LAWSHARE LIMITED REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended

31 October 2004

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OFFICERS AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

OFFICERS H C Iversen

J G Dumeresque K H O'Sullivan J N Stapleton R R Trew

SECRETARY J G Dumeresque

REGISTERED OFFICE 1 Meadow Road

Tunbridge Wells

Kent TN1 2YG

BANKERS HSBC Plc

Bristol & West Plc

Brown Brothers Harriman

SOLICITORS Shadbolt & Co

Chatham Court Lesbourne Road

Reigate Surrey RH2 7LD

AUDITORS Nexia Audit Limited

Chartered Accountants
No 1 Riding House Street

London

W1A 3AS

TAX & BUSINESS ADVISORS Smith & Williamson Limited

Chartered Accountants No 1 Riding House Street

London W1A 3AS

COMPANY'S REGISTERED NUMBER 2723420

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors take pleasure in submitting their annual report and the audited financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 October 2004.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY

The principal activity of the company is to act as a wholesale provider of securities research, dealing settlement and custody services to professional intermediaries.

REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS AND FUTURE PROSPECTS

The current year saw a further widening of the firm's client base and a continuing growth of business from existing clients partly through the continued rollout of the unit trust, dealing settlement and custody service. It is anticipated that Lawshare's client base and services to clients will continue to expand.

DIVIDENDS AND TRANSFERS FROM RESERVES

Dividends of £nil were paid during the year (2003: £77,113). Retained profits of £214 were transferred to reserves (2003: £132,582 transferred from reserves). During the year the company paid a dividend in specie of 1,000,000 ordinary shares in the London Stock Exchange.

DIRECTORS

The directors who served during the year were as follows:

H C Iversen	(Chairman – appointed 30 June 2004)	D A B Lough	(resigned 31 March 2004)
J G Dumeresque	(appointed 1 October 2004)	K H O'Sullivan	
W A Finlayson	(resigned 31 March 2004)	J N Stapleton	
B A Greayer	(retired 31 March 2004)	R R Trew	
N A Hale	(resigned 30 September 2004)		

D S Black resigned as Company Secretary on 8 October 2004 and J G Dumeresque was appointed in his place.

At the year end none of the directors had an interest in the shares of the company. Their interests in the shares of the holding company, Lawshare Holdings Limited, are disclosed in the financial statements of that company.

AUDITORS

At the last AGM Deloitte & Touch LLP were not reappointed as auditors of the company and Nexia Audit Limited have been appointed in their place. Nexia Audit Limited have expressed their willingness to continue in office as auditors and a resolution to reappoint them will be presented at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

J G Dumeresque

Secretary

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable 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 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.

Nexia Audit

 $\cdot \cdot$ Limited $\cdot -$

Independent auditors' report to the shareholders of Lawshare Limited

We have audited the financial statements of Lawshare Limited for the year ended 31 October 2004 which comprise the Profit and Loss Account, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement, and the related notes 1 to 24. These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out therein.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 235 of the Companies Act 1985. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards,

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and United Kingdom Auditing Standards.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Directors' Report is not consistent with the financial statements, if the company has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if the information specified by law regarding directors' remuneration and transactions with the company is not disclosed.

We read the Directors' Report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it.

Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with United Kingdom 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 give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 October 2004 and of its profit for the year and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985,

Nexia Audit Limited
Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditors

Nexia Avdit Limited
Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditors

21 January 2005

1 Riding House Street London W1A 3AS

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 October 2004

	Notes	2004 £	2003 £
TURNOVER	1,2	2,491,305	2,450,685
Administrative expenses		(2,497,395)	(2,548,428)
OPERATING LOSS	7	(6,090)	(97,743)
Interest receivable and similar income	3	29,169	14,957
Interest payable	4	(22,151)	-
PROFIT/(LOSS) ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION		928	(82,786)
Tax on profit/(loss) on ordinary activities	8	(714)	27,317
PROFIT/(LOSS) ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER TAXATION		214	(55,469)
Dividends paid	9	-	(77,113)
RETAINED PROFIT/(LOSS) FOR THE PERIOD TRANSFERRED TO/(FROM) RESERVES	10	214	(132,582)

All activities derive from continuing operations

There were no recognised gains or losses for the current or preceding financial year other than as disclosed in the profit and loss account. Accordingly no statement of total recognised gains and losses is given.

