GROSVENOR LIMITED ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

2019



Company Registration No. 02874626

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## **Strategic Report**

The directors present their Strategic Report for Grosvenor Limited (the 'Company') and its subsidiaries (together, the 'Group') for the year ended 31 December 2019.

#### **Principal activities**

The directors of Grosvenor Group Limited, the Company's ultimate parent undertaking, manage their direct proprietary operations on a geographical basis through operating companies of which the Company is the operating company for its Great Britain and Ireland business.

The Group's principal activities are property investment and development. The Group seeks to improve properties and places to deliver lasting commercial and social benefit. To live up to this ambition we have adopted an approach we call Living Cities which inspires our activities and encourages us to be far-sighted, locally engaged and to share and benefit from the Grosvenor Group's international experience.

The subsidiary and associated undertakings included in the profits or net assets of the Group in the year are listed in Note 4 of the Company financial statements.

#### **Business review**

An overview of financial performance during the year is included with the Annual Review of Grosvenor Group Limited.

#### Financial performance

#### Revenue profit<sup>1</sup>

The Group continues to use revenue profit as one of its three main measures of operating performance. A detailed analysis of revenue profit is contained in Note 2 of the financial statements with a reconciliation to profit before tax.

Revenue profit including the proportional share of revenue profit within joint ventures was £38.9m, £1.3m lower than the £40.2m achieved in 2018. This reduction is predominately due to less income from joint ventures, which is then partly offset by lower property management costs and administrative expenses.

Net property income<sup>2</sup> (before major refurbishment costs of £8.6m) was £78.3m, £5.7m higher than 2018. Higher gross rental income of £3.8m following rent reviews and asset management activity. A net £1.0m from trading property sales offset by the loss of net £0.6m hotel income following the sale of the Beaumont in 2018.

Income from project management fees and other income was £6.6m, £1.1m higher than 2018 as a result of one off dilapidations and works extension fees.

Other operating expenses have fallen to £2.6m (2018: £4.9m); due to delays to projects and signing up new opportunities.

Administration costs also reduced to £22.9m from £26.2m in 2018; due to robust cost management, careful recruitment, lower pension costs; and the realisation of cost benefits from a 2018 efficiency project.

Net financing costs were £23.9m, £0.5m higher than 2018. Interest expense has increased by £2.5m in 2019 compared to 2018 as a result of the £250m private placement issued in the prior year. In 2019 we have also adopted the new IFRS 16 'Lease' accounting policy which has resulted in an interest charge for 2019 of £0.7m. This has been offset by greater interest income received on higher cash balances as a result of delays to projects, increased disposal proceeds and less acquisitions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Revenue profit is profit before tax, excluding profits on the sale of investment properties, gains or losses on other non-current investments, revaluation movements, major refurbishment costs and derivative fair value adjustments. See also Note 2 to the financial statements.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Net property income in the income statement is £69.7m (2018: £58.2m) and reflects £8.6m (2018: £14.4m) of costs relating to major refurbishments. For revenue profit purposes the major refurbishment costs are excluded.

#### Profit on disposal of investment property

Proceeds from sale of investment property were £104.7m (2018: £54.2m) and generated profits of £21.7m (2018: £35.2m), £16.5m of which was recognised in the year. £5.2m (2018: £15.9m) will be recognised over the remaining period of the leases (of 3 to 125 years).

#### Revaluation of investment property

The directly owned investment property portfolio, comprising primarily of properties within Mayfair and Eaton Square in Belgravia, increased in value by £44.4m during the year (2018: £2.4m reduction).

## Share of gain from interests in joint ventures

The share of profit from joint ventures was £7.3m, down from £20.3m in 2018. This principally relates to fewer sales in 2019 at our Campden Hill development as nearly all units have now been sold.

#### Profit before tax

Profit before tax was £90.9m, an improved performance compared to £35.9m in 2018, an increase of £55.0m. This was largely due to a gain of £44.4m on revaluation compared to a £2.4m fall in 2018, as well as a fall in both property costs and administrative expenses of £4.4m and £3.3m respectively. This was offset by a reduction in income from joint ventures.

#### **Taxation**

The tax charge for 2019 of £11.4m (2018: £7.1m) is comprised of a current tax charge of £13.3m (2018: £14.1m) and a deferred tax credit of £1.9m (2018: £7.0m). The effective tax rate is 12.8% (2018: 21.3%), which is lower than the UK corporation tax rate of 19.0% (2018: 19.0%).

## Total return<sup>3</sup>

The Group's second main measure of performance is total return. Total pre-tax return on property assets and cash was 3.1% (2018: 3.2%) reflecting the relatively low level, although higher than expected growth in market values. This compared to a weighted average cost of capital of 4.9% (2018: 5.0%).

## Sustainable earnings4

Along with revenue profit and total return, sustainable earnings is used to assess the performance of the business; in particular it tests our ability to implement our strategy to pay our regular dividend out of recurring income sources rather than through other sources such as asset disposals.

We calculate sustainable earnings by taking items of income we consider to be recurring and deducting recurring costs. It includes a proportional share of the results of joint ventures. We believe it represents a robust indicator of the sustainability of the income earned in a given year, removing the impact of any fluctuations in trading profit and property values as we move through the property cycle and providing a valuable tool for management in assessing the performance of the business. Sustainable earnings is used as one of the performance measures in the Group's long term incentive schemes for senior management.

2019 sustainable earnings totalled £48.8m, £11.3m higher than 2018. This was due to a net loss of hotel income in 2019 (£0.5m) following the sale of the Beaumont in 2018, savings on administrative expenses (£3.3m) and delays to repair element of major refurbishments (£8.9m). Expected credit losses of £0.2m (2018: £3.3m) were recognised. This was all offset by an increase in both gross rental income and other income (£3.3m).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Total return on property assets is revenue profit before financial expenses but after major refurbishments plus the net gain on revaluation and sale of investment properties and other investments and including fair value adjustments and exchange movements recognised in reserves, as a percentage of average property assets (before current year revaluations) and cash. Joint ventures and associates are treated proportionately for the purposes of this calculation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Sustainable earnings is calculated as net rental income, a capped level of trading profit, sustainable reversionary gains in revaluation and other income and expenses, less net interest, overheads and tax at the corporate tax rate of 19.0%. (Sustainable reversionary gains represent the element of revaluation gain attributable to moving a year closer to the reversion of a lease to the Group.)

The regular dividend paid during the year was £54.5m (2018: £51.6m), £5.7m (2018: £14.1m) higher than the level of sustainable earnings.

The calculation of sustainable earnings and reconciliation to profit before tax is shown below:

	2019			2018
	Group	Joint ventures	Total	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Total revenue excluding trading activity	132.8	0.1	132.9	136.2
Trading (loss)/profit, capped at steady state level*	0.9	7.1	8.0	11.7
Reversionary gains on investment property	24.9		24.9	25.4
Total earnings	158.6	7.2	165.8	173.3
Property outgoings excluding trading activity and major refurbishments	(55.4)	; <del>-</del>	(55.4)	(61.8)
Administrative expenses	(22.9)	-	(22.9)	(26.2)
Impairment of trade and other receivables	(0.2)	-	(0.2)	(3.3)
Repair element of major refurbishments	(3.5)		(3.5)	(12.4)
Net financing costs/(income)	(23.9)	0.4	(23.5)	(23.3)
Notional tax charge at corporate tax rate	(10.0)	(1.5)	(11.5)	(8.8)
Sustainable earnings	42.7	6.1	48.8	37.5
Reconciliation:				  - 
Net loss on sale of group occupied property	•,	-	} . <del>-</del>	(7.1)
Trading profit**	-	-	, : <del>-</del>	6.9
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation and sale of investment property***	36.0	-	36.0	(8.5)
Non repair element of major refurbishments	(5.1)	-	(5.1)	(2.0)
Net gain on disposal of investment	-	-	-	0.5
Tax on joint ventures	<u>.</u>	(0.3)	(0.3)	(0.2)
Notional tax charge at corporate tax rate	10.0	1.5	11.5	8.8
Profit before tax	83.6	7.3	90.9	35.9

Trading profits are capped at a level which is regarded as a "steady state" level which the Group could potentially achieve over the medium to long term. In 2019 this cap was £12.0m (2018: £11.7m). Trading profits in excess of the "steady state" level Excluding reversionary gains. Refer to footnote 4, page 3 for further details.

#### Financial position

#### **Property assets**

The Group's total property assets (including owner occupied property and the Group's share of property assets in joint ventures) increased by £5.1m during the year to £3,468.5m. This is mainly due to Group acquisitions of £28.8m and development expenditures of £32.8m offset by disposals of £96.8m and a net valuation increase of £44.4m. The Group's share of property assets in joint ventures reduced by £14.1m.

At the balance sheet date the Group's future committed investment and development expenditure was £17.1m (2018: £38.0m) including capital commitments in respect of joint ventures.

#### Rights-of-use asset and Lease liability

Following the introduction of IFRS 16 Leases<sup>5</sup> on 1 January 2019 an assessment has been carried out and Grosvenor Limited have applied the modified retrospective approach. As a result we have a £19.0m right-of use asset and a £21.6m lease liability (including existing finance lease liabilities) on the balance sheet and a £2.5m income statement charge in 2019 across depreciation and interest expense (see Note 1 and Note 17).

#### Interests in joint ventures

Interests in property joint ventures reduced from £36.7m to £30.3m primarily due to sales of trading properties during the year and distribution of proceeds.

#### **Taxation**

The net deferred tax liability reduced by £2.2m to £375.5m (2018: £377.7m) and represents the corporation tax liability that would be due if the Group were to sell its assets at the value held in the balance sheet. Deferred tax is provided at 17.0% (2018: 17.0%).

Income tax and VAT payable at 31 December 2019 was £5.5m (2018: £22.0m).

## Deferred premium income

Of the profit arising on sale of investment property, £5.3m (2018: £66.7m) was deferred until later years, and together with £3.7m (2018: £3.7m) of net deferred premiums released to the income statement, resulted in a net increase in the deferred premium income of £1.5m to £183.9m (2018: £182.4m).

#### Debt

Net debt (excluding cash held on behalf of third parties) at the end of 2019 was £382.6m (2018: £405.9m) comprising external borrowings of £712.4m (2018: £765.9m), less cash and cash equivalents of £329.8m (2018: £360.0m). Cash held on behalf of third parties was £37.9m (2018: £39.1m).

Gross debt within joint ventures was £nil at the end of 2018 (2018: £nil). Cash within joint ventures was £5.9m (2018: £11.4m).

#### Shareholder's funds

Shareholder's funds increased from £2,470.4m (£2,469.4m after IFRS 16 adjustment) at 31 December 2018 to £2,493.2m at 31 December 2019. The increase of £22.8m is due to the profit after tax for the year of £79.5m offset by dividends paid of £54.5m and other comprehensive loss of £1.2m.

#### Gearing and liquidity

Committed debt facilities (drawn and undrawn) at 31 December 2019 were £1,178.3m (2018: £1,254.6m). Committed debt facilities had a weighted average remaining life of 9.8 years (2018: 11.0 years) and committed undrawn bank facilities were £465.0m (2018: £490.0m) at year end and together with cash of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The IFRS 16 adjustment relates to the head office at 70 Grosvenor Street.

£329.8m (2018: £360.0m) resulting in financial headroom (being cash and committed undrawn facilities) of £794.8m (2018: £850.0m).

Average gross debt in 2019 was £719.7m (2018: £641.7m) and the average cash balance was £282.3m (2018: £244.7m). Gearing<sup>6</sup> at year end was 15.3% (2018: 16.4%). The fair value of the Group's debt and financial instruments was £131.4m higher (2018: £75.1m higher) than its book value due to continued low interest rates.

At year end 35% (2018: 33%) of drawn borrowings were secured and 100% (2018: 100%) were at fixed rates of interest. Interest cover<sup>7</sup> for 2019 was 1.1 times (2018: 1.0 times).

The weighted average cost of gross debt was 5.1% at 31 December 2019 (2018: 5.3%).

#### Cash flow

Cash and cash equivalents reduced by £30.2m in 2019 to £329.8m (2018: £230.6m increase). Sales of investment properties resulted in cash proceeds of £104.7m, with operating activities and joint venture inflows generating a combined £22.7m cash inflow. This was then offset against acquisitions and development of investment property and fixed assets of £48.3m; repayment of borrowings and lease liabilities of £54.8m and dividends paid in the year of £54.5m.

#### Key performance indicators

Key performance indicator	Why is it measured	2019	2018	
		£m	£m	
Revenue profit	To identify underlying performance, excluding revaluation movements	£38.9m	£40.2m	
Total return	To show how the property portfolio has performed, including both income and capital returns	3.1%	3.2%	
Sustainable earnings	To identify the recurring level of income	£48.8m	£37.5m	
Profit before tax	To show the return on assets before tax delivered in absolute terms	£90.9m	£35.9m	
Property assets	To quantify the Group's financial investment in property assets	£3,468.5m	£3,463.4m	
Shareholder's funds	To report the total value of the shareholder's investment in the Group	£2,493.2m	£2,470.4m	

The directors of Grosvenor Group Limited manage their direct proprietary operations on a geographical basis through operating companies of which the Company is the operating company for its Great Britain and Ireland business. The performance of Grosvenor Group Limited, which includes the Company, is discussed in the annual report of that company which does not form part of this report. For this reason, the directors believe that further disclosure of financial and non-financial key performance indicators for the Company are neither necessary nor appropriate for an understanding of the development, performance or position of the business of the Company.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Gearing is calculated as total debt (excluding finance lease liabilities) less cash and cash equivalents (excluding third party balances), divided by total equity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Interest cover is calculated as net rental income (excluding the amortisation of deferred lease premiums), net income from hotel operations and other income, less administrative expenses, as a proportion of gross financing costs before any capitalisation of interest.

#### **Future developments**

The Group's profitability is largely linked to the performance of the London property investment and occupier markets. The current economic and political uncertainty, much of which relates to Britain having left the European Union on 31 January 2020, could negatively impact the amount of income generated and value of the Group's portfolio over the next few years. The directors are managing this risk by closely monitoring developments; and are confident that the Group will be able to amend and modify its procedures to remain fully compliant with any new rules or regulations, and to maintain its standing and reputation in the marketplace.

We remain positive in our outlook for London's long term future prospects and any related decrease in profitability over the next 12 months is not expected to impact the long term strategy of the Group (see Risks and uncertainties below).

#### Risks and uncertainties

Set out below is a summary and explanation of the principal risks faced by the business. Risks are reviewed by the Audit Committee and Board with processes in place to monitor, manage and where appropriate, mitigate them. We undertake horizon scanning activities over the course of the year. Observations are integrated into our strategic planning and risk management processes.

#### Market risk

Property markets are cyclical and the Group's businesses will always be subject to variations in the value of the portfolio. Taking a long-term view, the Group's focus is less on short-term value fluctuations and more on underlying income and value-generating potential. Exposure to market risk is primarily mitigated by a low level of gearing.

Market risk is also mitigated through the allocation of capital to investment and development activity and to asset classes. Short-term market risk is more relevant to sales and development activity, where market conditions may affect the rate of sale, leasing terms and capitalisation rates. The Group commits to development projects only after taking careful account of the market outlook. Development exposures are on occasion shared by working in joint ventures.

There remains challenges in the commercial sector with particularly the retail sector going through a disruptive period. For retailers, this relates to long term buying trends moving online, higher business rates and higher employment costs putting pressure on affordability of property leases for the sector. The Group has customer management plans in place and focuses on developing relationships with our tenants to understand better their financial performance and affordability of the rent that they pay. We are continuing to develop flexibility and range of leases and are innovating new ways to provide services to our retail tenants. The Group promotes and hosts events to support activity on our main retail streets.

#### Impact of Brexit

Grosvenor saw no discernable impact on operations arising from the UK's exit from the European Union (the "EU") on 31 January 2020. During 2020, the Group will review the potential for operational or financial impacts arising from the negotiation of the future trading arrangement between the UK and the EU. Currently, our view is still that the most likely risks remain:

- Impact on critical suppliers' ability to continue to meet our needs.
- Increasing levels of tenant failure (London Estate).
- Negative impact on UK property capital values and rents.
- Restrictions on rights to live and work in the EU/UK and wider people considerations.

Business commitments will be managed through the year dependent on the developing views of the likely outcome of the negotiations. The Group continues to manage the risks posed by Brexit through the establishment of a Brexit working group attended by internal experts across the different teams.

#### **Property risks**

#### Investment properties

A significant risk in property investment is the loss of income. The Group ensures that properties are properly maintained and managed, occupancy is maximised and exposure to individual sectors is managed. Over the long term the level of income and value of properties are linked to the attractiveness of the West End of London where the majority of the portfolio is located. The Group has a dedicated placemaking team that seeks to animate and activate our estate and transform our public spaces.

Asset management is undertaken by teams with overall responsibility for the properties within their portfolios. Day-to-day property management is largely managed in-house.

Leasing risk is managed by dedicated in-house leasing teams and the use of professional leasing agents. Exposure to individual tenants or sector groups is reduced by maintaining a diversified tenant base and by reviewing the credit-worthiness of new tenants. With the potential impact of new technology, digital disruption and corresponding emerging business models on real estate becoming more apparent, our new Executive Director for Sustainability and Innovation will seek to leverage new opportunities and protect of our business against the risks of that disruption.

#### **Developments**

In property development the key risks include obtaining appropriate planning consents which can be challenging to achieve. Growing expectations from the general public and local authorities on the financial, community and environmental contributions that developers should make, may put pressure on the profitability of future schemes or their commercial viability.

The Group has dedicated teams involved in site assembly and planning and limits committed expenditure prior to planning consent being obtained. Construction risk is managed by project management teams using external contractors.

The current pace of societal and technological change is rapid and there is a risk that properties sought for rental or purchase by customers in future generations may have different requirements to those of today. Current properties and developments may not appeal or may require modification to suit.

These property investment and development risks are mitigated by the employment of appropriately qualified and experienced in-house teams working to well defined processes and policies, detailed research into markets and future trends and diversification of the portfolio.

In-house resources are supplemented by external professional advice and support where required. The risks inherent in larger developments are sometimes shared with joint venture partners.

## **Suppliers**

The Group's ability to carry out development and construction activity and meet the ongoing needs of customers is closely linked to the ability of our suppliers to perform. A key supplier failure, triggered by an economic downturn, Brexit, or other cause could lead to short term disruption, increased cost and/or reputational damage. The Group develops and implements procurement strategies for large developments and significant contracts and monitors exposure to key suppliers. The Group assesses their financial robustness on an annual basis and has contingency plans in place for its largest suppliers. In 2019, the Group has launched the Supply Chain Charter setting out the Group's responsibilities and ambitions and the standards we expect from the suppliers that we work with.

## **Desirability of property locations**

The Group owns property in some of the most desirable locations in the West End of London and South East of England. A high profile incident in or near one of these locations, such as a terrorist incident, could damage this desirability and reduce the attractiveness of the location over the short or long term.

