**Financial Statements** 

**31 December 2013** 



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COMPANIES HOUSE

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## **Financial Statements**

## Year ended 31 December 2013

Contents	Pages
Company information	1
Strategic report	2 to 3
Directors' report	4
Directors' responsibilities statement	5
Profit and loss account	6
Balance sheet	7
Notes to the financial statements	8 to 15

## **Company Information**

The board of directors

R D Dunn

M O Hıfzı

Company secretary

G E James

Registered office

Bartley Wood Business Park

Hook Hampshire RG27 9UP

#### Strategic Report

#### Year ended 31 December 2013

#### Principal activity and business review

The principal activity of the company during the year was, and will continue to be, that of a holding company for ntl CableComms Greater Manchester The investments in the subsidiary company remains fully impaired due to that company having net liabilities

At 31 December 2013 the company was a wholly owned subsidiary undertaking of Virgin Media Inc (Virgin Media) Virgin Media became a wholly-owned subsidiary of Liberty Global plc (Liberty Global) as a result of a series of mergers that were completed on 7 June 2013 (the LG/VM Transaction) This is referred to in more detail in the consolidated financial statements of Virgin Media Inc which are available from the company secretary at Virgin Media, Bartley Wood Business Park, Hook, Hampshire, RG27 9UP The Virgin Media Inc consolidated group (the group) operates under the Virgin Media brand in the United Kingdom (U K)

The group provides digital cable, broadband internet, fixed-line telephony and mobile services in the U K to both residential and business-to-business (B2B) customers. The group is one of the U K is largest providers of residential digital cable, broadband internet and fixed-line telephony services in terms of customers. The group believes its advanced, deep-fibre cable access network enables it to offer faster and higher quality broadband internet services than our digital subscriber line, or DSL competitors. As a result, it provides our customers with a leading next generation broadband internet service and one of the most advanced interactive digital cable services available in the U K market.

As of 31 December 2013, the group provided services to approximately 4.9 million residential cable customers on its network. The group is also one of the UK's largest mobile virtual network operators by number of customers, providing mobile telephony services to 1.9 million contract mobile customers and 1.1 million prepay mobile customers over third party networks. As of 3.1 December 2013, 84% of residential customers on the group's cable network received multiple services from the group, and 66% were "triple play" customers, receiving broadband internet, digital cable and fixed-line telephony services from the group

In addition the group provides broadband internet, fixed-line and mobile telephony and other connectivity services to businesses, public sector organisations and service providers

The company reported an increase in both net current assets and net assets for the year ended 31 December 2013 as a result of normal operations. During the year, no new external finance was arranged and there was no movement in the called up equity share capital of the company

The directors do not use key performance indicators (KPI's) to assess the performance of the company as its principal activity is that of a holding company

During the year, the company recognised operating exceptional items in respect of the release of provisions against intercompany receivables of £44,391,000 (2012 - increase of £527,000) There have been no other significant transactions during the period

The company has not received any dividends from its subsidiaries during the period (2012 - £nil)

#### Future outlook

The directors will continue to review management policies in light of changing trading and market conditions Further detail of the future outlook of the group is provided in Virgin Media Inc's financial statements and annual report for 2013, which are available from the company secretary at Virgin Media, Bartley Wood Business Park, Hook, Hampshire, RG27 9UP

Strategic Report (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2013

## Principal risks and uncertainties

Financial and operational risk management is undertaken as part of the group operations as a whole The company's operations expose it to a variety of operational and financial risks. These are considered in more detail in the financial statements of Virgin Media Inc. which are available from the company secretary at Virgin Media, Bartley Wood Business Park, Hook, Hampshire, RG27 9UP

Signed on behalf of the directors

G E James

Company Secretary

Approved by the directors on 30 June 2014

#### **Directors' Report**

#### Year ended 31 December 2013

The directors present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 December 2013

#### Results and dividends

The profit for the financial year amounted to £43,366,000 (2012 - loss of £1,552,000) The directors have not recommended an ordinary dividend (2012 - £nil)

#### Directors

The directors who served the company during the year and thereafter were as follows

C B E Withers (Resigned 31 March 2014)
R D Dunn (Appointed 29 November 2013)
M O Hifzi (Appointed 31 March 2014)
R C Gale (Resigned 29 November 2013)

The directors of the company have been indemnified against liability in respect of proceedings brought by third parties, subject to the conditions set out in the Companies Act 2006. Such qualifying third party indemnity provision is in force for directors serving during the financial year and as at the date of approving the Directors' Report.

