REGISTRAR

Hays Travel Limited

Report and Group Financial Statements

31 October 2018

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COMPANIES HOUSE

Directors

John Hays Jane Schumm Marta Fernandez Varona Jonathan Hays Irene Hays (Non-executive)

Auditor

Ernst & Young LLP Citygate St James' Boulevard Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4JD

Bankers

Barclays Bank PLC 53 Fawcett Street Sunderland Tyne and Wear SRI 1SD

Solicitors

Muckle LLP Time Central 32 Gallowgate Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4BF

Registered Office

25 Vine Place Sunderland Tyne and Wear SR1 3NA

Chair's Report

The year was strong with the Group's Total Transaction Value (TTV) growing by 12.8% from £918 million to £1,037 million — topping the £1 billion in sales for the first time.

Operating margins remained steady and the flat profit before tax of £10.1 million (2017 - £10.1 million) was reduced by the following positive events:

- 1) A 'thank you' bonus to our great staff in May 2018, when we reached £1 billion in sales, which cost the Group just under £570,000. In a service industry staff motivation is very important, and we are proud that we continue to be recognised by the Sunday Times as a Top 100 Company to work for in the United Kingdom.
- 2) The Hays Travel Foundation aims to support the advancement of education, health, sport, the arts and prevention of poverty. These aims are intended to inspire young people of social and economic disadvantage, providing them with the same opportunities and chances as others. Funding to the Foundation increased to £320,000 (2017 £200,000) during the year.
- 3) As the Group has expanded we have outgrown our four old Head Office buildings and in May 2018 we acquired Gilbridge House in the centre of Sunderland. In mid-2019 the Head Office teams will come together in one newly refurbished building and I am confident operational efficiencies will follow. In the year the acquisition of Gilbridge House cost £128,000 in additional operating costs.

Net cash at year end increased by £12 million to £104 million and very positively we ended the year with increased forward commissions which related to holidays booked in the financial year 2017/18 but in line with the Group accounting policy, these commissions have not yet been brought into the Group income statement.

The Group continues to support local communities where it has retail shops. This alongside our successful apprenticeship programme, is part of our commitment to contributing socially as well as economically to the towns and cities where we operate.

I am confident that the strong governance provided by the Board, the quality, culture and commitment of our staff and the strength of the brand will enable us to continue to provide a valued, relevant service to our customers whilst creating profit.

l Hays

Chair

29 January 2019

Strategic Report

Principal activity and review of the business

The Group's principal activity during the year continued to be that of a travel agent, operating 139 retail outlets and 3 call centres in England. In addition, the Group operates the Independence Group (IG). The IG consists of independent travel agents throughout the UK who operate under licence. The IG operates across 253 branches.

The Directors believe that market conditions will continue to be favourable and therefore remain confident that trading prospects moving forward are positive and that the business is well placed for the future.

The Group's key financial and other performance indicators during the year were as follows:

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Total Transaction Value	1,036,909	918,223
Turnover	379,835	337,785
Profit after tax	8,056	7,915
Shareholders' funds	40,379	32,550
Current assets as % of current liabilities	118%	115%
Average number of employees	1,315	1,201

As at 31 October 2018 there were commissions totalling £35,296,000 (2017 - £28,676,000) which related to holidays booked in the year but, in line with the Group accounting policy, the commissions have not yet been brought into the Group income statement.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Board meets regularly and evaluates the Group's risk position. The principal risks and uncertainties facing the Group are detailed below.

The Group's principal financial investments comprise cash and loans. Other financial assets and liabilities, such as trade creditors and trade debtors, arise directly from the Group's operating activities.

The main risks associated with the Group's financial assets and liabilities are set out below.

Interest rate risk

The Group invests surplus cash in a floating rate interest yielding bank deposit account. The Group's interest income is therefore affected by movements in interest rates.

Credit risk

The Group has external debtors; however, the Group undertakes assessments of its customers in order to ensure that credit is not extended where there is a likelihood of default.

Liquidity risk

The Group aims to mitigate liquidity risk by managing cash generated by its operations.

Foreign currency risk

The Group reviews its foreign currency exposure on an ongoing basis. Foreign currency purchases are made the following day after sale in order to eliminate foreign currency exposure.

Market demand

Demand for holidays is vulnerable to general economic conditions. The Board seeks to manage capacity and the cost base to suit the prevailing market demand and identify new efficient routes to market to grow market share and maintain margins.

The Board has confidence in the market opportunities for its core businesses, which is supported by the significant growth in both the Group's tour operating and retail businesses in 2017/18, and despite geopolitical challenges, including Brexit, that the sector faces and expected online travel growth in forthcoming years.

Strategic Report

Principal risks and uncertainties (continued)

Regulation changes and competition

The sale of travel and holiday arrangements is a competitive and highly regulated industry. The Group seeks to manage the associated risks by constantly monitoring changes and adapting its business model and terms of trade as necessary.

Other general factors

The Group is also exposed to other factors common to the majority of businesses such as the need to recruit and retain suitable staff, an increasing reliance on computer systems and technology, and the protection of the reputation and good name of the business. Significant adverse experience or events in relation to any of these factors could impact upon the Group's trading performance and financial position.