## Acquisitions and sales

When acquiring or selling property, the principal risk is in assessing the future income flows in order to determine an appropriate price. The timing of property transactions is managed as part of the strategic planning and budgeting process. Estimated price levels are supported by detailed financial appraisals, which are conducted for all property purchase and sale transactions. Every property transaction is subject to a due diligence review, including corporate due diligence where properties are acquired within corporate vehicles.

#### Financial risks

The principal financial risks faced by the Group are liquidity, credit and interest rate risk. Each of these risks is explained in more detail and analysed in Note 25 to the Accounts.

Sustainable earnings (see page 3) is used to assess the performance of the business and in particular it tests the Group's ability to implement its strategy to pay the regular dividend out of recurring income sources.

#### Changes in public policy, law reform and tax risks

Changes in public policy and legislation in the future could lead to an increase in the cost of property development and ownership, including an increased number of the Group's residential properties becoming subject to enfranchisement and/or a reduction in enfranchisement premium receipts; revised building safety standards, in particular in connection with fire safety reforms; and requirements to address climate change and sustainability challenges. Policy change and law reform risks are reviewed and discussed at the Audit Committee and are monitored and managed by an in-house legal team and the relevant business teams, in conjunction with external advisers.

There may be higher taxes associated with owning or buying and selling property. Future changes in responsibilities between freeholders, leaseholders and tenants could lead to increases in costs or additional responsibilities. Tax risks are reviewed annually by the Audit Committee as stipulated by Grosvenor Group's tax policy and are managed by an in-house tax team which works alongside external tax advisers.

#### **People**

The Group takes considerable care in recruiting, retaining and developing Grosvenor people. A wide range of development opportunities exist for people to undertake tailored learning.

Succession planning is overseen by the Board through the Remuneration committee as part of the Grosvenor Group wide Strategic People Agenda. Compensation is regularly benchmarked against the market, with particular attention given to the low paid and legislative requirements. The Group rewards loyalty, excellence and effort in line with Grosvenor's values.

## Health and safety

We are committed to ensuring that high standards of health and safety management are maintained in the Group's operation including in property compliance, development, construction, staff activity and public health risks. The director responsible for Health and Safety is James Raynor with support from the Board, the Executive Committee, the internal Health and Safety Director and external consultants. The Group is certificated to the international health and safety management system standard OHSAS 18001.

#### Legal compliance

The Group has adopted a number of policies and procedures to ensure that we not only meet our legal obligations, but also behave ethically and act with integrity. These include policies on anti-bribery and corruption, anti-money laundering, the UK Modern Slavery Act and the UK Criminal Finances Act. The Group has undertaken work to ensure its policies and processes in relation to the management of personal data are consistent with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulations which came into force in May 2018. All employees are made aware of the Group's policies and receive training appropriate to their roles and responsibilities.

#### Information technology

The Group Technology Steering Committee monitors the efficient delivery of Group-wide process and system changes. The Group recognises that effective governance is the cornerstone of good information security. It operates an organisation-wide Technology Risk Advisory Group with independent external expertise to provide challenge to the technology function and advice to Group and Operating Company Boards and Audit Committees. In 2019, the Group implemented a security incident and event management system that enables a faster response to information security threats. The technology function also delivered the system and process changes required to support the May 2019 introduction of the EU-wide General Data Protection Regulations, and is working across the Group in response to similar regulations being introduced in other jurisdictions.

New technology, digital disruption and corresponding emerging business models may disrupt the property industry and the traditional sectors that we operate in. The Group undertakes on-going horizon scanning for such industry trends and seeks ways to ensure that we are able to take advantage of new technologies.

#### Statement of Compliance with Section 172 of Companies Act 2006

Throughout the year the directors have performed their duty to promote the success of the company under section 172, taking consideration of:

- issues, factors and stakeholders relevant in complying with section 172(1) (a) to (f)
- main methods used to engage with stakeholders and to understand the issues to which they must have regard and
- information on the effect of that regard on the company's decisions and strategies during the financial year and in the long term.

The Grosvenor Group has evolved over 340 years since the Grosvenor family's first association with property in London. As a result of this heritage, the Board takes decisions for the long term and seeks to apply the highest levels of corporate conduct. The Board and the Company's Shareholder judge the success of the business based on the positive impact on the communities that we operate in whilst being mindful of the needs of future generations. More detail on our purpose is provided in the Corporate Governance Report, Wates Principle One – Purpose & Leadership on page 12.

In order to protect and strengthen the long standing business reputation and enhance the brand, the Group operates as a values led business, promoting our values of integrity, respect and trust all of the time – with employees, customers, partners, suppliers and wider society. How these different business relationships are managed is covered in the Corporate Governance Report, Wates Principle Six – Stakeholder Relationships and Engagement on page 14.

To further ensure the Directors meet their duties as set out in section 172 including the consideration of stakeholder groups and the consequences of decisions in the long term, Board agenda items throughout the year included consideration of all material transactions, viewing these through the lenses of both commercial and social outcomes; Health and Safety reports, People, updates from each of Grosvenor Britain & Ireland's business units, Risk and regular financial reporting. Board papers specifically reference which of the section 172(1) (a) to (f) factors are relevant to a matter under consideration. In addition to regular Board meetings, a Board Strategy Day is held annually.

Some of the key decisions made by the Board during the year include:

- Approval of the 10 year strategic plan, centred around Grosvenor's purpose [as agreed with the Shareholder]to improve property and places to deliver lasting commercial and social benefit; which, for the first time, includes a carbon plan which is aligned to the capital plan.
- This year, the Group was proud to announce its commitment to the World Green Building Council and in doing so pledged to be net zero carbon in our operations by 2030 (within our directly owned and managed portfolio) and wholly net carbon zero by 2050 across all properties.

#### **Corporate Governance Report**

Grosvenor's business approach is based on openness and high levels of accountability; and the Board's approach to corporate governance is to establish clear policies and procedures as they consider appropriate for a privately-owned Group with its Shareholder represented on the Board. This year the Board has decided to report against the Wates Corporate Governance Principles for Large Private Companies which provides a framework for the Group to report on corporate governance in a transparent manner and in line with our values and ethos.

#### Principle One - Purpose & Leadership

Direction for the formation of the Group's strategy is provided by the Shareholder in the form of its wider strategy. In this context, Grosvenor's purpose, and thus how the Group's Shareholder judges success, is to improve property and places to deliver lasting commercial and social benefit.

The Group seeks to optimise social and commercial outcomes for every investment and sets itself challenging environmental targets; aiming to enhance its reputation for social responsibility. To deliver its purpose effectively the Group, through its subsidiaries, implements an approach called Living Cities which combines a far-sighted perspective, with an intimate local knowledge of markets and communities:

- The Group seeks to learn from the past, in acting upon evidence-based research and in adopting a far-sighted perspective that responds to the socio-economic and demographic changes, environmental risks and disruptive technologies that pose significant urban challenges.
- Local expertise is promoted to foster a deep appreciation and understanding of local markets and the needs of local communities, working with them to implement bespoke and innovative solutions that are commercially successful and responsive to unique local circumstances.
- In implementing its activities, directly or in partnership with like-minded co-investment partners, the Group seeks to capture, distil and share knowledge, investing in its people to bring an international perspective which encourages innovation.

The Board is clear that in order to protect and strengthen the reputation of the Group and enhance its brand it must maintain a reputation for high standards of business conduct and therefore operates as a values led business, promoting values of integrity, respect and trust all of the time. All staff are briefed on the expected values and conduct we seek to uphold.

On an annual basis, the Board reviews the 10-year strategic plan (which considers both commercial and social outcomes). This year, for the first time, the Board has agreed a carbon plan which is aligned to its capital plan, in support of the Group's ambitious 2030 and 2050 sustainability goals.

#### **Principle Two - Board Composition**

The composition of the Board is designed to ensure effective management and control of the Group, ensuring that the Shareholder's interests are properly represented. It consists of five non-executive directors, three of whom, including the Chairman, are considered independent, and two of whom represent the Shareholder; together with four executive directors. The composition of the Board is considered to be appropriate for the size and complexity of the business.

The Board recognises the benefits of diversity and is committed to increasing the level of diversity across all employee levels, including the Board itself, to create an ever-more inclusive environment. The Non-Executive Directors provide a diverse range of experience and professional background that enables them to make a valuable contribution to the Group and to provide independent judgement and challenge to the Board, which in turn supports effective decision making. The Board encourages the appointment of Executive Directors to appropriate external posts as this increases their breadth of knowledge and experience.

Biographies of the members of the Board are available at www.grosvenor.com.

## **Board effectiveness**

The roles of Chairman and Chief Executive are clearly defined. The Chairman is primarily responsible for overseeing the working of the Board. The Chief Executive is responsible for the implementation of strategy and policies set by the Board and the day-to-day management of the Group.

The Board undertakes a regular evaluation of its own performance. The last completed review was in March 2018 and the next one is currently taking place.

The Board held eight standard meetings during the year, together with a full day strategic offsite meeting with the Executive.

#### **Principle Three - Director Responsibilities**

The Board is responsible for setting and monitoring Group strategy and maintains a schedule of reserved and delegated matters to ensure that key decisions are taken by the Board. The Executive Committee completes an annual report on compliance with the Grosvenor Group Limited Group's Operating Requirements, which is provided to the Board and the Shareholder. The Board has delegated day to day responsibility for the management of the business to the Chief Executive, who leads the business with the support of the Executive Committee (a committee of the Chief Executive) whose membership is detailed on page 18.

The Board has established an Audit Committee and a Remuneration Committee, to which it has delegated certain governance functions. The membership of these committees consists of non-executive directors(including the chair), with each committee being chaired by an independent non-executive.

To enable the Board to discharge its duties, all Directors receive appropriate and timely information, including briefing papers distributed in advance of Board meetings. The Directors have access to the Company Secretary and may, at the Company's expense, take independent professional advice and receive additional training as they see fit. All new Directors participate in an induction programme.

#### Principle Four – Opportunity & Risk

#### **Opportunity**

The Board reviews the Group Strategy every year and in doing so has consideration for the long-term strategic opportunities that are consistent with Grosvenor's purpose of delivering lasting commercial and social benefit.

The Board believes that success is not just about having property skills, a pipeline of opportunities and funding to deliver them, but also about having a focus on the future to ensure the Group's activity delivers lasting social and commercial value. Long-term success requires long-term thinking. With the potential impact of new technology, digital disruption and corresponding emerging business models on real estate becoming more apparent, the Group has created an Innovation Board, allocated funding to test innovation ideas, embedded innovation into the Group's Goals, and created an innovation space within its head office in order to deliver:

- a more resilient organisation with a cultural shift towards Grosvenor as a flexible and dynamic organisation, fit for the future;
- innovations that will drive commercial and social value;
- further improvements to our reputation through providing creative solutions to our customers' problems; and
- protection for our business against the risks of disruption.

## Risk

The Board considers that there is a continuous process for identifying, evaluating and managing significant risks faced by the Group in the course of its business, which has been in place throughout the year and up to the date of approval of the Annual Financial Statements. This process is reviewed twice a year by the Audit Committee and the Board. The key risks are set out in the Strategic Report and include market, property, financial and environmental risks amongst others.

The Group has management structures in place to enable effective decision-making, supported by documented procedures and a regular review of financial performance, including comparisons against budget and forecasts. Risk management is a regular agenda item for all parts of the business with the emphasis on continuous improvement. The Board undertakes a regular assessment of its exposure to financial, operational and strategic risks and the measures that have been put in place to manage those risks.

The Board is responsible for the Group's system of internal control and for reviewing its effectiveness. This is designed to manage, rather than eliminate, the risk of not achieving business objectives and can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The Group operates a 'co-sourced' approach to internal audit, working jointly with PricewaterhouseCoopers. The Audit Committee approves an internal audit plan, which is executed by PricewaterhouseCoopers, but supplemented by Grosvenor employees on occasion and where appropriate. The Audit Committee reviews the findings from the internal audit reports together with management plans to address any weaknesses in internal control.

#### Principle Five - Remuneration

The Remuneration Committee's primary role is to define the Company's overall remuneration strategy and to promote its purpose and strategy by linking performance, pay and benefits, ensuring transparency on financial and non-financial targets. This reflects the long-term view of the organisation and the desire to pay each member of staff fairly for their role and responsibility level, having due regard to comparable market practice and pay levels. The Board considers the talent and succession plans for the business.

The Group published its Gender Pay Gap reporting for 2019 in March 2020, which highlighted some areas for focus and gender parity is now part of our wider Group Policy on Equality, Diversity & Inclusion strategy. The Group has launched plans to support gender equality, with initiatives including training for all UK staff involved in recruitment, reviewing recruitment and promotion processes, equal pay auditing, introducing improved work life initiatives, an Inclusive Leadership Programme, and joining industry groups which aim to improve gender balance across the property industry and recruit or promote more women into top roles.

#### Principle Six - Stakeholder Relationships & Engagement

The Board is clear that, in order to protect and strengthen the reputation of the Group and enhance its brand, it must maintain a reputation for high standards of business conduct and operates as a values led business, promoting values of integrity, respect and trust all of the time with all our stakeholder community including employees, customers, partners, suppliers, funders, wider society and the Shareholder.

## **Employees**

The Directors recognise the importance of good communications and relations with the Group's employees and place considerable value on informing them on matters affecting them as employees. The Group maintains employee relations appropriate to its needs and environment. The Group gives full and fair consideration to applications by disabled persons for employment. At Grosvenor we aim to build a diverse workforce, reflecting the communities in which we operate in order to ensure our business' success. We will achieve this by attracting the best people from as wide a pool as possible and retaining them within an inclusive culture. A well-established performance management process is in place, starting with individual goals which are directly aligned to those of the business. Talent management and development programmes are in place; and the business makes a significant investment in a range of learning and skills development for employees to equip them with the capabilities needed to achieve their objectives.

A Company subsidiary, Grosvenor Estate Management Limited employs the UK staff of Grosvenor Britain & Ireland, Grosvenor Europe and the Grosvenor Holding Company. Our employees are provided with information on matters of interest and concern to them, including the financial and economic factors affecting the performance of the business, through a range of media, ranging from face to face briefings on business performance and key issues from senior management, to regular news updates via various digital means. During the year formal employee opinion surveys have been conducted. The senior management of each business area have reviewed the results from this and established plans to improve employee engagement.

Grosvenor does not operate any employee share schemes, but it encourages employees' involvement through its bonus schemes and short and long-term incentive plans, which are linked to the performance of the business. Directors have engaged with employees through informal meetings with individuals and small groups, as well as through the normal management and governance processes. In taking decisions, the Directors seek to ensure the long-term financial success of the business and recognise the clear link between this and employees' interests.

#### **Business Relationships and Environment**

The Grosvenor Group Limited group sets policies for how these key business relationships should be managed including policies on anti-bribery and corruption, anti-money laundering, the UK Modern Slavery Act and the UK Criminal Finances Act.

The Group's policy is to maintain close contact during each financial year with bondholders and other lenders, recognising the importance of fostering these relationships for the long-term funding and financial success of the business.

The Group's purpose is to improve properties and places to deliver lasting commercial and social benefit, with the community and environment forming the two key elements of social benefit as defined by our Shareholder. Consequently, building and maintaining effective stakeholder relationships is key to the success of the business, particularly in relation to developments where there is a strong focus on engaging with local communities and the planning authorities. In support of the Group's purpose to deliver long term social benefit, including its commitment to the World Green Building Council, which included a pledge to be net zero carbon in our operations by 2030 (within our directly owned and managed portfolio) and wholly net carbon zero by 2050 across all properties, the business actively engages with its suppliers, requiring them to sign up to its Supply chain Charter, and is identifying ways to engage more closely with those who use its London Estate to better understand their needs. During the year the Company commissioned research into public trust in property developers and the planning process, and has garnered support from a range of interested parties to help identify actions to address the issues this has identified. The Shareholder is represented on the Board and receives regular reports from the Company. Each year the Chairman, CEO and FD present to the Shareholder on the Group's performance over the prior year and priorities for the future.

#### **Environmental policy**

The Group takes a long-term view of its activities and responsibilities and environmental considerations are an important factor. We aim to make a positive contribution to sustainable development, and we continue to focus on reducing our resource consumption. This year the Group announced its commitment by signing up to the World Green Building Council commitment which challenges companies, cities, states and regions to reach Net Zero operating emissions in their portfolios. The Group also signed up to the Better Building Council commitment. In doing both we are committed to achieve net zero carbon operational emissions from all of our directly-managed buildings globally, by 2030, and to work towards all buildings, directly and indirectly-managed, being embodied and operational net zero across our portfolio by 2050.

The Group is continuing to embed sustainability into the 10 year business plan and this is one of the ways the Group implements its Living Cities philosophy. This includes providing requirements for our supply chain, customers, and updating our own policies to ensure we are leading by example. The Group launched a Supply Chain Charter in the year. The Group also monitors, benchmarks and actively seeks to improve the energy, water and waste performance of the Group's directly managed buildings and the net bio diversity impact on our developments.

The Group seeks to understand the risk and opportunities presented by global mega trends, particularly climate change. The sustainability landscape within the property industry is rapidly evolving and in support of the recommendations for the Task Force on Climate-related Financial disclosure (TCFD), we consider the impacts of climate change on our portfolio, but we recognise that further analysis is required to help inform longer decision making. Capital allocation considerations include environmental indicators of current and potential investment locations.

As well as the beneficial environmental impact resulting from these measures, this also helps to reduce the risk of obsolescence of the Group's properties, and lessen the impact of utility price fluctuations and increasing legislation.

The Board Member responsible for environmental policy is James Raynor.

This strategic report was approved by the directors on 5 March 2020 and signed on its behalf by:

James Raynor Chief Executive 5 March 2020 Roger Blundell Executive Director, Finance 5 March 2020

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#### Corporate governance

For each of the following aspects of corporate governance, the Company has established clear policies and procedures:

- the Board has an appropriate number of non-executive directors, of whom one is the Chairman, who provide an independent challenge to management;
- each of Jonathon Bond, Stephen Lovegrove and Dawn Airey is considered to be independent; and
- the Board has appointed an Audit Committee and a Remuneration Committee and each meets on average three times a year. Each committee has written terms of reference and comprises only nonexecutive directors. The Remuneration Committee has put in place effective systems for the purpose of attracting, retaining and motivating executives of an appropriate calibre.

The members of the Audit Committee are:

Stephen Lovegrove Non-executive Director (Chairman)

Jonathon Bond Non-executive Director Robert Davis Non-executive Director

The members of the Remuneration Committee are:

Dawn Airey Non-executive Director (Chairman)

Jonathon Bond Non-executive Director
Peter Vernon Non-executive Director

The Board has reviewed the effectiveness of the Company's systems of internal control. There is clearly documented delegation of authority from the Board, matters reserved to the Board and defined procedures for obtaining approval of major transactions and financings. The Board reviews and approves the Company's strategic plan and annual budget and receives regular financial and operational reports. The Company has implemented a process for identifying, evaluating and managing its own and its subsidiaries' significant risks.

#### Internal controls

The Board acknowledges its responsibility for the oversight of the Group's systems of internal control and for reviewing their effectiveness. The Group's system of internal controls is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives. It provides reasonable but not absolute assurance against any material misstatement or loss.

