Registered number 02832351

# Northwood Developments Limited

Directors' report and financial statements Year ended 31 December 2007

**COMPANIES HOUSE** 

Northwood Developments Limited Directors' report and financial statements Year ended 31 December 2007

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# **Directors' Report**

#### Directors

G G Timms
J Dhody
D J Leatherbarrow

The directors present their report together with the audited financial statements in respect of the year ended 31 December 2007.

#### **Principal Activity**

The principal activity of the company is the operation of racquet and health and fitness clubs.

Esporta Group Limited, a holding company, and Esporta Health & Fitness Limited, a parent undertaking, may enter into contracts and agreements as agent for the Company and act as paying and receiving agent for the Company. Where this applies, relevant accounting entries are made in the books of the Company.

#### **Business Review**

The profit before taxation for the year was £3.9 million (2006: £36.9 million) as shown in the Profit and Loss Account on page 6. The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend for the year (2006: £ nil).

On 22 February 2007 Bell Leisure Group Limited acquired the company's then ultimate parent undertaking, Esporta Group Limited, through intermediate holding companies Bell Leisure Investments No 1 (UK) Limited and Bell Leisure Investments No 2 (UK) Limited. On 14 August 2007 Martin Ellis, Andrew Hosking and Mark Byers, partners in Grant Thornton UK LLP, were appointed joint administrators of Bell Leisure Investments No 1 (UK) Limited and Bell Leisure Investments No 2 (UK) Limited. The administrators' strategy is to facilitate a financial restructuring of the capital structure of these companies or an appropriate sale. Esporta Group Limited is not in administration.

Despite the administration of these companies, great care has been taken to ensure business continues as usual and to insulate the operating businesses within the Esporta group to ensure minimum impact on the trading entities and to ensure that individual clubs continue to trade as normal. As a result, sufficient funding has been provided to meet all of the Esporta Group's operational commitments and to ensure that capital expenditure for the development and the improvement of clubs continues.

The Directors' report for the company's intermediate parent undertaking at the year end, Esporta Group Limited, contains a fair review of the business of the Esporta Group including the company, and an indication of future developments as required by section 234ZZB of the Companies Act 1985, using key performance indicators and risk analysis.

#### Trading

The company is a member of the group of companies headed by Esporta Group Limited ("the group"). The general economic environment and resultant trading conditions for the group continue to be challenging and are envisaged to remain so for the foreseeable future. While the group's business is not immune from this environment or these conditions, and the group has experienced reduced memberships in certain clubs, a proportion of the group's income is derived from contractual memberships and can be forecast with reasonable confidence over the remaining terms of those contracts. Beyond this, forecasting becomes increasingly uncertain, particularly in the current economic environment. In the short and medium term, a proportion of the cost base can be adjusted to mitigate the impact of any reductions in revenues.

## **Directors' Report** (continued)

#### **Directors**

The directors shown at the head of this report are currently in office. Changes to the directors since 1 January 2007 were as follows:

Name	Appointed	Resigned
N D Gillis	-	13 July 2007
M D Ball	-	13 August 2007
P J Guyer	-	12 September 2007
T P Moore	-	4 April 2007
G G Timms	13 July 2007	-
S P Charlton	4 September 2007	30 November 2008
A J Hall	28 November 2007	30 April 2008
J Dhody	26 March 2008	-
D J Leatherbarrow	19 December 2008	-

There were no other directors during the year.

#### Indemnity

The Articles of Association provide for the company indemnifying all directors subject to the provisions of the Companies Act 1985 (as amended).

#### Auditor

Consequent to the change of control of the Company, KPMG LLP resigned as Auditors on 22 February 2007 and Ernst & Young LLP were appointed as Auditors in their place. Ernst & Young LLP, having confirmed their willingness to act, will continue as Auditor to the Company pursuant to Section 386 (2) of the Companies Act 1985.

#### **Annual General Meeting**

Pursuant to the Elective Resolutions passed on 19 March 2004, the company will not hold an Annual General Meeting unless this is requested by any member.

#### Directors' statement as to disclosure of information to auditors

The directors who were members of the board at the time of approving the directors' report are listed on page 1. Having made enquiries of fellow directors and of the company's auditors, each of these directors confirms that:

- To the best of each director's knowledge and belief, there is no information relevant to the preparation of their report of which the company's auditors are unaware; and
- Each director has taken all the steps a director might reasonably be expected to have taken to be aware
  of relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

# Directors' Report (continued)

On behalf of the Board

J Dhody

Director

Registered Office:

Trinity Court Molly Millars Lane Wokingham Berkshire RG41 2PY

### Statement of directors' responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing 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 United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting standards and applicable law).