On behalf of the Board

Irene Hays Director

29 January 2019

Directors' Report

The Directors present their report and Group financial statements for the year ended 31 October 2018.

Results and dividends

The Group profit for the year, after taxation, amounted to £8,056,000 (2017 - £7,915,000). No dividends were paid during the year (2017 - £nil).

Going concern

The Directors have considered the Group's current and future prospects and its availability of financing, and are satisfied that the Group can continue to pay its liabilities as they fall due for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements. For this reason the Directors continue to adopt the going concern basis of preparation for these financial statements.

Directors

The Directors who served the Company during the year and those appointed subsequently were as follows:

John Hays Jane Schumm Irene Hays Marta Fernandez Varona Jonathan Hays

Mrs I Hays served as a non-executive Director.

Future developments

The Group will continue looking for opportunities in the market to grow in addition to the opening of new shops in locations where the market potential is attractive.

Disabled employees

The Group gives full consideration to applications for employment from disabled persons where the requirements of the job can be adequately fulfilled by a handicapped or disabled person.

Where existing employees become disabled it is the Group's policy wherever practicable to provide continuing employment under normal terms and conditions and to provide training and career development and promotion to disabled employees where appropriate.

Employee involvement

During the year, the policy of providing employees with information about the Group has been continued. Regular meetings are held to allow a free flow of information and ideas.

The Company is proud to be one year more in The Sunday Times list of the 100 best companies to work for in 2018.

Disclosure of information to the auditor

So far as each person who was a Director at the date of approving this report is aware, there is no relevant audit information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing its report, of which the auditor is unaware. Having made enquiries of fellow Directors and the Group's auditor, each Director has taken all the steps that he/she is obliged to take as a Director in order to make himself/herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

Directors' Report

Auditor

A resolution to reappoint Ernst & Young LLP as auditor will be put to the members at the Annual General Meeting.

On behalf of the Board

Irene Hays

Director

29 January 2019

Statement of Directors' responsibilities

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Strategic Report, the 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 applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 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 Group and of the profit or loss of the Group 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; 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 proper accounting records which are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Group and the Company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Group and the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Company's website.

Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Independent auditor's report

to the members of Hays Travel Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Hays Travel Limited ('the parent company') and its subsidiaries (the 'Group') for the year ended 31 October 2018 which comprise the Group income statement, the Group and parent company Statements of changes in equity, the Group balance sheet, the Company balance sheet, the Group statement of cash flows and the related notes 1 to 24, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the Group's and of the parent company's affairs as at 31 October 2018 and of the Group's 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.

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 below. We are independent of the Group and parent 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.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the directors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Group's or the parent company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Independent auditor's report

to the members of Hays Travel Limited

Other information

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

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this 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 the other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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 strategic report and the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and directors' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Group and the parent company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report or directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which 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 parent company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- 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.

Independent auditor's report

to the members of Hays Travel Limited

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' responsibilities set out on page 7, 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 Group's and the parent 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 Group or the parent 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 https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

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.

Darren Rutherford (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Ernst & Young LLP, Statutory Auditor

Newcastle upon Tyne

31 January 2019

Group income statement

for the year ended 31 October 2018

	Notes	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
	Notes	£ 000	£ 000
Total Transaction Value	1	1,036,909	918,223
Turnover	2	379,835	337,785
Operating expenses	3	(370,563)	(328,435)
Other operating income/(expense) – amortisation of goodwill	9	(878)	(719)
- rental and other income		`314 [´]	`351 [´]
Share of operating profit in associate	11	308	296
Operating profit	4	9,016	9,278
Bank and other interest receivable	•	1,165	846
Bank and other interest payable		(4)	-
Other finance income/(expense) - pension scheme	20	14	(10)
Loss on disposal of fixed assets		(63)	(29)
Profit on disposal of investment property		` 3	` -
Revaluation deficit on investment property		(30)	-
Profit before taxation		10,101	10,085
Tax on profit, including share of tax in associate	7	(2,045)	(2,170)
Profit after taxation		8,056	7,915
Other comprehensive income			
Actuarial (loss)/gain related to pension scheme (note 20)		(114)	639
Deferred tax thereon		(17)	(206)
Movement on surplus cap applied to pension scheme asset (note 20)		(86)	(359)
Realisation of revaluation surplus on disposal of investment propert	У	(10)	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	~	7,829	7,989

All activities are continuing.

Statements of changes in equity

for the year ended 31 October 2018

Group

			Investment		
		Capital	property		
	Called up	redemption	revaluation	Profit and	
s	hare capital	reserve	reserve	loss account	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 November 2016	100	33	211	24,217	24,561
Profit for the year	-	-	-	7,915	7,915
Other comprehensive gains	-	-	-	74	74
At 31 October 2017	100	33	211	32,206	32,550
Profit for the year	-	_	-	8,056	8,056
Other comprehensive losses	-	-	-	(217)	(217)
Realisation of revaluation surplus on					
disposal of investment property	-	-	(10)	-	(10)
At 31 October 2018	100	33	201	40,045	40,379