The Chief Executive and his Executive Committee are responsible for the review of risk management and the Group's control environment. Its objective is to provide reliable, valued and timely assurance to the Board and the Audit Committee over the effectiveness of controls, and to mitigate current and evolving high business risks. The Group engages the risk assurance services of PricewaterhouseCoopers to provide internal audit services. The Audit Committee approves a rolling three year internal audit plan which is updated annually and carried out by PricewaterhouseCoopers. The findings from the internal audit reports are reviewed by the Audit Committee together with the plans from management to address any weakness in internal controls.

No instances of material fraud have been identified during the year.

## **Executive Committee**

The Board has delegated authority for the approval of certain property transactions and internal management decisions to the Chief Executive. The Chief Executive has formed an Executive Committee and the current members of this committee are:

James Raynor Chief Executive and Chairman of the Executive Committee

Roger Blundell Executive Director Finance

Amelia Bright London Estate Development and Placemaking Director

Tor Burrows Director of Sustainability & Innovation Simon Harding-Roots Executive Director Major Projects

Jorge Mendonca Executive Director Grosvenor Developments and acting London Estate

Portfolio Director

Jo Banfield Human Resources Director

Anna Bond London Estate Portfolio Director (maternity leave)

Karima Fahmy General Counsel

## **Directors' Report**

The directors present their Annual Report and the audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019...

In line with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the directors have prepared a separate Strategic Report (see pages 2 to 16) to be read in conjunction with the Directors' Report. Principal risks and uncertainties, future developments, key performance indicators and business overview have therefore been included within the Strategic Report.

#### **Principal activities**

The principal activities during the year were property investment and development. The directors do not anticipate any significant change in the activity of Grosvenor Limited or the Group.

The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Grosvenor Group Limited, its ultimate parent company.

Information on the Group's business and an analysis of its performance during the year are presented in the Strategic Report on pages 2 to 16.

#### Results and dividends

The consolidated results for the year have been prepared under International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU ('IFRSs') and are set out in the consolidated income statement on page 26. The profit for the year after taxation was £79.5m (2018: £28.8m). Dividends paid during the year totalled £54.5m (2018: £51.6m).

The balance sheet on page 28 shows that the Group's net assets increased by £22.8m to £2,493.2m during the year.

The Group has adopted IFRS 16 Leases with an effective date of 1 January 2019. On initial application the equity position of the Group at 1 January 2019 is reduced by £1.0m to reflect the cumulative differences since the start of the lease. Further information is included in Notes 1 and 17.

#### **Directors**

The directors of the Company, all of whom were directors throughout the year (unless otherwise stated), were:

Jonathon Bond\* (Chairman)

(appointed as Director 29 July 2019 and Chairman 3 December 2020)

Graham Pimlott\*

(resigned as Director and Chairman 3 December 2019)

Dawn Airey\*
Robert Davis\*

(appointed 1 March 2019)

Charles Lavages

(appointed 1 June 2019)

Stephen Lovegrove\* Heather Rabbatts\*

(resigned 2 May 2019)

Nicholas Scarles\*

(resigned 31 May 2019)

Peter Vernon\*
James Raynor

(appointed 30 September 2019)

Craig McWilliam Roger Blundell

(resigned 10 January 2020)

Simon Harding-Roots Jorge Mendonca

\*Non-executive directors

## Related party transactions and directors' interests in contracts

Transactions between the Group, Grosvenor Group shareholder companies and Grosvenor Trusts are disclosed in Note 32 to the financial statements.

Certain of the Company's non-executive directors are also directors of other companies with which the Group may from time to time enter into transactions on normal commercial terms. Any such circumstances are declared to and reviewed by the Board in accordance with the provisions of the articles of the Company and the Companies Act 2006. In the opinion of the Board, none of these relationships is such as to prejudice the independence of the non-executive directors concerned.

#### Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as discussed in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In addition to its regular Going Concern analysis, the Group has been preparing and implementing practical plans to mitigate the potential impact on the Group's activities that may arise as a consequence of leaving the EU.

The Group continues to monitor risks associated with Brexit (see Strategic Report) and establish further mitigations to reduce the residual impact. The directors consider that the risks are sufficiently mitigated so as not to impact on their assessment of the going concern status of the Group.

#### Charitable and political contributions

Charitable contributions during the year amounted to £1.5m (2018: £1.5m) part of which was donated by wholly owned subsidiaries. No political contributions were made during the year (2018: £nil).

#### Policy on payment of suppliers

Payment terms are agreed with suppliers on an individual basis. It is the policy of the Group to abide by the agreed terms, provided that the suppliers also comply with all relevant terms and conditions. In respect of the Group's activities, trade creditors at 31 December 2019 represented 6 days purchases (2018: 6 days).

#### **Employee Engagement**

This is covered as part of the section 172 statement in the Strategic Report.

#### **Business Relationships**

This is covered as part of the section 172 statement in the Strategic Report.

#### Auditor and disclosure of information

Each of the persons who is a director at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- a) so far as he or she is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the auditor is unaware; and
- b) he or she has taken the steps that he/she ought to have taken as a director to make himself/herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditor is aware of that information.

This information is given and should be inspected in accordance with s.418 of the Companies Act 2006.

Deloitte LLP has indicated its willingness to be appointed for a further year and is deemed to be reappointed accordingly.

By order of the Board

Derek Lewis Secretary

5 March 2020

Company registration number: 02874626

Registered Office: 70 Grosvenor Street, London, W1K 3JP

## Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual 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 Group financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ('IFRSs') as adopted by the European Union and have elected to prepare the parent company financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law), including FRS 101 "Reduced Disclosure Framework". 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 period.

In preparing these financial statements, International Accounting Standards require that the directors:

- properly select and apply accounting policies;
- present information, including accounting policies, in a manner that provides relevant, reliable, comparable and understandable information;
- provide additional disclosures when compliance with the specific requirements in IFRSs are insufficient to enable users to understand the impact of particular transactions, other events and conditions on the entity's financial position and financial performance; and
- make an assessment of the Company's ability to continue as a going concern.

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.

#### Responsibility statement

We confirm that to the best of our knowledge:

- the financial statements, prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union, give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the Company and the undertakings included in the consolidation taken as a whole: and
- 2. the Strategic Report and Directors Report include a fair review of the development and performance of the business and the position of the Company and the undertakings included in the consolidation taken as a whole, together with a description of the principal risks and uncertainties that they face.

## Independent auditor's report to the members of Grosvenor Limited

#### Report on the audit of the financial statements

## **Opinion**

In our opinion:

- the financial statements of Grosvenor Limited (the "parent company") and its subsidiaries (the "Group") give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent company's affairs as at 31 December 2019 and of the Group's profit for the year then ended;
- the Group financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union;
- the parent company financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with IFRSs as adopted by the European Union and as applied in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006; and
- the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements which comprise:

- the consolidated and parent company income statement;
- the consolidated statement of comprehensive income;
- the consolidated and parent company balance sheets;
- the consolidated and parent company statements of changes in equity;
- the consolidated cash flow statement;
- the statement of accounting policies;
- the related notes 1 to 32 to the consolidated statements; and
- the related notes 1 to 11 to the company statements.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and IFRSs as adopted by the European Union and, as regards the parent company financial statements, as applied in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006.

## **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report.

We are independent of the group and the parent company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the Financial Reporting Council's (the "FRC's") Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

We are required by ISAs (UK) to report in respect of the following matters where:

- the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the directors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties
  that may cast significant doubt about the group's or the parent company's ability to continue to
  adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date
  when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

We have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

#### Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

## Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the group's and the parent company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the group or the parent company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the FRC's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

## Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

## Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and of the parent company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the Strategic Report or the Directors' Report.

## Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report in respect of the following matters if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- · certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

We have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

#### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. 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.

Darren Longley FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Deloitte LLP

**Statutory Auditor** 

London, United Kingdom

5 March 2020

## **CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT**

for the year ended 31 December 2019

	ſ	2019	2018
	Note	£m	£m
Revenue	3	152.2	136.3
Property costs	4	(82.5)	(78.1)
Net property income		69.7	58.2
Administrative expenses	5	(22.9)	(26.2)
Net gain on disposal of investment		s. <b>⊕</b> ,	0.5
Net gain on revaluation and sale of investment property	10	60.9	16.9
Net loss on sale of group occupied property		4000	(7.1)
Share of gain from interests in joint ventures	18	7.3	20.3
Impairment of trade and other receivables, including contract assets	20	(0.2)	(3.3)
Gain from operations including share of joint ventures and associates	:	114.8	59.3
Financial income	11	6.5	3.8
Financial expenses	11	(30.4)	(27.2)
Net financing costs		(23.9)	(23.4)
Profit before tax		90.9	35.9
Current income tax expense	12	(13.3)	(14.1)
Deferred tax credit	12	1.9	7.0
Profit for the year		79.5	28.8
Attributable to:			
Equity holders of the parent		79.5	28.8

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

for the year ended 31 December 2019

	Note	2019 £m	2018 £m
Profit for the year		79.5	28.8
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to the income statement:	9		
Revaluation of other property, plant and equipment	16	- ,	(2.3)
Re-measurement of net defined benefit liability	7	(1.5)	11.7
Other		•	0.7
Income tax relating to items that will not be reclassified subseincome statement	ubsequently to the	0.3	(0.5)
		(1.2)	9.6
Other comprehensive (loss)/income for the year	i	(1.2)	9.6
Total comprehensive income for the year	:	78.3	38,4
Attributable to:	•		
Equity holders of the parent	:	78:3	38.4

## **CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET**

as at 31 December 2019

	Ĩ	2019 <sup>-</sup>	2018
ASSETS	Note	£m	£m
Non-current assets			-
Investment property	15	3,412.7	3,384.4
Other property, plant and equipment	16	52.0	52.6
Right-of-use assets	17	19.0	-
Interests in joint ventures and associates	18	30.3	36.7
Deferred tax assets	13	34.1	32.8
Employee benefits	7		0.2
Total non-current assets		3,548.1	3,506.7
Current assets			
Trading properties	19	3.6	12.7
Trade and other receivables	20	33.0	58.8
Cash and cash equivalents	21	367.7	399.1
Total current assets	,	404.3	470.6
TOTAL ASSETS	j	3,952.4	3,977.3
LIABILITIES			
Non-current liabilities	į		
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	24	(712.4)	(713.4)
Lease liabilities	17	(19.9)	•
Deferred lease premium income	22	(176.6)	(178.7)
Employee benefits	7	(5.6)	
Deferred tax liabilities	13	(409.6)	(410.5)
Total non-current liabilities		(1,324.1)	(1,302.6)
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	22	(127.6)	(128.9)
Lease liabilities	17	(1.7)	
Provisions	23	(0.3)	(0.9)
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	24	•	(52.5)
Income tax and VAT payable		(5.5)	(22.0)
Total current liabilities		(135.1)	(204.3)
TOTAL LIABILITIES	ļ	(1,459.2)	(1,506.9)
NET CURRENT ASSETS	ľ	269.2	266.3
NET ASSETS	· •	2,493.2	2,470.4
Equity	•		
Share capital	30	499.1	499.1
Reserves		(7.5)	(7.5)
Retained earnings		2,001.6	1,978.8
SHAREHOLDER'S FUNDS	1	2,493.2	2,470.4

Approved by the Board and authorised for issue on 5 March 2020 and signed on behalf of the Board;

Jonathon Bond

(Chairman)

Company registration number: 02874626

Roger Blundell (Finance Director)

# **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY** for the year ended 31 December 2019

	Share capital	Merger reserve	Revaluation reserve	Cashflow hedging reserve	Retained earnings	Non- controlling interest	Total
·	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Polonos et 4 January 2049	499.1	(22.4)	49.4	(0.3)	2 000 5	(2.2)	2.492.4
Balance at 1 January 2018 Adjustment on initial application of IFRS 9	499.1	(33.4) <u>*</u>	18.4 	(0.3)	2,000.5 (0.7)	(2.2)	2,482.1 (0.7)
Changes in equity			٠				
Profit for the year	: : : : :::-	· ·	i.	<del>-</del>	28.8		28.8
Transfer to income statement		÷ <del>‡</del>	₹′	; <del>=</del>	•	2.2	2.2
Other comprehensive income	<del>-</del> .	ā	(2.3)	0.7	11.7	· <b>-</b> ,	10.1
Tax on other comprehensive income		1 <del>4</del>	1.5	#	(2.0)	<b>-</b> 3	(0.5)
Total comprehensive income	2.	¥*	(8,0)	0.7	38.5	2.2	40.6
Dividends paid	.2	1	r <b>.</b>	₽	(51.6)	i.	(51.6)
Transfers between reserves	2	·=	8.3	(0.4)	(7.9)		•,
Balance at 31 December 2018	499.1	(33.4)	25.9	÷.	1,978.8	:5	2,470.4
Adjustment on initial application of							
IFRS 16 (Note 1(r))	÷	<b>∞</b> ≅	ī	4	(1.0)		(1.0)
Adjusted balance at 1 January 2019	499.1	(33.4)	25.9		1,977.8	.·•	2,469.4
Changes in equity							
Profit for the year	4.E.	<u>e</u>	; <del>-</del>	•.	79.5	•	79.5
Other comprehensive loss	` <u>=</u>	-	<b>.</b> .	,#	(1.5)	27	(1.5)
Tax on other comprehensive loss	iæ.		£ <del>=</del> +	; <del>-</del>	0.3	<b></b>	0.3
Total comprehensive income	÷.	₹ <del>≜</del> +	. <u>.</u>	·	78.3	÷	78.3
Dividends paid	<del>-</del> , '	*	đ	•	(54.5)	£ <b>≑</b> `	(54.5)
Balance at 31 December 2019	499.1	(33.4)	25.9	fra.	2,001.6	:	2,493.2

## **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

For the year ended 31 December 2019

	t, é		
		2019	2018
	Note	£m	£m
Cash flow from operations	26	42.7	4.9
Income taxes paid*		(0.2)	(16.7)
Interest expense paid	11	(39.9)	(37.7)
Interest income received	11	6.5	3.8
Net cash flows from/(used in) operating activities	}	9.1	(45.7)
Investing activities			ĺ
Proceeds from sale of investment property		104.7	54.2
Acquisition of investment and development property	15	(28.8)	(106.3)
Development of investment and development property	15	(18.4)	(33.1)
Proceeds from disposal of group occupied property		<u>.</u>	116.0
Proceeds from disposal of subsidiary		-	2.5
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	16	(1.1)	(1.0)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		e e	1.3
Net cash flow from joint ventures		13.6	44.3
Net cash flows from investing activities		70.0	77.9
Financing activities			
Proceeds from new borrowings	24	<u>}</u>	250.0
Repayment of borrowings	24	(52.5)	-
Repayment of lease liabilities	17	(2.3)	, <del>5</del> .
Dividends paid	31	(54.5)	(51.6)
Net cash flows (used in)/from financing activities	[	(109.3)	198.4
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	26	(30.2)	230.6
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	26	360.0	129.4
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	21	329.8	360.0

<sup>\*</sup>Total income taxes paid during the year was £7.3m (2018: £16.7m). During the year, payments to HMRC amounting to £7.1m (2018: £nil) were made via other shareholder group companies with the remainder £0.2m being paid directly by the Company (see above).

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

## 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

## (a) Basis of preparation

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union and therefore the Group financial statements comply with Article 4 of the EU IAS Regulation and is rounded to the nearest million of pounds.

The business activities of Grosvenor Limited and its subsidiaries ('the Group'), together with the factors likely to affect its future development, performance and financial position are set out in the Strategic Report on pages 2 to 16. The Strategic Report describes the principal risks and uncertainties faced by the Group on page 7. In addition, Note 25 to the financial statements includes an explanation of the Group's policies and processes for managing its financial and capital risks, details of its financial instruments, and its exposure to interest rates, credit risk and liquidity risk, including financial covenant risk, arising from potential falls in property values.

The financial statements are prepared on the historical cost basis, except for the revaluation of investment properties, group occupied properties, certain financial assets and derivatives that are measured at revalued amounts or fair value and deferred tax thereon. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

During the year the Group operated in one business segment, being property investment and development in Great Britain & Ireland and as such no further information is provided as per the requirements of IFRS 8 'Operating Segments'.

As described in accounting policy 1(r) the Group has changed its accounting policy in respect of leases on adoption of IFRS 16. The Group has had to apply judgement when determining, with reasonably certainty, the term over which to recognise the lease liability.

## Going Concern

As part of its regular evaluation of liquidity risk, the Group models its principal risks and uncertainties using cash flow projections looking forward for the next 12 months, including an assessment of compliance with banking covenants and the implications of any facilities that are due to expire in this period. Based on these projections, and taking account of the committed but undrawn facilities available to the Group, the Group is satisfied that it has sufficient headroom on both facilities and banking covenants.

Therefore the directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company and the Group have adequate resources to continue in business for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis.

## 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### (b) Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the financial statements of the Company and entities controlled by the Company (its subsidiaries) made up to 31 December each year. Control is achieved when the Company:

- has power over the investee;
- is exposed, or has rights, to variable return from its involvement with the investee; and
- has the ability to use its power to affects its returns.

The Company reassesses whether or not it controls an investee if facts and circumstances indicate that there are changes to one or more of the three elements of control listed above.

When the Company has less than a majority of the voting rights of an investee, it considers that it has power over the investee when the voting rights are sufficient to give it the practical ability to direct the relevant activities of the investee unilaterally. The Company considers all relevant facts and circumstances in assessing whether or not the Company's voting rights in an investee are sufficient to give it power, including:

- the size of the Company's holding of voting rights relative to the size and dispersion of holdings
  of the other vote holders:
- potential voting rights held by the Company, other vote holders or other parties;
- rights arising from other contractual arrangements; and
- any additional facts and circumstances that indicate that the Company has, or does not have, the current ability to direct the relevant activities at the time that decisions need to be made, including voting patterns at previous shareholders' meetings.

Consolidation of a subsidiary begins when the Company obtains control over the subsidiary and ceases when the Company loses control of the subsidiary. Specifically, the results of subsidiaries acquired or disposed of during the year are included in the consolidated income statement from the date the Company gains control until the date when the Company ceases to control the subsidiary.

Profit or loss and each component of other comprehensive income are attributed to the owners of the Company and to the non-controlling interests. Total comprehensive income of the subsidiaries is attributed to the owners of the Company and to the non-controlling interests even if this results in the non-controlling interests having a deficit balance.

Where necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring the accounting policies used into line with the Group's accounting policies.

All intragroup assets and liabilities, equity, income, expenses and cash flows relating to transactions between the members of the Group are eliminated on consolidation.

## 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

## (b) Basis of consolidation (continued)

Non-controlling interests in subsidiaries are identified separately from the Group's equity therein. Those interests of non-controlling shareholders that are present ownership interests entitling their holders to a proportionate share of net assets upon liquidation may initially be measured at fair value or at the non-controlling interests' proportionate share of the fair value of the acquiree's identifiable net assets. The choice of measurement is made on an acquisition-by-acquisition basis. Other non-controlling interests are initially measured at fair value. Subsequent to acquisition, the carrying amount of non-controlling interests is the amount of those interests at initial recognition plus the non-controlling interests' share of subsequent changes in equity. Total comprehensive income is attributed to non-controlling interests even if this results in the non-controlling interests having a deficit balance.