The financial statements are required by law to 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 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 United Kingdom 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 that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that its financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

# Independent auditors' report to the members of Northwood Developments Limited

We have audited the financial statements of Northwood Developments Limited for the year ended 31 December 2007, which comprise the Profit and Loss Account, Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses, Balance Sheet, Reconciliation of Shareholders' Funds and the related notes 1 to 17. These financial statements have been prepared under 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 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.

#### Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

The directors' responsibilities for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) are set out in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

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 whether in our opinion the information given in the directors' report is consistent with the financial statements.

In addition we report to you if, in our opinion, 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 information specified by law regarding directors' remuneration and other transactions 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 International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) 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 judgments 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 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, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally
  Accepted Accounting Practice, of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2007 and of
  the profit of the company for the year then ended; and
- the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985;
   and
- the information given in the directors' report is consistent with the financial statements.

#### Emphasis of matter - Going Concern

In forming our opinion on the financial statements, which is not qualified, we have considered the adequacy of the disclosure made in note 1 to the financial statements of circumstances affecting the company's ability to continue as a going concern. These circumstances indicate the existence of material uncertainty over the company's ability to continue as a going concern. The financial statements do not include the adjustments that would result if the company was unable to continue as a going concern.

Ernst & Young LLP Registered auditor

London

29 APRIL 2009

Emst & Tangas

# Profit and loss account

for the year ended 31 December 2007

	Note	2007 £000	2006 £000
Turnover Cost of sales	2	4,846 (3,812)	4,434 (2,733)
Gross Profit		1,034	1,701
Profit on sale of freehold and leasehold properties Profit on sale of trade	3	-	21,297 11,763
Interest receivable and similar income	6	2,868	2,117
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation Tax on profit on ordinary activities	3 7	3,902 96	36,878 2,060
Profit for the financial year	14	3,998	38,938

# Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses

for the year ended 31 December 2007

The company has no recognised gains or losses in either period other than the profit for that year and the results relate wholly to continuing operations.

### **Balance sheet**

at 31 December 2007

	Note		****	2	2007
		£000	2007 £000	£000	£000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		3,359		3,427
Current assets					
Stocks	9	18		21	
Debtors	10	67,381		77,119	
Cash at bank and in hand		42		51	
		67,441		77,191	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(226)		(14,042)	
Net current assets			67,215		63,149
Total assets less current liabilities			70,574		66,576
Net assets			70,574		66,576
Capital and reserves					
Called up share capital	13		1		1
Profit and loss account	14		70,573		66,575
Equity shareholders' funds			70,574		66,576
Equity shareholders funds					

These financial statements were approved by the board of directors on Z2APV 2009 and signed on its behalf by:

J Dhody Director

# Reconciliation of shareholders' funds

for the year ended 31 December 2007

	2007	2006
	£000	£000
Opening shareholders' funds	66,576	27,638
Profit for the financial year	3,998	38,938
Closing shareholders' funds	70,574	66,576

#### **Notes**

(forming part of the financial statements)

#### 1 Accounting policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the financial statements, except as noted below.

#### Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, under the historical cost accounting convention and within the requirements of the Companies Act 1985.

#### Going concern

The directors have prepared these financial statements on a going concern basis.

The company is a member of the group of companies headed by Esporta Group Limited ("the group") and the directors have assessed whether the going concern basis of preparation is appropriate by reference to the position of the group. The directors have reviewed and sensitised the group's financial projections in the light of the general economic environment and current trading conditions discussed in the Business Review - Trading section of the Directors' Report.

These projections reflect the group's most recent trading performance and general market intelligence, along with management's actions to mitigate the impact of projected reductions in income on cash flow and profitability. Based on these projections, the group is expected to be able to operate within the level of its current facility of £12.5 million for at least 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements.

The directors have obtained financial support for the group, including continued provision of the facility referred to above, from the Administrators to the parent companies of Esporta Group Limited, Bell Leisure Investments No 1 (UK) Limited and Bell Leisure Investments No 2 (UK) Limited. The Administrators have confirmed in writing that it is their current intention to continue to provide this facility until such time as the Administrators vacate office or the group is subject to sale or other ownership transfer. This facility has, in turn, been provided to the Administrators by the parent companies' bankers, who are also their principal creditor, and who have confirmed in writing their current intention to continue to provide this facility. In the absence of a firmer commitment from the Administrators and from the parent companies' bankers, there remains a material uncertainty over the continued provision of this facility which may cast significant doubt over the group's ability to continue as a going concern. Having consulted with the Administrators and the parent companies' bankers, the directors strongly believe that provision of this facility will continue and have therefore prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis. Should the going concern basis not be appropriate, significant changes may be required to the financial statements.

