Company Registration No. 01038578

Anglia Newspapers Limited

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the 52 week period ended 30 December 2017



Annual report and financial statements For the 52 week period ended 30 December 2017

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Officers and professional advisers For the 52 week period ended 30 December 2017

Directors

D J King M G Butterworth

Company secretary

P M McCall

Registered office

Unex House – Suite B Bourges Boulevard Peterborough Cambridgeshire England PE1 1NG

Solicitors

MacRoberts Capella 60 York Street Glasgow G2 8JX

Independent auditor

Deloitte LLP
1 New Street Square
London
EC4A 3HQ
United Kingdom

Directors' report (continued) For the 52 week period ended 30 December 2017

The Directors, who are also directors of the ultimate parent company Johnston Press plc ('the Group'), present their annual report on the affairs of Anglia Newspapers Limited ('the Company'), together with the financial statements and auditor's report, for the 52 week period ended 30 December 2017.

In accordance with the provisions of s414B Companies Act 2006 and s415A Companies Act 2006, the Company is entitled to the small company's exemption in relation to the Directors' report for the financial period.

Activities and results

During the period the Company acted as an Agent under the terms of an Agency agreement, for Johnston Publishing Limited ('JPL' or 'the Principal'), to compile, edit, publish, print, distribute and sell ('publish') publications in the East Anglia area of England. Licencing agreements between the Company as licensor and Johnston Publishing Limited granted the licence to publish the titles.

The Company employed staff directly in the production of its publications and was reimbursed directly by JPL for the staff costs, under the terms of the Agency agreement. The direct reimbursement is recognised as turnover in the profit and loss account.

On 15 January 2017 the Company completed the disposal of all of its titles to Johnston Publishing East Anglia Limited, a fellow Group company, for a consideration of £141,000. All of the Company's employees transferred to Johnston Publishing East Anglia Limited on the same date. Since 15 January 2017 the company has been dormant.

In the prior period the directors of Johnston Press plc completed a review of Johnston Press plc's investment in subsidiaries, intangible assets and intercompany balances and impaired its investment in subsidiaries in the ultimate parent Company's financial statements, and intangible assets in the Group financial statements. In light of this review, the Directors of the Company reviewed the Company's intangible assets in the prior period and recorded a provision for impairment in the profit and loss account in the period ended 31 December 2016, reducing their carrying value to an amount equivalent to the sum realised by the Company on disposal of the assets in January 2017.

The result for the period includes an impairment of £141,000 relating to amounts receivable from group undertakings not considered recoverable.

The result for the period is shown in the Profit and loss account on page 10.

The Directors are not aware, at the date of this report, of any likely major changes in the Company's activities during the forthcoming financial period.

The financial position of the Company is set out in the Balance sheet on page 12.

Johnston Press plc, the ultimate parent company of the Group, provides the Company with direction and access to all central resources it needs and determines policies in all key areas such as finance, risk, human resources or environment. For this reason, the Directors believe that performance indicators and principal risks or uncertainties specific to the Company are not necessary or appropriate for an understanding of the development, performance, position or future developments of the business. The publicly available annual report of Johnston Press plc reviews these matters on a Group basis (refer to Note 10).

Liquidity and going concern

The Company ceased trading on 15 January 2017 following its disposal of its titles to Johnston Publishing East Anglia Limited, a fellow Group company. The financial statements have been prepared on a basis other than that of a going concern. The financial statements do not include any provision for the future costs of terminating the business of the Company except to the extent that such costs were committed at the balance sheet date.

Directors

The Directors who have served during the period and to the date of this report are as follows;

A G M Highfield - resigned 5 June 2018

D J King

M G Butterworth - appointed 24 September 2018

Directors' report (continued) For the 52 week period ended 30 December 2017

Directors' liability

As permitted by the Companies Act 2006, the Group has insurance cover for the Directors against liabilities in relation to the Company.

