Registrar

Company Registration No. 01854872 (England and Wales)

HARPER GROUP PLC ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

18/04/2015 COMPANIES HOUSE



COMPANY INFORMATION

Directors Miss V Overton

Mr A Rees Mr M Harvey Mr P Mondon

Secretary Miss V Overton

Company number 01854872

Registered office Beeches Road

Rowley Regis

Warley

West Midlands B65 0BB

Auditors CK Audit

No.4 Castle Court 2 Castlegate Way

Dudley

West Midlands DY1 4RH

Business address Beeches Road

Rowley Regis

Warley

West Midlands B65 0BB

Bankers HSBC Bank Plc

31 Church Street Kidderminster Worcestershire West Midlands DY10 2AY

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STRATEGIC REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

The directors present the strategic report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2014.

Review of the business

The Directors are pleased to report continuing profitability and increased activity of subsidiary undertakings in 2014. A large number of projects have been secured for 2015 and enquiry levels remain high.

The Directors aim is to ensure the longevity of our company through repeat and referral business achieved by customer satisfaction in all areas including delivering our projects on time, within budget, safely, and to a high quality at a fair and market competitive price.

The company is always striving to achieve the highest standards of excellence from client relationships through to skills, build quality and employee welfare. We will continue to operate our business with honesty and integrity and fairness in all our relationships with our suppliers, subcontractors, professional associates and customers.

With our broad and flexible capability we are able to adapt to changing markets and will continue delivering all construction types of all sizes under all procurement routes.

The business continually sets Key Performance Indicators against which we measure, analyse and adapt our working practices including client satisfaction, staff turnover, sickness and absenteeism, training, equality and diversity, qualifications and skills, and health and safety.

The Group strategy is to ensure that the operating costs are correlated to the appropriate available workload and, on this basis, the Directors remain positive about continuing to operate profitably during 2015.

On behalf of the board

Mr A Rees
Director
2 April 2015

DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

The directors present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2014.

Principal activities

The company is a parent company. The principal activities of the subsidiary undertakings are the provision of building contractor services delivering all construction types, including but not restricted to, commercial, industrial, leisure and retail, health, education, refurbishment, public buildings, affordable and private housing of all sizes under all procurement routes.

Results and dividends

The results for the year are set out on page 6.

The directors do not recommend payment of an ordinary dividend.

Directors

The following directors have held office since 1 January 2014:

Miss V Overton Mr A Rees Mr M Harvey Mr P Mondon

Auditors

The auditors, CK Audit, are deemed to be reappointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

Statement of directors' responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Strategic Report, Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and 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:
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements:
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

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

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

Statement of disclosure to auditors

So far as the directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware. Additionally, the directors have taken all the necessary steps that they ought to have taken as directors in order to make themselves aware of all relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

On pehalf of the board

Mr A Rees

Director

2 April 2015

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF HARPER GROUP PLC

We have audited the financial statements of Harper Group Plc for the year ended 31 December 2014 which comprise the Profit and Loss Account, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 auditors' 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.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

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. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Annual Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2014 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Strategic Report and Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) TO THE MEMBERS OF HARPER GROUP PLC

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- 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.

Wendy Davies (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of CK Audit

2 April 2015

Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor

No.4 Castle Court 2 Castlegate Way Dudley West Midlands DY1 4RH

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

	Notes	2014 £	2013 £
Administrative expenses		7,316	2,958
Operating profit	2	7,316	2,958
Other interest receivable and similar	_		
income	3	17	-
Interest payable and similar charges	4	(495) ———	(401) ——
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation		6,838	2,557
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	5	-	2,378
Profit for the year	13	6,838	4,935

The profit and loss account has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations.

There are no recognised gains and losses other than those passing through the profit and loss account.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2014

		20	014	20	013
•	Notes	£	£		£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	6		1,590		2,120
Investments	7		1,932,154		1,932,154
			1,933,744		1,934,274
Current assets					
Debtors: amounts falling due within one					
year	8	2,395		4,621	
Debtors: amounts falling due after more than one year	8	1,865,353		1,885,365	
Cash at bank and in hand	Ū	75,174		58,888	
Cash at bank and in hand					
		1,942,922		1,948,874	
Creditors: amounts falling due within					
one year	9	(238,564)		(310,050)	
Net current assets			1,704,358		1,638,824
Total assets less current liabilities			3,638,102		3,573,098
Creditors: amounts falling due after					
more than one year	10		(2,173,018)		(2,114,852)
	•		1,465,084		1,458,246
					
Capital and reserves		•			
Called up share capital	12		599,508		599,508
Other reserves	13		2,701		2,701
Profit and loss account	13		862,875		856,037
Shareholders' funds	14		1,465,084		1,458,246