Company

		Capital		
	Called up	redemption	Profit and	
	share capital	reserve	loss account	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 November 2016	100	33	15,067	15,200
Profit for the year	_	-	4,300	4,300
Other comprehensive losses	. -	-	74	74
At 31 October 2017	100	33	19,441	19,574
Profit for the year	-	_	2,540	2,540
Other comprehensive losses	-	-	(217)	(217)
At 31 October 2018	100	33	21,764	21,897

Group balance sheet

As at 31 October 2018

	3 7 .	2018	2017
	Notes	£'000	£'000
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	9	2,602	3,241
Tangible assets	10	15,871	13,361
Investment in associate	11	598	394
		19,071	16,996
Current assets			
Assets held for sale		423	-
Debtors	12	33,321	26,330
Cash at bank and in hand	18	104,649	92,307
		138,393	118,637
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(117,062)	(103,066)
Net current assets		21,331	15,571
Total assets less current liabilities		40,402	32,567
Provision for liabilities and charges			
Deferred taxation	15	(23)	(17)
Net assets excluding pension liability		40,379	32,550
Pension liability	20	-	-
Net assets		40,379	32,550
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	16 ·	100	100
Capital redemption reserve	16	33	33
Investment property revaluation reserve	16	201	211
Profit and loss account	16	40,045	32,206
Total equity shareholders' funds		40,379	32,550
			

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 29 January 2019 and signed on their behalf by:

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Irene Hays Director

Company balance sheet

As at 31 October 2018

		2018	2017
	Notes	£'000	£'000
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	9	762	1,014
Tangible assets	10	6,799	4,090
Investments	11	8,664	12,436
		16,225	17,540
Current assets			
Assets held for sale		423	-
Debtors	12	14,178	13,161
Cash at bank and in hand		70,296	60,673
		84,897	73,834
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(79,204)	(71,785)
Net current assets		5,693	2,049
Total assets less current liabilities		21,918	19,589
Provision for liabilities and charges			
Deferred taxation	15	(21)	(15)
Net assets excluding pension liability		21,897	19,574
Pension liability	20	-	-
Net assets		21,897	19,574
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	16	100	100
Capital redemption reserve	16	33	33
Profit and loss account	16	21,764	19,441
Total equity shareholders' funds		21,897	19,574

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 29 January and signed on their behalf by:

Irene Have

Irene Hays Director

Group statement of cash flows

for the year ended 31 October 2018

	Notes	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Net cash inflow from operating activities	18(a)	15,955	23,743
Returns on investment and servicing of finance	18(b)	1,184	846
Capital expenditure and financial investment	18(b)	(4,797)	(4,719)
Increase in cash	18(c)	12,342	19,870

at 31 October 2018

1. Accounting policies

Statement of compliance

Hays Travel Limited is a private limited liability company, limited by shares, incorporated in England.

The Registered Office is:

25 Vine Place Sunderland Tyne and Wear SR1 3NA

The company's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS102 as it applies to the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 October 2018.

In these financial statements, the company has applied the exemptions available under FRS 102 in respect of the following disclosures:

- the requirements of Section 4 Statement of Financial Position paragraph 4.12(a)(iv)
- the requirements of Section 11 Basic Financial Instruments paragraphs 11.39 to 11.48A
- the requirements of Sections 33.1A Related Party Disclosures

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

The financial statements have been prepared using accounting principles based on historical cost, except for the modification to a fair value basis for investment properties.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the company and rounded to the nearest £'000.

The Group financial statements consolidate the financial statements of Hays Travel Limited and all of its subsidiary undertakings drawn up to 31 October 2018. No income statement is presented for Hays Travel Limited as permitted by Section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities as at the balance sheet date and the amounts reported for revenues and expenses during the year. However, the nature of estimation means that actual outcomes could differ from those estimates.

No significant judgments have had to be made by management in preparing these financial statements.

Intangible assets

Intangible assets are measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses. Software development costs are recognised as an intangible asset when all of the following criteria are demonstrated:

- The technical feasibility of completing the software so that it will be available for use or sale.
- The intention to complete the software and use or sell it.
- The ability to use the software or to sell it.
- How the software will generate probable future economic benefits.
- The availability of adequate technical, financial and other resources to complete the development and to use or sell the software.
- The ability to measure reliably the expenditure attributable to the software during its development.

Pipeline commissions are recognised on acquisition and amortised as income relating to these pipeline holidays is recognised.

Goodwill, being the excess of acquisition consideration over the fair value of assets and liabilities acquired, is capitalised on the balance sheet. This is amortised through the income statement over its useful economic life (5 years) using the straight-line method.

at 31 October 2018

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Assets held for sale

Assets held for sale are classified as a current asset at the lower of existing carrying value and expected net realisable value upon sale, where an intention to dispose of the asset exists at the year-end date, and a sale is considered likely within 12 months.

Investments in subsidiaries

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the financial statements of the company and entities controlled by the group (its subsidiaries). Control is achieved where the group has the power to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities, using the acquisition accounting method. The results of subsidiaries acquired or disposed of during the year are included in total comprehensive income from the effective date of acquisition and up to the effective date of disposal, as appropriate using accounting policies consistent with those of the parent. All intra-group transactions, balances, income and expenses are eliminated in full on consolidation.

Investments in subsidiaries are accounted for at cost less impairment in the individual financial statements.

