Registered	number:
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01717321

## **RADIO MERCURY LIMITED**

# ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023





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## RADIO MERCURY LIMITED

## **COMPANY INFORMATION**

Directors

Stephen Gabriel Miron

Benedict Campion Porter (appointed 1 July 2023)

Registered number

01717321

Registered office

30 Leicester Square London, WC2H 7LA United Kingdom

## **RADIO MERCURY LIMITED**

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## RADIO MERCURY LIMITED STRATEGIC REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

#### Introduction

The Directors present their Strategic report for Radio Mercury Limited (the "Company").

The Directors, in preparing this Strategic report, have complied with section 414C of the Companies Act 2006. It has been prepared solely to provide the shareholders with information to assess how directors have performed their duty to promote the success of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

#### **Business review**

The principal activity of the Company, a subsidiary of the Global Media & Entertainment Limited group ('the Group'), is unchanged from last year and is the operation in the Crawley and Reigate areas of the independent radio licence for Heart 97.5 and 102.7 FM.

Revenue for the year ended 31 March 2023 amounted to £851,000 (2022: £1,336,000). Dividends of £nil were paid in the year (2022: £nil).

### Principal risks and uncertainties

The Company is a subsidiary of Global Media & Entertainment Limited , limited by shares. From the perspective of the Company, the principal risks and uncertainties are integrated with the principal risks of the Group and are not managed separately. The review of the business of Global Media & Entertainment Limited and its subsidiaries, which provides an analysis of the main trends and factors likely to affect the development, performance and position of the business, and a description of the principal risks and uncertainties facing the business, can be found in the Annual Report and Financial Statements

#### Liquidity risk

In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the Company uses intercompany borrowings from other Group companies.

#### Market Risk

The key risk to the business is that an advertising slowdown may put pressure on traditional revenues, and reduce the value of the investments held. The risk is monitored and managed through Group management.

### Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk arises from intercompany balances that bear interest at a fixed rate. The Directors have reviewed the Company's exposure to interest rates and have concluded that the risk is appropriate in relation to the financial results of the Company.

#### Financial key performance indicators

Given the straightforward nature of the business, the Company's Directors are of the opinion that analysis using KPIs is not necessary for an understanding of the development, performance or position of the business. The KPIs for the Global Media & Entertainment Limited can be found in the Annual Report and Financial Statements of Global Media & Entertainment Limited.

This report was approved by the board on 15 December 2023 and signed on its behalf.

Benedict Campion Porter

Director

# RADIO MERCURY LIMITED DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

#### Results and dividends

The profit for the year, after taxation, amounted to £233,000 (2022 - £351,000 profit).

A dividend of £nil (2022: £nil) was paid in the year. No dividend has been proposed since year end.

#### **Directors**

The Directors who served during the year and to the date of this report were:

Stephen Gabriel Miron

Darren David Singer (resigned 1 July 2023)

Benedict Campion Porter (appointed 1 July 2023)

#### **Future developments**

The Directors confirm that, after making enquiries, they have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing these financial statements. Further information around the assessment of Going Concern can be found in Note 2 of the financial statements.

#### Qualifying third party indemnity provisions

The Directors benefit from qualifying third party indemnity provisions in place for the Company and for Global Media & Entertainment Limited. Qualifying third-party indemnity provisions was provided to certain Directors during the financial year and as at the date of signing the financial statements. No claims have been made at any time during the year or at the date of approval of the Directors' report.

### **Political contributions**

The Company made no political contributions during the year (2022: £nil).

### Matters covered in the strategic report

An indication of likely future developments in the business of the Company, and financial risk management objectives and policies are included in the Strategic report.

## Post balance sheet events

The Directors acknowledge that Covid-19 was declared a pandemic before year end, however note that the pandemic has impacted the performance of the Company following the date of these financial statements. The Directors' do not consider this to have an impact on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. More information on this can be seen within the Going concern assessment within note 2 of these financial statements.

