# SLC POOLED PENSIONS LIMITED REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 31ST DECEMBER 1998

Registered number: 2822434



#### **DIRECTORS**

P.SHARMAN (Chairman & Managing Director)

I.R.FISHWICK

#### **OFFICERS**

B.J.BLACKBURN Compliance Officer

S.T.HILL Appointed Actuary

M.C.CRONIN Secretary and Legal Advisor

J.L.McKEVITT Controller

#### **SLC Pooled Pensions Limited**

Registered in England with number 2822434
Registered Office
Basing View, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG21 4DZ

A member of the Sun Life of Canada Group of Companies

#### REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

The Directors have pleasure in presenting their report and the audited financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31st December, 1998.

#### **ACTIVITIES**

The principal activity of the Company is the marketing of corporate pensions business in the UK. It has also continued to accept by way of reinsurance the unit linked liabilities relating to group pensions administered and individual pensions business written by Confederation Life Insurance Company (UK) Limited.

#### RESULTS AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The company produced a pre-tax loss of £1.9m against a profit of £1.0m in 1997. The main reason for this was a write off of £3.9m relating to the correction of fund pricing errors. Funds under management at the end of the year were £2.7 billion, representing growth of 8 percent from the figure of £2.5 billion at the end of 1997. Fund performance has improved and we are optimistic that the improvement will continue into 1999 when we expect to begin to acquire new clients.

Looking to the future, the Directors are to continue with their strategy of meeting the needs of the existing client base whilst at the same time competing for new business wherever possible.

#### DIRECTORS

The membership of the Board at 31st December, 1998 is set out on page 1. Messrs. P.Sharman and I.R.Fishwick held office throughout the year.

Resignations from the Board were accepted during the year from Ms. M.E. Woods on 8th July, 1998 and Mr. H.A. Heath on 20th November, 1998.

Mr. C.C.A. Coote resigned as Appointed Actuary on 1st June, 1998 and Mr. S.T.Hill was appointed on 1st June, 1998.

None of the Directors at any time had any notifiable interest in the shares of the Company or any Group Company.

#### SHARE CAPITAL

There were no changes in the Company's share capital during the year.

#### DIVIDENDS

The Directors recommend that no dividend shall be paid in respect of the year (1997 - NIL).

#### **REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS** (continued)

#### **PAYMENTS TO CREDITORS**

It is the Group's normal practice to make payments to suppliers in accordance with agreed terms provided that the supplier has performed in accordance with the relevant terms and conditions. Management and administrative services are supplied by a group company. There are no external suppliers.

#### **YEAR 2000**

All systems and equipment, irrespective of age, will be tested to provide confirmation of year 2000 compliance. Project teams have been set up to concentrate on the needs of various aspects of our operation. The Company will take steps to minimise any exposure to year 2000 problems.

The directors are satisfied that the actions under way are appropriate to ensure that the Year 2000 issue will not materially affect the Company's operations. The financial costs of this compliance project are not significant to the Company.

#### **AUDITORS**

Pursuant to the elective resolution passed on 24th April, 1996, the auditors, Deloitte & Touche will continue in office.

Approved by the Board of Directors and signed on behalf of the Board.

M.C.CRONIN Secretary

25th March, 1999

M. c. Cronz

#### STATEMENTS OF 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 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 accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business.

The Directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

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.

Approved by the Board of Directors and signed on behalf of the Board.

M.C. CRONIN Secretary

25th March, 1999

# REPORT TO THE AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF SLC POOLED PENSIONS LIMITED

We have audited the accounts on pages 6 to 18 which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 10 and 11.

#### RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTORS AND AUDITORS

As described on page 4 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 give a true and fair view of the Company's affairs as at 31st December, 1998 and of its loss for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors Columbia Centre, Market Street Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1PA

