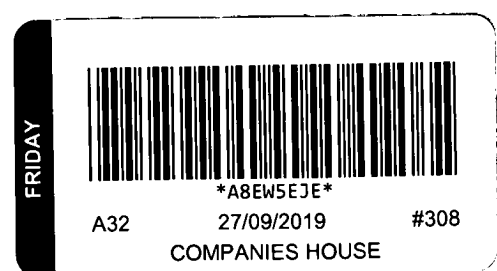


# HSBC Equity (UK) Limited

**Registration No: 938291**

**Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year  
ended 31 December 2018**



# **Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2018**

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## Strategic Report

### Principal activities

HSBC Equity (UK) Limited ('the Company') is a limited company domiciled and incorporated in England and Wales. Its trading address is 8 Canada Square, London E14 5HQ, United Kingdom.

The principal activity of the Company is to act as an investment company in unlisted companies, by direct investment or through managed funds. The Company also has a subsidiary which makes direct and indirect investments in unlisted companies. No change in the Company's activities is anticipated.

### Review of the Company's business

Support services for the Company were provided by HSBC Bank plc. These services included the maintaining of accurate accounting and other records such as cash management and the collection and settlement of receivables and payables as they become due.

The Company has no employees, and all the related services are provided by the parent company, HSBC Bank plc.

The Company's stakeholders are limited to its parent company.

### Performance

The Company did not trade during the year under review or the preceding year.

### Key performance indicators

As the Company is managed as part of a global bank, there are no key performance indicators that are specific to the Company. The key performance indicators are included in the annual report of HSBC Bank plc. Ongoing review of the performance of the Company is carried out by comparing actual performance against annually set budgets.

### Principal risks and uncertainties

The financial risk management objectives and policies of the Company, together with an analysis of the exposure to such risks are set out in Note 11 of the Notes on the financial statements.

Following the referendum on 23 June 2016, the UK took the decision to leave the European Union ('EU') with the process of the UK leaving the EU commencing on 29 March 2017. The ultimate economic effect of the UK leaving the EU is currently uncertain and will depend upon the outcome of negotiations between the UK government, the EU and non-EU countries. In the meantime, this uncertainty is expected to result in market risk volatility in the short to medium term including sterling exchange rates and interest rates. As described in Note 11, foreign exchange and interest rate risks are managed by the Company in the ordinary course of business and so any increased volatility as a result of the UK leaving the EU is not expected to have a material effect on the results and net assets of the Company. Additionally, any general adverse consequences for credit risk at a UK or EU macroeconomic level that may arise as a consequence of the UK leaving the EU is not expected to translate into a material increase in credit risk for the Company given the nature of the Company's transactions, its counterparties and available security.

On behalf of the Board

M J Kershaw  
Director

25 September 2019

8 Canada Square  
London E14 5HQ  
United Kingdom

## **Report of the Directors**

### **Directors**

The Directors of the Company who were in office during the year and up to the date of signing the financial statements were as follows:

<b>Name</b>
M J Kershaw
C R J Irvin

The Articles of Association of the Company provide that in certain circumstances the Directors are entitled to be indemnified out of the assets of the Company against claims from third parties in respect of certain liabilities arising in connection with the performance of their functions, in accordance with the provisions of the UK Companies Act 2006. Indemnity provisions of this nature have been in place during the financial year but have not been utilised by the Directors. All Directors have the benefit of Directors' and officers' liability insurance.

### **Dividends**

The Directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend in respect of the year ended 31 December 2018 (2017: nil).

### **Significant events since the end of the financial year**

No significant events affecting the Company have occurred since the end of the financial year.

### **Future developments**

No change in the Company's activities is expected.

### **Going concern basis**

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, as the Directors are satisfied that the Company has the resources to continue in business for the foreseeable future. In making this assessment, the Directors have considered a wide range of information relating to present and future conditions.

### **Financial risk management**

The financial risk management objectives and policies of the Company, together with an analysis of the exposure to such risks, are set out in Note 11 of the Notes on the financial statements.