## Small companies note

In preparing this report, the Directors have taken advantage of the small companies exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

## DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

This report was approved by the board on 15 December 2023 and signed on its behalf.

**Benedict Campion Porter** 

Director

# RADIO MERCURY LIMITED DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulation.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have prepared the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 101 "Reduced Disclosure Framework", and applicable law).

Under company law, 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 the financial statements, the directors are required to:

- a. select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- b. state whether applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 101 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- c. make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- d. 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 safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The directors are also 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.

# RADIO MERCURY LIMITED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Note	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Revenue	4	851	1,336
Operating charges		(671)	(1,000)
Operating profit		180	336
Interest receivable and similar income	8	108	96
Profit before tax		288	432
Tax on Profit	9	(55)	(81)
Profit for the financial year	_	233	351

There were no recognised gains and losses for 2023 or 2022 other than those included in the Statement of comprehensive income.

There was no other comprehensive income for 2023 (2022: £nil)

The notes on pages  $\ 9$  to  $\ 18$  form part of these financial statements.

## RADIO MERCURY LIMITED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Note		2023 £'000		2022 £'000
			2000		2000
Non-current assets					
Deferred tax		_	4		4
			4		4
Current assets					
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	10 _	2,048	_	1,813	
		2,048		1,813	
Creditors:amounts falling due within one year	11	(2)			
Net current assets			2,046		1,813
Total assets less current liabilities		_	2,050	•	1,817
Net assets		=	2,050		1,817
Capital and reserves					
Called up share capital	13		630		630
Share premium account	14		57		57
Profit and loss account	14		1,363		1,130
		_	2,050		1,817

Registered number: 01717321

The members have not required the Company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 479A of the Companies Act 2006.

The Directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board and were signed on its behalf on 15 December 2023.

**Benedict Campion Porter** 

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Director

The notes on pages 9 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

## RADIO MERCURY LIMITED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Called up share capital £'000	Share premium account £'000	Profit and loss account £'000	Total equity £'000
At 1 April 2022 Comprehensive income for the year	630	57	1,130	1,817
Profit for the year		<del></del>	233	233
Total comprehensive income for the year	<del>-</del>		233	233
At 31 March 2023	630	57	1,363	2,050

The notes on pages  $\,9\,$  to  $\,18\,$  form part of these financial statements.

# RADIO MERCURY LIMITED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Called up share capital £'000	Share premium account £'000	Profit and loss account £'000	Total equity £'000
At 1 April 2021  Comprehensive income for the year	630	57	779	1,466
Profit for the year	_	_	351	351
Total comprehensive income for the year		_	351	351
At 31 March 2022	630	57	1,130	1,817

The notes on pages 9 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

#### 1. General information

Radio Mercury Limited (the "Company") is incorporated and domiciled in the United Kingdom. The Company is a private company limited by shares, and is registered in England and Wales.

The principal activity of the Company is the production and transmission of radio programmes and the sale of radio advertising and sponsorship.

These financial statements are presented in pound sterling (£), which is the Company's functional and presentational currency. All amounts have been rounded to the nearest thousand, unless otherwise indicated.

### 2. Accounting policies

#### 2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention unless otherwise specified within these accounting policies and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 101 'Reduced Disclosure Framework' and the Companies Act 2006.

The preparation of financial statements in compliance with FRS 101 requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise judgment in applying the Company's accounting policies (see note 3).

