

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 31ST DECEMBER 1996



Company registered number: 2054153

FP UK HOLDINGS LIMITED REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1996

DIRECTORS

M.F. DOERR, FIA (Chairman)
G.K. ASLET, MA, FIA A.R. BARNES, ACII A.J. GRIFFITHS, BSc
R.C. HALLETT BSc, FFA K. SATCHELL, BSc, FIA, ASA B.W. SWEETLAND, LLB
SECRETARY
B.W. SWEETLAND, LLB

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY

The company is an investment holding company.

RESULTS AND BUSINESS REVIEW

The results for the year ended 31st December 1996 are shown in the profit and loss account on page 4.

Additionally, there were certain changes to the investments in subsidiary undertakings in the year.

On 20th February 1996, the company acquired the entire share capital of Financial Administration Systems Limited from FP Business Holdings Limited, a fellow subsidiary undertaking, for a cash consideration of £0.5m.

In two tranches, on 6th and 27th June 1996, the company acquired 34.5% of the issued ordinary and 15.7% of the issued deferred shares of London Capital Holdings Limited, a property holding undertaking, for a total cash consideration of £37.8m. The acquisitions were from other Friends Provident Group undertakings and from an unrelated company.

LOANS

On 26th March 1996, the company received an interest free loan of £0.5m from Financial Administration Systems Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary undertaking. This loan was fully repaid on 15th October 1996.

On 20th December 1996, the company received an £8m loan from Friends' Provident Life Office, its ultimate parent company, to supplement its working capital.

DIVIDEND

On 30th December 1996, the company paid an interim dividend of £11m for the year ended 31st December 1996 (1995:£Nil). The directors do not recommend the payment of a final dividend (1995:£Nil).

DIRECTORS

The directors named above held office throughout the year. No director held shares beneficially in any company of the Friends' Provident Life Office Group during the year.

AUDITORS

The directors have taken advantage of the Elective Regime, under section 386 of the Companies Act 1985, for dispensation from the annual appointment of auditors. The auditors, Price Waterhouse, have signified their willingness to continue in office.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (continued)

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed; 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 disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. 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.

The directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements.

Pixham End Dorking Surrey RH4 1QA

20th March 1997

Registered Number 2054153

BY ORDER OF THE DIRECTORS

B.W. SWEETLAND SECRETARY

AUDITORS' REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF FP UK HOLDINGS LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements on pages 4 to 10 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out therein.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTORS AND AUDITORS

As described on page 2, the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

BASIS OF OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

OPINION

In our opinion, the financial statements of the company give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs at 31st December 1996 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

PRICE WATERHOUSE

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

Southwark Towers

32 London Bridge Street

London SE1 9SY

20th March 1997

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1996

	Notes		
		1996	1995
Continuing Operations		£000	£000
Administrative expenses		-	(71)
Income from shares in subsidiary undertakings	2	46,005	-
OPERATING PROFIT/(LOSS)		46,005	 (71)
Income from other fixed asset investments		135	-
Interest receivable and similar income	3	373	404
Interest payable and similar charges	4	(22)	-
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION	5	46,491	333
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	7	(1,122)	(110)
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER TAXATION	12	45,369	223
Dividends Paid		(11,000)	-
RETAINED PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		34,369 =====	223

STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1996

	1996 £000	1995 £000
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	45,369	223
Unrealised gains on investments	339	-
Total recognised gains for the year	45,708 =====	223

There is no difference between the results disclosed above and the results on a modified historical cost basis.

The notes on pages 6 to 10 form an integral part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 1996

	Notes	1996 £000	1995 £000
FIXED ASSETS			
Investment in group undertakings Other investments		144,570 9,825	106,770 10
CURRENT ASSETS	8	154,395	106,780
Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	9	17 1,165	1 5,975
		1,182	5,976
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	10	(10,253)	(2,140)
NET CURRENT (LIABILITIES)/ASSETS		(9,071)	3,836
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		145,324	110,616
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Called-up share capital Profit and loss account Revaluation reserve	11 12	111,408 33,577 339	111,408 (792)
TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS - EQUITY	12	145,324	110,616

B.W. SWEETLAND

DIRECTOR

20th March 1997

The notes on pages 6 to 10 form an integral part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of preparation

- (i) The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards. The financial statements also include the early adoption of FRS1 (Revised 1996) which exempts the company from preparing a cash flow statement.
- (ii) Group accounts are not prepared as the company is a wholly-owned subsidiary of its immediate parent undertaking, Friends' Provident Life Office, which is incorporated in the United Kingdom.

(b) Deferred taxation

Deferred taxation is provided in full to take account of all differences in the taxation and accounting treatment of certain items, where the asset or liability is expected to crystallise in the foreseeable future.

(c) Investments

Investments, in subsidiary and associated undertakings, are stated at cost less provision where, in the opinion of the directors, there has been a permanent diminution in value.

Unit Trusts are stated at published bid prices and listed investments are stated at middle market prices. Any unrealised gains or losses are transferred to or from the revaluation reserve.

2. TURNOVER

The company has only one class of business being the holding company for shares and investments in United Kingdom subsidiary and associated undertakings.

1996

1995

3. INTEREST RECEIVABLE AND SIMILAR INCOME

£000	£000
63	69
310	335
373	404
===	===
1996	1995
£000	£000
.22	-
	===
	63 310 373 ===

5. PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION

Profit on ordinary activities before taxation is stated after charging auditors' remuneration for audit services of £Nil (1995:£3,000). The auditors' remuneration for audit services for 1996 of £3,000 has been borne by Friends' Provident Life Office.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

6. DIRECTORS AND EMPLOYEES

All executive directors (including the Chairman) are employed by, and receive their emoluments from, another group undertaking. Where appropriate, directors' emoluments have been apportioned to group undertakings in which the directors hold directorships.