### **Capital management**

The Company is not subject to externally imposed capital requirements and is dependent on the HSBC Group to provide necessary capital resources which are therefore managed on a group basis.

The Company defines capital as total shareholders' equity. It is HSBC Group's objective to maintain a strong capital base to support the development of its business and to meet regulatory capital requirements at all times. There were no changes to the Company's approach to capital management during the year.

### **Independent auditors**

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP ('PwC') is external auditor to the Company. PwC has expressed its willingness to continue in office and the Board recommends that PwC be re-appointed as the Company's auditor.

## **Directors' responsibility statement**

The following statement, which should be read in conjunction with the auditor's statement of their responsibilities set out in their report on the next page, is made with a view to distinguish the respective responsibilities of the Directors and of the auditors in relation to the financial statements.

The Directors are responsible for preparing the *Annual Report and Financial Statements*, in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Directors to prepare a Strategic Report, a Report of the Directors and Financial Statements for each financial year. The Directors are required to prepare the financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ('IFRSs') as adopted by the European Union ('EU').

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 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 they have been prepared in accordance with IFRSs as adopted by the EU; and
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is not appropriate. Since the Directors are satisfied that the Company has the resources to continue in business for the foreseeable future, the financial statements continue to be prepared on a going concern basis.

The Directors have responsibility for ensuring that sufficient accounting records are kept that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and enable them to ensure that its financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## **Disclosure of Information to Auditors**

In accordance with section 418 of the Companies Act 2006, the Directors' report includes a statement, in the case of each Director in office as at the date the Report of the Directors is approved, that:

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

On behalf of the Board



M J Kershaw  
Director

25 September 2019

8 Canada Square  
London E14 5HQ  
United Kingdom

# Report of the independent auditors to the members of HSBC Equity (UK) Limited

## Report on the audit of the financial statements

### Opinion

In our opinion, HSBC Equity (UK) Limited's financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31 December 2018 and of its results and cash flows for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements, included within the *Annual Report and Financial Statements* (the "*Annual Report*"), which comprise: the balance sheet as at 31 December 2018; the income statement, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of cash flows, the statement of changes in equity for the year then ended; and the notes to the financial statements, which include a description of the significant accounting policies.

### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards of Auditing (UK) ('ISAs (UK)') and applicable law. Our responsibilities under ISAs (UK) are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis of our opinion.

### Independence

We remained independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, which includes the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

### Conclusions relating to going concern

ISAs (UK) require us to report to you when:

- 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.

We have nothing to report in respect of above matters.

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this statement is not a guarantee as to the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. For example, the terms on which the United Kingdom may withdraw from the European Union are not clear, and it is difficult to evaluate all of the potential implications on the Company's trade, customers, suppliers and the wider economy.

### Reporting on other information

The other information comprises all of the information in the *Annual Report* other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The Directors are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, any form of assurance 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 an apparent material inconsistency or material misstatement, we are required to perform procedures to conclude whether there is a material misstatement of 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. We have nothing to report based on these responsibilities.

With respect to the Strategic Report and Report of the Directors, we also considered whether the disclosures required by the UK Companies Act 2006 have been included.

Based on the responsibilities described above and our work undertaken in the course of the audit, ISAs (UK) require us also to report certain opinions and matters as described below.

### Strategic Report and Report of the Directors

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, the information given in the Strategic Report and Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 December 2018 is consistent with the financial statements and has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the Company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we did not identify any material misstatements in the Strategic Report and Report of the Directors.

## **Responsibilities for the financial statements and the audit**

### **Responsibilities of the Directors for the financial statements**

As explained more fully in the Directors' responsibilities statement set out on page 3, the Directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable framework and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The Directors are also responsible for such internal control as they 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.

### **Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' 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 FRC's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditors' report.

### **Use of this report**

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the Company's members as a body in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving these opinions, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

## **Other required reporting**

### **Companies Act 2006 exception reporting**

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the Company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- certain disclosures of Directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns.

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.