The following principal accounting policies have been applied consistently, other than where new policies have been adopted:

## 2.2 Financial reporting standard 101 - reduced disclosure exemptions

The company has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions under FRS 101:

- · the requirements of IFRS 7 Financial Instruments: Disclosures
- · the requirements of paragraphs 91-99 of IFRS 13 Fair Value Measurement
- the requirements of the second sentence of paragraph 110 and paragraphs 113(a), 114, 115, 118, 119(a) to (c), 120 to 127 and 129 of IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers
- the requirement in paragraph 38 of IAS 1 'Presentation of Financial Statements' to present comparative information in respect of:
- paragraph 79(a)(iv) of IAS 1;
- paragraphs 76 and 79(d) of IAS 40 Investment Property; and
- the requirements of paragraphs 10(d), 10(f), 16, 38A, 38B, 38C, 38D, 40A, 40B, 40C, 40D, 111 and 134-136 of IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements
- · the requirements of IAS 7 Statement of Cash Flows
- the requirements of paragraphs 30 and 31 of IAS 8 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors
- the requirements of paragraph 17 and 18A of IAS 24 Related Party Disclosures
- the requirements in IAS 24 Related Party Disclosures to disclose related party transactions
  entered into between two or more members of a group, provided that any subsidiary which is a
  party to the transaction is wholly owned by such a member
- the requirements of paragraphs 130(f)(ii), 130(f)(iii), 134(d)-134(f) and 135(c)-135(e) of IAS 36 Impairment of Assets.

### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 2.2 Financial reporting standard 101 - reduced disclosure exemptions (continued)

#### Standards and interpretations adopted in the current year

New accounting standards, interpretations and amendments that are effective from 1 April 2022 have not had significant impact on the Company's results or Statement of Financial Position. The following new accounting standards and/or amendments are effective from 1 April 2022:

- Amendments to IAS16 'Property, Plant and Equipment': Proceeds before intended use
- Amendments to IAS 37 'Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets': Onerous Contracts - Cost of Fulfilling a Contract
- Annual improvements to IFRS Standards 2018-2020 (IFRS 9 'Financial Instruments' & IFRS 16 'Leases')
- Amendments to IFRS 3 'Business Combinations' Reference to the Conceptual Framework

New accounting standards, interpretations and amendments that are effective from 1 April 2022 have not had significant impact on the Company's results or Statement of Financial Position.

### Accounting standards effective in future periods

The Directors have considered the impact on the Company of new and revised accounting standards, interpretations or amendments that are not yet effective and do not expect them to have a significant impact on the Company's results and Statement of Financial Position. Management are still considering the impact of IAS 12 on the disclosure of Deferred Tax where an asset and liability are created by a single transaction. Management do not expect any material impact.

## 2.3 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared using the going concern basis of accounting. The Company's business activities, together with the factors likely to affect its future development and position, are set out in the Business review section of the Strategic report on page 1 and of the Directors' report on page 2. The Company participates in the group centralised treasury arrangements and so shares banking arrangements with its parent and fellow subsidiaries.

The Global Media & Entertainment Limited ("the Group") has prepared detailed forecasts of expected future cash flows for the two years ending 31 March 2025 ("the forecast"). The Board considers the forecast has been prepared on an appropriate basis taking into account current consensus forecasts of the audio advertising market.

The forecasts and going concern review performed at the Group level has not raised concerns over the ability of the Group, or Company, to continue as a going concern and more details on the Group's response to operational and financial risks can be seen within the financial statements of Global Media & Entertainment Limited.

The Directors have received suitable representations from Global Media & Entertainment Limited that it will continue to provide sufficient financial support to enable the Company to continue to trade for the foreseeable future and to not seek repayment of intercompany loans for a period of not less than 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements.

### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 2.4 Revenue

Revenue recognition is based on the satisfaction of performance obligations, and an assessment of when control is transferred to the customer. The transaction price is allocated to these identified performance obligations, including an estimate of any variable consideration, and stated net of any sales taxes, agency commissions and trade discounts.

Under IFRS 15, the Company must evaluate whether the goods or services are transferred over time or at a point in time for each performance obligation.

A summary of how the key classes of revenue are recognised is provided below:

Radio advertising

Point in time, at date of broadcast

Sponsorship

Over the term of the contract

Digital online Transmission fees Over the term of the contract Over the term of the contract

Production of adverts

Point in time, on date of release to clients

Enterprise revenue

Point in time, on agreed settlement with all parties

#### Contract assets

A contract asset is the right to consideration in exchange for goods and services transferred to the customer. If the Company performs by transferring goods or services to a customer before the customer pays consideration or before payment is due, a contract asset is recognised for the earned consideration that is conditional.