Investments in associates

Investments in associates are accounted for at cost less any accumulated impairment losses in the parent undertaking while in the Group financial statements the equity method is used. Goodwill arising on the acquisition of associates is disclosed separately in the Group financial statements. Amortisation is charged so as to allocate the cost of goodwill over its estimated useful life, using the straight-line method.

Dividend income from associates is recognised when the shareholder's right to receive payment has been established and is shown as other income in the parent undertaking.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

The exception is Investment property where fair value has been followed at the date of the revaluation. Fair values are determined from market evidence normally undertaken by a professionally qualified valuer.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset evenly over its expected useful life, as follows:

Freehold buildings excluding Investment Property - over 25 years

Leasehold properties and buildings improvements - over the shorter of the lease term and 5 years

Computer equipment and software - over 5 years
Fixtures, fittings and office equipment - over 5 years
Motor vehicles - over 3 years
Freehold property improvements - over 5 years

The carrying value of tangible fixed assets is reviewed for impairment in periods if events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable.

at 31 October 2018

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Impairment of assets

At each reporting date fixed assets are reviewed to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If there is an indication of possible impairment, the recoverable amount of any affected asset is estimated and compared with its carrying amount. If estimated recoverable amount is lower, the carrying amount is reduced to its estimated recoverable amount, and an impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

If an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carry amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but not in excess of the amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

Revaluation of investment properties

The Group carries its investment property at fair value, with changes in fair value being recognised in the income statement. The company engaged independent valuation specialists to determine fair value at 31 October 2016. The Directors consider that there has been no material change to these valuations as at 31 October 2018. The determined fair value of the investment property is most sensitive to the estimated yield as well as the long term vacancy rate. The key assumptions used to determine the fair value of investment property are further explained in note 10.

Although the Companies Act would normally require the systematic annual depreciation of fixed assets, the directors believe that the policy of not providing depreciation is necessary in order for the financial statements to give a true and fair view, since the current value of investment properties, and changes to that current value, are of prime importance rather than a calculation of systematic annual depreciation. Depreciation is only one of the many factors reflected in the annual valuation, and the amount which might otherwise have been included cannot be separately identified or quantified.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents in the balance sheet comprise cash at bank and in hand and short term deposits with an original maturity date of three months or less.

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.

Creditors

Short term trade creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other financial liabilities are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Current taxation

Current tax, including UK corporation tax and foreign tax, is provided at amounts expected to be paid (or recovered) using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

Deferred taxation

Deferred taxation is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date where transactions or events have occurred at that date that will result in an obligation to pay more, or right to pay less or to receive more, tax, with the exception of deferred tax assets. Deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that the Directors consider that it is more likely than not that there will be suitable taxable profits from which the future reversal of the underlying timing differences can be deducted.

Deferred tax is measured on an undiscounted basis at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the periods in which timing differences reverse, based on tax rates and laws enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date. Deferred tax is measured on an basis at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the periods in which timing differences reverse, based on tax rates and laws enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date.

at 31 October 2018

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Foreign currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities are denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. All differences are taken to the income statement. In line with industry practice, foreign currencies held by the Group are included as cash.

Leases

Assets held under finance leases are capitalised at their fair value on the inception of the leases and depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives. The finance charges are allocated over the period of the lease in proportion to the capital amount outstanding. Rental costs under operating leases are charged to the income statement in equal annual amounts over the lease term.

Assets owned by the Company which are sub-let to other parties under operating leases, where the Company is the lessor, are included in fixed assets at cost or valuation and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives. Rental income from operating leases is recognised in the income statement on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

Pensions

For defined contribution pension schemes operated by the Group, the amounts charged to the income statement are the contributions payable in the year. Differences between contributions payable in the year and contributions actually paid are shown in the balance sheet as either accruals or prepayments.

The defined benefit pension scheme is funded, with the assets of the scheme held separately from those of the Group in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and scheme liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method, in accordance with FRS102, and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent currency and term to the scheme liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The resulting defined benefit asset or liability, net of related deferred tax, is presented separately on the face of the balance sheet after other net assets.

Turnover

The Group has replaced Gross Value of Sales by Total Transaction Value, the trading sales net of discounts given to customers, as an indicator that more accurately reflects the nature of the business.

TTV (Total Transaction Value) represents the total amount receivable by the Company from the sale of holidays, foreign exchange and other services supplied net of discounts given to customers. Turnover represents (a) commission earned as a travel agent (all of which is stated net of value added tax), (b) the gross value of sales earned as a tour operator through Hays Tour Operating Limited and (c) the sale of currency (which is exempt from value added tax), all of which arises from continuing operations (d) rebates and overrides received from suppliers. Commission earned on the sale of holidays, insurance and currency is credited to the income statement broadly in line with receipt of full payment from the customer and in accordance with the nature of the services provided. Override commission is credited on an accruals basis. All turnover arises wholly within the UK.

Turnover is stated gross of the value of discretionary discounts given to customers. These discounts are shown as a cost of sale.

at 31 October 2018

2. Turnover

3.

4.