Changes in the Group's interests in subsidiaries that do not result in a loss of control are accounted for as equity transactions. The carrying amount of the Group's interests and the non-controlling interests are adjusted to reflect the changes in their relative interests in the subsidiaries. Any difference between the amount by which the non-controlling interests are adjusted and the fair value of the consideration paid or received is recognised directly in equity and attributed to the owners of the Company.

When the Group loses control of a subsidiary, the gain or loss on disposal recognised in profit or loss is calculated as the difference between (i) the aggregate of the fair value of the consideration received and the fair value of any retained interest; and (ii) the previous carrying amount of the assets (including goodwill), less liabilities of the subsidiary and any non-controlling interests. All amounts previously recognised in other comprehensive income in relation to that subsidiary are accounted for as if the Group had directly disposed of the related assets or liabilities of the subsidiary (i.e. reclassified to profit or loss or transferred to another category of equity as specified/permitted by applicable IFRSs). The fair value of any investment retained in the former subsidiary at the date when control is lost is regarded as the fair value on initial recognition for subsequent accounting under IAS 39 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement, when applicable, the costs on initial recognition of an investment in an associate or a joint venture.

#### (c) Foreign currency transactions

The consolidated financial statements are expressed in pounds sterling, which is the functional currency of the Group and the presentation currency for the consolidated financial statements. At entity level, transactions denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the exchange rates ruling on the date the transaction is recorded. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the exchange rates ruling at the balance sheet date or, if hedged, at the exchange rates under the related hedging transaction and the resultant exchange differences are dealt with in the income statement. Non-monetary items that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rates as at the dates of the initial transactions. Non-monetary items measured at fair value in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rates at the date when the fair value was determined.

## 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

## (c) Foreign currency transactions (continued)

On consolidation, the results of overseas companies are translated into Sterling at the average exchange rates for the period and their assets and liabilities are translated into Sterling at the exchange rates ruling at the balance sheet date. Exchange differences arising from the translation of foreign operations, and of related hedges, are taken to equity. They are released into the income statement upon disposal.

In the cash flow statement, cash flows denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Sterling at the average exchange rates for the period.

#### (d) Investment property

Investment properties, including freehold and leasehold properties, are those which are held either to earn rental income or for capital appreciation or for both. Investment properties include property that is being developed for use as an investment property. Investment properties are initially measured at cost, including transaction costs. After initial recognition investment properties are carried at their fair values, based on annual market valuations as determined by independent valuers.

Any surplus or deficit on revaluation is recognised in the income statement as a valuation gain or loss.

When the Group begins to redevelop an existing investment property for continued future use as investment property, the property continues to be classified as an investment property and is carried at fair value with valuation gains and losses being recorded in the income statement.

When the Group begins to redevelop an existing investment property with a view to sale, the property is transferred to trading properties and held as a current asset. The property is remeasured to fair value at the date of transfer and any gain or loss is recognised in the income statement. The re-measured amount becomes the deemed cost at which the property is then carried in trading properties.

## (e) Leases

#### Group as lessor

Where a leasehold property is held as an investment property it is initially recognised at an amount equal to the sum of the premium paid on acquisition and the present value of minimum ground rent payments. The corresponding rent liability to the freeholder is included in the balance sheet as a finance lease obligation.

Leases to tenants where substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the Group as lessor, are classified as operating leases. Payments received under operating leases, including prepayments and lease premiums, net of the carrying value of the corresponding lease interest granted in return for a premium and any incentives provided by the Group, are deferred in the balance sheet and recognised in the income statement on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Leases where substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are transferred to the tenant are classified as finance leases. A finance lease asset is recognised as a receivable in the balance sheet at an amount equal to the present value of the minimum lease payments plus any unguaranteed residual value. Payments received are allocated between repayment of the finance lease receivable and interest income so as to reflect a constant periodic rate of return on the Group's net investment outstanding in respect of the leases. A profit or loss on disposal is recognised in the income statement upon entering into a finance lease for any difference between the present value of the minimum lease payments plus any unguaranteed residual value and the carrying value of the property derecognised.

## **ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

## (e) Leases (continued)

#### Group as lessee

Up until 31 December 2018, finance leases which transfer to the Group substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to ownership of the leased item, are capitalised at the commencement of the lease at the fair value of the leased property or, if lower, at the present value of the minimum lease payments. Lease payments are apportioned between finance charges and reduction of the lease liability so as to achieve a constant rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability. Finance charges are recognised in finance costs in the income statement.

A leased asset is depreciated over the useful life of the asset. However, if there is no reasonable certainty that the Group will obtain ownership by the end of the lease term, the asset is depreciated over the shorter of the estimated useful life of the asset and the lease term.

Operating lease payments are recognised as an operating expense in the income statement on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

## (f) Other property, plant and equipment

Other property, plant and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Land and buildings are stated at fair value, with valuation gains and losses recognised in comprehensive income.

Depreciation is charged to the income statement on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of items of property, plant and equipment, and major components that are accounted for separately, at rates varying between 12.5% and 33% per annum, except for freehold property occupied by the Group which is depreciated where material over its expected useful life.

Depreciation rate ranges applied as follows:

Leasehold improvements12.5%Computer and IT equipment20% - 33.3%Fixtures, fittings and motor vehicles12.5% - 25%

## (g) Trade receivables and other financial assets

Trade receivables, loans and other receivables are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment. Interest income is recognised by applying the effective interest rate, except for short-term receivables when the recognition of interest would be immaterial. Financial assets are assessed for indicators of impairment at each balance sheet date.

The Group assesses on a forward looking basis the expected credit losses associated with its financial assets carried at amortised cost. The impairment methodology applied depends on whether there has been a significant increase in credit risk. For trade receivables, lease receivables and contract assets, the Group applies the simplified approach permitted by IFRS 9, which requires expected lifetime losses to be recognised from initial recognition of the receivables.

The Group applies the expected credit loss ("ECL") model to financial assets measured at amortised cost and contract assets. As the expected credit loss model requires the Group to account for expected credit losses and changes in those expected credit losses at each reporting date to reflect changes in credit risk since initial recognition of the financial assets. In other words, it is no longer necessary for a credit event to have occurred before credit losses are recognised.

The Group has elected to measure loss allowances for trade receivables and contract assets at an amount equal to lifetime expected credit losses under the simplified approach as these items do not have a significant financing component.

## (g) Trade receivables and other financial assets (continued)

The ECLs were calculated based on actual credit loss experience over the past three years, modified for known credit losses that have occurred. Exposures were segmented based on common credit risk characteristics such as credit risk grade, geographic region, industry, delinquency status and, age of relationship.

ECLs are a probability-weighted estimate of credit losses. Credit losses are measured as the present value of all cash shortfalls (i.e. the difference between the cash flows due to the entity in accordance with the contract and the cash flows that the Group expects to receive). ECLs are discounted at the effective interest rate of the financial asset.

The Group has elected to measure loans to joint ventures at amortised cost at an amount equal to lifetime expected credit losses based on the latest assumptions of the profitability of the underlying project.

## (h) Trading properties

Trading properties are held as current assets and are shown at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price at completion less the estimated costs of completion including the estimated costs necessary to make the sale.

### (i) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash balances and call deposits, including balances held with Grosvenor Group Limited which are payable on demand. Cash equivalents are short-term (held for three months or less), highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value. Bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Group's cash management are included as a component of cash and cash equivalents for the purpose of the statement of cash flows.

### (j) Derivative financial instruments

The Group does not enter into derivative contracts for solely speculative purposes. Instruments are used for hedging purposes to alter the risk profile of an existing underlying exposure of the Group in line with its risk management policies. Amounts payable or receivable in respect of interest rate swaps are recognised as adjustments to interest expense over the period of the contracts.

Changes in the fair value of derivative financial instruments that are designated and effective as hedges of future cash flows are recognised directly in equity and any ineffective portion is recognised immediately in the income statement. If the cash flow hedge of a firm commitment or forecast transaction results in the recognition of an asset or a liability, then, at the time the asset or liability is recognised, the associated gains or losses on the derivative that had previously been recognised in equity are included in the initial measurement of the asset or liability. For hedges that do not result in the recognition of an asset or liability, amounts deferred in equity are recognised in the income statement in the same period in which the hedged item affects net profit or loss.

Changes in the fair value of derivative financial instruments that do not qualify for hedge accounting are recognised in the income statement as they arise.

### (j) Derivative financial instruments (continued)

Hedge accounting is discontinued when the hedging instrument expires or is sold, terminated or exercised, or no longer qualifies for hedge accounting. At that time, any cumulative gain or loss on the hedging instrument recognised in equity is retained in equity until the forecast transaction occurs. If a hedged transaction is no longer expected to occur, the net cumulative gain or loss recognised in equity is transferred to the income statement in the period.

Derivatives embedded in other financial instruments or other host contracts are treated as separate derivatives when their risks and characteristics are not closely related to those of host contracts and the host contracts are not carried at fair value, with gains or losses reported in the income statement

### (k) Borrowings and other financial liabilities

Borrowings and other financial liabilities are recognised initially at fair value, less attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, borrowings and other financial liabilities are stated at amortised cost with any difference between initial fair value and redemption value being recognised in the income statement over the period of the borrowings on an effective interest basis.

### (I) Employee benefits

The Group operates a defined contribution plan and a defined benefit plan for its employees.

Obligations for contributions to defined contribution pension plans are recognised as an expense in the income statement as incurred.

The Group's net obligation in respect of defined benefit pension plans is calculated separately for each plan by estimating the amount of future benefit that employees have earned in return for their service in the current and prior periods; that benefit is discounted to determine its present value.

The calculation is performed by a qualified actuary using the projected unit credit method. The future benefit liability is offset by the fair value of the pension plan assets at the balance sheet date.

The expected annual charge for defined benefit pension costs as estimated by the actuary is included in the income statement and comprises the current service cost, the interest cost on the future benefit liability and the expected return on plan assets.

Adjustments between expectation and actual, together with all the actuarial adjustments are recognised in full in the year in which they arise and are credited or debited directly to reserves.

### (m) Revenue

The Group's revenue comprises rental income, service charges and other recoverables from tenants, income from the provision of services including property management fees, development management fees, income from hotel operations, proceeds of sales of its trading properties and development income.

Rental income from investment property leased out under an operating lease is recognised in the income statement on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. Lease incentives granted are recognised as an integral part of the total rental income over the life of the lease.

The Group's revenue from contracts with customers, as defined in IFRS 15 includes service charges and other recoverables from tenants, income from the provision of services including property management fees and income from hotel operations proceeds of sales of its trading properties and development income.

### (m) Revenue (continued)

The Group recognises revenue when a customer obtains control of the goods or services. Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. The Group assesses its revenue arrangements against specific criteria to determine if it is acting as principal or agent and has concluded it is acting as principal in all of its revenue arrangements.

Revenue from service charges, other recoverables from tenants and income from the provision of services including property management fees are recorded as income over time in the period in which the services are rendered. The Group is responsible for providing service charge services. Service charge income and costs are shown gross in the Income Statement with service charge recoveries from tenants recorded as a component of Group revenue. Where recovery of service charges is doubtful, a provision for impairment is made.

Revenue from development is recognised over time over the period of the contract in the income statement in proportion to the stage of completion of the transaction at the balance sheet date. Revenue is not recognised if there are significant uncertainties regarding recovery of the consideration due. Provision is made for anticipated development losses.

Revenue from hotel operations, being the rental of rooms is recognised at a point in time when rooms are occupied and food and beverage sales are recognised at the point of sale. Turnover excludes staff discretionary service charges which are independently collected.

Revenue from the sale of trading properties is recognised when control over the property has been transferred to the buyer. However, an enforceable right to payment does not arise until legal title has passed to the buyer, which is usually at completion. Therefore, revenue is recognised at a point in time when the legal title has passed to the buyer.

Performance fees receivable are recognised in income when it is considered probable that a performance fee will be received and that fee can be reliably estimated. The amount of the performance fee recognised is the lower of the fee that has accrued at the balance sheet date and a prudent estimate of the fee that will be receivable at the end of the life of the fund. Where material, performance fees are discounted with any unwinding of the discount being recognised in interest income.

#### (n) Expenses

Up until 31 December 2018, rental payments made under operating leases are recognised in the income statement on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. Lease incentives received are recognised in the income statement as an integral part of the total lease expense on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease.

Minimum lease payments on finance leases are apportioned between the finance charge and the reduction of the outstanding liability. The finance charge is allocated to each period during the lease term so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability. Contingent rents are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

### (o) Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs relating to the financing of development properties, major improvements to investment properties, and trading properties that require substantial periods of time to bring into saleable condition, are capitalised. Borrowing costs are calculated by reference to the actual rate payable on borrowings specific to a project or, where a project is financed out of general funds, to the average rate for all borrowings. Borrowing costs are capitalised from the commencement of the project, until the date of practical completion of the project.

All other borrowing costs are recognised in the Group income statement in the period in which they are incurred.

### (p) Income tax

Income tax on the profit and loss for the year comprises current and deferred tax including tax on capital gains. Income tax is recognised in the income statement except to the extent that it relates to items recognised directly in equity, in which case it is recognised in equity.

Current tax is the expected tax payable on the taxable income for the year and any adjustment to tax payable in respect of previous years. Taxable profit differs from profit as reported in the consolidated income statement because of items of income or expense that are not taxable or deductible. The liability for current tax is calculated using tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the end of the reporting period; refer to Note 12 for the reconciliation. The income tax payable on the balance sheet includes VAT payable.

Deferred tax is provided using the balance sheet liability method, providing for temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes. The following temporary differences are not provided for: the initial recognition of assets and liabilities that affect neither accounting nor taxable profit; and differences relating to investments in subsidiaries to the extent that they will probably not reverse in the foreseeable future. The amount of deferred tax provided is based on the expected manner of realisation or settlement of the carrying amount of assets and liabilities, using tax rates enacted or substantially enacted at the balance sheet date. The Group provides deferred tax on investment properties by reference to the tax that would be due on the ultimate sale of the properties. Recognition on this basis means that, where applicable, indexation allowance is taken into account in the tax base cost.

A deferred tax asset is recognised only to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which the asset can be utilised. Deferred tax assets are reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that the related tax benefit will be realised.

Deferred tax assets are measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the period in which the asset is realised, based on tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted by the end of the reporting period. The measurement of deferred tax assets reflects the tax consequences that would follow from the manner in which the Group expects, at the end of the reporting period, to recover or settle the carrying amount of its assets.

### (q) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Group has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past events, it is probable that the Group will be required to settle that obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the balance sheet date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation.

### (r) Adoption of standards

In the current year, the impact of the adoption of IFRS 16 Leases and the new accounting policies are disclosed below.

The Group has applied a number of amendments to IFRS Standards and Interpretations issued by the IASB that are effective for an annual period that begins on or after 1 January 2019. Their adoption has not had any material impact on the disclosures or on the amounts reported in these financial statements.

### (r) Adoption of standards (continued)

In the current year, the impact of the adoption of IFRS 16 Leases and the new accounting policies are disclosed below.

The Group has applied a number of amendments to IFRS Standards and Interpretations issued by the IASB that are effective for an annual period that begins on or after 1 January 2019. Their adoption has not had any material impact on the disclosures or on the amounts reported in these financial statements.

The other standards as presented below did not have any material impact on the Group's accounting policies and did not require retrospective adjustments:

- Annual Improvements to IFRS Standards 2015-2017 Cycle Amendments to IFRS 3
  Business Combinations, IFRS 11 Joint Arrangements, IAS 12 Income Taxes and IAS 23
  Borrowing Costs;
- IAS 19 (Amendments) Employee Benefits: Plan Amendment, Curtailment or Settlement;
- IFRS 9 (Amendments) Prepayment Features with Negative Compensation;
- IAS 28 (Amendments) Long-term Interests in Associates and Joint Ventures; and
- IFRIC 23 Uncertainty over Income Tax Treatments.

At the date of authorisation of these financial statements, the Group has not applied the following new and revised IFRSs that have been issued but are not yet effective and in some cases had not yet been adopted by the EU:

- IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts;
- IFRS 10 Consolidated Financial Statements and IAS 28 (Amendments) Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture;
- IFRS 3 (Amendments) Business Combinations: Definition of a business;
- IFRS 10 and IAS 28 (Amendments): Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture:
- IAS 1 and IAS 8 (Amendments): Definition of Material; and
- Amendments to References to the Conceptual Framework in IFRS Standards.

The Directors do not expect that the adoption of the standards listed above will have a material impact on the financial statements of the Group in future periods.

### i) Impact of application of IFRS 16 Leases

This accounting policy explains the impact of the adoption of IFRS 16 Leases on the Group's financial statements and discloses the new accounting policies that have been applied from 1 January 2019 below. The Group applied the modified retrospective approach, which requires the recognition of the cumulative effect of initially applying IFRS 16, as of 1 January 2019, to retained earnings and not to restate prior years. Accordingly, the information presented for 2018 is presented under IAS 17 Leases and the related interpretations.

#### As lessor

The Group is not required to make any adjustments on transition to IFRS 16 for leases which it acts as lessor. The Group accounted for its leases in accordance with IFRS 16 from the date of initial application, 1 January 2019. The Group applies the definition of a lease and related guidance set out in IFRS 16 to all lease contracts entered into or changed on or after 1 January 2019 (whether it is lessor or lessee on the lease contract). In preparation for the first-time application of IFRS 16, the Group has carried out an implementation project. The project has shown that the new definition in IFRS 16 will not significantly change the scope of contracts that meet the definition of a lease for the Group.

### (r) Adoption of standards (continued)

i) Impact of application of IFRS 16 Leases (continued)

#### As lessee

The Group has elected to apply the practical expedient not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for short-term leases that have a lease term of 12 months or less and leases of low-value assets. When measuring lease liabilities, lease payments were discounted using the Group's incremental borrowing rate at 1 January 2019. The Group's weighted average incremental borrowing rate applied at 1 January 2019 is 2.95%. On adoption of IFRS 16 there was a £1.0m impact to the retained earnings.

The Group has elected to apply the practical expedient to grandfather the assessment of which transactions are leases on the date of initial application, as previously assessed under IAS 17 and IFRIC 4. The Company applied the definition of a lease under IFRS 16 to contracts entered into or changed on or after 1 January 2019.

When applying IFRS 16, the Group made the following changes in presentation:

- In the consolidated balance sheet, additional line items to reflect the right-of-use assets, the non-current and the current lease liabilities; and
- In the consolidated statement of cash flows, additional line items related to the depreciation of the right-of-use assets, repayment of lease liabilities and the lease interest paid.

There were no changes to presentation made in the Consolidated income statement.

As of 1 January 2019, the Group recognised £20.8m of right-of-use assets and lease liabilities of £23.2m. The Consolidated income statement for the year ended 31 December 2019 was impacted by a decrease in rental expense of £2.3m and a shift in office rents of £2.3m to depreciation of right-of-use assets of £1.8m and interest expense of £0.7m. During the same period, the Group cash flows statement was impacted by a shift from the cash used in operations of £2.3m to the net cash used in financing activities. Overall, IFRS 16 had a neutral impact on cash flow for the Group.