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 October 2004

	Notes	2004 £	2003 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets Investments	11 12	180,034	263,429 121,503
		180,036	384,932
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	13 14	7,520,951 1,265,652	8,622,083 299,236
		8,786,603	8,921,319
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	15	(7,958,327)	(8,623,153)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		828,276	298,166
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,008,312	683,098
CREDITORS: amounts falling due in more than one year	16	(325,000)	-
NET ASSETS		683,312	683,098
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Called up share capital Share premium account Capital redemption reserve Profit and loss account	17 10 10 10	174,558 294,761 10,100 203,893	174,558 294,761 10,100 203,679
SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS		683,312	683,098

H C Iversen

Director

CASH FLOW STATEMENT for the year ended 31 October 2004

	Note	2004 £	2003 £
NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	18	659,930	(368,458)
RETURNS ON INVESTMENT			
Interest received		29,169	14,957
NET CASH INFLOW FROM RETURNS ON INVESTMENT	-	29,169	14,957
TAXATION	•		
UK corporation tax received/(paid)		17,643	(55,097)
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL INVESTMENT	-		
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets Disposal of shares held by Lawshare Employees' Trust		(65,326)	(147, 811) 17,657
NET CASH OUTFLOW FROM CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL INVESTMENT		(65,326)	(130,154)
EQUITY DIVIDENDS PAID		-	(77,113)
NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) BEFORE FINANCING		641,416	(615,865)
FINANCING			
Subordinated loan		325,000	-
NET CASH INFLOW FROM FINANCING	-	325,000	-
INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH IN THE YEAR	19	966,416	(615,865)

RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS For the year ended 31 October 2004

	2004 £	2003 £
Profit/(loss) for the financial year	214	(55,469)
Dividends	-	(77,113)
Net addition/(reduction) to shareholders' funds	214	(132,582)
Opening shareholders' funds	683,098	815,680
Closing shareholders' funds	683,312	683,098

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 October 2004

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and accounting standards. The particular accounting policies adopted by the directors are described below.

Accounting

These financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

Turnover

Turnover represents:

- · commission income from buying and selling securities on behalf of clients
- custody fees
- unit trust fees
- · overseas contract charges

Trade date accounting

Turnover is arrived at under the principles of trade date accounting for Stock Exchange transactions.

Fixed assets

For all tangible fixed assets depreciation is calculated to write down their cost to the estimated residual values by equal annual instalments over the period of their estimated useful economic lives, which are considered to be:

Fixtures and equipment - four years
Computer software - four years
Computer equipment - three years

Balances with clients and counterparties

In accordance with market practice certain balances with clients and market counterparties, Stock Exchange member firms and settlement offices are included in debtors and creditors gross for their unsettled bought and sold transactions respectively.

Operating leases

Amounts due under operating leases are charged to the profit and loss account in equal annual amounts over the lease term.

Foreign exchange

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates ruling at the dates of the transactions. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are translated at the rates ruling at that date. These translation differences are dealt with in the profit and loss account.

Deferred taxation

Deferred taxation is provided in full on timing differences that result in an obligation at the balance sheet date to pay more tax, or a right to pay less tax, at a future date, at rates expected to apply when they crystallise based on current tax rates and law. Timing differences arise from the inclusion of items of income and expenditure in taxation computations in periods different from those in which they are included in financial statements. Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is regarded as more likely than not that they be recovered. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are not discounted.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 October 2004