Future developments and events after the balance sheet date

On 5 June 2018 Ashley Highfield resigned from his positions as a Director of the Company and CEO and a director of the Group. On 24 September 2018 Michael Butterworth was appointed as a Director of the Company.

There are no other events subsequent to period end and up to the date of this report requiring disclosure.

Employee involvement

Johnston Press plc ('the Group'), which the Company is a part, employs over 2,000 people in the UK. Our aim is to attract, retain and engage the best people. The Company also aims to be a great place to work and continued activity to embed our values, mission and purpose throughout 2017.

The Group, through its regular senior leadership team briefing and cascade mechanism, provides employees with information on matters of concern to them and the wider Group and allows for the regular update of all employees on the financial performance and economic factors affecting the Company and Group and provides a mechanism for feedback from the employees to the management and the Directors.

The regular YourSay employee survey, which was originally launched in January 2013, was conducted in late 2016 and more recently in late 2017. Our senior leaders are making tangible improvements within their teams on the back of the survey findings and we will continue to build on this in the future. We always aim to take a transparent approach to internal communications and engagement, and remain committed to communication and consultation with our employees during times of change. Key priorities included identifying and developing leadership talent at all levels and succession planning.

Our expectations in terms of managers' and employees' behaviour and standards are set out in our Value Statements, Personnel Policies and Procedures, Employee Handbook, Codes of Conduct and Contracts of Employment. Our grievance and whistleblowing procedures allow any employee to report behaviour that is contrary to our policies or is in any way of concern to them and we communicated the support available around whistleblowing periodically throughout the period. A diverse workforce adds clear value for our employees, customers, shareholders and the communities we serve and we fully support the principle of equal opportunity for all. Our Disability Access policy is included in our Personnel Policies and Procedures manual. As part of our ongoing Health and Safety audits and property maintenance programmes, we seek to provide suitable access and working environments to ensure that we do not discriminate against disabled employees or customers.

It is the policy of the Group and the Company to encourage and develop all members of staff to realise their maximum potential. Wherever possible, vacancies are filled from within the Company and adequate opportunities for internal promotion are created. The Group is committed to a systematic training policy and has a comprehensive training and development programme creating the opportunity for employees to maintain and improve their performance and to develop their potential to a maximum level of attainment. In this way staff will make their best possible contribution to the organisation's success.

The Group seeks to encourage employee involvement in the Company's performance through bonus and share scheme arrangements. The annual senior leadership bonus plan operates across certain levels in the Group. Monthly and quarterly sales incentive schemes are in place to motivate direct advertising and newspaper sales teams, some adhoc local bonus plans (for junior level roles) operate across the Group and all employees are eligible to participate in the Save As You Earn ('SAYE') scheme (if offered).

The Company supports the principle of equal opportunities in employment and opposes all forms of unlawful or unfair discrimination on the grounds of race, age, nationality, religion, ethnic or national origin, sexual orientation, gender or gender reassignment, marital status or disability.

Directors' report (continued) For the 52 week period ended 30 December 2017

Employee involvement (continued)

It is also the policy of the Company, where possible, to give sympathetic consideration to disabled persons in their application for employment within the Company and to protect the interests of existing members of staff who are disabled.

In 2018, the Group created a Gender Pay Review Group whose task will be to investigate all areas of gender diversity, and any inequalities that may exist in the Company. Reporting directly to the Board quarterly, the aim of the Group is to achieve a 50/50 gender balance in our Senior Leadership team within 5 years. It will also aim to reduce the gender pay gap each year commencing immediately.

Auditor

Deloitte LLP has indicated its willingness to be reappointed for another term and appropriate arrangements have been put in place for them to be deemed reappointed as auditor in the absence of an Annual General Meeting, pursuant to s487 of the Companies Act 2006.

Statement of disclosure of information to the Auditor

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

- so far as the Director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditor is unaware; and
- the Director has taken all the steps that he/she ought to have taken as a Director in order to make himself/herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditor is aware of that information.