Tu	rnover,	analysed	by	category,	was	as	follows:
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Operating lease rentals - land and buildings

rumover, analysed by category, was as follows:		
	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Rendering of services – tour operator	131,194	118,013
Rendering of services – travel agent	99,539	85,816
Sale and buyback of currency	149,102	133,956
	379,835	337,785
All turnover arose within the United Kingdom		
Operating expenses		
operating expenses	2018	2017
	£'000	
	£ 000	£'000
Cost of sales	331,798	294,948
Distribution costs	1,674	1,837
Administrative expenses	37,091	31,650
	370,563	328,435
Operating profit		
This is stated after charging/(crediting):		
This is stated after charging/crediting).		
	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Auditor's remuneration – audit services	76	78
Auditor's remuneration – non-audit services – regulatory compliance work	6	5
Foreign exchange gains	(112)	(107)
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	1,353	1,097
Amortisation of software licences	172	167
Amortisation of pipeline commissions	- 070	199
Amortisation of goodwill	878	719

2,178

2,260

at 31 October 2018

5. Directors' emoluments

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Emoluments	641	572
Company contributions paid to money purchase schemes	3	1
	No.	No.
Members of money purchase pension schemes	4	4
		
The amount in respect of the highest paid Director is as follows:		
	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Emoluments	218	191
Company contributions paid to money purchase pension schemes	1	1

The directors are considered to be the only key management personnel of the Group.

at 31 October 2018

6.	Staff	costs
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6.	Staff costs		
		2018	2017
		£'000	£'000
	Wages and salaries	24,187	20,491
	Social security costs	1,553	1,336
	Defined contribution pension scheme costs	213	161
	Defined benefit pension scheme current service cost (note 20)	-	27
		25,953	22,015
	The monthly average number of employees during the year was as follows:		
		2018	2017
		No.	No.
	Sales, trading, processing and administration	1,315	1,201
7.	Tax on profit		
	(a) Tax on profit		
	The tax charge is made up as follows:		
		2018	2017
		£'000	£'000
	Current tax:		
	UK corporation tax on profit for the year	2,075	2,123
	Adjustments in respect of previous years Share of tax in associate	(117)	42
	Share of tax in associate	43	43
	Total current tax	2,001	2,208
	Deferred tax:		
	Origination and reversal of timing differences	69	(39)
	Adjustments in respect of previous years	(63)	1
	Share of deferred tax in associate	38	-
	Total deferred tax	44	(38)
	Total tax on profit (note 7(b))	2,045	2,170
	Total tax on profit (note 7(b))	2,045 ————————————————————————————————————	2,1

at 31 October 2018

7. Tax on profit (continued)

(b) Factors affecting tax charge for the year

The tax assessed for the year is higher than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19% (2017 – 19.42%). The differences are explained below:

, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Profit before tax	10,101	10,085
Profit multiplied by standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19% (2017 – 19.42%)	1,919	1,959
Effects of: Disallowed expenses/non-taxable income Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous years Other differences	313 (180) (7)	162 43 6
Total tax for year including share of tax in associate (note 7(a))	2,045	2,170

(c) Factors that may affect future tax charges

Reductions in the rate of corporation tax from 20% to 19% from 1 April 2017 and 18% from 1 April 2020 were substantively enacted on 26 October 2016. A further rate reduction to 17% from 1 April 2020 was enacted on 6 September 2016.

8. Profit attributable to members of the parent undertaking

The profit after taxation dealt with in the financial statements of the parent undertaking was £2,540,000 (2017 - £4,300,000).

at 31 October 2018

9. Intangible fixed assets

Group	Pipeline commissions £'000	Goodwill arising on acquisition £'000	Purchased goodwill £'000	Software licences £'000	Total £'000
Cost: At 1 November 2017 Additions Purchase price adjustments	199	3,894 51 (95)	389 57	799 398	5,281 506 (95)
Disposals	-	(93)		(173)	(173)
At 31 October 2018	199	3,850	446	1,024	5,519
Amortisation: At 1 November 2017 Charge in the year	199	1,174 838	206 40	461 172	2,040 1,050
Disposals	-	-	-	(173)	(173)
At 31 October 2018 Net book value:		2,012		460	2,917
At 31 October 2018		1,838	<u>200</u>	564	2,602
At 1 November 2017	-	2,720	183	338	3,241

Goodwill arising from the purchase of 40% of Just Go Travel Limited and 100% of 3D Travel Limited, Holiday Travel & Booking Agency Limited, Christine Nugent Business Travel Limited is being amortised over 5 years. Purchased goodwill arising from the purchase of CAS Travel Limited and Independence Travel Limited is also being amortised over 5 years.