David Mayland (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors  
Birmingham

20 September 2019

## **Financial statements**

### **Income statement for the year ended 31 December 2018**

During the financial year, the Company received no income and incurred no expenses (2017: nil).

There were no acquisitions, discontinued or discontinuing operations during the year.

### **Statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 31 December 2018**

There has been no comprehensive income or expense during the year (2017: nil).



**Balance sheet at 31 December 2018**

**Registration No: 938291**

	Notes	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents		1,900	1,900
Financial investments	8	1	1
Investments in subsidiaries	9	—	—
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>1,901</b>	<b>1,901</b>
<b>Liabilities and equity</b>			
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Current tax liabilities		—	—
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Called up share capital	10	6,000	6,000
Accumulated losses		(4,099)	(4,099)
<b>Total equity</b>		<b>1,901</b>	<b>1,901</b>
<b>Total liabilities and equity</b>		<b>1,901</b>	<b>1,901</b>

The accompanying notes on pages 10 to 14 form an integral part of these financial statements.

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 25 September 2019 and signed on its behalf by:



M J Kershaw  
Director

**Statement of cash flows for the year ended 31 December 2018**

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Profit before tax	—	—
Net cash generated from operating activities	—	—
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	—	—
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	1,900	1,900
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	1,900	1,900

**Statement of changes in equity for the year ended 31 December 2018**

	Called up share capital	Accumulated losses	Total equity
	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>At 1 Jan 2018</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>(4,099)</b>	<b>1,901</b>
Profit for the year	—	—	—
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>At 31 Dec 2018</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>(4,099)</b>	<b>1,901</b>

	Called up share capital	Accumulated losses	Total equity
	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>At 1 Jan 2017</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>(4,099)</b>	<b>1,901</b>
Profit for the year	—	—	—
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>At 31 Dec 2017</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>(4,099)</b>	<b>1,901</b>

Equity is wholly attributable to ordinary shareholders.

## Notes on the financial statements

### 1 Basis of preparation and significant accounting policies

The financial statements of the Company have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 as applicable to companies using International Financial Reporting Standards ('IFRSs'). The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements have been consistently applied to all of the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

#### 1.1 Basis of preparation

(a) **Compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards**

The financial statements of the Company have been prepared in accordance with IFRSs as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ('IASB'), including interpretations issued by the IFRS Interpretations Committee, and as endorsed by the European Union ('EU').

At 31 December 2018, there were no unendorsed standards effective for the year ended 31 December 2018 affecting these financial statements, and the Company's application of IFRSs results in no differences between IFRSs as issued by the IASB and IFRSs as endorsed by the EU.

Standards adopted during the year ended 31 December 2018

The Company has adopted the requirements of IFRS 9 'Financial Instruments' from 1 January 2018. In addition, the Company has adopted the requirements of IFRS 15 'Revenue from contracts with customers'. Adoption has had no material impact on the results or net assets of the Company.

#### (b) Future accounting developments

Minor amendments to IFRSs

The IASB published a number of minor amendments to IFRSs which are effective from 1 January 2019, some of which have been endorsed for use in the EU. The Company expects they will have an insignificant effect, when adopted, on the financial statements of the Company.

Major new IFRSs

There are no new IFRSs published by the IASB which are effective from 1 January 2019 that are expected to have an impact on the financial statements of the Company.

#### (c) Presentation of information

The functional currency of the Company is sterling, which is also the presentational currency of the financial statements of the Company.

The financial statements present information about the Company as an individual undertaking and not about its group. The Company is not required to prepare consolidated financial statements by virtue of the exemption conferred by section 400 of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis.

#### (d) Critical accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial information requires the use of estimates and judgements about future conditions. In view of the inherent uncertainties and the high level of subjectivity involved in the recognition or measurement of items, highlighted as the 'critical accounting estimates and judgements' in section 1.2 to follow, it is possible that the outcomes in the next financial year could differ from those on which management's estimates are based. This could result in materially different conclusions from those reached by management for the purposes of these financial statements.