#### Going concern

After making suitable enquiries, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing these financial statements

### **Audit exemption**

Virgin Media Finance PLC issued a guarantee against all outstanding liabilities to which the company is subject as at 31 December 2013, until they are satisfied in full. The guarantee is enforceable against Virgin Media Finance PLC by any person to whom the company is liable in respect of those liabilities. Since Virgin Media Finance PLC is the smallest group to which the company's accounts are consolidated, the company has taken advantage of the exemption from audit of its individual accounts for the year ended 31 December 2013 by virtue of Section 479A of the Companies Act 2006

Signed on behalf of the directors

M O Hıfzı Dırector

Approved by the directors on 30 June 2014

## **Directors' Responsibilities Statement**

#### Year ended 31 December 2013

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 year

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- make judgments and 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.

## **Profit and Loss Account**

## Year ended 31 December 2013

	Note	2013 £000	2012 £000
Administrative income/(expenses)		44,391	(527)
Operating profit/(loss)	2	44,391	(527)
Attributable to Operating exceptional items	2	44,391	(527)
Interest payable and similar charges	4	(1,025)	(1,025)
Profit/(loss) on ordinary activities before tax		43,366	(1,552)
Tax on profit/(loss) on ordinary activities	5	-	_
Profit/(loss) for the financial year	13	43,366	(1,552)

The company has no other gains or losses and therefore no separate statement of total recognised gains or losses is presented

All results relate to continuing operations

The notes on pages 8 to 15 form part of these financial statements.

# **COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 02455631**

## ntl Manchester Cablevision Holding Company

## **Balance Sheet**

#### 31 December 2013

	Note	2013 £000	2012 £000
Fixed assets Investments	6	_	-
Current assets Debtors due within one year	7	142,317	97,926
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	8	(7)	(7)
Net current assets		142,310	97,919
Total assets less current liabilities		142,310	97,919
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	9	(19,705)	(18,680)
Net assets		122,605	79,239
Capital and reserves			
Share capital	12	258,488	258,488
Profit and loss account	13	(135,883)	(179,249)
Shareholders' funds	13	122,605	79,239

For the year ended 31 December 2013 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 479A of the Companies Act 2006 relating to subsidiary companies

## Directors' responsibilities

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- (i) the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476, and
- (ii) the directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts

These financial statements were approved by the directors on 30 June 2014 and are signed on their behalf by

R D Dunn Director

The notes on pages 8 to 15 form part of these financial statements.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

#### Year ended 31 December 2013

#### 1. Accounting policies

A summary of the principal accounting policies is set out below. All accounting policies have been applied consistently, unless noted below

#### Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, and applicable UK accounting standards

#### Group accounts

The company has taken advantage of the exemption from preparing group accounts afforded by Section 400 of the Companies Act 2006 because it is a wholly owned subsidiary of another company incorporated in the United Kingdom which prepares group accounts (see note 14) These financial statements therefore present information about the company as an individual undertaking and not about its group

#### **Investments**

Investments are recorded at cost, less provision for impairment as appropriate. The company assesses at each reporting date whether there is an indication that an investment may be impaired. If any such indication exists, the company makes an estimate of the investment's recoverable amount. Where the carrying amount of an investment exceeds its recoverable amount, the investment is considered impaired and is written down to its recoverable amount. A previously recognised impairment loss is reversed only if there was an event not foreseen in the original impairment calculations, such as a change in use of the investment or a change in economic conditions. The reversal of impairment loss would be to the extent of the lower of the recoverable amount and the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the investment in prior years.

#### Cash flow statement

The company is exempt from publishing a cash flow statement as permitted by FRS 1 "Cash flow statements (revised 1996)", as it is a wholly owned subsidiary of its ultimate parent company

### Deferred tax

Deferred tax is recognised, as appropriate, 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 a right to pay less or to receive more tax, with the following exceptions

- provision is made for deferred tax on gains arising from the revaluation (and similar fair value adjustments) of fixed assets, and gains on disposal of fixed assets that have been rolled over into replacement assets, only to the extent that, at the balance sheet date, there is a binding agreement to dispose of the assets concerned. However, no provision is made where, on the basis of all available evidence at the balance sheet date, it is more likely than not that the taxable gain will be rolled over into replacement assets and charged to tax only where the replacement assets are sold, and
- 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

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

#### Year ended 31 December 2013

## 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### Classification of shares as debt or equity

The company has financial instruments in the form of preference shares. As a condition of the shares there is a contractual obligation to accrue for dividends, regardless of performance. As this condition is potentially unfavourable the preference shares have been classified in the balance sheet as financial liabilities, rather than equity, in accordance with FRS 25 "Financial Instruments." Disclosure and Presentation"

Finance payments associated with financial liabilities are dealt with as part of interest payable and similar charges

#### Trade and other debtors

Trade and other debtors are stated at their recoverable amount Provision is made when the amount receivable is not considered recoverable and the full amount is written off when the probability for recovery of a balance is assessed as being remote

## 2. Operating profit/(loss)

Operating profit/(loss) is stated after (crediting)/charging

	2013	2012
	£000	£000
(Release of)/increase in provision against amounts owed by group		
undertakings	(44,391)	527