This confirmation is given and should be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of s418 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Board of Directors and signed by order of the Board.

Director

24 September 2018

Directors' responsibilities statement For the 52 week period ended 30 December 2017

The Directors are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial period. Under that law 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), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". Under Company law the Directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the profit or loss of the Company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business.

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

Independent auditor's report to the members of Anglia Newspapers Limited

Report on the audit of the financial statements of Anglia Newspapers Limited

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements of Anglia Newspapers Limited (the 'Company'):

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 30 December 2017 and of its loss for the period then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements which comprise:

- the profit and loss account;
- the statement of comprehensive income;
- the balance sheet:
- the statement of changes in equity; and
- the related notes 1 to 11.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs(UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report.

We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of matter - Financial statements prepared other than on a going concern basis

We draw attention to Note 1 in the financial statements, which indicates that the financial statements have been prepared on a basis other than that of a going concern. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Other information

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

We have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

Independent auditor's report to the members of Anglia Newspapers Limited (continued)

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.

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

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

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 any material misstatements in the directors' report.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report in respect of the following matters if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the directors were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

We have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

Independent auditor's report to the members of Anglia Newspapers Limited (continued)

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.

l. J. Houldsnorm

Kate J Houldsworth FCA (Senior statutory auditor)
For and on behalf of Deloitte LLP
Statutory Auditor
London, UK
24 September 2018

Profit and loss account For the 52 week period ended 30 December 2017

| | Notes | 30 December 2017 £'000 | 31 December 2016 £'000 |
|---|--------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Turnover Cost of sales Gross profit | 3 | 289 (289) | 1,819 (1,819) |
| Impairment of intangible assets Impairment of Group receivables Loss before tax | 3 6 | (141) (141) | (142) - (142) |
| Tax Loss for the financial period | 5 | (141) | (142) |

The comparative numbers are for the 52 week period ended 31 December 2016.

The current and prior periods' results have been derived wholly from continuing operations.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of comprehensive income For the 52 week period ended 30 December 2017

| | 30 December 2017 £'000 | 31 December 2016 £'000 |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|
| Loss for the period Total comprehensive loss | (141) (141) | (142) (142) |
| Loss for the period attributable to: | (141) | (142) |
| Equity shareholders of the company | (141) | (142) |
| Total comprehensive loss for the period attributable to: | (141) | (142) |
| Equity shareholders of the company | (141) | (142) |

The comparative numbers are for the 52 week period ended 31 December 2016.

The current and prior periods' results have been derived wholly from continuing operations.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Balance sheet As at 30 December 2017

| | Notes | 30 December 2017 £'000 | 31 December 2016 £'000 |
|--|-------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Debtors | 6 | - | - |
| Fixed assets Intangible assets | 7 | | 141 |
| Net current assets | | | 141 |
| Total assets less current liabilities | | | 141 |
| Net assets | | | 141 |
| Capital and reserves Called-up share capital Profit and loss account | 8 | 30 (30) | 30 111 |
| Shareholder's equity funds | | | 141 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements of Anglia Newspapers Limited, registered number 01038578, were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 24 September 2018 and signed on their behalf:

D J King Director

Statement of changes in equity For the period ended 30 December 2017

| | Called up share capital £'000 | Profit and loss account £'000 | Total £'000 |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| At 1 January 2017 | 30 | 111 | 141 |
| Loss for the financial period | - | (141) | (141) |
| Total comprehensive loss for the period | | (141) | (141) |
| At 30 December 2017 | 30 | (30) | - |
| | | | |
| | Called up share capital £'000 | Profit and loss account £'000 | Total £'000 |
| At 3 January 2016 | share capital | loss account | |
| At 3 January 2016 Loss for the financial period | share capital £'000 | loss account £'000 | £,000 |
| · | share capital £'000 | loss account £'000 | £'000 283 |

Notes to the financial statements For the 52 week period ended 30 December 2017

1. Accounting policies

A summary of the principal accounting policies, all of which have been applied consistently throughout the current and preceding periods, is set out below:

General information and basis of accounting

Anglia Newspapers Limited ('the Company') is a private company, limited by shares, incorporated in the United Kingdom and registered in England and Wales under the Companies Act 2006. The address of the registered office is Unex House – Suite B, Bourges Boulevard, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, PE1 1NG. During the period the Company acted as an agent for Johnston Publishing Limited, publishing and distributing newspapers in the East Anglia area of England.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value, and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102) issued by the Financial Reporting Council.