at 31 October 2018

9. Intangible fixed assets (continued)

	Pipeline	Goodwill arising on	Purchased	Software	
Company	commissions tr	_	goodwill	licences	Total
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost:		2 000	~ 555	2000	2 000
At 1 November 2017	199	596	389	783	1,967
Additions	_	-	57	398	455
Disposals	-	-	-	(173)	(173)
Eliminated on dissolution of					
subsidiary undertakings	-	(596)	-	-	(596)
At 31 October 2018	199	-	446	1,008	1,653
Amortisation:	····				
At 1 November 2017	199	99	206	449	953
Charge in the year	-	-	40	170	210
Disposals	-	-	-	(173)	(173)
Eliminated on dissolution of					
subsidiary undertakings		(99)	-	•	(99)
At 31 October 2018	199		246	446	891
Net book value:					
At 31 October 2018	-	-	200	562	762
44 1 November 2017		405	102	224	1.01.4
At 1 November 2017		497	183	334	1,014

at 31 October 2018

10. Tangible fixed assets

An independent professional revaluation of all the company's UK freehold and long-term leasehold properties was carried out as at 31 October 2016 and the results thereof were incorporated into the financial statements. The revaluation was carried out by Cliffe-Roberts Limited, Chartered Surveyors. Properties were valued in accordance with the RICS Valuation at either Existing Use Value under UKVS1.3, or Market Value defined in RICS Valuation – Professional Standards Global, January 2014, VPS4 para1.2. Revaluation gains and losses arising from the interim revaluation were dealt with in accordance with the accounting policy set out in note 1 to the financial statements. The Directors consider that no significant change to these valuations has taken place in the period since the independent professional revaluation was carried out at 31 October 2016. The overall impact of this revaluation was to increase the carrying value by an aggregate amount of £211,000. Investment properties had an original purchase cost of £1,607,000 (2017: £1,607,000).

Group				-				
	Short leasehold	Investment	Long term leasehold	Freehold land and	Fixtures, fittings &	Motor	Assets under	
	improvements	property	property	buildings	equipment	vehicles	construction	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost:	2 000	2 000	2 000	2 000	2 000	2 000	2 000	2 000
At 1 November 2017	3,098	2,963	255	7,917	2,974	551	262	18,020
Transfers	201	_,,		(808)	51	-	(262)	(818)
Reclassification		210	76	(286)	-	-	(===)	(0.0)
Additions	514		-	2,779	. 920	92	137	4,442
Disposals	(83)	(60)	-		(404)	(36)	-	(583)
Revaluation deficit	`-	(30)	-	-	` -	`-	-	(30)

At 31 October 2018	3,730	3,083	331	9,602	3,541	607	137	21,031
Depreciation:								
At 1 November 2017	1,372	-	14	1,201	1,656	416	•	4,659
Transfers	(3)	-	-	(392)		-	-	(395)
Charged in the year	607	-	9	157	491	89	•	1,353
Disposals	(18)	-	-	-	(404)	(35)	-	(457)
At 31 October 2018	1,958	-	23	966	1,743	470	-	5,160
Net book value:	1 772	2.002	200	9.626	1 700	127	127	15.071
At 31 October 2018	1,772	3,083	308	8,636	1,798	137	137	15,871
			100					
At 1 November 2017	1,726	2,963	241	6,716	1,318	135	262	13,361
								====

Hays Travel Limited

Notes to the financial statements

at 31 October 2018

10. Tangible fixed assets (continued)

Company

	Short leasehold improvements £'000	Freehold land and improvements £'000	Fixtures & fittings/ office equipment £'000	Motor vehicles £'000	Assets under construction £'000	Total £'000
Cost: At 1 November 2017	2,590	1,635	2,345	524	262	7,356
Transfers	201	(808)	51	-	(262)	(818)
Additions	514	2,779	934	92	137	4,456
Disposals	(83)	-	(404)	(36)	-	(523)
At 31 October 2018	3,222	3,606	2,926	580	137	10,471
Depreciation:						
At 1 November 2017	919	862	1,088	397	-	3,266
Transfers	(3)	(392)	-	-	-	(395)
Charged in the year	593	103	478	82	-	1,256
Disposals	(18)	-	(402)	(35)	-	(455)
At 31 October 2018	1,491	573	1,164	444	-	3,672
Net book value:	1.721	2.022	1.500	126	100	
At 31 October 2018	1,731	3,033	1,762	136	137	6,799
At 1 November 2017	1,671	773	1,257	127	262	4,090

at 31 October 2018

11. Investments

Group

	£'000
At 1 November 2017	394
Share of profit after tax retained by associate	227
Dividends received from associate	(23)
At 31 October 2018	598
Company	
	Investments
	£'000
Cost or valuation:	
At 1 November 2017	12,436
	, · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Additions	51
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
Additions Purchase price adjustments Disposals	51 (95) (3,728)
Purchase price adjustments	(95)

Included in costs of investments above is £1,070,000 relating to associated undertakings. Details of the investments in which the Company holds 20% or more of the nominal value of any class of share capital are as follows:

Subsidiary undertakings

Name of company	Holding	Proportion of shares held	Nature of business
Hays Foreign Exchange Limited	Ordinary shares	100%	Sale of foreign currency
Hays Tour Operating Limited	Ordinary shares	100%	Tour operator
Hays Beds Limited	Ordinary shares	100%	Accommodation provider
Hays Transfers Limited	Ordinary shares	100%	Transfers provider
Hays Transport Limited	Ordinary shares	100%	HMRC transport scheme
Hays Property Services Limited	Ordinary shares	100%	Investment property

All subsidiary undertakings are companies registered in England and Wales.