The group's inter-company funding arrangements are managed centrally Recoverability of inter-company receivables is assessed annually. The provision for non-recoverability may increase or decrease as a result of that review. The impairment review of inter-company indebtedness as at 31 December 2013 concluded that a release in the provision against amounts due from group undertakings totalling £44,391,000 should be made (2012 - increase in provision of £527,000)

The directors received remuneration for the year of £803 (2012 - £500) in relation to qualifying services as directors of this company, all of which was paid by, and is disclosed in the financial accounts of Virgin Media Limited In 2013 this included an element relating to compensation for loss of office

#### 3. Staff costs

The company does not have any directly employed staff and is not charged an allocation of staff costs by the group

## 4. Interest payable and similar charges

	2013	2012
	£000	£000
Preference share dividend payable	1,025	1,025

#### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

## Year ended 31 December 2013

5.

-	Tax on profit/(loss) on ordinary activities		
	The tax charge is made up as follows		
		2013	2012
		£000	£000
	Current tax charge: Current tax on profit for the year		
	Total current tax	-	-
	Deferred tax:		
	Origination and reversal of timing differences	-	-
	Total deferred tax		
	Total tax charge on profit on ordinary activities		

The tax assessed on the profit/(loss) on ordinary activities for the year is lower than (2012 - higher) the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 23 25% (2012 - 24 50%). The differences are explained below

	2013 £000	2012 £000
Profit/(loss) on ordinary activities before tax	43,366	(1,552)
Profit/(loss) on ordinary activities multiplied by rate of tax Effects of	10,083	(380)
Income not taxable	(10,083)	380
Total current tax		

## Factors affecting current and future tax charges

Reductions in the UK corporation tax rate from 26% to 24% (effective from 1 April 2012) and to 23% (effective 1 April 2013) were substantively enacted on 26 March 2012 and 3 July 2012 respectively Further reductions to 21% (effective from 1 April 2014) and 20% (effective from 1 April 2015) were substantively enacted on 2 July 2013 This will reduce the company's future current tax charge accordingly

## Notes to the Financial Statements

## Year ended 31 December 2013

6.

7.

Investments				
			u	Subsidiary ndertakings
				£000
Cost At 1 January 2013 and 31 December 2013				80,143
Amounts written off At 1 January 2013 and 31 December 2013				80,143
Net book value At 31 December 2013 and 31 December 2	2012			
The material investment in which the conshare capital, which is unlisted, is as follow		0% of the no	ominal value of	any class o
Name of Company	Country of Incorporation	Holdings	Proportion held	Nature of Business
Direct shareholding ntl CableComms Greater Manchester	UK	Ordinary	99%#	Telecoms
# Unlimited company				
The company is registered in England and	Wales			
Debtors				
			2013	2012
Amounts owed by group undertakings			£000 142,317	£000 97,926
The analysis of amounts owed by group un	dertakıngs ıs			
			2013	2012

Amounts owed by group undertakings are unsecured and repayable on demand

Impairment provision on amounts owed by group undertakings

Other amounts owed by group undertakings

£000

178,344

(80,418)

97,926

£000

178,344

(36,027)

142,317

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

#### Year ended 31 December 2013

Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year		
	2013 £000	2012 £000
Amounts owed to group undertakings	7	7
The analysis of amounts owed to group undertakings is		
	2013 £000	2012 £000
Other amounts owed to group undertakings	7	7
Amounts owed to group undertakings are unsecured and repayable on demand		
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year		
	2013	2012
2 Preference shares of £1 each	£000 -	£000
Preference share dividend payable to group undertakings	19,705	18,680
	19,705	18,680
	Amounts owed to group undertakings  The analysis of amounts owed to group undertakings is  Other amounts owed to group undertakings  Amounts owed to group undertakings are unsecured and repayable on demand  Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year  2 Preference shares of £1 each	Amounts owed to group undertakings  The analysis of amounts owed to group undertakings is  2013 £000  Other amounts owed to group undertakings  Amounts owed to group undertakings  7  Amounts owed to group undertakings are unsecured and repayable on demand  Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year  2013 £000  2 Preference shares of £1 each Preference share dividend payable to group undertakings  19,705

Details of the preference shares which are held by group undertakings, are set out in note 12

## 10. Contingent liabilities

Fellow group undertakings are party to a senior secured credit facility with a syndicate of banks. As at 31 December 2013, this comprised term facilities that amounted to £2,638 million (2012 - £750 million) and a revolving credit facility of £660 million (2012 - £450 million). With the exception of the revolving credit facility, all available amounts were borrowed under the senior secured credit facility with an equivalent aggregate value of £2,638 million (2012 - £750 million). Borrowings under the facilities are secured against the assets of certain members of the group