#### Cash flow statement

The company is exempt from the requirement of FRS 1 to prepare a cash flow statement as it is a wholly owned subsidiary undertaking of Esporta Group Limited, and is included within the publicly available consolidated financial statements of that company.

#### Related party transactions

The directors have taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 8, paragraph 3(c) and have not disclosed related party transactions with parent and fellow subsidiary undertakings.

#### Cost of sales

Cost of sales includes all costs directly related to sales and all costs controlled by club management. Costs include club payroll and related costs, sports professional fees, depreciation, and property and utilities costs.

#### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

#### Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Such costs include costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost less the estimated residual value, based on prices prevailing at the date of acquisition of each asset, evenly over the asset's expected useful life, as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment -

3 to 10 years

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable.

#### Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost includes all costs incurred in bringing each product to its present location and condition on a first-in first-out basis.

#### **Taxation**

The charge for taxation is based on the result for the year and takes into account taxation deferred because of timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes. Deferred tax is recognised, in respect of all timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes which have arisen but not reversed by the balance sheet date, except as otherwise required by FRS 19.

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.

#### Pension costs

Employees may participate in a defined contribution pension scheme operated by Esporta Group Limited. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the group in an independently administered fund. The amount charged to the profit and loss account represents the contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the accounting period.

The Esporta Group Limited defined benefit pension scheme was closed to future service accrual on 1 November 2003. The assets of the scheme are held separately to those of the Group in an independently administered fund.

#### Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged in the profit and loss account on a straight line basis over the lease term. Lease incentives are recognised over the shorter of the lease term and the date of the next rent review.

#### 2 Turnover

Turnover represents the amounts (excluding value added tax) derived from the provision of goods and services to customers as part of the principal activity of the company. All turnover arises in the United Kingdom. Joining fee income is recognised in full in the year of enrolment. Annual membership subscriptions are released to the profit and loss account over the current membership year.

#### 3 Profit on ordinary activities before taxation

	2007	2006
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation is arrived at	£000	£000
after charging/(crediting):		
Profit on sale of freehold and leasehold properties	-	(21,297)
Profit on sale of trade	-	(11,763)
Depreciation - owned assets	462	641
Operating lease payments - land and buildings	576	578

Auditors' remuneration is paid by a fellow subsidiary undertaking.

On 8 May 2006, the long leasehold property and associated fixtures and fittings were sold to Esporta PH LLP, a fellow subsidiary undertaking for £30.0m, giving rise to a profit on disposal of £21.3m.

#### 4 Remuneration of directors

The directors received no remuneration from the company during the year (2006: £nil) but were remunerated by a fellow subsidiary undertaking, Esporta Health & Fitness Limited. It is not possible to identify separately this remuneration in respect of services to the company.

#### 5 Staff numbers and costs

The average number of persons employed by the company (excluding directors) during the year, analysed by category, was as follows:

<i>3                                    </i>	Number of employees	
	2007	2006
Retail and operations	59	60
Management and office	2	2
	61	62
The above figures include 28 part-time employees (2006: 38).		
The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:		
	2007	2006
	000£	£000
Wages and salaries	858	921
Social security costs	72	78
	930	999
6 Interest received and similar income		
	2007	2006
	£000	£000
Interest received from other group undertakings	2,868	2,117

#### 7 Taxation

#### Analysis of credit in the year:

	2007 £000	2006 £000
Corporation tax		
Total current tax	-	-
Deferred tax		
Origination and reversal of timing differences	(118)	(2,026)
Adjustment in respect of previous years	-	(34)
Effect of decreased tax rate on deferred tax balance	22	-
Tax credit on profit on ordinary activities	(96)	(2,060)

### Factors affecting the current tax for the year

The current tax for the year is lower (2006: lower) than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK (2006: 30%). The differences are explained below.

	2007	2006
	£000	£000
Current tax reconciliation		
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	3,902	36,878
Current tax at 30 % (2006 : 30%)	1,171	11,063
Effects of:		
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	15	22
Capital allowances in arrears of depreciation	118	2,384
Group relief received without payment	(1,304)	(1,360)
Profit on disposal of non qualifying assets	-	(12,109)
Total current tax		-

The UK corporation tax rate decreased from 30% to 28% from 1 April 2008. This rate change will affect the amount of future cash tax payments to be made by the company. The deferred tax balance has been adjusted in the current year to reflect this change.