Management's selection of the Company's accounting policies which contain critical estimates and judgements reflects the materiality of the items to which the policies are applied and the high degree of judgement and estimation uncertainty involved.

#### (e) Going concern

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, as the Directors are satisfied that the Company has the resources to continue in business for the foreseeable future. In making this assessment, the Directors have considered a wide range of information relating to present and future conditions, including future projections of profitability, cash flows and capital resources.

### 1.2 Summary of significant accounting policies

#### (a) Income and expense

Non-interest income and expense

**Dividend income** is recognised when the right to receive a payment is established. This is the ex-dividend date for listed equity securities and usually the date when the shareholders approve the dividend for unlisted equity securities.

#### (b) Investments in subsidiaries

The Company classifies investments in entities which it controls as subsidiaries. Where a Company is governed by voting rights, the Company consolidates when it holds, directly or indirectly, the necessary voting rights to pass resolutions by the governing body. In all other cases, the assessment of control is more complex and requires judgement of other factors, including having exposure to variability of returns, power to direct relevant activities and whether power is held as agent or principal.

The Company's investments in subsidiaries are stated at cost less impairment losses.

### Critical accounting estimates and judgements

Investments in subsidiaries are tested for impairment when there is an indication that the investment may be impaired. Impairment testing involves significant judgement in determining the value in use, and in particular estimating the present values of cash flows expected to arise from continuing to hold the investment and the rates used to discount these cash flows.

#### (c) Valuation of financial instruments

All financial instruments are initially recognised at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value of a financial instrument on initial recognition is generally its transaction price (that is, the fair value of the consideration given or received). However, if there is a difference between the transaction price and the fair value of financial instruments whose fair value is based on a quoted price in an active market or a valuation technique that uses only data from observable markets, the Company recognises the difference as a trading gain or loss at inception (a 'day 1 gain or loss'). In all other cases, the entire day 1 gain or loss is deferred and recognised in the income statement over the life of the transaction either until the transaction matures or is closed out and the valuation inputs become observable.

The fair value of financial instruments is generally measured on an individual basis. However, in cases where the Company manages a group of financial assets and liabilities according to its net market or credit risk exposure, the fair value of the group of financial instruments is measured on a net basis but the underlying financial assets and liabilities are presented separately in the financial statements, unless they satisfy the IFRS offsetting criteria.

#### (d) Financial instruments designated at fair value through profit or loss

Financial instruments, other than those held for trading, are classified in this category if they meet one or more of the criteria set out below, and are so designated irrevocably at inception:

- the use of the designation removes or significantly reduces an accounting mismatch;
- a group of financial assets, liabilities or both is managed and its performance is evaluated on a fair value basis, in accordance with a documented risk management or investment strategy; and
- the financial liability contain one or more non-closely related embedded derivatives.

Designated financial assets are recognised when the Company enters into contracts with counterparties, which is generally on trade date, and are normally derecognised when the rights to the cash flows expire or are transferred. Designated financial liabilities are recognised when the Company enters into contracts with counterparties, which is generally on settlement date, and are normally derecognised when extinguished. Subsequent changes in fair values are recognised in the income statement in 'Net income from financial instruments held for trading or managed on a fair value basis', including related derivatives, measured at fair value through profit or loss.

As at 31 December 2018 the Company did not hold any financial instruments designated at fair value (2017: nil).

#### (e) Tax

Income tax comprises current tax and deferred tax. Income tax is recognised in the income statement except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity, in which case the tax is recognised in the same statement in which the related item appears.

Current tax is the tax expected to be payable on the taxable profit for the year and on any adjustment to tax payable in respect of previous years. The Company provides for potential current tax liabilities that may arise on the basis of the amounts expected to be paid to the tax authorities.

Deferred tax is recognised on temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities in the balance sheet, and the amounts attributed to such assets and liabilities for tax purposes. Deferred tax is calculated using the tax rates expected to apply in the periods as the assets will be realised or the liabilities settled.

Current and deferred tax are calculated based on tax rates and laws enacted, or substantively enacted, by the balance sheet date.