### Contract liabilities

A contract liability is the obligation to transfer goods or services to a customer for which the Company has received consideration (or an amount of consideration due) from the customer. If a customer pays consideration before the Company transfers goods or services to the customer, a contract liability is recognised when the payment is made, or the payment is due (whichever is earlier). Contract liabilities are recognised as revenue when the Company performs under the contract.

### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 2.5 Interest income

Interest income is recognised in profit or loss using the effective interest method.

### 2.6 Share capital and reserves

Ordinary shares

Ordinary shares are classified as equity. Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of ordinary shares are recognised as a deduction from equity, net of any tax effects.

Profit and loss account

Retained earnings includes the cumulative net gains and losses recognised in the profit and loss account.

Share premium

The share premium account includes the amount subscribed for share capital in excess of nominal value, less any costs directly attributable to the issue of new shares.

#### 2.7 Debtors

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment. Loans receivable are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment.

## 2.8 Creditors

Creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Creditors are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

## 2. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 2.9 Current and deferred taxation

The tax expense for the year comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in the Statement of comprehensive income, except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity. In this case, the tax is also recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity, respectively.

The current income tax charge is calculated on the basis of the tax laws enacted or substantively enacted at the reporting date in the countries where the Company operates and generates income.

Deferred tax balances are recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed by the Balance sheet date, except that:

- The recognition of deferred tax assets is limited to the extent that it is probable that they will be recovered against the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future profits: and
- Any deferred tax balances are reversed if and when all conditions for retaining associated tax allowances have been met.

Deferred tax liabilities are not recognised in respect of permanent differences except in respect of business combinations, when deferred tax is recognised on the differences between the fair values of assets acquired and the future tax deductions available for them and the differences between the fair values of liabilities acquired and the amount that will be assessed for tax. Deferred tax is determined using tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

### 2.10 Dividends

Equity dividends are recognised when they become legally payable. Interim equity dividends are recognised when paid. Final equity dividends are recognised when approved by the shareholders at an annual general meeting.

#### 3. Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In preparing these financial statements, management have not made any significant judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of the Company's accounting policies and the reported amount of assets, liabilities, income, expenses and other disclosures.

#### 4. Revenue

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Radio advertising	851	1,336
	851	1,336
All advertising revenue arose within the United Kingdom and is recognised  Timing of revenue recognition:	at a point of time. 2023 £'000	2022 £'000

## 5. Agency agreement

During the year Global Media Group Services Limited provided personnel and other services to the Company. The amounts included in "administrative expenses' contain a charge for these services of £339,317 (2022: £483,758).

### 6. Employees

The Company did not directly employ any staff in the year (2022 : nil)

Good and services transferred at a point in time

## 7. Directors' remuneration

During the year ended 31 March 2023 Darren David Singer (resigned 1 July 2023) and Stephen Gabriel Miron received remuneration from Global Media Group Services Limited and the majority of their time was spent on services to Global Media & Entertainment Limited, the ultimate parent company. Details of their remuneration as directors of Global Media & Entertainment Limited are disclosed in that company's financial statements. None of the Directors received remuneration in respect of qualifying services to the Company (2022: £nil).