Future current tax charges are expected to remain below the current rate of tax due to capital allowances in arrears of depreciation in the company.

# 8 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment £000	Total £000
Cost At 1 January 2007	10,199	10,199
Additions	394	394
Disposals	(1)	(1)
At 31 December 2007	10,592	10,592
Depreciation	( 272	6.772
At 1 January 2007 Charge for the year	6,772 462	6,772 462
Disposals	(1)	(1)
At 31 December 2007	7,233	7,233
Net book value at 31 December 2007	3,359	3,359
Net book value at 31 December 2006	3,427	3,427
9 Stocks		
, 2000	2007	2006
	0002	£000
Consumable stocks	18	21
10 Debtors		
	2007	2006
	<b>£000</b>	£000
Due within one year:	20	
Trade debtors Amounts owed by Group undertakings	66,848	76,693
Prepayments and accrued income	210	219
Deferred tax (note 12)	303	207
	67,381	77,119

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
	2007 £000	2006 £000
Other creditors	55	12
Accruals and deferred income	171	174
Amounts owed to Group undertakings		13,856
	226	14,042
12 Deferred Taxation		
		Deferred
		Taxation £000
At 1 January 2007		207
Movement in year (note 7)		96
At 31 December 2007 (note 10)		303
The elements of deferred taxation are as follows:		
	2007	2006
	£000	£000
Difference between accumulated depreciation and capital allowances	202	207
	303	207
Undiscounted asset	303	207
13 Called up share capital		
	2007	2006
Authorised	£000	£000
1,000 ordinary shares of £1 each	1	1
Allotted, called up and fully paid	<del></del>	
1,000 ordinary shares of £1 each	1	1
	<del></del>	

#### 14 Profit and loss account

	Profit and loss account £000
At 1 January 2007 Profit for the financial year	66,575 3,998
At 31 December 2007	70,573

#### 15 Pension scheme

Employees may be members of the Esporta Group Limited pension scheme providing benefits based on final pensionable pay. Because the company is unable to identify its share of the scheme assets and liabilities on a consistent and reasonable basis, as permitted by FRS 17 'Retirement benefits' the scheme has been accounted for, in these financial statements, as if the scheme was a defined contribution scheme. Full details of the scheme, including details of the last actuarial valuation at 31 December 2007, amended to take account of the requirements of FRS 17, are contained in the financial statements of Esporta Group Limited, the intermediate parent company. The contribution for the year was £nil (2006: £nil). The scheme was frozen from 1 November 2003 and, from that date, members of the scheme ceased to accrue future service benefits.

	2007		2006		2005	
	Expected		Expected		Expected	
	rate of	Value	rate of	Value	rate of	Value
	return %	£000	return %	£000	return %	£000
	per annum		per annum		per annum	
Equities	7.50	6,075	7.50	5,309	7.00	4,576
Bonds	5.00	4,231	5.00	4,241	4.25	1,850
Property	7.50	618	7.50	670	7.00	217
Cash	5.50	180	5.00	176	4.50	82
Fair value of total assets Present value of liability	6.51	11,104 (7,417)	6.44	10,396 (7,898)	6.21	6,725 (7,765)
Net pension surplus/(liability)		3,687		2,498		(1,040)

From 1 November 2003 the company's employees were entitled to participate in the defined contribution scheme operated by Esporta Group Limited. The company's contribution for the year was £nil (2006: £nil). There are no outstanding or prepaid contributions at the end of the financial year payable by the company.

#### 16 Commitments

	Lan	Land and buildings		
	2007	2006		
	€000	£000		
Operating leases expiring:				
In over five years	587	575		
	<del></del>			

### 17 Ultimate parent undertaking

The company's immediate parent undertaking at the year end was Invicta Leisure Limited. On 10 December 2008 Vitalblade Limited became the company's immediate parent undertaking following a group reorganisation. Both companies are registered in England and Wales.

At 31 December 2007, the company's ultimate parent undertaking was Bell Leisure Group Limited, a company registered in Jersey. Esporta Group Limited, a company registered in England and Wales, is an intermediate parent undertaking and is the parent undertaking of the largest and smallest group of which the company is a member and for which group financial statements are prepared. Copies of the financial statements of Esporta Group Limited may be obtained from Trinity Court, Molly Millars Lane, Wokingham, Berkshire RG41 2PY.