The following table reconciles the Group's operating lease obligations at 31 December 2018, as previously disclosed in the Group's consolidated financial statements, to the lease obligations recognised on initial application of IFRS 16 at 1 January 2019.

### Operating lease commitments at 31 December 2018

Effect of discounting using the incremental borrowing rate at 1 January 2019

Add: finance lease liabilities at 31 December 2018

Less: recognition exemption for low value assets

Adjustment to consolidate lease commitments under IFRS 16

Lease liabilities recognised at 1 January 2019

1 January 2019		
£m		
, ·		
(52.5)		
7.9		
(44.6)		
(1.3)		
0.8		
21.9		
(23.2)		

### (r) Adoption of standards (continued)

### i) Impact of application of IFRS 16 Leases (continued)

The Group's accounting policies for leases on initial adoption of IFRS 16 from 1 January 2019 are set out below.

The Group has leases for which it must account for from the position of both a lessee and a lessor.

### Group as lessee

The Group assesses whether a contract is, or, contains a lease, at inception of a contract based on whether the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration.

The Group has also elected to apply the following practical expedients:

- To account for each lease component and non-lease components as a single arrangement.
- Applied the exemption not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for short-term leases that have a lease term of 12 months or less and leases of low-value assets.
   The lease payments associated with these leases are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

The Group recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability at the lease commencement date.

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at the commencement date, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease or, if that rate cannot be readily determined, the Group's incremental borrowing rate. Generally, the Group uses its incremental borrowing rate as the discount rate. The lease liability is subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. It is remeasured when there is a change in future lease payments arising from a change in an index or rate, if there is a change in the Group's estimate of the amount expected to be payable under a residual value guarantee, or if the Group changes its assessment of whether it will exercise a purchase, extension or termination option.

When the lease liability is remeasured in this way, a corresponding adjustment is made to the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to zero.

The lease liability is presented as a separate line in the consolidated statement of financial position.

The right-of-use asset is initially measured at either:

- The initial amount of the lease liability adjusted for any lease payments made at or before the commencement date, plus any initial direct costs incurred and an estimate of costs to dismantle and remove the underlying asset or to restore the underlying asset or the site on which it is located, less any lease incentives received. Under IAS 17 they resulted in the recognition of a lease incentive liability, amortised as a reduction of rental expense on a straight-line basis.
- Their carrying amount as if IFRS 16 had been applied since the lease commencement date, discounted by the Group's incremental borrowing rate as at 1 January 2019.

### (r) Adoption of standards (continued)

### i) Impact of application of IFRS 16 Leases (continued)

The assets are depreciated to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the right-of-use asset or the lease term using the straight-line method.

The lease term includes periods covered by an option to extend if the Group is reasonably certain to exercise that option. Lease terms are 15 years for office buildings. In addition, the right-of-use asset is periodically reduced by impairment losses, if any, and adjusted for certain remeasurements of the lease liability. This will be assessed annually in line with IAS 36: Impairment.

#### Group as lessor

Leases to tenants where substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the Group as the lessor are classified as operating leases. Payments made under operating leases, including prepayments, and net of any incentives provided by the Group, are charged to the income statement on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Leases where substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are transferred to the tenant are classified as finance leases. A finance lease asset is recognised as a receivable in the balance sheet at an amount equal to the present value of the minimum lease payments plus any unguaranteed residual values. Payments received are allocated between repayment of the finance lease receivable and interest income so as to reflect a constant periodic rate of return on the Group's net investment outstanding in respect of the leases. A profit or loss on disposal is recognised in the income statement upon entering into a finance lease for any difference between the present value of the minimum lease payments plus any unguaranteed residual values and the carrying value of the property derecognised. As required by IFRS 9, an allowance for expected credit loss has been recognised on the finance lease receivables.

When the Group is an intermediate lessor, it accounts for the head lease and the sublease as two separate contracts. The sublease is classified as a finance or operating lease by reference to the right-of-use asset arising from the head lease.

#### (s) Dividends

Equity dividends are recognised when they become legally payable. Interim equity dividends are recognised when paid. Final equity dividends are recognised when approved by the directors. Dividends on shares recognised as liabilities are recognised as expenses and classified within interest payable.

# (t) Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the Group's accounting policies the directors are required to make judgements (other than those involving estimations) that have a significant impact on the amounts recognised and to make estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may be different from these estimates.

### (t) Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty (continued)

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

### i) Critical judgements in applying the Group's accounting policies

The following are critical judgements, apart from those involving estimations (which are dealt with separately below) that the directors have made in the process of applying the Group's accounting policies and that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in financial statements.

#### Leases

The accounting treatment for a lease is determined by its classification as either an operating lease or a finance lease. Lease classification requires judgement in determining whether substantially all of the risks and benefits associated with ownership have been transferred between the lessor and lessee.

When operating lease premiums are received in exchange for the grant of a long leasehold interest that is classified as an operating lease, the related profit is recognised over the term of the lease. Many of the transactions giving rise to deferred lease premiums took place a number of years ago before the requirement to spread profit recognition; the Group applies judgement to estimate certain of the lease premium deferrals and associated deferred tax assets.

## ii) Key sources of estimation uncertainty

The key assumptions concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting period that may have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year, are discussed below:

### **Property valuations**

Due to the size of the investment property portfolio held on the balance sheet at market value small changes to the estimates used to derive the market values can have a significant impact on the valuations and therefore a significant impact on the results and financial position of the Group. This includes the value of property yields and the estimated future rental income assumed in the valuations. See Note 15 for details of the estimates used in deriving the valuations, including sensitivities of these estimates and page 7 for risk around impact of Brexit.

As deferred tax is provided on investment properties by reference to the tax that would be due on the ultimate sale of the properties, changes to the estimates used to derive the market values would also have an impact on the deferred tax provided.

### **Defined benefit pension schemes**

The assumptions used in calculating the balance sheet assets and liabilities of the defined benefit pension schemes include sensitivity analysis in regards to these estimates are also shown in Note 7. The assets and liabilities are sensitive to the application of these estimates and small changes can have a significant impact on the results and financial position of the Group.

As a consequence of the UK preparing to leave the European Union the level of estimation uncertainty of the items above is likely to have increased compared to the prior year. The Group has been preparing and implementing practical plans to mitigate the potential impact on the Groups' activities and further information is included in the Strategic Report.

# 2. REVENUE PROFIT

The Group uses revenue profit as a measure of operating performance. The calculation of revenue profit and its reconciliation to profit before tax is set out below:

	2019			
·	Note	Group £m	Joint ventures £m	Total £m
	·	<u> </u>		
Total revenue	3,18	152.2	25.0	177.2
Property costs excluding major refurbishments	4,18	(73.9)	(17.8)	(91.7)
Net property income excluding major refurbishments	·	78.3	7.2	85.5
Administrative expenses	5	(22.9)	<u>5</u> .	(22.9)
Impairment of trade and other receivables, including contract assets	20	(0.2)	÷ ÷	(0.2)
Net financing costs	11,18	(23.9)	0.4	(23.5)
Revenue profit	[	31.3	7.6	38.9
Reconciliation:				
Joint venture tax	18		(0.3)	(0.3)
Net gain on revaluation and sale of investment property	10	60.9		60.9
Major refurbishment expenditure	4	(8.6)	. <del>.</del>	(8.6)
Profit before tax	Ī	83.6	7.3	90.9

		2018		
		Group	Joint ventures	Total
	Note	£m	£m	£m
			*	
Total revenue	3,18	136.3	50.9	187.2
Property costs excluding major refurbishments	4,18	(63.7)	(30.5)	(94.2)
Net property income excluding major refurbishments		72.6	20.4	93.0
Administrative expenses	5	(26.2)	: <del>=</del> ,	(26.2)
Impairment of trade and other receivables, including contract	t assets	(3.3)	-	(3.3)
Net financing costs	11,18	(23.4)	0.1	(23.3)
Revenue profit		19.7	20.5	40.2
Reconciliation:				
Joint venture tax	18		(0.2)	(0.2)
Net loss on sale of group occupied property		(7.1)	·•.	(7.1)
Net gain on revaluation and sale of investment property	10	16.9	<u>.</u> .	16.9
Net gain on disposal of investments	i	0.5	÷	0.5
Major refurbishment expenditure	4	(14.4)	¥	(14.4)
Profit before tax		15.6	20.3	35.9

## 3. TOTAL REVENUE

	٠	2019	2018
	Note	£m	£m
Gross lease payments receivable	<del></del>	97.9	97.3
Amortisation of deferred lease premiums		9.4	9.3
Amortisation of lease incentives	ĺ	4.2	1,1,
Gross rental income		111.5	107.7
Proceeds from sale of trading property	9	19.4	0.2
Service charge income	1	14.6	12.1
Revenue from hotel operations		<b></b>	10.8
Project management fees		2.4	2.8
Other income	1	4.3	2.7
Revenue from contracts with customers		40.7	28.6
Total revenue		152.2	136.3

Revenue arising from the grant of leases (e.g. rental income and amortisation) is accounted for in accordance with IFRS 16, with all other revenue accounted for under IFRS 15. IFRS 15 requires that a distinction is made between revenue arising from contracts with customers that is recognised "at a point in time" (e.g. trading property sales) and "over time" (e.g. service charge income). For this purpose a "customer" is considered to be any third party purchasing a good or service from the Group.

Revenue	from cor	ntracts with	customers
---------	----------	--------------	-----------

At a point in time Over time Total revenue

2019	2018
£m	£m
20.4	2.1
20.3	26.5
40.7	28.6

The majority of investment properties that are leased out under operating leases have unexpired terms of between six months and 20 years in length.

Revenue from hotel operations arises from activities of an entity over which the Group had control (as defined by IFRS 10 'Consolidated Financial Statements'). The Group did not hold any shares in the entity and it remained 100% owned outside the Group and was not a subsidiary or subsidiary undertaking as defined by the Companies Act. On 29 September 2018, the Group's interest in the entity was disposed. From this date the Group no longer had control and ceased consolidating the performance and balance sheet of the entity.

Revenue from discontinued operations amounted to £nil (2018: £10.8m).

# 4. PROPERTY COSTS

		2019	2018
	Note	£m	£m
Service charge expenses	Company is not	(14.6)	(12.1)
Major refurbishment expenses		(8.6)	(14.4)
Other property operating expenses		(38.2)	(34.5)
Development costs of trading and development properties	9	(3.9)	(1.9)
Carrying value of trading properties sold	9	(14.6)	<del>,</del>
Other operating expenses		(2.6)	(4.9)
Hotel operating expenses	•		(10.2)
Total property costs		(82.5)	(78.1)

Other property operating expenses include irrecoverable service charges.

Major refurbishment expenses include the cost of repairing investment properties incurred as part of a larger redevelopment and costs of upgrading the public realm.

## **5. ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES**

	2019 £m	2018 £m
Staff costs	(22.5)	(25.9)
Fees payable to the Company's auditor and it's associates:	· •	
- for the audit of the Company's annual accounts	(0.2)	(0.2)
- for the audit of the Company's subsidiaries pursuant to legislation	(0.1)	(0.1)
Total audit fees	(0.3)	(0.3)
- other assurance services	(0.1)	_ (0.1)
Total non-audit fees	(0.1)	(0.1)
Other professional fees	(4.3)	(4.2)
Other administrative expenses	(12.1)	(14.9)
Recharged to related parties	16.4	19.2
·	(22.9)	(26.2)

Included within other administrative expenses is £nil (2018: £0.3m) relating to hotel operations.

## 6. EMPLOYEE INFORMATION

	ĺ	2019	2018
	Note	£m	£m
Staff costs			
Wages and salaries		(29.5)	(33.8)
Social security contributions		(2.6)	(4.1)
Other staff costs		(2.6)	(2.3)
Pension costs			
Contributions to defined contribution plans		(1.0)	(1.0)
Net cost of defined benefit plans	7	(6.1)	(7.2)
		(41.8)	(48.4)
Included in administrative expenses		(22.6)	(25.9)
Included in property outgoings		(16.9)	(16.6)
Included in trading costs		(2.3)	(1.8)
Included in hotel operating expenses		<b>. #</b> .	(4.1)
		(41.8)	(48.4)

### Monthly average number of employees by business

Property investment
Property trading
Management and administration
Hotel operations

2019	2018 (restated)
167	183
16	12
97	114
	184
280	493

The costs of staff directly engaged in investment activities are included in property outgoings, those directly engaged in development activities for sale are included in development costs and those engaged in hotel activities are included in hotel operating expenses. All employees are located in the United Kingdom. Directors' remuneration is shown in Note 8.

As disclosed in Note 3, on 29 September 2018, the Group's interest in an entity over which the Group had control was disposed. From this date the Group no longer consolidates the number of hotel operations employees.

The 2018 monthly average number of employees by business has been restated to ensure consistency with 2019.

The Company has no employees (2018: none),

### 7. RETIREMENT BENEFIT SCHEMES

### **Defined contribution schemes**

The Grosvenor Group operates defined contribution retirement benefit schemes. The Group contributes a percentage of salary into the defined contribution schemes to fund the benefits. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the Group in funds under the control of independent pension providers. The only obligation of the Group with respect to the defined contribution schemes is to make the specified contributions.

The total cost of defined contribution pension schemes charged to the income statement was £1.0m (2018: £1.0m).

### **Defined benefit schemes**

The Grosvenor Group operates defined benefit schemes which have benefits based on service and average or final salary. The plans are approved by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs for tax purposes, and are operated separately from the Group and managed by member and employer nominated Trustees. The Trustees are responsible for payment of the benefits and management of the plan's assets. The schemes are subject to UK regulations, which require the Group and Trustees to agree a funding strategy and contribution schedule for the scheme. The formal process results in the production and adherence to a Schedule of Contributions, both for regular on-going contributions, and if required any additional deficit contributions. This is signed by both the company and pension trustees and certified as making adequate contributions to meet accruing liabilities for a five year period. The adequacy test is governed by regulations and certified by the Scheme Actuary.

The defined benefit schemes are funded. They are administered by member and employer nominated Trustees. Independent qualified actuaries complete valuations of the schemes every three years and, in accordance with their recommendations, annual contributions are paid to the schemes so as to secure the benefits set out in the rules.

As with the vast majority of similar arrangements, the Group incurs a high degree of risk relating to the defined benefit scheme. These risks include investment risks and demographic risks, such as the risk of members living longer than expected. The scheme holds a large proportion of its assets in equity investments. Strong future equity returns would be expected to reduce the Group's future cash contributions (and vice versa). If the contributions currently agreed are insufficient to pay the benefits due, the Group may need to make further contributions to the scheme. With headroom (being cash and committed undrawn facilities) of £795m (2018: £850m), the Group is comfortably positioned to make further contributions to the scheme should they be required.

The scheme is a multi-employer scheme because it provides pensions for both the Group and employees of other entities owned by the ultimate shareholders of the Grosvenor Group. The Group accounts for its proportionate share of defined benefit obligations, scheme assets and cost of this schemes based on the proportion of the accrued liabilities that relate to the Group's employees. Changes in the Group's proportionate share of the assets and liabilities of this scheme arising during the year are treated as actuarial gains or losses. Upon wind-up of the plan or an entity's withdrawal from the plan, each employer would become liable to pay their share of the scheme's liabilities (their section 75 debt).

The most recently completed triennial valuation was carried out at 31 December 2017. The valuation has been updated to 31 December 2019 where appropriate. The results of this valuation together with the key assumptions used are set out below.

The weighted average duration to payment of the expected benefit cash flows from the scheme in respect of accrued service at the end of the accounting period is approximately 23 years (2018: 22 years).

In addition to the defined benefit scheme set out above, the Group operates an unfunded defined benefit scheme to satisfy pension commitments not catered for by the funded schemes.

# 7. RETIREMENT BENEFIT SCHEMES (CONTINUED)

## Analysis of defined benefit schemes

The amounts recognised in the income statement in respect of defined benefit schemes are as follows:

Current service cost
Past service cost
Net interest cost

2019	2018
£m	£m
(5.8)	(6.9)
(0.2)	(0.2)
(0.1)	(0.1)
(6.1)	(7.2)

The amounts included in the balance sheet in respect of defined benefit schemes are as follows:

Present value of unfunded obligations
Present value of funded obligations
Present value of total defined benefit obligations
Fair value of scheme assets
Net defined benefit pension scheme (deficit)/surplus
Included in the balance sheet under:
Non-current (liabilities)/assets

2019	2018
£m	£m
(0.3)	(0.3)
(169.3)	(145.0)
(169.6)	(145.3)
164.0	145.5
(5.6)	0.2
(5.6)	0.2

The amounts included in comprehensive income in respect of defined benefit schemes are as follows:

Actuarial (loss)/gain

2019	2018
£m	£m
(1.5)	11.7

Included within actuarial gains and losses is a loss of £nil (2018: £0.5m) due to changes in demographic assumptions.

Movements in the present value of defined benefit obligations were:

At 1 January
Current service cost
Past service cost
Interest cost
Actuarial (loss)/gain
Benefits paid
At 31 December

2019	2018
£m	£m
(145.3)	(161.2)
(5.8)	(6.9)
(0.2)	(0.2)
(4.3)	(3.8)
(17.6)	23.8
3.6	3.0
(169.6)	(145.3)

# 7. RETIREMENT BENEFIT SCHEMES (CONTINUED)

## Movements in the fair value of scheme assets were;

At 1 January
Allocation
Interest on plan assets
Actual return on plan assets less interest on plan assets
Regular contributions by the employer
Benefits paid

At 31 December

Contract of the contract of th	<u> </u>
2019	2018
£m	£m
145.5	155.1
0.2	<u>-</u>
4.3	3.7
15.8	(12.1)
1.8	1.8
(3.6);	(3.0)
164.0	145.5

# · Movements in the net defined benefit (obligations)/assets were;

At 1 January
Charged to income statement
Amount recognised outside the income statement
Employer contributions
At 31 December

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2019	2018
£m	£m
0.2	(6.1)
(6.1)	(7.2)
(1.5)	11.7
- 1.8	1.8
(5.6)	0.2

# Analysis of the scheme assets:

Equities
Bonds
Multi-asset credit funds
Other

At 31 December

2019	2018	
£m	£m	
-128.8	112.7	
19.1	18.0	
13.6	13.0	
2.5	1.8	
164.0	145.5	

# 7. RETIREMENT BENEFIT SCHEMES (CONTINUED)

The plan does not invest directly in property occupied by the Group or in financial securities issued by the Group.

The plan's assets are invested in a diversified range of asset classes as set out in this note. These assets include liability matching assets and annuity policies purchased by the Trustees which aim to match the benefits to be paid to some members from the plan and therefore remove the investment, inflation and demographic risks in relation to those liabilities.