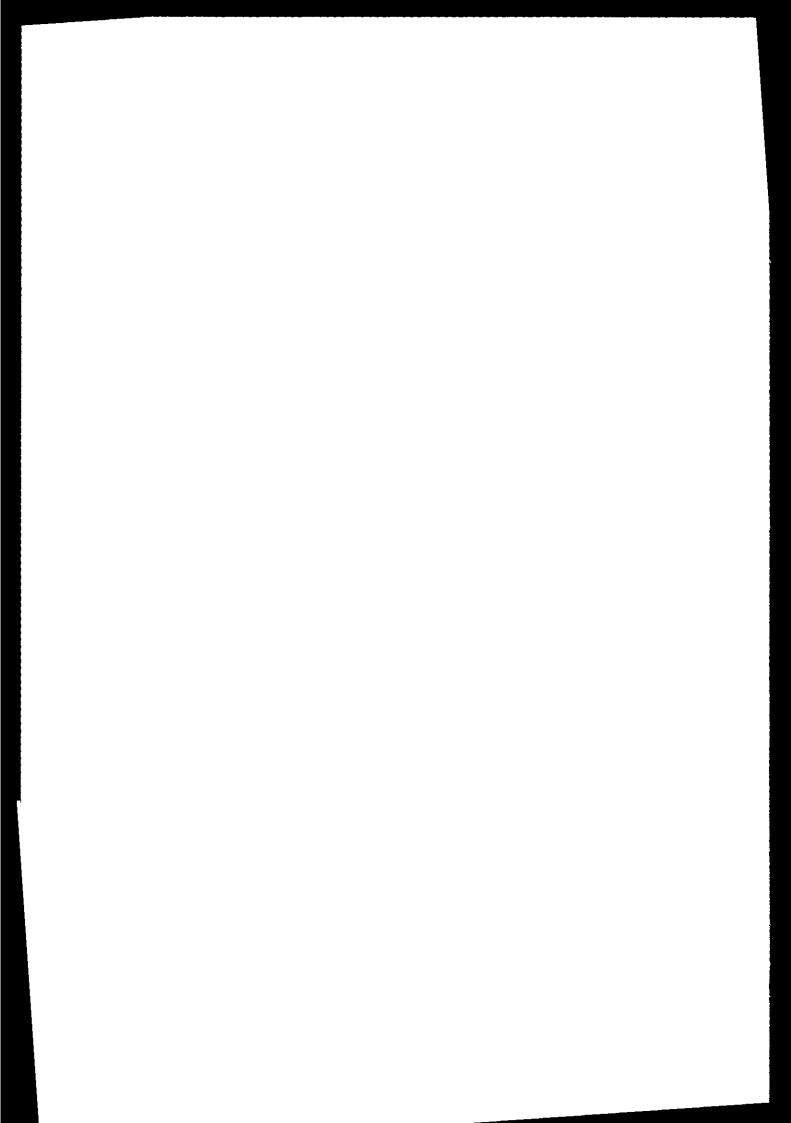
1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Pension costs

Contributions to defined contribution schemes are charged to the profit and loss account as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

2. TURNOVER

		2004 £	2003 £
	Commissions arising in the UK Custody fees, unit trust fees and overseas contract charges	1,425,225 1,066,080	1,370,150 1,080,535
		2,491,305	2,450,685
3.	INTEREST RECEIVABLE AND SIMILAR INCOME		
		£	£
	Bank deposit income Interest on corporation tax	28,591 578	14,957
		29,169	14,957
4.	INTEREST PAYABLE		
		£	£
	Interest payable to parent company	22,151	



6.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 October 2004

5. STAFF NUMERS AND COSTS

	2004 No.	2903 No
The average number of persons employed by the company during the financial year was:		
Dealing	4	5
Administration		30
	30	35
Staff costs incurred during the year in respect of these	employees were:	
	2004 £	2003 £
Wages and salaries	1,024,493	1,215,926
Social security costs	110,609 44,554	131,574 44,572
Other pension costs	44,334	44,372
	1,179,656	1,392,072
DIRECTORS' EMOLUMENTS		
	£	£
Emoluments	333,543	356,696
Contributions to pension scheme	26,625	25,908
	360,168	382,604
Remuneration of highest paid director:		
Emoluments	72,145	111,486
Contributions to pension scheme	5,325	7,163
	77,470	118,649

Retirement benefits are accruing for 3 (2003: 3) directors under the company's defined contribution pension scheme.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 October 2004

