u> £'000
Expiring within one year	269	64
Expiring between 1 and 5 yeus	750	734
Expiring after 5 years	<u>7,673</u>	<u>9,046</u>
	8,692	9,844
Other	55(31A)MI;	771011111
Expiring within one year	•	3
Expiring between 1 and 5 years	<u>.16</u>	
	6	3

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS - 31 JULY 1993 (CONTINUED)

19 PENSION COSTS

Wolseley Centers Limited participates in the Woiseley Group Retirement Benefits Plan.

The scheme is of the defined benefit type providing benefits to certain employees within the Wolseley plc group and the assets are held separately from the assets of both Wolseley Centers Limited and Wolseley plc.

The total pension cost for the year was £2,513,000 (1992 £2,715,000).

The latest actuarial valuation of the Wolseley Group Retirement Benefits Plan was carried out as at 1 May 1992. Details of the latest actuarial valuation of this pension scheme are contained in the financial statements of Wolseley plc.

20 PARENT COMPANY

The ultimate parent company is Wolseley plc registered in England. Copies of group accounts of this company can be obtained from The Secretary, Woiseley plc, PO Box 18, Vines Lane, Droitwich, Worcestershire, WR9 8ND.