Approved by the Board and authorised for issue on 2 April 2015

Mr M Harvey Director

Company Registration No. 01854872

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

	£	2014 £	£	2013 £
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities		136,781		90,104
Returns on investments and servicing of finance				
Interest received Interest paid	17 (495)		- (401)	
Net cash outflow for returns on investments and servicing of finance		(478)		(401)
Taxation		(17)		(2,378)
Net cash (outflow)/inflow before management of liquid resources and financing		136,286		87,325
Financing Repayment of other long term loans Repayment of other short term loans	(120,000) -		(15,000) (22,500)	
Net cash outflow from financing		(120,000)		(37,500)
Increase/(decrease) in cash in the year		16,286		49,825

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

1	Reconciliation of operating profit to net	cash outflow from	operating	2014	2013
				£	£
	Operating profit		•	7,316	2,958
	Depreciation of tangible assets			530	707
	Decrease in debtors			22,255	194,264
	(Decrease)/Increase in creditors within one	-		(71,486)	30,854
	Increase/(decrease) in creditors more than	one year		178,166	(138,679)
	Net cash inflow from operating activitie	s		136,781	90,104
2	Analysis of net debt	1 January 2014	Cash flow c	Other non- 3 ash changes	1 December 2014
		£	£	£	£
	Net cash:				
	Cash at bank and in hand	58,888	16,286	-	75,174
	Bank deposits Debt:	-	-	•	-
	Debts falling due within one year	(120,000)	-	-	(120,000)
	Debts falling due after one year	(2,114,852)	(58,166)	-	(2,173,018)
		(2,234,852)	(58,166)	-	(2,293,018)
	Net debt	(2,175,964)	(41,880)	-	(2,217,844)
3	Reconciliation of net cash flow to move	ment in net debt		2014 £	2013 £
	Increase in cash in the year			16,286	49,825
	Cash (inflow)/outflow from (increase)/decre	ease in debt		(58,166)	176,179
	Movement in net debt in the year			(41,880)	226,004
	Opening net debt			(2,175,964)	(2,401,968)
	Closing net debt			(2,217,844)	(2,175,964)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

1.2 Compliance with accounting standards

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), which have been applied consistently (except as otherwise stated).

1.3 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Fixtures, fittings & equipment

25% reducing balance

1.4 Investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at cost less provision for diminution in value.

1.5 Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution scheme. The pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contributions payable by the company during the year in accordance with FRS17.

1.6 Deferred taxation

Deferred tax is provided in full in respect of taxation deferred by timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes. The deferred tax balance has not been discounted.

No provision has been made for deferred tax on gains recognised on revaluing property to its market value as the company does not intend to sell the revalued assets.

1.7 Group accounts

The financial statements present information about the company as an individual undertaking and not about its group. The company has not prepared group accounts as it is exempt from the requirement to do so by section 400 of the Companies Act 2006 as it is a subsidiary undertaking of Harper Group Management Limited, a company incorporated in England and Wales, and is included in the consolidated accounts of that company.

2	Operating profit	2014	2013
		£	£
	Operating profit is stated after charging:		
	Depreciation of tangible assets	530	707
	Fees payable to the company's auditor for the audit of the company's		
-	annual accounts	1,500	1,500

Fees paid to the company's auditor, CK Audit, for services other than the statutory audit of the company are not disclosed in Harper Group plc's accounts, since the consolidated accounts of Harper Group plc's parent, Harper Group Management Limited, are required to disclose non-audit fees on a consolidated basis.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

3	Investment income	2014 £	2013 £
	Other interest	17	-
4	Interest payable	2014 £	2013 £
	On bank loans and overdrafts	495 ———	401
5	Taxation	2014 £	2013 £
	Domestic current year tax Adjustment for prior years	-	(2,378)
	Total current tax	-	(2,378)
	Factors affecting the tax charge for the year Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	6,838	2,557
	Profit on ordinary activities before taxation multiplied by standard rate of UK corporation tax of 20.00% (2013 - 20.00%)	1,368	511
	Effects of:		
	Non deductible expenses	-	10
	Depreciation in excess of capital allowances	106	141
	Tax losses utilised Directors'/participators' remuneration adjustment	-	(2,378) (14,326)
	Other tax adjustments	(1,474)	13,664
		(1,368)	(2,889)
	Current tax charge for the year	•	(2,378)
			

The company has estimated losses of £ 43,158 (2013 - £ 50,526) available for carry forward against future trading profits.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

6	Tangible fixed assets	
•		Fixtures, fittings & equipment
	Cost	
	At 1 January 2014 & at 31 December 2014	127,704
	Depreciation	
	At 1 January 2014	125,584
	Charge for the year	530
	At 31 December 2014	126,114
	Net book value	
	At 31 December 2014	1,590
	At 31 December 2013	2,120

7 Fixed asset investments

	Shares in subsidiary undertakings £
Cost	1 000 454
At 1 January 2014 & at 31 December 2014	1,932,154
Net book value	
At 31 December 2014	1,932,154
At 31 December 2013	1,932,154

Holdings of more than 20%

The company holds more than 20% of the share capital of the following companies:

Company	Country of registration or	Shares held	
	incorporation	Class	%
Subsidiary undertakings			
J Harper & Sons (Leominster) Limited	England & Wales	Ordinary	100.00
Harper Group Construction Limited	England & Wales	Ordinary	100.00

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

7 Fixed asset investments (Continued)

The aggregate amount of capital and reserves and the results of these undertakings for the last relevant financial year were as follows:

		Capital and reserves	Profit/(loss) for the year
		2014	2014
	Principal activity	£	£
J Harper & Sons (Leominster) Limited	Civil engineering and construction	2,879,522	42,944
Harper Group Construction Limited	Civil engineering, construction & property development	(3,030,497)	190,164
			

In the opinion of the directors, the aggregate value of the company's investment in subsidiary undertakings is not less than the amount included in the balance sheet.