The Company meets the definition of a qualifying entity under FRS 102 and has therefore taken advantage of the disclosure exemptions available to it in respect of its separate financial statements. Exemptions have been taken in relation to disclosure of share-based payments, financial instruments, presentation of a cash flow statement, intra-group transactions and remuneration of key personnel.

The functional currency of the Company is considered to be pounds sterling because that is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the company operates.

Liquidity and going concern

The Company ceased trading on 15 January 2017 following its disposal of its titles to Johnston Publishing East Anglia Limited, a fellow Group company. The financial statements have been prepared on a basis other than that of a going concern. The financial statements do not include any provision for the future costs of terminating the business of the Company except to the extent that such were committed at the balance sheet date.

Turnover and revenue recognition

Turnover represents charges to Johnston Publishing Limited in respect of the Company's services as an Agent and is net of value added tax. All of the Company's turnover was generated in the United Kingdom. Turnover is recognised when services are rendered.

Pension costs

The Company participates in a Group operated defined contribution and a defined benefit pension scheme.

The costs of the Company's contributions to the defined contribution scheme are charged to the profit and loss account as they become due under the rules of the scheme. Further details regarding pension costs are provided in Note 4.

The Johnston Press Retirement Savings Plan is a defined contribution Master Trust arrangement for current employees, operated by Zurich. Contributions by the Group are a percentage of basic salary. Employer contributions range from 1 per cent of basic salary, for employees statutorily enrolled, through to 12 per cent of basic salary for Senior Executives. Employees who were active members of the Money Purchase section of the Johnston Press Pension Plan on 31 August 2013 transferred from the Johnston Press Pension Plan to the Johnston Press Retirement Savings Plan from 1 September 2013.

The Johnston Press Retirement Savings Plan is a multi-employer scheme and the assets and liabilities cannot be allocated out.

The Johnston Press Pension Plan is a Group defined benefit pension plan closed to new members and closed to future accrual. There was formerly a defined contribution section of the Johnston Press Pension Plan which was closed in August 2013 and members' benefits were transferred to the Johnston Press Retirement Savings Plan. Further details of the scheme are included in the Johnston Press plc 2017 annual report (refer to Note 10).

Notes to the financial statements (continued) For the 52 week period ended 30 December 2017

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Pension costs (continued)

As the sponsoring employer for the Johnston Press Pension Plan, Johnston Publishing Limited recognises the full extent of any defined benefit surplus or deficit, relating to the employees of the Company, in its financial statements. The Johnston Press Pension Plan is a multi-employer scheme and the assets and liabilities cannot be allocated out.

Full details of the scheme and associated FRS 102 disclosures are provided in the Johnston Publishing Limited financial statements for the period to 30 December 2017.

Staff costs

During the period the Directors performed a review of each employee to ensure that the entity to which their costs are allocated is in line with agency agreement in place between the Company and Johnston Publishing Limited. As the costs incurred by the agency companies are reimbursed by Johnston Publishing Limited in line with the agency agreements in place, the net effect on the profit and loss account is nil and therefore has not had a material impact on the Company's balance sheet or its profit or loss during the period. Refer to Note 4.

Termination benefits

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits. All termination benefits are for redundancy as part of restructuring.

Share-based payments

The Company does not reflect costs associated with equity-settled share-based payments on the grounds that the benefits from services provided by its employees in respect of these payments are received by other group companies as a result of the agency agreements in place (refer to Note 10).