In addition, a fellow group undertaking has issued senior secured notes which, subject to certain exceptions, share the same guarantees and security which have been granted in favour of the senior secured credit facility. The amount outstanding under the senior secured notes at 31 December 2013 amounted to £4,081 million (2012 - £2,582 million). Borrowings under the notes are secured against the assets of certain members of the group

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

#### Year ended 31 December 2013

#### 10. Contingent liabilities (continued)

During March 2014, a fellow group undertaking of the company, issued (i) \$425 million principal amount of 55% senior secured notes due 15 January 2025 (ii) £430 million principal amount of 55% senior secured notes due 15 January 2025 and (iii) £225 million principal amount of 625% senior secured notes due 28 March 2029 The net proceeds of the issuance of these senior secured notes were used to redeem an equivalent aggregate amount of £875 million of the group's existing senior secured notes

In April 2014, a fellow group undertaking issued a further £175 million principal amount of 6 25% senior secured notes due 28 March 2029 In addition, fellow group undertakings entered into (i) a new £100 million term loan ("Facility D") that matures on 30 June 2022 and (ii) a new £849 4 million term loan ("Facility E") that matures on 30 June 2023, each under the existing senior secured credit facility, and for which all available amounts were borrowed with an equivalent aggregate value of £949 4 million

On 22 May 2014, the net proceeds from the issuance of the £175 million senior secured notes, along with borrowings under Facility D and Facility E, were used to fully redeem an equivalent aggregate amount of £592 7 million and £600 million of the group's existing senior secured notes and senior secured credit facility respectively

Following the refinancing activities detailed above, the amounts borrowed under the senior secured credit facility amounted to £1,324 4 million and \$2,755 0 million and the amounts borrowed under the senior secured notes amounted to £2,558 4 million and \$1,872 9 million

The company has joint and several liabilities under a group VAT registration

#### 11. Related party transactions

In accordance with the exemptions offered by FRS 8 "Related Party disclosures" there is no disclosure in these financial statements of transactions with entities that are part of Liberty Global plc, and its subsidiaries (see note 14)

## 12. Share capital

Allotted, called up and fully paid:

	2013		2012	
	No	£000	No	£000
Ordinary 'A' shares of £1 each	258,487,912	258,488	258,487,912	258,488

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

#### Year ended 31 December 2013

### 12. Share capital (continued)

The preference shares which are held by group undertakings are classified as a liability under FRS 25 and shown in note 9

### Shareholders' voting rights

In the opinion of the directors, the primary rights attached to the various classes of shares are as follows

#### £1 preference shares

The right to attend and speak, but not vote at all general meetings of the company

#### £1 'A' ordinary shares

The right to attend, speak and vote at all general meetings of the company

#### Distributable profits

Distributable profits are allocated on the following basis

#### Preference shareholders

The company's Articles of Association provide for a fixed cumulative dividend at the rate of £1,025,000 per annum. This dividend will accrue on a daily basis from 11 October 1994 until 11 October 2014. After payment of the preference dividend, the preference shareholder is entitled to 15% of the remaining distributable profits on winding up.

#### Ordinary shareholders

After payment of the preference dividend, all ordinary shareholders are entitled to 85% of the remaining distributable profits on winding up

#### Dividends

The preference dividend of £1,025,000 due to the non-equity shareholder for each of the years ended 31 December 2012 and 2013 has been treated as an expense in the Profit and Loss Account in accordance with FRS 25 'Financial Instruments' Disclosure and Presentation'

## 13. Reconciliation of shareholders' funds and movement on reserves

		Profit and loss	l'otal share-
	Share capital	account	holders' funds
	£000	£000	£000
At 1 January 2012	258,488	(177,697)	80,791
Loss for the year	_	(1,552)	(1,552)
At 31 December 2012 and 1 January 2013	258,488	(179,249)	79,239
Profit for the year	_	43,366	43,366
At 31 December 2013	258,488	(135,883)	122,605

## Notes to the Financial Statements

## Year ended 31 December 2013

## 14. Parent undertaking and controlling party

The company's immediate parent undertaking is ntl CableComms Holdings No 1 Limited

The smallest and largest groups of which the company is a member and in to which the company's accounts were consolidated at 31 December 2013 are Virgin Media Finance PLC and Liberty Global plc, respectively

On 7 June 2013 Liberty Global, Inc. and Virgin Media Inc. completed a series of mergers, which resulted in the company's ultimate parent and controlling party changing to Liberty Global plc.

The company's ultimate parent undertaking and controlling party at 31 December 2013 was Liberty Global plc

Copies of group accounts referred to above which include the results of the company are available from the company secretary, Virgin Media, Bartley Wood Business Park, Hook, Hampshire, RG27 9UP

In addition copies of the consolidated Liberty Global plc accounts are available on Liberty Global's website at www libertyglobal com