Christine Nugent Business Travel Limited and Holiday Travel & Booking Agency Limited were dissolved in October 2018.

at 31 October 2018

11. Investments (continued)

A	4 -	1	4
ASSO	ciate	ınves	tments

Name of company Holding Proportion of shares held Nature of business

Just Go Travel Limited Ordinary shares 40% Travel agency

The Group has accounted for its share of the associate's profit after tax amounting to £262,000 and net assets as at 31 October 2018 amounting to £598,000. In 2018 the shareholders of Just Go Travel Limited paid a dividend (approved in 2017) to the Company of £23,400.

Additional disclosures in respect of share of Just Go Travel Limited:

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Tangible fixed assets	579	282
Intangible fixed assets	13	17
Current assets	1,097	926
Share of gross assets	1,689	1,225
Liabilities due within one year	(1,053)	(831)
Deferred taxation	(38)	•
Share of gross liabilities	(1,091)	(831)
Share of net assets	598	394
Share of turnover	2,309	1,651
Cl	=	202
Share of profit before tax	308	303
Share of taxation FRS 102 adjustment	(81)	(43)
TKS 102 adjustment		(7)
Share of profit after tax	227	253

12. Debtors

		Group		Company
	2018	2017	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Trade debtors	21,099	16,687	4,128	1,662
Amounts due from subsidiary undertakings	-	-	1	3,590
Amounts due from associate undertakings	-	-	31	-
Other debtors	9,127	7,410	7,117	5,959
Prepayments and accrued income	3,095	2,233	2,769	1,950
Corporation tax recoverable	, <u>-</u>	· -	132	, -
	33,321	26,330	14,178	13,161
				

at 31 October 2018

13. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

		Group		Company
	2018	2017	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Trade creditors	78,208	69,699	25,751	27,146
Amounts due to associate undertakings	691	1,089	-	520
Amounts due to subsidiary undertakings	-	-	21,705	17,080
Corporation tax	867	1,256	-	288
Other taxes and social security costs	1,048	533	962	672
Other creditors	118	644	84	611
Accruals and deferred income	36,130	29,845	30,702	25,468
	117,062	103,066	79,204	71,785

14. Acquisitions

On 7 July 2018 the company acquired the trade and certain assets of Independence Travel Limited for a cash consideration of £56,585.

15. Deferred taxation

The provision for deferred taxation is made up as follows:

		Group		Company
	2018	2017	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Accelerated capital allowances	23	17	21	15

The deferred tax liability relating to the defined benefit pension scheme at 31 October 2018 has been set against the scheme surplus (see note 20).

16. Issued share capital and reserves

	2018	2017
Allotted, called up and fully paid	£'000	£'000
Ordinary shares of £1 each	100	100

Investment property revaluation reserve

This reserve records the excess of the carrying value of fixed asset held at valuation, against the original historic cost.

Profit and loss account reserve

This reserve records the cumulative amount of realised profits and losses less any distributions of dividends.

Capital redemption reserve

This reserve records the cumulative nominal value of shares repurchased.

at 31 October 2018

17.	Financial instruments		
	Group	2018	2017
	r	£'000	£'000
	Financial assets measured at amortised cost: Trade and other debtors	30,226	24,097
	Financial liabilities recorded at amortised cost: Trade and other creditors	78,326	70,343
	Company	2018	2017
		£'000	£'000
	Financial assets measured at amortised cost: Trade and other debtors	11,245	7,621
	Financial liabilities recorded at amortised cost:		
	Trade and other creditors	25,835	27,757 ———
18.	Notes to the Group statement of cash flows		
	(a) Reconciliation of operating profit to net cash inflow from operating activity	ties	
		2018	2017
		£'000	£'000
	Operating profit (before share of associate)	8,708	8,982
	Depreciation of tangible and intangible fixed assets	1,525	1,463
	Amortisation of goodwill	878	719
	Increase in debtors	(6°,991)	(6,846)
	Increase in creditors	14,385	21,411
	Difference between current service pension costs and cash paid	(203)	(336)
	Corporation tax paid	(2,347)	(1,650)
	Net cash inflow from operating activities	15,955	23,743

at 31 October 2018

18. Notes to the Group statement of cash flows (continued)

(b) Analysis of cash flows for headings in the statement of cash flows

(-) 9			
		2018	2017
		£'000	£'000
Returns on investment and servicing of finance			
Interest received		1,165	846
Interest paid		(4)	-
Dividend received from associated undertaking		23	-
		1,184	846
		2018	2017
		£'000	£'000
Capital expenditure and financial investment			
Payments to acquire investments in subsidiary undertakings		(108)	(4,927)
Cash acquired with subsidiary undertakings		-	2,206
Purchase price adjustments on acquisitions		95	, <u>-</u>
Payments to acquire intangible fixed assets		(398)	(52)
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets		(4,442)	(1,959)
Receipts from sales of tangible fixed assets		56	13
		(4,797)	(4,719)
		======	
(c) Analysis of changes in net funds			
	At		At
	1 November	Cash	31 October
	2017	flow	2018
÷	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cash at bank and in hand	92,307	12,342	104,649
	==		

19. Capital commitments

At 31 October 2018 there were no capital commitments contracted for but not provided in the financial statements (2017 - £nil).

20. Pension commitments

The Group operates a number of defined contribution schemes. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Group in an independently administered fund. At 31 October 2018 there were no unpaid contributions outstanding (2017 - £Nil).