7. OPERATING LOSS

/.	OPERATING LOSS	2004	2003
		£	£
	Operating loss is stated after charging:		
	Depreciation	148,721	156,220
	Auditors' remuneration - audit	15,000	18,802
	- other	4,500	8,250
	Rentals under operating leases	42,596	42,596
8.	TAX ON PROFIT/(LOSS) ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES		
	2-2-0, (2-0) (2-0)	2004	2003
		£	£
	Corporation tax payable based on the profit/(loss) for the year at 19% (2003: 20%)	12,696	(16,267)
	Adjustments to prior years	(1,376)	-
	Total current tax charge	11,320	(16,267)
	Deferred tax charge for the year	(10,606)	(7,568)
	Adjustment to deferred tax in respect of prior year	-	(3,482)
	Tax on profit on ordinary activities	714	(27,317)
			

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 October 2004

8. TAX ON PROFIT/(LOSS) ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES (continued)

	Tax reconciliation	2004 £	2003 £
	Profit/(loss) on ordinary activities before tax	928	(82,786)
	Profit/(loss) on ordinary activities multiplied by standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19% (2003: 20%)	176	(16,557)
	Tax effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Marginal relief Depreciation in excess of capital allowances UK dividend income Adjustment in respect of prior years	1,884 - 10,636 - (1,376)	2,607 (1,285) 7,568 (8,600)
	Total current tax charge	11,320	(16,267)
9.	DIVIDENDS PAID	2004 £	2003 £
	Per 'A' ordinary share Interim paid nil (2003 – 30.66p) Per 'A' non-voting ordinary share	-	29,433
	Interim paid nil (2003 – 30.66p) Per Founders share	-	11,967
	Interim paid nil (2003 - £178.565)	-	35,713
		-	77,113
			· ····································

On 3 November 2003, the company paid a dividend in specie of 900,000 London Stock Exchange shares. A further dividend in specie was made on 20 November 2003 made up of an additional 100,000 London Stock Exchange shares.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 October 2004

10. STATEMENT OF MOVEMENTS ON RESERVES

Share premium account	Capital redemption reserve	Profit and loss account
£	£	£
294,761	10,100	203,679 214
294,761	10,100	203,893
	Firturas	
Computer equipment f	and equipment	Total £
~	~	~
1,046,276 62,699	144,467 2,627	1,190,743 65,326
1,108,975	147,094	1,256,069
795,992	131,322	927,314
137,852	10,869	148,721
933,844	142,191	1,076,035
175,131	4,903	180,034
250,284	13,145	263,429
	premium account £ 294,761 294,761 Computer equipment £ 1,046,276 62,699 1,108,975 795,992 137,852 933,844 175,131	redemption reserve £ 294,761 10,100 294,761 10,100 Computer equipment £ 1,046,276 62,699 2,627 1,108,975 147,094 795,992 131,322 137,852 10,869 933,844 142,191 175,131 4,903

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 October 2004

12. INVESTMENTS HELD AS FIXED ASSETS

	2004 £	2003 £
Investment in subsidiary undertakings Investment in Lawshare Holdings Limited shares	2 -	2 121,501
	2	121,503

The above investment in subsidiary undertaking represents £1 in Lawshare Nominees Limited and £1 in Lawshare Employees Trustees Limited, both unlisted companies registered in Great Britain. Consolidated financial statements have not been produced on the grounds of immateriality. Lawshare Nominees Limited has not traded and has net assets equal to the cost of investment.

The investment in Lawshare Holdings Limited represented a loan to an employee benefit trust. This loan was assigned in the year to Lawshare Holdings Limited and the balance transferred to debtors.