Ilaite & Tade

25th March, 1999

# PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT For the year ended 31st December, 1998

TECHNICAL ACCOU	INT LONG TERM BUSINESS	Notes	1998 £000	1997 £000
EARNED PREMIUMS	5 - CONTINUING OPERATIONS			
Gross premiums written Reinsurance premiums (UK) Ltd	- Confederation Life Insurance Company	1 2	124,116 195,729	75,024 50,486
Earned premiums include	ding reinsurance		319,845	125,510
Investment income		3	277,179	326,922
Unrealised gains on inve	stments	3	135,566	165,617
TOTAL TECHNICAL	INCOME		732,590	618,049
CLAIMS INCURRED		4		
Claims paid:	direct Reinsurance		176,291 202,488	884,832 100,297
	including reinsurance		378,779	985,129
	TECHNICAL PROVISIONS			
Long term business prov Technical provision for l	ision inked business, including reinsurance		365 324,753	826 (393,263)
•	, 3			<del></del>
			325,118	(392,437)
OTHER CHARGES				
Net operating expenses		5	8,314	4,596
Investment expenses and	_	3	16,106	14,324
Tax attributable to the los	ng term business	7	5,515	5,805
			29,935	24,725
TOTAL TECHNICAL	CHARGES		733,832	617,417
BALANCE ON THE TERM BUSINESS	TECHNICAL ACCOUNT - LONG		(1,242)	632
I EKM BUSINESS				<u> </u>

All amounts are derived from continuing activities

# PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT For the year ended 31st December, 1998

	Notes	1998 £000	1997 £000
NON TECHNICAL ACCOUNT			
BALANCE ON THE LONG TERM TECHNICAL ACCOUNT		(1,242)	632
Tax attributable to the balance on the long term business technical account		(820)	291
SHAREHOLDERS' (LOSS) / PROFIT FROM LONG TERM BUSINESS		(2,062)	923
Investment income Administrative expenses	3	151 (2)	99 (4)
(LOSS) / PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION		(1,913)	1,018
Tax on (loss) / profit on ordinary activities	7	(773)	319
(LOSS) / PROFIT FOR FINANCIAL YEAR		(1,140)	699
Dividends	8	-	-
RETAINED PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		(1,140)	699

There were no recognised gains or losses during 1998 and 1997 other than the above.

The inclusion of unrealised gains and losses in the profit and loss account in accordance with the Companies Act 1985 as applicable to insurance companies is not considered to be a departure from the historical cost basis of accounting. Accordingly a separate note of historical cost profits and losses has not been prepared.

All amounts are derived from continuing activities.

BALANCE SHEET As at 31st December, 1998

	Notes	1998 £000	1997 £000
ASSETS		2000	2000
INVESTMENTS Other financial investments	9	3,005	2,406
ASSETS HELD TO COVER LINKED LIABILITIES	10	2,816,881	2,492,128
<b>DEBTORS</b> Debtors arising out of direct insurance operations – policyholders	11	1	8,964
OTHER ASSETS Cash at bank and in hand		16,746	13,903
PREPAYMENTS AND ACCRUED INCOME Accrued interest and rent		63	27
TOTAL ASSETS		2,836,696	2,517,428

Of the total assets £2,834 million (1997 - £2,515 million) is attributable to thelong term business fund.

# BALANCE SHEET As at 31st December, 1998

	Notes	1998 £000	1997 £000
LIABILITIES			
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Called up share capital	12	1,000	1,000
Non-distributable reserve	13	661	1,903
Profit and loss account	13	2,821	1,719
Total shareholders' funds attributable to equity shareholders		4,482	4,622
TECHNICAL PROVISIONS			
Long term business provision	14	3,075	2,710
TECHNICAL PROVISIONS FOR LINKED LIABILITIES	10	2,816,881	2,492,128
CREDITORS:AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR			
Creditors arising out of direct insurance operations	15	8,750	17,737
Other creditors including taxation and social security	15	3,508	231
		12,258	17,968
TOTAL LIABILITIES		2,836,696	2,517,428

Approved by the Board of Directors on 25th March, 1999.

P. SHARMAN

Chairman and Managing Director

#### **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out below. They have been prepared in compliance with the provisions of section 255 of, and schedule 9A to, the Companies Act 1985, relating to insurance companies. In implementing these requirements the Company has adopted a modified statutory solvency basis for determining technical provisions.

The financial statements comply with applicable accounting standards and the Company has followed the Statement of Recommended Practice (Accounting for Insurance Business) issued by the Association of British Insurers.

#### SEGMENTAL REPORTING

In the opinion of the Directors the Company has one business segment for the purpose of statement of Standard Accounting Practice No. 25, being the transaction of pensions business which is wholly conducted within the United Kingdom.

#### FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated to sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the year end. Transactions taking place during the year are translated at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction.

#### INVESTMENTS

All investments are shown at market value other than short term money market investments which are shown at cost.

Land and buildings held for investment purposes are independently valued at open market value by St Quintin, Weatherall Green & Smith and Gooch & Wagstaff, all Chartered Surveyors. The last such valuations were conducted in December, 1998.