The Group also operates a defined benefit pension scheme for certain employees. The last full actuarial valuation of the scheme was carried out as at 1 December 2015, and this has been updated to 31 October 2018 by the scheme actuary.

The pension scheme has not invested in any of the group companies.

at 31 October 2018

20. Pension commitments (continued)

There is no balance recognised in the balance sheet at 31 October 2018.

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Present value of funded obligations	(8,647)	(8,984)
Fair value of scheme assets	9,183	9,417
Surplus in scheme	536	433
Related deferred tax liability	(91)	(74)
Surplus cap	(445)	(359)
Surplus	 -	-

The Company decided to adopt a cautious approach by capping the defined benefit pension scheme asset which was calculated at 31 October 2018. A surplus cap of £445,000 was therefore accounted for at 31 October 2018.

The amounts recognised in the income statement are as follows:

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Current service cost	-	27
Past service cost	-	6
Net interest (income)/expense	(14)	10
Settlements or curtailments	· -	(91)
	(14)	(48)

On 1 November 2016, the Company started a consultation process with eleven employees with the view to close to future accrual the defined benefit pension scheme. The Company closed to future accrual the Scheme on 28 February 2017.

The amounts recognised in other comprehensive income are as follows:

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Actuarial (losses)/gains on assets	(301)	569
Actuarial gains on liabilities	187	70
	(114)	639

at 31 October 2018

20. Pension commitments (continued)

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation were as follows:

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Opening defined benefit obligation Current service cost	8,984	9,482 27
Interest cost	229	239
Actuarial gains	(187)	(70)
Settlements or curtailments	-	(91)
Past service cost	-	` 6 [°]
Benefits paid	(379)	(609)
Closing defined benefit obligation	8,647	8,984
Changes in the fair value of scheme assets were as follows:	=======================================	
	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Opening fair value of scheme assets	9,417	8,957
Interest income	243	229
Actuarial (losses)/gains	(301)	569
Contributions to the scheme	203	271
Benefits paid	(379)	(609)
Closing fair value of scheme assets	9,183	9,417
The Group is not expected to contribute to the scheme in the year to 31 Oct	cober 2019.	
The major categories of scheme assets as a percentage of total scheme asset		
	2018	2017
Equities	85%	75%
Bonds	10%	9%
Insured pensions	4%	5%
Cash	1%	11%
The principal actuarial assumptions adopted at the balance sheet date are as	follows:	
	2018	2017
Discount rate	2.8%	2.6%
Retail price inflation (RPI)	3.4%	3.3%
Consumer price inflation (CPI)	2.4%	2.3%
Pension increases – CPI maximum 5.0%	2.35%	2.3%
Pension increases – CPI maximum 2.5%	1.95%	1.9%
Deferred pension revaluation – CPI 5.0% cap	2.4%	2.3%
Deferred pension revaluation – CPI 2.5% cap	2.4%	2.3%

The overall expected long term return on scheme assets is a weighted average of the expected long term returns for equity securities, debt securities and other assets.

Mortality follows the standard table known as S2PA, using 115% of the base table with the CMI_2015 mortality projections with a long term rate of improvement of 1.25%. The mortality assumptions used at the previous year end followed the standard table known as S2PA, using 115% of the base table with the CMI-2015 mortality projections with a long term rate of improvement of 1.25%.

at 31 October 2018

20. Pension commitments (continued)

Assuming retirement at age 65, the life expectancies in years are as follows:

	2018	2017
For a male aged 65 now	21.2	21.1
At 65 for a male member aged 45 now	22.9	22.8
For a female aged 65 now	23.2	23.1
At 65 for a female member aged 45 now	25.1	25.0

21. Other financial commitments

At 31 October 2018 the Group had total commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as set out below:

	Land a	Land and buildings		Other	
	2018	2017	2018	2017	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Amounts payable:					
Within one year	1,602	1,832	-	-	
In two to five years	4,302	3,766	=	-	
In over five years	4,488	4,493	-	-	
	10,392	10,091	-		

22. Contingent liabilities

Bonds have been provided to RBS and BA Lime. The Group's bankers have provided the full amount of the bonds which are all held on a cash cover basis. The amounts and expiry dates of the bonds are set out below:

	2018	2017
Expiry date	£'000	£'000
31 December 2017	· -	1,200
Ongoing	25	25

The RBS bond of £1,200,000 was released and received on 29 December 2017.

23. Related party transactions

The company has taken advantage of the exemptions available under FRS102.33.1A to subsidiary undertakings of not disclosing transactions with wholly owned entities of the group qualifying as related parties.

During the current year, the Group made gross sales in retail of £50,730,000 (2017 - £39,731,000) to Just Go Travel Limited, a company in which the Group has a 40% shareholding. These transactions were on normal commercial terms. The balance owed at 31 October 2018 by the Group was £691,000 (2017 - £1,089,000) being commissions payable on gross sales, and £nil (2017 - £nil) owed to the Group.

24. Controlling party

In the Directors' opinion, the Company's controlling party is Mrs I Hays, who owns 50.01% of the ordinary share capital of the Company (100% including related parties).