The assumptions used in the scheme were:

Discount rate
Expected rate of salary increases
Expected rate of future pension increases
Inflation
Life expectancy of a 65 year old today*
Life expectancy of a 65 year old in 20 years

2019	2018
2.11%	2.91%
3.90%	3.90%
2.95%	3.21%
2.95%	3.21%
Male 24.5	Male 24.4
Female 26.2	Female 26.1
Male 26.2	Male 26.1
Female 27.7	Female 27.6

The sensitivity to the key assumptions (denoted \* above) above of the total defined benefit obligation and approximate income statement expense is set out as follows:

Based on the assumptions above, the approximate impact of:

Increase in discount rate by 0.25%

Increase in inflation rate by 0.25%

Increase in life expectancy by 1 year at 65

Total defined benefit obligation	Approximate expense in 2019
£m	£m
(9.4)	(0.2)
9.8	0.2
_6.3	0.1

The calculations in this section have been carried out using the same method and data as the Group's pensions and accounting figures with each assumption adjusted as shown above. Each assumption has been varied individually and a combination of changes in assumptions could produce a different result.

## 8. DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION

Aggregate remuneration
Emoluments
Performance-related bonus
Long-term incentive scheme

2019	2018
£'000	£,000
:	
2,541	2,358
343	794
1,209	1,118
4,093	4,270

The total amounts payable under long-term incentive schemes comprise all amounts to which directors became unconditionally entitled to during the year.

In 2018, £177,000 was paid to a former director as compensation for loss of office and is included within emoluments. Included within long-term incentive scheme costs in 2018 was £118,000 paid to a former director.

The highest paid director serving at 31 December 2019 received emoluments of £748,000 (2018: £509,000).

Retirement benefits accrued to four (2018: three) executive directors during the year under defined benefit schemes sponsored by Group companies. The total annual accrued pension under the defined benefit pension schemes for these directors was £28,000 (2018: £12,500). Retirement benefits accrued to no (2018: one) executive director during the year under money purchase pension schemes. Total contributions in respect of money purchase pension benefits were £nil (2018: £1,200).

## 9. NET GAIN / (LOSS) ON TRADING ACTIVITIES

Development costs

Proceeds from sale of trading properties

Carrying value of trading properties sold

Net gain / (loss) on trading activities

	<u> </u>	
	2019	2018
Note	£m	£m
4	(3.9) 19.4	(1.9)
3	. 19.4	0.2
4	(14.6)	<u>-</u>
1	0.9	(1.7)

## 10. NET GAIN ON REVALUATION AND SALE OF INVESTMENT PROPERTY

Net valuation gain/(loss) on investment property

Profit on disposal of investment property

Net gain on revaluation and sale of investment property

2019	2018
'_ £m	£m
44.4	(2.4)
16.5	19.3
60.9	16.9

## 11. NET FINANCING COSTS

Financial income (including interest income)
Interest expense
Interest on lease liabilities
Commitment fees and other financing costs
Interest capitalised
Financial expenses
Net financing costs

	<u> </u>
2019	2018
£m	£m
6.5	3.8
(36.8)	(34.3)
(0.7)	<b>₹</b>
(2.6)	(3.4)
9.7	10.5
(30.4)	(27.2)
(23.9)	(23.4)

The average rate of interest capitalised in the year was 5.06% (2018: 6.16%).

## 12. TAXATION

Recognised in the income statement
Current corporate income tax
Current year
Adjustment for prior years
Deferred tax Origination and reversal of temporary differences Effect of tax rate change Adjustment for prior years
Total income tax expense in the income statement

2019	2018
£m	£m
12.6	14.0
0.7	0.1
13.3	14.1
5.9	(7.6)
(1.9)	0.2
(5.9)	0.4
(1.9)	(7.0)
11.4	7.1

## 12. TAXATION (CONTINUED)

### Reconciliation of effective tax

Profit before tax

Less: share of profit of joint ventures

Add: joint venture profit where the tax is directly attributable to the Group

Adjusted Group profit before tax

Income tax using the corporate tax rate 19.0% (2018: 19.0%)

Expenses not deductible for tax purposes

Adjustment for indexation

Adjustments in respect of prior years

Effect of tax rate change on deferred tax balance

Impact of Corporate Interest Restriction rules

Total income tax expense in the income statement

~	
2019	2018
£m	£m
90.9	35.9
(7.3)	(20.3)
6.0	17.8
89.6	33.4
17.0	6.3
1.1	0.6
€ 🚅	0.5
(5.2)	0.5
(1.9)	0.2
0.4	(1.0)
11.4	7.1

#### Reconciliation of effective tax rate

Income tax using the corporate tax rate 19.0% (2018: 19.0%)

Expenses not deductible for tax purposes

Adjustment for indexation

Adjustments in respect of prior years

Effect of tax rate change on deferred tax balance

Impact of Corporate Interest Restriction rules

Total income tax expense in the income statement

2018
£m
19.0%
1.7%
1.5%
1.5%
0.6%
(3.0%)
21.3%

### Recognised in other comprehensive income

Total deferred tax (credit)/income

Total income tax (credit)/income in other comprehensive income

2019	2018
£m	£m
(0.3)	0.5
(0.3)	0.5

A current tax rate of 19%, being the UK corporation tax rate throughout the period, has been applied to the year ended 31 December 2019.

A deferred tax rate of 17% has been applied to opening balances and movements in deferred tax in the year ended 31 December 2019.

Tax on profit in the year relating to discontinued operations was £nil (2018: £0.1m).

# 13. DEFERRED TAX ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Recognised deferred tax assets and liabilities are attributable to the following items:

Investment property – contingent gains
Investment property – deferred income
Other property, plant and equipment
Employee benefits
Tax assets/(liabilities)

Assets 2019 £m	Liabilities 2019 £m	Net 2019 £m	Assets 2018 £m	Liabilities 2018 £m	Net 2018 £m
<u>.</u>	(406.4)	(406.4)	₫,	(401.1)	(401.1)
31.3	1.0	31.3	31.0	-	31.0
. <b>-</b> *	(3.2)	(3.2)	-	(9.4)	(9.4)
2.8	. ]	2.8	1.8	•	1.8
34.1	(409.6)	(375.5)	32.8	(410.5)	(377.7)

Movement in temporary differences during the year:

Investment property – contingent gains
Investment property – deferred income
Other property, plant & equipment
Employee benefits
Tax assets/(liabilities)

Balance at 1 January 2019 £m	Recognised in income statement £m	Recognised in the total other comprehensive income	Transfers £m	Balance at 31 December 2019 £m
(401.1)	(5.3)	•	•	(406.4)
31.0	0.3	,-	<del>.</del>	31.3
(9.4)	6.2	-	•	(3.2)
1.8	0.7	0.3	-	2.8
(377.7)	1.9	0.3	3.●	(375.5)

Investment property – contingent gains
Investment property – deferred income
Other property, plant & equipment
Employee benefits
Tax assets/(liabilities)

Balance at 1 January 2018 £m	Recognised in income statement £m	Recognised in other comprehensive income	Transfers £m	Balance at 31 December 2018 £m
(399.1)	(3.5)	1.5	-	(401.1)
20.2	10.8	æ	.₹	31.0
(8.3)	(1.1)	÷	=	(9.4)
3.0	0.8	(2.0)	·•	1.8
(384.2)	7.0	(0.5)	•	(377.7)

At the balance sheet date, the Group has unrelieved interest costs of £10.3m (2018: £4.4m) for which no deferred tax asset has been recognised.

# **14. PROPERTY ASSETS**

The table below analyses the Group's interests in property assets on a proportional basis, including the Group's share of property assets in joint ventures.

		ii	2019	2018
		Note	£m	£m
Investment property	- Group	15	3,412.7	3,384.4
	- Share of joint ventures	18	<b>%</b>	
Trading properties	- Group	19	3.6	12.7
	<ul> <li>Share of joint ventures and associates</li> </ul>	18	8.1	22.2
Owner-occupied property	•	16	44.1	44.1
Total property assets			3,468.5	3,463.4

# 15. INVESTMENT PROPERTY

	Complete	Completed property		Under development		Total	
2019	Freehold	Leasehold	Freehold	Leasehold	Freehold	Leasehold	,
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Balance at 1 January	7.8	3,198.3	80.3	98.0	88.1	3,296.3	3,384.4
Acquisitions	0.1	28.7	<u> </u>	€ '	0.1	28.7	28.8
Development costs capitalised	-	15.2	3.3		3.3	15.2	18.5
Capitalised interest	4	3.4	6.3	÷	6.3	3.4	9.7
Disposals	÷	(82.9)	÷	<del>:</del>	Ę.	(82.9)	(82.9)
Revaluation gains	-	29.4	15.0	2	15.0	29.4	44.4
Amortisation of deferred rent	_	4.2	-	•	:•	4.2	4.2
Amortisation of deferred lease premiums	<b>:</b>	5.6	<u> -</u>	£	·•	5.6	5.6
Transferred between categories	<b>.</b>	75.4	-	(75.4)	. <del></del>	<b>.</b>	-
Balance at 31 December	7.9	3,277.3	104.9	22.6	112.8	3,299.9	3,412.7

	Complete	ed property	Under de	evelopment	T	otal	Total	
2018	Freehold	Leasehold	Freehold	Leasehold	Freehold	Leasehold		
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	
Balance at 1 January	7.7	3,025.0	80.8	128.6	88.5	3,153.6	3,242.1	
Acquisitions	-	106.1	0.2	-	0.2	106.1	106.3	
Development costs capitalised	<u> </u>	26.0	7.1	÷	7.1	26.0	33.1	
Capitalised interest	<u> </u>	3.1	7.4	-	7.4	3.1	10.5	
Disposals	. 4	(19.1)	-	. <del>-</del>	. <del>(</del>	(19.1)	(19.1)	
Revaluation gains/(losses)	0.1	12.6	(15.2)	<del>.</del> .	(15.1)	12.6	(2.5)	
Amortisation of deferred rent	v	1.1	- :	<del>.</del>	-	1.1	1.1	
Transferred from other plant, property and equipment	-	7.3	. <del>.</del>	-	<del>.</del>	7.3	7.3	
Amortisation of deferred lease premiums	-	5.6		<u>.</u>	÷	5.6	5.6	
Transferred between categories	-	30.6	-	(30.6)	<u>.</u>		, <del>-</del>	
Balance at 31 December	7.8	3,198.3	80.3	98.0	88.1	3,296.3	3,384.4	

The historical cost of the Group's investment properties was £1,333.6m (2018: £1,237.0m).

During the year, capitalised interest credited to the income statement was £9.7m (2018: £10.5m).

At 31 December 2019 investment properties with a carrying amount of £1,848.7m were pledged as security for group borrowings (2018: £1,778.0m).

At 31 December 2019 the Group had investment properties with a fair value of £0.3m (2018: £1.4m) under offer from third parties.

The gross rental income earned by the Group from its investment property amounted to £111.5m (2018: £107.7m). Direct operating expenses arising on the investment property amounted to £46.8m (2018: £48.9m).

The Group has obligations to purchase, construct or develop investment property of £2.8m (2018: £11.8m).

# Fair value disclosure

Class of Property	Fair Value Hierarchy	Valuation/ FV 2019 £m	Valuation/ FV 2018 £m	Valuation technique	Valuation inputs	Average property 2019	Average property 2018
Office	Level 3	1,256	1,088	Investment method and	Weighted Average ERV psf	£73 psf	£70 psf
:				market comparable method	ERV range psf	£24- £127 psf	£24- £125 psf
					Weighted Average Eq yld	4.2%	4.2%
					Equivalent yield range	3.25%- 7.5%	3.4%- 6.3%
Retail	Level 3	1,105	1,090	Investment method and	Weighted Average ERV psf	£62 psf	£66 psf
				market comparable method	ERV range psf	£12- £223 psf	£12- £178 psf
					Weighted Average Eq yld	3.7%	3.6%
					Equivalent yield range	3.2%- 5.25%	2.9%- 5.0%
Residential	Level 3	934	1,104	Investment method and market comparable method	Average Rev'n capital value psf	£1,519 psf	£1,516 psf
				Residual Approach for development sites	Capital value range psf	£285- £3,019 psf	£450- £3,780 psf
Hotels	Level 3	60	49	Discounted Cashflow method	Weighted Average ERV psf	£20 psf	£20 psf
:				and market comparable method	ERV range psf	£4-£38 psf	£4-£38 psf
:					Weighted Average Eq yld	5.1%	6.0%
				:	Discount rate range	5.8%	6.0%
Investment properties under development	Level 3	102	98	Residual Approach	ERV range psf	£18-£42 psf	£27- £147 psf
					Weighted Average Exit yield	3.8%	3.5%
Total		3,457	3,429				

The table above includes owner occupied property of £44.1m (2018: £44.1m)

### Fair value disclosure (continued)

**Class of property**: the portfolio consists of a variety of uses often within the same building. The class of property shown is usually based upon the predominant use by income.

Fair value hierarchy: all the properties are level 3 in the fair value hierarchy as at 31 December 2019 and there were no transfers between levels during the year.

Valuation technique: there were no changes in the valuation technique.

Valuation inputs: the portfolio contains a mix of different lease tenure types. These consist of market rented (properties let at a market rent which is reviewed periodically), geared rented (properties let on long leases which pay only a percentage of the market rent which is reviewed periodically) or ground rented (properties which are let on long leases at low fixed ground rents). Properties may contain a mix of these tenure types. The average rents/ERVs referred to above ignore properties which have a tenure type which is completely ground rented as these can distort the averages.

### **ERV** - Estimated Rental Value

### Valuation processes, policies and procedures

- The portfolio is valued on an annual basis by independent and qualified valuers.
- The portfolio was valued by Cushman & Wakefield, Chartered Surveyors at 31 December 2019 on a fair value basis in accordance with the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors ('RICS') Valuation - Professional Standards guidelines and performed in accordance with generally accepted international valuation standards.
- The fair value at 2019 represents the highest and best use.
- The fee payable to the valuers is on a fixed basis.
- Investment properties have been valued using the investment method which involves applying a yield to rental income streams. Inputs include yield, current rent, ERV or on a market comparable basis of value per square foot derived and adjusted from actual market transactions. Development properties are valued using a residual method which involves valuing the completed investment property using an investment or comparable market method and deducting estimated costs to complete.
- Valuation reports are based on both information provided by the Company e.g. current rents and lease terms which is derived from the company's financial and property management systems and is subject to the company's overall control environment, and assumptions applied by the valuers e.g. ERVs and yields. These assumptions are based on market observation and the valuers professional judgement.

# Sensitivity analysis

The following table shows the impact (in isolation) of changes in key unobservable inputs on the fair values of investment property recognised in the balance sheet by class of asset for the office, retail and residential sectors.

2019	1	Impact on Valuations Impact on Valuations		Valuations	
Class of Property	Market Value	5% increase in ERV	5% decrease in ERV	25bp increase in equivalent yield	25bp decrease in equivalent yield
	£m	£m	£m	. £m	£m
Offices	1,256	47	(46)	(79)	92
Retail	. 1,105	46	(45)	(74)	84
Class of Property	Market Value	5% increase in capital values	5% decrease in capital values	25bp increase in equivalent yield	25bp decrease in equivalent yield
	£m	£m	£m	<u>£m</u>	£m
Residential	934	44	(44)	(14)	15
Hotel	60	2	(2)	. (3)	: 4
Total	3,355	139	(137)	(170)	195

# 16. OTHER PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

2019
Cost
Balance at 1 January
Additions
Disposals
Balance at 31 December
Accumulated Depreciation
Balance at 1 January
Depreciation charge for the year
Disposals
Disposals Balance at 31 December
•
Balance at 31 December

Land and buildings £m	Other property, plant and equipment £m	Total £m
44.1	19.5	63.6
:	1.1	1.1
	(0.5)	(0.5)
44.1	20.1	64.2
		· <u></u>
•	(11.0)	(11.0)
:•	(1.7)	(1.7)
-	0.5	0.5
•	(12.2)	(12.2)
44.1	8.5	52.6
44.1	7.9	52.0

# 16. OTHER PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (CONTINUED)

•
2018
Cost
Balance at 1 January
Additions
Disposals
Loss on revaluation of group occupied property
Transfer from investment property
Balance at 31 December
Accumulated Depreciation
Balance at 1 January
Depreciation charge for the year
Disposals
Balance at 31 December
Net Book Value
At 1 January
At 31 December

Land and buildings £m	Other property, plant and equipment £m	Total £m
118.6	20.1	138.7
0.1	0.9	1.0
(65.0)	(1.5)	(66.5)
(2.3)		(2.3)
(7.3)		(7.3)
44.1	19.5	63.6
2	(9.7)	(9.7)
÷	(1.7)	(1.7)
<u>*</u>	0.4	0.4
*	(11.0)	(11.0)
118.6	10.4	129.0
44.1	8.5	52.6

Land and buildings comprise £44.1m (2018: £44.1m) of long leasehold property. This property was valued at 31 December 2019 by an independent valuer – Cushman & Wakefield, Chartered Surveyors, on the basis of market value for existing use in accordance with the Appraisal and Valuation Manual of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

The historical cost of the Group's revalued land and buildings at 31 December 2019 was £12.5m (2018: £12.5m).

On 29 September 2018, the Group granted a long lease on a property classified within land and buildings as group occupied property. The profit realised has been deferred to the balance sheet and will be recognised on a straight line basis over the lease term. A loss of £7.1m has been recognised in the income statement in 2018 relating to associated costs of disposal. The book value of the remaining interest in the property of £7.3m has been transferred to Investment Property with the cumulative revaluation from previous years transferred from the revaluation reserve to retained earnings.

### 17. RIGHT-OF-USE OF ASSETS AND LEASE LIABILITIES

As of 1 January 2019, the Group recognised £20.8m of right-of-use assets and £21.9m of lease liabilities relating to office buildings.

The interest charge depends on the applied incremental borrowing rate for the respective lease component. The weighted average rate of the incremental borrowing rate is 2.95% for office buildings.

The following table shows the movements in the net book values of right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for the year ended 31 December 2019.

Right-of-use assets and lease liabilities are in respect of office buildings.

At 1 January 2019

Depreciation of right-of-use assets

At 31 December 2019

Right-of-use assets	
£m	
20.8	·
(1.8)	
19.0	

At 1 January 2019

Interest expense on lease liabilities

Repayment of lease liabilities including interest

At 31 December 2019

	-:
Lease liabilities	1
£m	
(23.2)	٦
(0.7)	۱
2.3	١
(21.6)	1

Amounts recognised in the income statement

Interest expense on lease liabilities

Expense relating to leases of low-value assets

Charged to the income statement

ı	2040
١	2019
l	£m
I	(0.6)
l	(0.2)
ĺ	(0.8)

**Maturity analysis** 

Less than one year
Between one and five years
More than five years

 	 _
2019	ļ
£m	
(1.7)	
(7.2)	
 (12.7)	 Į
 (21.6)	

The Group does not face a significant liquidity risk with regards to its lease liabilities. Lease liabilities are monitored within the Group's treasury function.