Although the Companies Act would normally require the systematic annual depreciation of land and buildings held as investment properties, the Directors consider to do so would not give a true and fair view and accordingly the provisions of SSAP 19 have been adopted.

The increase or decrease in the value of investments reflects net realised and unrealised gains or losses over market values at the start of the year or subsequent cost. Realised gains and losses reflect the difference between net sales proceeds and cost and an adjustment is made to unrealised gains and losses for the difference between cost and market value at the start of the year for those investments sold in the year.

#### INVESTMENT INCOME

Dividends and interest received from investments other than equity investments are credited to revenue on an accruals basis. On purchase or disposal of investments, adjustments are made in order that interest is taken to revenue for the period that the investment is held.

#### **ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

#### **INVESTMENT INCOME** (continued)

Dividends arising on equity investments are brought into account on the ex-dividend date.

Rents earned on properties held for investment are credited to revenue on an accruals basis.

Policyholder fund investment income, expenses and unrealised gains/losses are dealt with through the technical account. Shareholder fund investment income, expenses and unrealised gains/losses are dealt with through the non-technical account.

#### **PREMIUMS**

Premium income is credited to revenue when it becomes due to the Company.

#### **CLAIMS**

Claims are recognised when the policy or contract to which they relate ceases to participate in the investment linked funds of the Company.

#### **TAXATION**

Deferred taxation is provided at the appropriate rate on differences arising from the inclusion of income and expenditure in taxation computations in periods different from those in which they are included in the financial statements, only where the tax liability or asset is expected to crystallise in the foreseeable future.

The balance on the long term technical account has been grossed up to the full rate of corporation tax for the accounting period in order to arrive at the shareholders' profit from the long term business.

#### LONG TERM BUSINESS PROVISION

The long term business provision is determined by the Appointed Actuary following his annual investigation of the long term business. The provision represents the amounts credited to the pension deposit accounts of the policyholders of the Company.

#### TECHNICAL PROVISIONS FOR LINKED LIABILITIES

Technical provisions for linked liabilities represent the value of the underlying net assets which are held to meet those liabilities.

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS For the year ending 31st December, 1998

#### 1. PREMIUM ANALYSIS

#### Gross premiums written

All premiums are received from pension contracts written in the UK in respect of continuing operations.

	Gross	Reinsur ance	Total	Gross	Reinsur ance	Total
	1998 £000	1998 £000	1998 £000	1997 £000	1997 £000	1997 £000
Pension Business						
Non-participating Single premium	101	-	101	1,028	-	1,028
Linked Single premium Periodic premium	124,015	- 195,729	124,015 195,729	73,996 -	50,486	73,996 50,486
	124,116	195,729	319,845	75,024	50,486	125,510

#### Gross new annualised periodic premiums

The Group Pensions premiums of the Company are single premium contributions from client pension schemes. These contributions are received on a discretionary basis.

The linked contracts periodic premiums of £195.7 million (1997 - £50.5 million) are all reinsurance premiums from Confederation Life Insurance Company (UK) Limited.

#### 2. REINSURANCE AGREEMENT

Throughout 1998 a reinsurance agreement was in force under normal commercial terms with the immediate parent Company. The agreement provides for 100% of the in force unit linked liabilities of the group administered and individual pensions business of Confederation Life Insurance Company (UK) Limited to be reinsured with the Company.

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

3.	INVESTMENT RETURN		
		1998	1997
		£000	£000
	Technical account:		
	Investment Income:		
	Income from listed investments	117,247	101,470
	Income from unlisted investments	17	3
	Income from land and buildings	8,650	10,028
		125,914	111,501
	Gains on the realisation of investments	151,265	215,421
		277,179	326,922
		(16.10.6)	(14004)
	Investment expenses and charges	(16,106)	(14,324)
	Unrealised gains on investments	135,566	165,617
	Net investment return included in the long term	396,639	478,215
	business technical account		
	Non technical account:		
	Income from short term investments	151	99
	Net investment return included in the non- technical account	151	99
	Total investment return	396,790	478,314
١.	CLAIMS INCURRED		
		1998	1997
		£000	£000
	Payments to policyholders and beneficiaries:		
	Surrender payments	176,291	884,832
	Reinsurance	202,488	100,297
	Total including reinsurance	378,779	985,129

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

5.	NET OPERATING EXPENSES		
		1998 £000	1997 £000
	Acquisition costs	17	6
	Write off - pricing error	3,909	_
	Administrative expenses	4,388	4,590
		8,314	4,596
		1998	1997
	Auditors' remuneration is included as follows:	£000	£000
	For auditing the financial statements	30	29
	For other services	5	5

Operating expenses include the amount charged to the Company by its ultimate Parent Company for the provision of management and administrative services. The Company did not directly employ any staff during the year.