13. DEBTORS

	2004 £	2003 £
Trade debtors	7,007,750	8,233,583
Amounts owed by parent company	124,589	~
Corporation tax recoverable	· -	16,267
Deferred tax asset	11,210	604
Other debtors	136,820	164,664
Accrued income	71,275	44,085
Prepayments	169,307	162,880
	7,520,951	8,622,083

14. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

Cash at bank includes £727,773 (2003: £60,969) received in the course of settlement of bargains. This amount is held by the company in trust, on behalf of clients and is only available to complete the settlement of outstanding bargains.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 October 2004

15. CREDITORS – AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2004 £	2003 £
Trade creditors	6,889,507	8,139,720
Amounts due to client in respect of cash balances	727,773	60,969
Amounts due to subsidiary undertaking Taxation and social security	45,303	51,935
Corporation tax	12,696	-
Accruals	283,046	370,527
	7,958,327	8,623,153

16. CREDITORS – AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER ONE YEAR

	2004 £	2003 £
Subordinated loan	325,000	-

The subordinated loan was made by Lawshare Holdings Limited on 20 November 2003. The loan is not repayable before 20 November 2005. Interest is payable quarterly in arrears on the balance outstanding at a rate of 3% over the London Inter Bank Offer Rate (LIBOR).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 October 2004

17. CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL

	2004 £	2003 £
Authorised 332,600 'A' ordinary shares of £1 each 142,500 'A' non voting' ordinary shares of £1 each	332,600 142,500	332,600 142,500
	475,100	475,100
4 N - 44 - 3 3 Gyllyr 2 J	2004 £	2003 £
Allotted and fully paid 126,000 'A' ordinary shares of £1 each 48,558 'A' non voting ordinary shares of £1 each	126,000 48,558	126,000 48,558
	174,558	174,558

The 'A' ordinary shares and the 'A' Non Voting shares rank pari passu in all respects except that the 'A' Non Voting shares cannot attend or vote at general meetings of the company. No class of share entitles the holder to preference dividends.

18. RECONCILLIATION OF OPERATING LOSS TO NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2004 £	2003 £
Operating loss	(6,090)	(97,743)
Depreciation charges	148,721	156,220
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	1,216,972	(931,230)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(699,673)	504,295
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	659,930	(368,458)
		×

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 October 2004

19. RECONCILIATION OF NET CASH FLOW TO MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS

	2004 £	2003 £
Increase/(decrease) in cash in the year Increase/(decrease) in client cash balances in the year Cash (inflow) from increase in debt	299,612 666,804 (325,000)	(27,685) (588,180) -
Change in net funds resulting from cash flows	641,416	(615,865)
Net funds at 1 November	299,236	915,101
Net funds at 31 October	940,652	299,236

20. ANALYSIS OF NET FUNDS

	At 1 November 2003 £	Cash flow £	At 31 October 2004 £
Cash in hand and at bank	238,267	299,612	537,879
Client balances	60,969	666,804	727,773
Debt greater than one year	299,236	966,416	1,265,652
	-	(325,000)	(325,000)
	299,236	641,416	940,652

21. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The company has contingent liabilities, which cannot be quantified, in respect of letters of indemnity (principally in respect of lost share certificates) given in the ordinary course of business.

22. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At 31 October 2004 the company was committed to making the following payments during the next year in respect of operating leases which expire:

	Land and buildings 2004 £	Other 2004 £
Within two to five years	40,000	3,000

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 October 2004

23. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year, the company transacted business on an arm's length basis with the following companies of which certain shareholders of the holding company have an influence. The amounts involved are as follows:

2004	Turnover £	Debtors £	Creditors £
Cripps Portfolio Limited	205,952	511,812	206,133
Murray Beith Murray WS Thesis Asset Management plc	106,752 194,095	206,222 251,586	265,908 172,829
Total	506,799	969,620	644,870
2003	Turnover £	Debtors £	Creditors £
Cripps Portfolio Limited	259,745	-	-
Murray Beith Murray WS	108,385	325,447	280,412
Thesis Asset Management plc	227,424	229,531	618,473
Total	595,554	554,978	898,885

The relationship is as follows; David Lough is a shareholder of Lawshare Holdings and a shareholder and Managing Director of Cripps Portfolio Limited. Thomas Eggar Church Adams is a shareholder of Lawshare Holdings and a shareholder of Thesis Asset Management plc and Murray Beith Murray is a shareholder of Lawshare Holdings.

24. ULTIMATE HOLDING COMPANY

Lawshare Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of Lawshare Holdings Limited, a company incorporated in Great Britain. Lawshare Holdings Limited is the parent of the largest and smallest group for which group financial statements are drawn up and of which Lawshare Limited is a member.