8	Debtors	2014 £	2013 £
		~	~
	Amounts owed by subsidiary undertakings	1,865,353	1,885,365
	Corporation tax	2,395	2,378
	Other debtors	-	191
	Prepayments and accrued income	-	2,052
		1,867,748	1,889,986
			=====
	Amounts falling due after more than one year and included in the debtors above are:		
		2014	2013
		£	£
	Amounts owed by group undertakings	1,865,353	1,885,365
			

The directors have agreed not to demand repayment of the amount of £1,865,353 due from a subsidiary undertaking within 12 months of the balance sheet date.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

9	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2014 £	2013 £
	Trade creditors	1,315	3,227
	Taxes and social security costs	103,616	173,859
	Other creditors	127,038	126,369
	Accruals and deferred income	6,595	6,595
		238,564	310,050
	Debt due in one year or less	120,000	120,000
10	Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	2014 £	2013 £
	Other loans	135,000	255,000
	Amounts owed to group undertakings	2,038,018	1,859,852
		2,173,018	2,114,852
	Analysis of loans		
	Wholly repayable within five years	255,000 ———	375,000
		255,000	375,000
	Included in current liabilities	(120,000)	(120,000)
		135,000	255,000
	Loan maturity analysis		
	In more than one year but not more than two years	120,000	120,000
	In more than two years but not more than five years	15,000 	135,000
	The loan is secured by a fixed and floating charge over the assets of the comp	any.	
11	Retirement Benefits		
		2014	2013
		£	£
	Contributions payable by the company for the year	18,000	18,000

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

12	Share capital	2014	2013
	·	£	£
	Allotted, called up and fully paid		
	678 Ordinary shares of £1 each	678	678
	598,830 Deferred shares of £1 each	598,830	598,830
		599,508	599,508
	·		

The Deferred £1 shares are entitled to an aggregate cash dividend of £1 in a period only after a dividend of not less than £10,000,000 has been distributed to holders of the £1 ordinary shares.

On a return of assets on liquidation, these non-equity shareholders would be entitled to receive the sum of 1p per share subject to the holders of the ordinary shares first having received the sum of £1,000 per share.

The non-equity shareholders have no rights to receive notice of or attend or vote at General Meetings of the Company.

13 Statement of movements on reserves

		Other reserves (see below) £	Profit and loss account £
	Balance at 1 January 2014	2,701	856,037
	Profit for the year	-	6,838
	Balance at 31 December 2014	2,701	862,875
	Other reserves Capital redemption reserve		
	Balance at 1 January 2014 & at 31 December 2014	2,701 	
14	Reconciliation of movements in Shareholders' funds	2014 £	2013 £
	Profit for the financial year	6,838	4,935
	Opening Shareholders' funds	1,458,246	1,453,311
	Closing Shareholders' funds	1,465,084	1,458,246

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

15 Contingent liabilities

The company is party to unlimited guarantees and cross guarantees with other group companies to secure overdraft facilities of the group. The amount owing by other group companies at 31 December 2014 was £nil (2013 £nil).

16	Directors' remuneration	2014	2013
		£	£
	Remuneration for qualifying services	24,739	9,362
	Company pension contributions to defined contribution schemes	18,000	18,000
			
		42,739	27,362
		<u>=</u>	

The number of directors for whom retirement benefits are accruing under defined contribution schemes amounted to 1 (2013 - 1).

17 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees (including directors) during the year was:

	2014	2013
	Number	Number
Administration	1	1
Employment costs	2014	2013
	£	£
Wages and salaries	24,739	9,362
Social security costs	1,923	10,103
Other pension costs	18,000	18,000
<u>.</u>		
	44,662	37,465
		

18 Control

The ultimate parent company is Harper Group Management Limited, a company registered in England and Wales.

Harper Group Management Limited prepares group financial statements and copies can be obtained from Beeches Road, Rowley Regis, Warley, West Midlands B65 0BB.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

19 Related party relationships and transactions

S Underhill has a beneficial interest in Harper Group Management Limited. In 2009, the company received a loan of £750,000 from S Underhill. At 31 December 2014, an amount of £255,000 was due to S Underhill (2013 £375,000). £120,000 (2013 £120,000) is included in creditors due within one year and £135,000 (2013 £255,000) is included in creditors due after more than one year. No interest is payable on the loan.

The company has taken advantage of the exemption available in accordance with FRS 8 'Related party disclosures' not to disclose transactions entered into between two or more members of a group, as the company is the parent of the wholly owned subsidiary undertakings of the group to which it is party to the transactions.