#### 6. DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION

The aggregate amount of emoluments paid to the Directors of the Company was £20,190 (1997 - £50,430). There are 2 directors (1997 - 3) to whom retirement benefits are accruing under the group defined benefit scheme in respect of qualifying services.

#### 7. TAXATION

	1998 £000	1997 £000
Technical account:	2000	2000
Irrecoverable tax credits Corporation tax at 31% (1997 - 29.4%)	6,335 (820)	5,532 273
	5,515	5,805

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

7.	TAXATION (continued)		
		1998 £000	1997 £000
	Non-technical account:	2000	*****
	Tax attributable to the long term business Corporation tax at 31% (1997 - 29.4%)	(820) 47	291 28
		(773)	319
8.	DIVIDENDS		
	No dividends were paid to the immediate Parent Com	ıpany (1997 - £NIL).	
9.	OTHER FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS		
		1998 £000	1997 £000
	Fixed interest securities – listed	3,005	2,406
10.	ASSETS HELD TO COVER LINKED LIABILIT	ries	
		1998 £000	1997 £000
	Investments at cost	1,774,534	1,774,534
	Investments at market value	2,616,282	2,401,455
	Net assets held to cover linked liabilities	2,816,881	2,492,128

Of the total net assets held to cover linked liabilities £1,559 million (1997 - £1,622 million) represented managed funds; these are group pension funds which the Company administers in its own name but on behalf of others.

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# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

				·	
11.	DEBTORS				
	Arising out of direct	insurance ope	rations:		
				1998	1997
				£000	£000
	Amounts owed by lin	nked funds		1	8,964
				1	8,964
12.	SHARE CAPITAL				
		Authorised	Allotted, called up and fully paid	Authorised	Allotted, called up and fully paid
		1998	1998	1997	1997
		£000	£000	£000	£000
	Ordinary shares of £1 each	10,000	1,000	10,000	1,000
13.	MOVEMENTS IN R	ESERVES			
			Profit and Loss Account	Non- distributable Reserve	Total
			000£	£000	£000
	Balance as at 1st Janu		1,719	1,903	3,622
	Retained (loss) for the Capital contribution	e year	(1,140) 1,000	-	(1,140)
	Transfer to / (from) n distributable reserve	on-	1,242	(1,242)	1,000
	Balance as at 31st De	cember, 1998	2,821	661	3,482

The capital contribution was received on 22nd December, 1998 from its intermediate parent company, Sun Life of Canada UK Holdings plc.

# NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

14.	LONG TERM BUSINESS PROVISION		
		1998 £000	1997 £000
	Pension deposit account	3,075	2,710

This represents the amounts credited to the pension deposit accounts of the policyholders of the Company.

# 15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	1998 £000	1997 £000
Arising out of direct insurance operations:		2000
Amount owed to group companies	6,952	3,287
Policy claims outstanding	1,798	14,450
	8,750	17,737
Other:		
Taxes (receivable) / payable	(474)	140
Other creditors	3,982	91
	3,508	231
	12,258	17,968

#### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

#### 16. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption from FRS8, which allows for group transactions not to be disclosed as related party transactions. Consolidated Financial Statements which include the Company are publicly available as indicated in Note 17 to the Accounts.

During the year the long term business funds of the Company have invested in a number of unit trusts administered by Sun Life of Canada Unit Managers Limited, a fellow subsidiary of the Company. As at 31st December, 1998 the long term business funds held units valued at £346.4 million (1997 - £398.6 million).

#### 17. PARENT COMPANIES

The Company's immediate parent company is Confederation Life Insurance Company (UK) Limited. The Parent undertaking of the smallest group of undertakings for which group accounts are prepared in the UK is Confederation UK Holdings plc. Group financial statements can be obtained from the Secretary and Legal Adviser, Confederation UK Holdings plc, Basing View, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG21 4DZ.

The ultimate parent and controlling company is Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada which is incorporated in Canada and is also the Parent undertaking of the largest group of undertakings for which group accounts are prepared. The Group's annual report can be obtained from the Corporate Secretary, Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada, Sun Life Centre, 150 King Street West, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M5H 1J9.