## 8. Interest receivable

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Interest receivable from group companies	108	_96
	108	96

1,336

1,336

851 851

#### 9. Taxation

	2023	2222
		2022
	€,000	£'000
Corporation tax		
Current tax on profit for the year	55	81
	55	81
Total current tax	55	81
Deferred tax		<del></del>
Origination and reversal of timing differences		
Total deferred tax		
Taxation on Profit	55	81
Factors affecting tax charge for the year The tax assessed for the year is the same as (2022 - lower than) the stand the UK of 19% (2022 - 19%). The differences are explained below:	ard rate of corpora	tion tax in
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	2023	2022
	£,000	£'000
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	288	432
Profit on ordinary activities multiplied by standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19% (2022 - 19%)	55	82
Effects of:		
Changes in corporation tax rate		(1)

## Factors that may affect future tax charges

Total tax charge for the year

On 20 June 2023, Finance (No.2) Act 2023 was substantively enacted in the UK, introducing a global minimum effective tax rate of 15.0%. The legislation implements a domestic top-up tax and a multinational top-up tax, effective for accounting periods starting on or after 31 December 2023. The Group has applied the exception under the IAS 12 amendment to recognising and disclosing information about deferred tax assets and liabilities related to top-up income taxes.

In the Finance Act 2021, it was enacted that the main rate of UK corporation tax would be increased to 25.0% from 1 April 2023. UK deferred tax has been valued at 25.0% (31 March 2022: either 19.0% or 25.0%).

81

55

10,	Debtors		
		2023	2022
		£'000	£'000
	Amounts owed by group undertakings	1,940	1,715
	Other debtors	102	98
	Prepayments	6	_
	· ·	2,048	1,813
	Amounts owed by group undertakings are repayable on demand, unsecured interest charge.	d and attract a 6%	annual
11.	Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year		
		2023	2022
		£'000	£'000
	Accruals and deferred income	2	
	=	2	
	Amounts owed to group undertakings are payable on demand, unsecured a interest charge.	ind attract a 6% ai	nnual
12.	Deferred taxation		
		2023	2022
		£'000	£'000
	At beginning of year	4	4
	At end of year	4	4
	The deferred tax asset is made up as follows:		
		2023	2022
		£'000	£'000
	Deferred capital allowances	4	4
	_	4	4

### 13. Share capital

2023 2022 £'000 £'000

### Allotted, called up and fully paid

630,000 (2022 - 630,000) Ordinary shares of £1.00 each

**630** 630

All shares carry equal voting rights.

#### 14. Reserves

Retained earnings includes the cumulative net gains and losses recognised in the profit and loss account.

Share premium

The share premium account includes the amount subscribed for share capital in excess of nominal value, less any costs directly attributable to the issue of new shares.

#### 15. Guarantees

Guarantees as at the balance sheet date were as follows:

- a) An inter-group cross guarantee held by HSBC Bank plc (as agent) whereby the Company guarantees to meet the obligations of Global Media & Entertainment Limited under its banking facilities arrangements.
- b) A floating charge over the assets of the Company held by HSBC Bank plc (as agent) by way of debenture.
- c) The Company is a member of a group for VAT purposes, resulting in a joint and several liability for amounts owing by other group companies for unpaid VAT.

### 16. Related party transactions

As the Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Global Media & Entertainment Limited (the ultimate parent company) the Company has taken advantage of the exemption contained within FRS 101.8(k) and has therefore not disclosed transactions or balances with wholly owned group companies (or investees of the group qualifying as related parties). The consolidated financial statements of Global Media & Entertainment Limited, within which this Company is included, can be obtained from the address given below.

## 17. Controlling party

The Directors regard GWR Radio (South East) Limited, a company incorporated in Great Britain and registered in England and Wales, as the immediate parent company. The Company is limited by shares.

The Directors regard Global Media & Entertainment Limited, a company incorporated in Great Britain and registered in England and Wales, as the Company's ultimate parent undertaking.

The Directors consider that Global Radio Group Limited, a company incorporated in Jersey, is the ultimate controlling party of the Company.

The largest and smallest group in which the results of the Company are consolidated is that headed by Global Media & Entertainment Limited, the ultimate parent company, which is incorporated in Great Britain. The consolidated financial statements of this company are available to the public and may be obtained from the registered address, 30 Leicester Square, London WC2H 7LA.

#### 18. Post balance sheet events

There have been no significant events impacting the Company since year end.