# 18. INTERESTS IN JOINT VENTURES

Share of profit of joint ventures

Net profit from interests in joint ventures in the income statement

Share of assets and liabilities of joint ventures Loans and other long-term receivables

Net interest in joint ventures in the balance sheet

2019	2018
£m	£m
7.3	20.3
7.3	20.3
1	
4.3	12.2
4.3 26.0	12.2 24.5

# Share of profit of joint ventures:

Revenue

Property costs

Net property income and other income less administrative expenses

Net financing costs

Tax

Profit after tax

2019	2018
£m	£m .
25.0	50.9
(17.8)	(30.5)
7.2	20.4
0.4	0.1
(0.3)	(0.2)
7.3	20.3

### Share of assets and liabilities of joint ventures:

Current assets

- trading properties

- cash and receivables

**Current liabilities** 

Net assets

2019	2018
£m	£m
8.1	22.2
18.7	13.1
(22.5)	(23.1)
4.3	12.2
	<del></del>

# **18. INTERESTS IN JOINT VENTURES (CONTINUED)**

At 31 December 2019 the Group had the following principal interests in joint ventures:

(a) incorporated companies:	Principal activities	Place of business and country of registration	Effective interest
Trumpington Meadows Land Company Limited	Property Development	England and Wales	50.0%
20 Balderton Street Project 1 Limited	Property Development	England and Wales	50.0%
Grosvenor Stow Projects 2 Limited	Property Development	England and Wales	50.0%
Grosvenor Stow Limited	Property Development	England and Wales	50.0%

(b) limited liability partnerships:	Principal activities	Place of business and country of registration	Effective interest
GC Bankside LLP	Property Development	England and Wales	50.0%
Alpha Place Developments LLP	Property Development	England and Wales	33.3%
Barton Oxford LLP	Property Development	England and Wales	50.0%
GC Campden Hill LLP	Property Development	England and Wales	16.7%

The registered addresses of the joint ventures are listed in Note 4 of the Company accounts:

# 19. TRADING PROPERTIES

		2019	2018
	Note	£m	£m
Balance at 1 January		12.7	10.2
Additions		ě	鉴
Development costs capitalised		4.7	2.5
Disposals	9	(13.8)	
Balance at 31 December		3.6	12.7

# 20. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

Current	
Gross trade receivables	
Allowance for bad debt	
Net trade receivables	
Other receivables due from shareholder companie	s
Contract assets	
Other receivables	
Prepayments and accrued income	
At 31 December	

	T-12
2019	2018
£m	£m
20.7	18.3
(0.9)	(1.0)
19.8	17.3
- ' <del>-</del>	27.6
2.3	4.4
6.4	5.7
4.5	3.8
33.0	58.8

# 21. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Bank balances
Cash held in Money Market Funds
Cash and cash equivalents in the statement of cash flows
Bank balances held on behalf of third parties
Cash and cash equivalents in the balance sheet

2019	2018
£m	£m
0.5	0.6
329.3	359.4
329.8	360.0
37.9	39.1
367.7	399.1

Bank balances held on behalf of third parties includes funds held in relation to service charges, sinking fund accounts and tenant deposits.

## 22. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

Current liabilities
Trade payables
Contract liabilities
Other payables due to shareholder companies
Other payables
Deferred income
Accrued expenses
Deferred lease premium income

2019	2018
£m	£m
(4.7)	(4.7)
(1.7)	(1.7)
-	(13.4)
(1.2)	
(47.4)	(39.0)
(27.4)	(29.4)
(42.5)	(41.7)
(7.3)	(3.7)
(127.5)	(128.9)

Deferred lease premium income of £176.6m (2018: £178.7m) is included within non-current liabilities.

# 23. PROVISIONS

### Non-current liabilities

At 1 January

Utilised in the year

At 31 December

2019	2018
£m	£m
<b>⊕</b> ì1	(0.2)
	0.2
•	***

### **Current liabilities**

At 1 January

Recognised in the year

Released during the year

Utilised in the year

At 31 December

2019	2018
£m	£m
(0.9)	(6.2)
· :	(0.1)
0.3	€.
0.3	5.4
(0.3)	(0.9)

The provisions disclosed above relate to an obligation in respect of an ongoing development.

# 24. INTEREST-BEARING LOANS AND BORROWINGS

2019	2018
£m	£m
(50.0)	(50.0)
(201.2)	(201.3)
(95.0)	(95.0)
(30.0)	(30.0)
(60.0)	(60.0)
(30.0)	(30.0)
(100.0)	(100.0)
(105.0)	(105.0)
(45.0)	(45.0)
-	(1.3)
3.8	4.2
(712.4)	(713.4)

2019	2018
£m	£m
à	(52.5)
-	(52.5)

### **Current liabilities**

8.375% Unsecured loan stock 2019

The 8.375% Unsecured loan stock 2029 was repaid on maturity on 15 February 2019.

From 1 January 2019 upon adoption of IFRS 16 (Note 1 (r)), finance lease liabilities are now recognised in Lease Liabilities (Note 17).

Included in the debenture stock due in 2026 is £1.2m (2018: £1.3m) of net unamortised premium.

The debenture stocks due in 2026 and 2034 are secured over investment properties with a carrying value of £1,848.7m (2018: £1,778.0m).

2	n	4	0
z	u		0

Less than one year Between one and five years More than five years

**************************************		<u> </u>
Minimum lease payments	Interest .	Principal
£m	£m £m	
(0.5)	(0.5)	. · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
(2.2)	(2.2)	⁄ <del>.</del> • .
(85.7)	(84.4)	(1.3)
(88.4)	(87.1)	(1.3)

### 25. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

## Capital risk management

The capital structure of the Group comprises debt, which includes the borrowings disclosed in Note 24, cash and cash equivalents disclosed in Note 21 and equity, comprising issued share capital, reserves and retained earnings as shown in the Statement of Changes in Equity.

The Group manages its capital to optimise returns over the long term. Gearing and interest cover limits are set by the Group's shareholder. Group gearing at the balance sheet date was 15.3% (2018: 16.4%).

### Financial instruments and their fair values

The directors consider that the carrying amounts of financial assets and liabilities carried at amortised cost in the financial statements approximate their fair values, except as detailed in the following table.

#### 2019

### Financial liabilities:

Sterling fixed rate loans

Mortgage debenture 2034

Debenture 2026

Private placement bond 2031

Private placement bond 2041

Private placement bond 2022

Private placement bond 2037

Private placement bond 2028

Private placement bond 2033

Private placement bond 2040

Carrying value at amortised cost	Fair value	
£m	£m	
!		
(50.0)	(97.5)	
(201.2)	(263.0)	
(95.0)	(115.8)	
(30.0)	(38.8)	
(60.0)	(62.9)	
(30.0)	(34.2)	
(100.0)	(98.9)	
(105.0)	(97.0)	
(45.0)	(39.5)	
(716.2)	(847.6)	

## 25. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONTINUED)

2018
Financial liabilities:
Sterling fixed rate loans
Mortgage debenture 2034
Debenture 2026
Unsecured loan 2019
Private placement bond 2031
Private placement bond 2041
Private placement bond 2022
Private placement bond 2037
Private placement bond 2028
Private placement bond 2033
Private placement hand 2040

Carrying value at amortised cost £m	Fair value £m	
(50.0)	(93.0)	
(201.3)	(257.5)	
(52.5)	(54.5)	
(95.0)	(104.5)	
(30.0)	(36.1)	
(60.0)	(58.9)	
(30.0)	(31.5)	
(100.0)	(86.5)	
(105.0)	(85.9)	
(45.0)	(35.5)	
(768.8)	(843.9)	

All financial assets and liabilities held by the Group are categorised as fair value hierarchy level 3, with the exception of the 2026 Debenture Stock, which is categorised as fair value hierarchy level 2 as its measurements are derived from inputs other than quoted prices but are observable for the liability. The fair value of this liability is determined with reference to quoted market prices.

The fair values of financial assets and liabilities, with fair value hierarchy level 3, are determined as follows:

- interest rate swaps are measured at the present value of future cash flows estimated and discounted based on the applicable yield curves derived from quoted interest rates.
- the fair value of other non-derivative financial assets and liabilities are determined in accordance with generally accepted pricing models based on discounted cash flow analysis using prices from observable current market transactions.

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities as stated above incorporates an adjustment in respect of credit risk.

## Financial risk management

The Grosvenor Group has a treasury function which monitors and manages the financial risks relating to the Group's operations and seeks to maximise the efficiency of borrowings and cash deposits throughout the Group. Treasury policies, approved by the Board, are to:

- ensure sufficient committed loan facilities are available to support anticipated business requirements as they arise;
- ensure that the Group's debt can be supported from maintainable cash flow through clear internal guidelines;
- manage interest rate exposure with a combination of fixed rate debt and interest rate swaps so that a minimum of 60% of borrowings are at fixed interest rates for the next three years;
- not hedge long-term net asset positions held in foreign currencies; and
- invest short-term cash with approved institutions within limits agreed by Grosvenor Group.

Transactions in financial instruments including derivatives are either governed by specific delegations or have prior Board approval. The Group does not enter into any treasury positions for purely speculative purposes. Detailed treasury reports are produced on a monthly basis with consolidated treasury risk reports. Covenant compliance reporting (including gearing and interest cover reporting) is performed on a quarterly basis for management reporting purposes. Risks include market risk (interest rates, currency and pricing), credit risk and liquidity risk.

## 25. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### Credit risk

Credit risk refers to the risk that a counterparty will default on its contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the Group. The Group is exposed to credit risk in respect of its surplus cash deposits, trade receivables, loans to joint ventures and receivables in respect of sales of properties to third parties. The Group manages this risk by performing an assessment of the credit risk specific to each counterparty prior to entering the transaction.

Surplus cash is deposited with major financial institutions with credit ratings at or above a specified level. Limits are set to restrict the total amount of funds that can be deposited with any single counterparty. At the year-end deposits were invested as follows, using ratings from major, reputable credit rating intuitions.

	Total deposits at 31 December	
	2019	2018 £m
	£m	
AAA	288.1	358.6
AA		₹
<b>AA-</b>	<b>₽</b>	ř
A+	19.6	2
A	60.0	÷
A-		40.5
BBB+	•	=
	367.7	399.1

Trade receivables consist of a large number of tenants, spread across diverse industries. Credit checks are carried out before commencement of tenancies and before entering into joint venture partnership agreements and ongoing credit evaluation ensures any receivables are provided for as required. Trade receivables are small relative to total assets and therefore do not present a significant risk to the Group. Net trade receivables at 31 December 2019 totalled £19.8m (2018: £17.3m) of which £5.4m (2018: £0.7m) were still outstanding at 5 March 2020 (2018: 7 March 2019).

The carrying amount of financial assets, excluding equity investments, recorded in the financial statements, net of any allowances for losses, represents the Group's maximum exposure to credit risk without taking account of the value of any collateral obtained.

### Interest rate risk

Exposure to interest rate movements is controlled through the use of a mixture of floating and fixed rate debt and interest rate derivatives, to achieve a balanced interest rate profile to ensure that at least 60% of debt are at fixed interest rates. The interest rate profile is reviewed on a monthly basis.

The Group's exposure to interest rates on financial assets and financial liabilities is analysed below:

			Fixe	d interes	t rate		
2019	Effective interest rate %	Floating interest rate £m	< 1 year £m	1-5 years £m	> 5 years £m	Non- interest bearing £m	Total £m
Financial assets:	• •			† <del></del>			
Trade and other receivables			æ	-	-	33.0	33.0
Loans to joint ventures	11.4	26.0				<b>,</b>	26.0
Cash and cash equivalents	0.7	367.7	. •	<u> </u>			367.7
Total financial assets	:	393.7	•	.=	-	33.0	426.7
			•				
Financial liabilities:							
Sterling fixed rate loans				]			
Mortgage debenture 2034	10.42	÷	à ,	=	(50.0)	•	(50.0)
Debenture 2026	6.50	-	-	•	(201.2)	•	(201.2)
Private placement bond 2031	5.57	•	<b>;</b>		(95.0)	•	(95.0)
Private placement bond 2041	6.05	÷	•	; <b>-</b>	(30.0)	<b>-</b> :	(30.0)
Private placement bond 2022	3.38	÷	÷	(60.0)	្ន	٠	(60.0)
Private placement bond 2037	4.97	ä			(30.0)	<b>4</b> ·	(30.0)
Private placement bond 2028	2.75	•	-		(100.0)	•	(100.0)
Private placement bond 2033	2.95	÷		•	(105.0)	÷	(105.0)
Private placement bond 2040	3.05	·•	-	÷	(45.0)	-	(45.0)
Total fixed rate loans		•	•	(60.0)	(656.2)	•	(716.2)
Lease liabilities	3.14	<b>:</b> :	(1.7)	(7.2)	(12.7)	i.	(21.6)
Trade and other payables	¥.	-	·•·	-	-	(127.5)	(127.5)
Total financial liabilities		-	(1.7)	(67.2)	(668.9)	(127.5)	(865.3)

The average cost of debt for the year ended 31 December 2019 was 5.06% (2018: 6:2%).

			Fixed interest rate				-
	Effective	Floating		-	Tate	Non-	
2018	interest	interest	< 1 year	1-5 years	> 5 years	interest bearing	Total
	%	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Financial assets:					7201 MINISTER 1		
Other receivables due from shareholder companies	·•·	2	€.	÷	, <del>*=</del> t	27.6	27.6
Trade and other receivables	=		<b>4</b>	<del>.</del>	- ₹•	31.2	31.2
Loans to joint ventures	11.4	24.5	-	-	<del>-</del> .	•	24.5
Cash and cash equivalents	0.5	399.1	*	<u>.</u>	: <u> </u>	2-	399.1
Total financial assets		423.6	. •	•	-	58.8	482.4
	ļ		, """" · ·		2		- ' 1
Financial liabilities:						1	
Sterling fixed rate loans							
Mortgage debenture 2034	10.42	-		ಕ	(50.0)	<u>=</u>	(50.0)
Debenture 2026	6.50	2	<b>₩</b> .	<u>=</u>	(201.3)		(201.3)
Unsecured loan 2019	8.38	¥	(52.5)	Ψ <sub>i</sub>	÷		(52.5)
Private placement bond 2031	5.57	Ě	*9	<u>;</u>	(95.0)	-	(95.0)
Private placement bond 2041	6.05	÷	· <b>-</b>	-	(30.0)	-	(30.0)
Private placement bond 2022	3.38	=	*	(60.0)	-	-	(60.0)
Private placement bond 2037	4.97	-	-	<u> </u>	(30.0)	٠.	(30.0)
Private placement bond 2028	2.75	<u>.</u>	÷·	÷	(100.0)	-	(100.0)
Private placement bond 2033	2.95	-	<b>a.</b>	-	(105.0)		(105.0)
Private placement bond 2040	3.05	æ		-	(45.0)	-	(45.0)
Total fixed rate loans		÷	(52.5)	(60.0)	(656.3)	•	(768.8)
Sterling floating rate loans						:	
Finance lease liabilities	6.00		₩.	<del>-</del>	(1.3)	·=·	(1.3)
Trade and other payables	_	<u>-</u> .	ı <del>.</del>	, <u> ۵</u> .	_	(129.0)	(129.0)
Total financial liabilities	<u> </u>	*	(52.5)	(60.0)	(657.6)	(129.0)	(899.1)

# Interest rate sensitivity

The sensitivity analysis below has been determined based on the exposure to interest rates at the balance sheet date. For floating rate liabilities and cash balances, it is assumed that the liability or asset at the balance sheet date was outstanding for the whole year. For illustrative purposes interest rate sensitivity has been estimated based on a 50 basis points increase or decrease to interest rates.

If interest rates had been 0.5% higher and all other variables are held constant, the impact on the Group's profit for the year would have been:

Increase in profit for the year

- interest receivable
- tax charge

Total increase in profit and equity

2019 £m	2018 £m
1.6	1.8
(0.3)	(0.3)
1.3	1.5

Similarly, if interest rates had been 0.5% lower, then Group profit and equity would have decreased by £1.3m (2018: £1.5m decrease).

## Liquidity risk

The Group obtains financing from a number of sources, including secured lending at project level together with secured and unsecured borrowing at the corporate level. To ensure sufficient cash is available to meet operating plans, the Group maintains cash flow projections and stressed cash flow analysis on a monthly basis.

At 31 December the Group had the following drawn and undrawn committed borrowing facilities available:

Expiring less than 1 year
Expiring from 2 to 5 years
Expiring after more than 5 years
Total

Drawn 1	Drawn facilities		facilities
2019 £m	2018 £m	2019 £m	2018 £m
-	52.2	•	25.0
58.8	57.9	465.0	465.0
654.5	654.5		<u>.                                    </u>
713.3	764.6	465.0	490.0

The Group also monitors its resilience to potential falls in property market values. Resilience is defined as the extent to which the Group's property interests could fall in value before financial covenants are breached assuming no property sales or debt repayments.

The maturity profile of the anticipated future cash flows including interest relating to the Group's non-derivative financial liabilities, on an undiscounted basis and which, therefore, differs from both carrying value and fair value, is as follows:

#### 2019

Due within 1 year From 1 to 2 years From 2 to 5 years After 5 years

Effect of discount/financing rates

Fixed rate loans	Floating rate loans	Lease liabilities	Other borrowings	Total
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
36.2	=	2.2	E	38.4
36.2		2.2	•	38.4
166.3	<u>.</u>	7.0	-2	173.3
905.6		94.7	•	1,000.3
1,144.3	· • · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	106.1	. es	1,250.4
(431.9)	•	(84.6)	•.	(516.5)
712.4	<b>1</b> = 1	21.5	• 1	733.9

# 2018

Due within 1 year From 1 to 2 years From 2 to 5 years After 5 years

Effect of discount/financing rates

Fixed rate loans	Floating rate loans	Finance lease liabilities	Other borrowings	Total
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
89.1	<u>-</u>	0.5	-	89.6
36.1	ž <b>u</b> r	0.5	-	36.6
165.8	•	1.6	-	167.4
902.2	=	85.8	-	988.0
1,193.2	<u> </u>	88.4	•	1,281.6
(428.6)	-	(87.1)	-	(515.7)
764.6	•	1.3	1	765.9

# 26. NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

# (a) Reconciliation of profit from operations including share of joint ventures to cash flow from operations

		2019	2018
Operating activities	Note	£m	£m
Profit from operations including share of joint ventures		114.8	59.3
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation		3.5	1.7
Net amortisation of deferred lease premiums		(3.7)	(3.8)
Amortisation of lease incentives	3	(4.2)	(1.1)
Gain on disposal of investments		. <del>e</del> .	(0.5)
Loss on sale of group occupied property			7.1
Net (gain)/loss on revaluation of investment property	10	(44.4)	2.4
Gain on sale of investment property	10	(16.5)	(19.3)
Impairment on trading properties	9	. <del>- 2</del> 4	7
Impairment on trade and other receivables	•	0.2	3.3
Share of profit of joint ventures and associates	18	(7.3)	(20.3)
Difference between pension contributions paid and amounts recognised in the income statement	7	4.1	5.4
Operating profit before changes in working capital and provisions		46.5	34.2
Decrease/(Increase) in trading properties	19	9.1	(2.5)
Increase in trade and other receivables		(2.2)	(9.0)
Decrease in trade and other payables		(10.1)	(12.3)
Decrease in provisions	23	(0.6)	(5.5)
Cash flow from operations		42.7	4.9

# (b) Analysis of net debt

Total cash and cash equivalents in the balance sheet
Restricted cash held on behalf of third parties (Note 21)
Total cash and cash equivalents in cash flow statement
Borrowings (Note 24)
Net borrowings

1 January 2019	Cash flow	31 December 2019
£m	£m	£m
399.1	(31.4)	367.7
(39.1)	1.2	(37.9)
360.0	(30.2)	329.8
(765.9)	53.5	(712.4)
(405.9)	23.3	(382.6)

# 27. LEASE COMMITMENTS

## Leases as lessee

The amount of lease rental charged to the income statement during the year comprised:

Land and buildings

2019	2018
£m	£m
-	4.6

From 1 January 2019, the Group recognised right-of-use assets and lease liabilities on leases of land and buildings, except for low value leases, see Note 1 (r).