Financial assets and liabilities

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised in the Company's balance sheet when the Company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs) and subsequently measured at cost less impairment. Debt instruments that are classified as payable or receivable within one year are measured at the undiscounted amount of the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received, net of impairment.

Intercompany receivables and payables are presented net where particular balances are: held with the same counter party, are of similar nature, and the legal terms and conditions of the intercompany trading or loan balances allow for repayment on a net basis. All other intercompany receivable and payable balances are presented gross.

Impairment of financial assets

Financial assets are assessed for indicators of impairment at each period end date. Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that as a result of one or more events that occurred after initial recognition of the financial asset, the estimated future cash flows of the investment have been impacted. The carrying amount of the financial asset is reduced by the impairment loss directly for all financial assets with the exception of trade receivables where the carrying amount is reduced through the use of an allowance for estimated irrecoverable amounts. Changes in the carrying value of this allowance are recognised in the profit and loss account.

Taxation

The tax expense represents the sum of the tax currently payable and deferred tax.

The tax currently payable is based on taxable profit for the period. Taxable profit differs from profit before tax as reported in the Profit and loss account because it excludes items of income or expense that are taxable or deductible in other periods and it further excludes items that are never taxable or deductible. The Company's liability for current tax is calculated using tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the period end date.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) For the 52 week period ended 30 December 2017

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Taxation (continued)

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date where transactions or events that result in an obligation to pay more tax in the future or a right to pay less tax in the future have occurred at the balance sheet date. Timing differences are differences between the Company's taxable profits and its results as stated in the financial statements that arise from the inclusion of gains and losses in tax assessments in periods different from those in which they are recognised in the financial statements.

Unrelieved tax losses and other deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that, on the basis of all available evidence, it can be regarded as more likely than not that there will be suitable taxable profits from which the future reversal of the underlying timing differences can be deducted.

2. Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the Company's accounting policies, which are described in Note 1, the Directors are required to make judgements (other than those involving estimations) that have a significant impact on the amounts recognised and to make estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Critical judgements in applying the Company's accounting policles

Management have not made any significant judgements in accounting policies during the financial period.

Key source of estimation uncertainty

The key assumptions concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the balance sheet date, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial period, are discussed below.

Impairment of intangible fixed assets

Determining whether intangible fixed assets are impaired requires an estimation of their value in use to the Company. In assessing the carrying value of the intangible assets in the Company, the Directors concluded in the prior period that on the basis that the assets were disposed of on 15 January 2017 to Johnston Publishing East Anglia Limited at book value of £141,000, prior to its disposal to Iliffe Media Limited, this represented its recoverable amount.

Intercompany debtors

The recoverability of the intercompany receivables from the ultimate parent company is dependent on the outcome and timing of the Strategic Review and its impact on the settlement of the Bond and has been provided against. All intercompany receivables are subordinated to the Bond. The total amount impaired and included in the Profit and loss account in the current period was £141,000.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) For the 52 week period ended 30 December 2017

3. Loss before taxation

The loss before taxation is stated after charging:

| | Note | 30 December 2017 £'000 | 31 December 2016 £'000 |
|------------------------------------|------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Impairment of intangible assets | 7 | - | 142 |
| Impairment of intercompany debtors | 6 | 141 | - |
| Staff costs | 4 | 289 | 1,819 |
| Staff cost recharges | | (289) | (1,819) |

The auditor's remuneration in the current and prior period was borne by another group undertaking. The Directors estimate that the amount relating to the Company's statutory audit was £2,500 (2016: £2,000).