#### (f) Called up share capital

Financial instruments issued are generally classified as equity when there is no contractual obligation to transfer cash or other financial assets. Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of equity instruments are shown in equity as a deduction from the proceeds, net of tax.

#### (g) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value. Such investments are normally those with less than three months' maturity from the date of acquisition.

#### (h) Accounting policies applicable prior to 1 January 2019

##### Available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets are initially measured at fair value plus direct and incremental transaction costs. They are subsequently re-measured at fair value and changes therein are recognised in other comprehensive income in 'Available-for-sale investments' until the investments are either sold or impaired. When available-for-sale financial assets are sold, cumulative gains or losses previously recognised in equity are recognised in the income statement.

##### Impairment of available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets are assessed at each balance sheet date for objective evidence of impairment. Impairment losses are recognised in the income statement within 'Loan impairment charges and other credit risk provisions'.

## 2 Employee compensation and benefits

The Company has no employees and hence no staff costs (2017: nil).

### 3 Directors' emoluments

None of the Directors of the Company received any emoluments in respect of their services as Directors of the Company (2017: nil). The Directors are employed by other companies within the HSBC Group and consider that their services to the Company are incidental to their other responsibilities within the HSBC Group.

### 4 Auditors' remuneration

Certain expenses including auditor's remuneration have been borne by a fellow group undertaking and are therefore not charged in arriving at the profit before taxation. The auditors' remuneration borne on behalf of the Company amounted to £2,000 (2017: £2,000).

There were no non-audit fees incurred during the year (2017: nil).

### 5 Analysis of financial assets and liabilities by measurement basis

Financial assets and financial liabilities are measured on an ongoing basis either at fair value or at amortised cost.

	FVPL £'000	Amortised cost £'000	Total £'000
<b>At 31 Dec 2018</b>			
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	—	1,900	1,900
Financial investments	1	—	1
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1,900</b>	<b>1,901</b>
<b>Total non-financial assets</b>			<b>—</b>
<b>Total assets</b>			<b>1,901</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Total liabilities</b>			<b>—</b>

	Available-for-sale securities £'000	Financial assets and liabilities at amortised cost £'000	Total £'000
<b>At 31 Dec 2017</b>			
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	—	1,900	1,900
Financial investments	1	—	1
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1,900</b>	<b>1,901</b>
<b>Total non-financial assets</b>			<b>—</b>
<b>Total assets</b>			<b>1,901</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Total liabilities</b>			<b>—</b>

### 6 Fair value of financial instruments carried at fair value

#### Control framework

Fair values are subject to a control framework designed to ensure that they are either determined, or validated, by a function independent of the risk taker.

For all financial instruments where fair values are determined by reference to externally quoted prices or observable pricing inputs to models, independent price determination or validation is utilised. In inactive markets, direct observation of a traded price may not be possible. In these circumstances, the Company will source alternative market information to validate the financial instrument's fair value, with greater weight given to information that is considered to be more relevant and reliable. The factors that are considered in this regard are, *inter alia*:

- the extent to which prices may be expected to represent genuine traded or tradable prices;
- the degree of similarity between financial instruments;
- the degree of consistency between different sources;
- the process followed by the pricing provider to derive the data;
- the elapsed time between the date to which the market data relates and the balance sheet date; and
- the manner in which the data was sourced.

For fair values determined using a valuation model, the control framework may include, as applicable, development or validation by independent support functions of: (i) the logic within valuation models; (ii) the inputs to these models; (iii) any adjustments required outside the valuation models; and (iv) where possible, model outputs. Valuation models are subject to a process of due diligence and calibration before becoming operational and are calibrated against external market data on an ongoing basis.

#### Fair value hierarchy

Fair values of financial assets and liabilities are determined according to the following hierarchy:

- Level 1 - valuation technique using quoted market price: financial instruments with quoted prices for identical instruments in active markets that HSBC can access at the measurement date.
- Level 2 - valuation technique using observable inputs: financial instruments with quoted prices for similar instruments in active markets or quoted prices for identical or similar instruments in inactive markets and financial instruments valued using models where all significant inputs are observable.