The directors holding office during 1996 consider that their services to the company are incidental to their other duties within the Friends' Provident Life Office Group and accordingly no remuneration has been apportioned to this company.

7. TAX ON PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES

	1996 £000	1995 £000
The taxation charge for the year comprises:		
Corporation tax at 33%	107	-
Taxation on franked income	1,015	-
Group relief at 33%	· -	110
•		
	1,122	110
	====	===

9 INVESTMENTS

(a)

INVESTMENTS					
	Subsidiary undertakings		Associated undertakings	Other	Total
	Shares £000	Loans £000	Shares £000	Investments £000	Investments £000
Balance at 1st January 1996	105,870	900	-	10	106,780
Acquisitions	534	552	37,800	18,926	57,812
Disposals	(534)	(552)	-	(9,450)	(10,536)
Revaluation	-	-	-	339	339
Balance at 31st December 1996	105,870	900	37,800	9,825	154,395
		===	====		====

The company acquired the entire issued share capital of Financial Administration Systems Limited for £0.5m, this company is in the process of being wound up voluntarily. During the year the company also acquired 34.5% of the issued ordinary and 15.7% of the issued deferred ordinary shares of London Capital Holdings Limited for a total consideration of £37.8m including stamp duty.

In the opinion of the directors, the aggregate value of the company's investments, including the embedded value of the inforce business, are not less than the amount at which the investments are stated in the balance sheet.

Other investments comprise unit trusts £9,814,352 (cost £9,475,310) and United Kingdom government securities of £9,795 (cost £9,817).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

8. **INVESTMENTS** (continued)

(b) The subsidiary and associated undertakings of the company are set out below. Unless otherwise stated the share capital of each company comprises of ordinary shares, all are incorporated and operate within the United Kingdom and, where denoted as subsidiary undertakings are wholly-owned subsidiary undertakings.

Subsidiary undertakings

FP Financial Management Limited
FP Life Assurance Limited
FP Financial Management Group Services Limited
Friends Provident First Call Limited
FP Pension Trustees Limited
SFM Holdings Limited *
Friends Provident Associates Limited

Activity

Financial management services
Long-term insurance business
Management and administrative services
Sales and marketing company
Pensioneer trustee
Investment holding company
Sales and marketing company

Associated undertakings

London Capital Holdings Limited (34.5% ordinary shares) (15.7% deferred shares)

Activity

1005

Property holding company

1000

9. **DEBTORS**

	1996	1995
	£000	£000
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Amounts due to group undertakings	16	-
Other debtors	1	1
	17	1
•	====	===

^{*} Indirectly held

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

10. CREDITORS

*	1996	1995
	£000	£000
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Corporation tax	107	-
Amounts due to group undertakings		
Group relief	124	110
Loans	8,000	-
Other amounts	2,000	2,030
Other creditors	22	-
	man may ship ship ship ship ship	
	10,253	2,140
	====	=====

On 20th December 1996 the company was provided with an £8m unsecured loan from Friends' Provident Life Office. The loan is repayable on demand and bears interest at a variable rate of 1% above LIBOR.

11. CALLED-UP SHARE CAPITAL

	1996 £000	1995 £000
Authorised 150,000,000 ordinary shares of £1 each	150,000 =====	150,000
Allotted, called-up and fully paid 111,407,905 ordinary shares of £1 each	111,408 	111,408 =====

12. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS AND STATEMENT OF MOVEMENTS ON RESERVES

	Share capital £000	Profit and loss account	Revaluation reserve	Total shareholders' funds
		£000	£000	£000
Profit for the financial year	-	45,369	-	45,369
Dividends paid	_	(11,000)	-	(11,000)
Revaluation of investments	-	-	339	339
Net addition to shareholders' funds	_	34,369	339	34,708
Balance at 1st January 1996	111,408	(792)	_	110,616
				,
Balance at 31st December 1996	111,408	33,577	339	145,324
		=====	===	=====

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

13. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The results of the company are consolidated in the results of Friends' Provident Life Office, the company's ultimate parent and controlling company, whose financial statements are publicly available. Accordingly, the company is exempt from the requirement to disclose transactions with other companies which qualify as related parties within the Friends' Provident Life Office Group.

There were no other material related party transactions.

14. GUARANTEES, INDEMNITIES AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

(a) The company has given a guarantee to SFM Holdings Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary undertaking, in respect of liabilities which may arise following the sale of NM Life Assurance International Limited, a former wholly-owned offshore subsidiary undertaking of SFM Holdings Limited.

The company has given a guarantee to NM Financial Management International Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary company in liquidation, in respect of liabilities which may arise following the sale of that company's fund management contracts.

The maximum potential liability under these guarantees is £9,500,000 and no claims have been made or are pending.

(b) The company has given an indemnity to the liquidators of NM Financial Management International Limited, a former wholly-owned offshore subsidiary undertaking, in respect of liabilities which may arise by them acting as liquidators in relation to the winding up of this company. No claims have been made or are pending.

15. ULTIMATE PARENT UNDERTAKING

The company's ultimate parent undertaking is Friends' Provident Life Office, which is incorporated in the United Kingdom by Act of Parliament. Copies of the Group Report and Accounts of Friends' Provident Life Office can be obtained from Pixham End, Dorking, Surrey, RH4 1QA.