4. Information regarding directors and employees

| | 30 December 2017 | 31 December 2016 |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Number | Number |
| Average number of employees by activity: | | |
| Editorial and photographic | 4 | 28 |
| Sales and distribution | 4 | 27 |
| Administration | | 1 |
| | . 8 | 56 |
| | 30 December 2017 £'000 | 31 December 2016 £'000 |
| Staff costs during the period comprised: | | |
| Wages and salaries | 255 | 1,608 |
| Termination payments | 1 | - |
| Social security costs | 28 | 147 |
| Other pension costs | 5 | 64 |
| | 289 | 1,819 |

Pension contributions

Defined contribution - The Johnston Press Retirement Savings Plan

The Johnston Press Retirement Savings Plan is a defined contribution Master Trust arrangement for current employees, operated by Zurich. Contributions by the Group are a percentage of basic salary. Employer contributions range from 1 per cent of basic salary, for employees statutorily enrolled, through to 12 per cent of basic salary for Senior Executives. Employees who were active members of the Money Purchase section of the Johnston Press Pension Plan on 31 August 2013 transferred from the Johnston Press Pension Plan to the Johnston Press Retirement Savings Plan from 1 September 2013.

The Johnston Press Retirement Savings Plan is a multi-employer scheme and the assets and liabilities cannot be allocated out.

Contributions to the defined contribution scheme for the period were £5,000 (31 December 2016: £64,000).

Defined benefit - The Johnston Press Pension Plan

The Johnston Press Pension Plan is a Group defined benefit pension plan closed to new members and closed to future accrual. There was formerly a defined contribution section of the Johnston Press Pension Plan which was closed in August 2013 and members' benefits were transferred to the Johnston Press Retirement Savings Plan. Further details of the scheme are included in the Johnston Press plc 2017 annual report (refer to Note 10).

Notes to the financial statements (continued) For the 52 week period ended 30 December 2017

4. Information regarding directors and employees (continued)

Defined benefit - The Johnston Press Pension Plan (continued)

As the sponsoring employer for the Johnston Press Pension Plan, Johnston Publishing Limited recognises the full extent of any defined benefit surplus or deficit, relating to the employees of the Company, in its financial statements.

The Johnston Press Pension Plan is a multi-employer scheme and the assets and liabilities cannot be allocated out.

Director's emoluments

The Directors who held office during 2017 were also Directors of the ultimate parent company, Johnston Press plc and did not receive or accrue emoluments in respect of their services to the Company in either period. All remuneration was settled by other Group companies. Further details of the Directors emoluments are included in the Johnston Press plc 2017 annual report (refer to Note 10).

Share-based payments

Any gains made on the exercise of share options or the value of any shares or share options received under the long-term incentive schemes are not shown. Full details of share option schemes are provided in the financial statements of the ultimate parent company, Johnston Press plc. The costs of associated share-based payments under IFRS 2 are not accounted for by the Company on the basis that the benefits from services provided by its employees in respect of these payments are received by other group companies as a result of the agency agreements in place. All such costs are accounted for in Johnston Publishing Limited and Johnston Press plc.

5. Tax

The tax (charge)/credit comprises:

| | 30 December 2017 | 31 December 2016 |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Current tax on loss | £'000 | £'000 |
| UK corporation tax - current period | | |
| Total tax on loss | | |

The difference between the total tax charge shown above and the amount calculated by applying the standard rate of UK corporation tax of 19.25% (2016: 20.00%) to the loss before tax is as follows:

| | 30 December 2017 £'000 | 31 December 2016 £'000 |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|
| Loss before tax | (141) | (142) |
| Tax on loss at standard UK corporation tax rate of 19.25% (2016: 20.00%) | 27 | 28 |
| Effects of: Expenses not tax deductible | (27) | (28) |
| Total tax charge for the period | | - |

UK corporation tax is calculated at 19.25% (31 December 2016: 20.00%) of the reported result for the period. The 19.25% basic tax rate applied for the 2017 accounting period was a blended rate, being a mix of 20.00% up to 31 March 2017 and 19.00% from 1 April 2017 (31 December 2016: 20.00%).