## HSBC Equity (UK) Limited

(c) Level 3 - valuation technique with significant unobservable inputs: financial instruments valued using valuation techniques where one or more significant inputs are unobservable.

Financial instruments carried at fair value and bases of valuation

	2018			
	Level 1 £'000	Level 2 £'000	Level 3 £'000	Total £'000
<b>Recurring fair value measurements at 31 Dec</b>				
<b>Assets</b>				
Financial investments	—	—	1	1

	2017			
	Level 1 £'000	Level 2 £'000	Level 3 £'000	Total £'000
<b>Recurring fair value measurement at 31 Dec</b>				
<b>Assets</b>				
Financial investments	—	—	1	1

## 7 Fair value of financial instruments not carried at fair value

Fair values are determined according to the hierarchy set out in Note 6.

There are no material differences between the carrying value and the fair value of financial assets and liabilities at 31 December 2018 and 31 December 2017.

## 8 Financial investments

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
At 1 Jan	1	1
<b>At 31 Dec</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

A subsidiary is an entity that is controlled by another entity, where control is accepted as the power to govern the financial and operating policies so as to obtain benefits from its activities. As the Company has no control over the investments, they do not meet the criteria of a subsidiary and are therefore accounted for as financial investments.

The Company has investment in Private Equity Portfolio (Trading) LP Incorporated and has subsequently been dissolved.

## 9 Investments in subsidiaries

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 Jan	5,734	5,734
At 31 Dec	5,734	5,734
<b>Provision for impairment</b>		
At 1 Jan	(5,734)	(5,734)
At 31 Dec	(5,734)	(5,734)
<b>Net book/carrying value at 31st Dec</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

	Country of incorporation	Interest in equity capital (%)	Share class
HSBC Private Equity Investments (UK) Limited <sup>1</sup>	United Kingdom	100	Ordinary

Details of all subsidiaries, as required under section 409 of Companies Act 2006, are set out below. The principal countries of operation are the same as the countries of incorporation.

<sup>1</sup> Registered office: 8 Canada Square, London E14 5HQ, United Kingdom

## 10 Called up share capital

	2018		2017	
	Number	£'000	Number	£'000
Issued, allotted and fully paid up				
Ordinary shares of £1 each	6,000,000	6,000	6,000,000	6,000
<b>As at 1 Jan and 31 Dec</b>	<b>6,000,000</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>6,000,000</b>	<b>6,000</b>

## 11 Management of financial risk

The Company's risk management policies are consistent with the HSBC Group's risk management policies. During the year, the Company had no significant exposure to risks.

As part of that process, the business's management will review the monthly management accounts of the business. There were no changes in the company's approach to risk management during the year.

## 12 Related party transactions

### Transaction with other related parties

Transactions detailed below include amounts due to/from HSBC Bank plc

	2018		2017	
	Highest balance during the year <sup>1</sup>	Balance at 31 December	Highest balance during the year <sup>1</sup>	Balance at 31 December
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Assets</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	1,900	1,900	1,900	1,900

<sup>1</sup> These balances are held with HSBC Bank plc.

## 13 Parent undertakings

The ultimate parent undertaking and ultimate controlling party is HSBC Holdings plc which is the parent undertaking of the largest group to consolidate these financial statements. HSBC Bank plc is the parent undertaking of the smallest group to consolidate these financial statements.

The immediate parent undertaking is HSBC Bank plc. All companies are registered in England and Wales

The results of the Company is included in the group financial statements of HSBC Holdings plc and HSBC Bank plc.

Copies of HSBC Holdings plc's and HSBC Bank plc's consolidated financial statements can be obtained from:

HSBC Holdings plc  
8 Canada Square  
London E14 5HQ  
United Kingdom  
www.hsbc.com

HSBC Bank plc  
8 Canada Square  
London E14 5HQ  
United Kingdom  
www.hsbc.com

## 14 Events after the balance sheet date

There are no significant events after the balance sheet date.