Notes to the financial statements (continued) For the 52 week period ended 30 December 2017

6. Debtors

| | 30 December 2017 £'000s | 31 December 2016 £'000s |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Amounts owed by Group undertakings Provision for impairment | 141 (141) | |
| | | |

Intercompany balances are interest free and repayable on demand, they are controlled and managed centrally by the Group.

The Directors have performed an assessment of the recoverability of the Company's intercompany receivable balances. The recoverability of the intercompany receivables is dependent on the outcome and timing of the Strategic Review and its impact on the settlement of the Bond. The review resulted in the Company recording a provision against the intercompany receivable of £141,000 in the current period.

7. Intangible assets

The following are included in the net book value of intangible assets:

| <u> </u> | Ü | Publishing titles £'000 |
|-------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------|
| Cost | | |
| At 31 December 2016 | | 458 |
| Disposal of intangible assets | | (458) |
| At 30 December 2017 | | |
| Accumulated impairment losses | | |
| At 2 January 2016 | | 317 |
| Disposal of intangible assets | . 5 | (317) |
| At 30 December 2017 | | |
| Carrying amounts | | |
| At 31 December 2016 | | 141_ |
| At 30 December 2017 | | - |
| | | |

Determining whether intangible fixed assets are impaired requires an estimation of their value in use to the Company. In assessing the carrying value of the intangible assets in the Company in the prior period, the Directors concluded that on the basis that the assets were disposed of on 15 January 2017 to Johnston Publishing East Anglia Limited at book value of £141,000, prior to its disposal to Iliffe Media Limited, this represented the recoverable amount at the period end. The book value at the transaction date relected that an impairment charge of £142,000 had been recorded in the prior period.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) For the 52 week period ended 30 December 2017

8. Called-up share capital

| | 30 | 31 |
|--|----------|----------|
| | December | December |
| | 2017 | 2016 |
| | £'000 | £'000 |
| Allotted, called-up and fully paid: | | |
| 30,000 ordinary shares of £1 each | 30 | 30 |
| 10 US \$ preference shares of 0.1 cents each | - | - |

The preference US \$ Shares have priority on a winding up or a return of capital to receive repayment in full of the capital paid up and a further sum equal to 99.9% of the assets available for distribution to members. The holders of the Ordinary Shares are not entitled to any participation in the profits of the Company and on a winding up or other return of capital will receive the balance of assets remaining after distribution to the US \$ Shareholders.

9. Financial commitments and guarantees

Value added tax

The Company is registered for VAT purposes in a group of undertakings, which share a common registration number. As a result, it has jointly guaranteed the VAT liability of the group, and failure by other members of the group to meet their VAT liabilities would give rise to additional liabilities for the Company. At 30 December 2017 the total liability of the Group amounted to £222,100 (31 December 2016: £965,000).

Security

The Company is a guarantor under the Group financing arrangements dated 16 May 2014.

In connection with those arrangements, the Group and all its material subsidiaries entered into new security arrangements in connection with the Bonds issued by Johnston Press Bond plc and the revolving credit facility. The security provided includes fixed and floating charges over all or substantially all of the assets of certain members of the Group and share security over shares of certain members of the Group. Whilst the Bonds remain outstanding, the revolving credit facility was cancelled on completion of the sale of the East Anglia and East Midlands titles to Iliffe Media Limited.

10. Immediate and ultimate parent company

The immediate and ultimate parent company is Johnston Press plc, a company incorporated in the United Kingdom and registered in Scotland.

The only group in which the results of the Company are consolidated is that headed by Johnston Press plc. The financial statements of Johnston Press plc are available to the public and may be obtained from Johnston Press plc, Orchard Brae House, 30 Queensferry Road, Edinburgh EH4 2HS.

11. Post balance sheet events

On 5 June 2018 Ashley Highfield resigned from his positions as a Director of the Company and CEO and a director of the Group. On 24 September 2018 Michael Butterworth was appointed as a Director of the Company.

There are no other events subsequent to period end and up to the date of this report requiring disclosure.