The future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating lease rentals are payable as follows:

Less than one year Between one and two years More than five years

2019	2018
£m	£m
0.2	4.7
0.6	18.6
	29.2
0.8	52.5

#### Leases as lessor

Future minimum lease receipts under non-cancellable leases are as follows:

Not later than 1 year Between 1 and 2 years Between 2 and 3 years Between 3 and 4 years Between 4 and 5 years More than 5 years

2019	2018
£m	£m
84.3	86.1
72.0	67.3
61.7	61.2
52.0	53.5
43.0	44.4
975.1	1,054.0
1,288.1	1,366.5

# 28. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

Investment properties contracted but not provided Trading properties contracted but not provided

Capital commitments in respect of joint ventures

2019	2018
£m	£m
2.8	11.8
· •	4.4
2.8	16.2
14.3	21.8
17.1	38.0

# 29. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Certain Group companies have given performance and financial undertakings to third parties in respect of various contractual obligations entered into in the ordinary course of business. None of these are considered to be significant.

## 30. SHARE CAPITAL

#### **Authorised**

**Equity interests:** 

Ordinary shares of £1

Non-equity interests:

5% Cumulative redeemable preference shares of £1

2019		2018	
Number of shares	£m	Number of shares	£m
1,000,000,000	1,000.0	1,000,000,000	1,000.0
450,000,000	450.0	450,000,000	450.0
1,450,000,000	1,450.0	1,450,000,000	1,450.0

Allocated, called up and fully paid

Equity interests:

Equity interests:

Ordinary shares of £1

2019	9	2018	3
Number of shares	£m	Number of shares	£m
	a		
499,147,808	499.1	499,147,808	499.1

# **RIGHTS OF CLASSES OF SHARES**

Profits determined by the directors as available for distribution are to be applied first in paying a fixed cumulative dividend of 5% per annum on the amounts paid up on any 5% cumulative redeemable preference shares. The balance of profits available for distribution is payable to the holders of the ordinary shares in proportion to the amounts paid up on their shares.

On a return of the Company's assets to shareholders the assets are to be applied first in repaying to the holders of any 5% cumulative redeemable preferences shares the amounts paid up on their shares. The balance of the assets is payable to the holders of the ordinary shares in proportion to the amounts paid up on their shares.

The holders of any 5% cumulative redeemable preference shares are not entitled to vote at general meetings of the members of the Company except on resolutions varying or abrogating any of the special rights or privileges attaching to their shares or when the preferential dividend due on those shares is in arrears.

No 5% cumulative redeemable preference shares have been allocated, called up or paid at 31 December 2019.

#### 31. DIVIDENDS

Amount recognised as distributions to equity holders in the period:

Final regular dividend for the year ended 31 December 2019 of 10.9p (2018: 10.3p) per share

2019	2018
£m	£m
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
54.5	51.6
54.5	51.6

# 32. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Grosvenor Limited is wholly owned by Grosvenor Group Limited, a company incorporated in the United Kingdom and registered in England and Wales which is wholly owned by Trusts on behalf of the Grosvenor Family headed by the Duke of Westminster. During the year, the Group paid £2.8m (2018: £1.6m) in arm's length rentals and management fees to the Grosvenor Trusts and received £0.6m (2018: £0.6m) in arm's length rentals and service charges from certain directors, Trustees and members of the Grosvenor Family and the Grosvenor Trusts.

In the ordinary course of its business the Group provides services to Grosvenor Trusts and some members of the Grosvenor Family. Income from these services totalled £19.6m (2018: £20.5m).

In 2019 the Group arranged insurance cover on normal commercial terms through a related company. Aggregate premiums paid in the year were £8.4m (2018: £8.5m). At the year end the balance payable was £nil (2018: £0.1m).

In 2019 the Group received administration fees of £1.5m (2018: £1.6m) in arm's length agreements from the Grosvenor Trusts, £0.2m (2018: £0.1m) from joint ventures and £3.6m (2018: £4.6m) from other Grosvenor Group companies. Asset management fees of £0.3m (2018: £0.3m) was received from other Grosvenor Group companies.

At 31 December 2019, £0.3m (2018: £0.4m) was due from Grosvenor Trusts, and £nil (2018: £nil) from joint ventures. The amount due to from Grosvenor Group companies was £1.2m (2018: due from of £27.6m).

Transactions between Grosvenor Limited and its subsidiaries eliminate on consolidation and are not disclosed in this note.

At the year end the Group had loan balances receivable from joint ventures of £26.0m (2018: £24.5m).

None of the balances are secured. All of the related party transactions are made on terms equivalent to those that prevail in arm's length transactions.

						٠	
GROSVENOR LIMITE							
COMPANY INCOME ACCOUNTS		BALANCE 	SHEET	AND	· ·	то	THE
COMPANY INCOME ACCOUNTS		BALANCE	SHEET	AND		<u>.</u>	THE
COMPANY INCOME ACCOUNTS	STATEMENT,	BALANCE		AND		<u></u> •	
COMPANY INCOME ACCOUNTS	STATEMENT,			AND		<u></u> •	

# **INCOME STATEMENT**

For the year ended 31 December 2019

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AUIII	misuz	auve	EXUE	1868

## **Operating loss**

Dividends received from subsidiaries Impairment of investments in subsidiaries Impairment of balances from group undertakings Interest receivable and similar income Interest payable and similar charges

# Profit/(Loss) before tax

Tax on profit/(loss)

## Profit/(Loss) for the year

2019	2018
£m	£m
(46.3)	(44.7)
(46.3)	(44.7)
221.0	19.5
(0.8)	}÷.
(17.7)	. <del></del>
4.3	2.7
(40.1)	(38.4)
120.4	(60.9)
: <del>-</del>	(2.2)
120.4	(63.1)

There were no items of other comprehensive income for 2019 or 2018 other than those included in the income statement. As a result no statement of total comprehensive income has been presented.

The notes on pages 84 to 93 form part of these financial statements.

All activities in the current year and prior year are derived from continuing operations.

	-		• •
		2019	2018
	Note	£m	£m
Non-current assets		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
Investment in subsidiaries and joint ventures	4	1,121.5	1,122.3
Total non-current assets		1,121.5	1,122.3
Current assets			
Debtors	5	423.0	480.5
Cash at bank and in hand		327.7	359.9
Total current assets		750.7	840.4
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	6	(671.5)	(828.4)
Net current assets		79.2	12.0
Total assets less current liabilities		1,200.7	1,134.3
Creditors: amounts falling due after more han one year			
nterest bearing loans and borrowings	7	(511.2)	(510.7)
NET ASSETS		689.5	623.6
Capital and reserves	Î		
Called up share capital	8	499.1	<b>499</b> .1
Retained earnings	9	190.4	124.5
SHAREHOLDER'S FUNDS		689.5	623.6

Approved by the Board and authorised for issue on 5 March 2020 and signed on behalf of the Board:

Jonathon Bond

(Chairman)

Roger Blundell (Finance Director)

Rog Bhall

Company registration number: 02874626

# **STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY** for the year ended 31 December 2019

	Note	Share capital	Retained earnings £m	Total £m
At 1 January 2018		499.1	239.2	738.3
Loss for the year		-	(63.1)	(63.1)
Dividends paid	10	**	(51.6)	(51.6)
At 31 December 2018		499.1	124.5	623.6
Profit for the year		-	120.4	120.4
Dividends paid	· 10	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	(54.5)	(54.5)
At 31 December 2019		499.1	190.4	689.5

## NOTES TO THE COMPANY BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 December 2019

## 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Grosvenor Limited ('the Company') is a private limited company incorporated in the United Kingdom under the Companies Act 2006 and is registered in England and Wales. The address of the Company's registered office is shown on note 11.

The financial statements have been presented in Pound Sterling as this is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Company operates and is rounded to the nearest million pounds.

Auditor's remuneration for the Company of £84,683 (2018: £89,305) was borne by Grosvenor Estate Management Limited, a subsidiary undertaking.

#### 2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### (a) Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 101 "Reduced Disclosure Framework" ('FRS101') and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost basis, except for the revaluation of certain assets and liabilities that are restated at revalued amounts or for values at the end of each reporting period.

The preparation of financial statements in compliance with FRS 101 requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise judgement in applying the Company's accounting policies (see Note 3).

The Company reported a profit for the financial year ended 31 December 2019 of £120.4m (2018: £63.1m loss).

Other than disclosed here, the Company applies the accounting policies as disclosed in the consolidated accounts.

The auditor's remuneration for audit and other services is disclosed in note 5 to the consolidated financial statements.

# **Going Concern**

The Company is in a net asset position at 31 December 2019. After making enquiries, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources for the foreseeable future and for a minimum of 12 months from the date of signing the financial statements. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the Company's financial statements.

# 2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

# (b) Financial Reporting Standard 101 – reduced disclosure exemptions

The Company has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions under FRS 101:

- the requirements of IFRS 7 'Financial Instruments: Disclosures'
- the requirements of paragraphs 91-99 of IFRS 13 'Fair Value Measurement'
- the requirements of the second sentence of paragraph 110 and paragraphs 113(a), 114, 115, 118, 119(a) to (c), 120 to 127 and 129 of IFRS 15 'Revenue from Contracts with Customers'
- the requirements of paragraph 52, the second sentence of paragraph 89, and paragraphs 90, 91 and 93 of IFRS 16 Leases. The requirements of paragraph 58 of IFRS 16, provided that the disclosure of details in indebtedness relating to amounts payable after 5 years required by company law is presented separately for lease liabilities and other liabilities, and in total
- the requirement in paragraph 38 of IAS 1 'Presentation of Financial Statements' to present comparative information in respect of: paragraph 79(a)(iv) of IAS 1
- the requirements of paragraphs 10(d), 10(f), 16, 38A, 38B, 38C, 38D, 40A, 40B, 40C, 40D, 111 and 134-136 of IAS 1 'Presentation of Financial Statements'
- the requirements of IAS 7 'Statement of Cash Flows'
- the requirements of paragraphs 30 and 31 of IAS 8 'Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors'
- the requirements of paragraph 17 of IAS 24 'Related Party Disclosures'
- the requirements in IAS 24 'Related Party Disclosures' to disclose related party transactions entered into between two or more members of a group, provided that any subsidiary which is a party to the transaction is wholly owned by such a member.
- the requirements of paragraphs 134(d)-134(f) and 135(c)-135(e) of IAS 36' Impairment of Assets'.

# (c) Investments

Investments held as fixed assets, including subsidiaries, are stated at cost less provision for any impairments.

## (d) Taxation

Current tax, including UK corporation tax and foreign tax, is provided at amounts expected to be paid or recovered using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

Deferred taxation is provided in full in respect of timing differences between the recognition of income and expenditure for accounting and taxation purposes. Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is regarded as more likely than not that they will be recovered. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are not discounted.

The Company settles the current taxation obligations of its subsidiary companies on their behalf. The benefit provided to the subsidiary companies under this arrangement is recognised as tax expense (or tax credit where a tax benefit is received) with all current tax assets and liabilities of subsidiary companies recorded in the balance sheet of Grosvenor Limited.

# 3. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

In the application of the Group's accounting policies the directors are required to make judgements (other than those involving estimations) that have a significant impact on the amounts recognised and to make estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may be different from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

## i) Critical judgements in applying the Group's accounting policies

The directors do not believe that there are any significant accounting judgements that would result in a material difference to the accounts in the next 12 months.

## ii) Key sources of estimation uncertainty

The key assumptions concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting period that may have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year, are discussed below:

## Recoverability of amounts owed by Group undertakings

Due to the size of amounts owed by Group undertakings, changes in the estimated recoverability of these amounts could have a significant impact on the results and financial position of the Company. This estimate of recoverability includes assessing the credit quality, level of future profitability and future liquidity of counterparties.

Currently there is both economic and political uncertainty as the outcome of Brexit is not yet known. The Company's profitability is largely linked to the performance of the UK property market which could be negatively impacted by the eventual outcome, reducing the profitability of development activity over the next few years. Any decrease in the profitability of the Company in the next 12 months is not expected to impact the long-term strategy of the Company.

# 4. INVESTMENT IN SUBSIDIARIES AND JOINT VENTURES

#### Company

At 1 January 2019 Impairments

At 31 December 2019

	<del></del>
At cost	İ
£m	
1,122.3	
(0.8)	
1,121.5	

The Company has investments in a number of subsidiary and joint venture entities, the details of which are listed below.

#### **Direct subsidiaries**

As at 31 December 2019 the following companies are directly held 100% subsidiaries incorporated in England and Wales:

1-5 GP Management Limited\*

32-42 BPR Limited

65 Davies Street Development Limited

65 Davies Street Investment Limited

Bankside 4 Limited\*

Belgrave House Developments Limited\*

**Belgravia Leases Limited** 

Cambridge Retail Investment Limited

**Eaton Square Properties Limited** 

**GEB2 Limited\*** 

**Grosvenor Commercial Properties\*** 

Grosvenor Developments (GB) Limited\*

**Grosvenor Developments Limited** 

Grosvenor Eighty Three Limited\*

Grosvenor Eighty Four Limited\*

Grosvenor Eighty Five Limited\*

Grosvenor Eighty Seven Limited\*

**Grosvenor Estate Management Limited** 

Grosvenor Estates Limited\*

**Grosvenor Investments Limited** 

Grosvenor Keysign Limited

Grosvenor Mayfair Properties Limited\*

Grosvenor Policy Management Limited\*

**Grosvenor Properties** 

Grosvenor Property Asset Management

Limited\*

**Grosvenor Property Developments Limited** 

**Grosvenor Property Group Limited\*** 

**Grosvenor Property Management Service** 

Limited

Grosvenor Realty Investments Limited\*

Grosvenor UK Finance plc Grosvenor West End Properties

Liverpool PSDA Limited

London Leasehold Flats Limited

Mayfair Leasehold Properties Limited\*

Montrose Place Development Limited\*

Quarryvale Two Limited\*

Urban Neighbourhood Holdings Limited\*

The principal activities of the subsidiaries above are property investment and development services.

In addition to the above companies, the Company has a 100% investment in the ordinary share capital of Fountain North Limited, a company incorporated in Scotland.

All direct subsidiaries are registered at 70 Grosvenor Street, London, W1K 3JP, with the exception of Fountain North Limited which is registered at 50 Lothian Road, Festival Square, Edinburgh, EH3 9WJ.

\* These entities are dormant and are exempt under s394A from the requirement to prepare individual accounts.

# 4. INVESTMENT IN SUBSIDIARIES AND JOINT VENTURES (CONTINUED)

#### Indirect subsidiaries

Grosvenor Limited indirectly owns 100% of the ordinary share capital of the following companies and LLPs incorporated in England and Wales:

29-37 Davies Street Limited 64-70 South Audley Street Limited **Drummond Road Limited** Coton Park Limited\* **Due West Investments Limited** Fournier Securities Limited GCH Investments (1) Limited GCH Investments (2) Limited **GCH Investments LLP** Grosvenor Alpha Place LLP Grosvenor Belgravia Investment Limited\* Grosvenor Developments (UK) Limited\* Grosvenor Eighty Six LLP Grosvenor Quarryvale Limited\* Liffey Valley Limited\* Liverpool Site 11 Hotel Limited\* Liverpool Site 12 Limited\* London Leasehold Properties Limited Southwark GP 1 Limited Southwark GP 2 Limited Southwark GP Nominee 1 Limited\* Southwark GP Nominee 2 Limited\* Southwark Holding LP\* Southwark LP Southwark Real Estate Investments Limited **UNHEM Construction Limited\*** Urban Neighbourhoods Limited\*

All indirect subsidiaries are registered at 70 Grosvenor Street, London W1K 3JP, with the exception of Grosvenor Belgravia Investments Limited which is registered at 2nd floor, St George's Court, Upper Church Street, Douglas, Isle of Man, IM1 1EE.

<sup>\*</sup> These entities are dormant and are exempt under s394A from the requirement to prepare individual accounts.

# 4. INVESTMENT IN SUBSIDIARIES AND JOINT VENTURES (CONTINUED)

## Indirect joint ventures

The Company has an indirect investment in the ordinary share capital of each of the following joint ventures and LLPs, each of which is incorporated in England and Wales:

Joint Venture	% holding
7 Green Street Limited	33.3%
10 Bourdon Street Limited*	66.67%
20 Balderton Street Project 1 Limited	50.0%
59/60 South Audley Street (Management) Limited	11.1%
Alpha Place Developments LLP	33.3%
Barton Oxford LLP	50.0%
Barton Park Estate Management Company Limited*	50.0%
Coton Park Consortium Limited	50.0%
GC Bankside LLP	50.0%
Grosvenor Stow Limited	50.0%
Grosvenor Stow Projects 2 Limited*	50.0%
Grosvenor Stow Projects Limited*	50.0%
Halkin Street LLP*	50.0%
Montrose Place LLP*	50.0%
NLG Campden LLP	33.3%
Trumpington Meadows Land Company Limited	50.0%
GC Campden Hill LLP	16.7%

All indirect joint ventures are registered at 70 Grosvenor Street, London, W1K 3JP with the exception of 7 Green Street which is registered at 33 Kinnerton Street, London, SW1X 8ED, 59/60 South Audley Street (Management) Limited registered at 59 South Audley Street, London, W1K 2QN, Coton Park Consortium Limited registered at Temple House, 20 Holywell Row, London, EC2A 4XH, GC Bankside LLP, NLG Campden LLP and GC Campden Hill are registered at The Pavilion, 118 Southwark Street, London, SE1 0SW.

<sup>\*</sup> These entities are dormant and are exempt under s394A from the requirement to prepare individual accounts.

## 5. DEBTORS

Other debtors

Amounts owed by group undertakings

Amounts owed by parent company

Amounts owed by other related parties

2019	2018
£m	£m
1.8	0.1
419.1	475.1
	1.8
2.1	3.4
423.0	480.5
	<u> </u>

Included in amounts owed by group undertakings is £70.6m (2018: £77.0m) with Due West Investments Limited which bears interest at a rate of 2.85% (2018: 2.67%). The remainder of amounts owed by group undertakings, other related parties and parent company are repayable on demand and do not bear interest.

## 6. CREDITORS

Amounts falling due within one year
Amounts owed to group undertakings
Amounts owed to parent company
Amounts owed to other related parties
Accruals and deferred income
8.375% Unsecured loan stock 2019
Other creditors

2019	2018
£m	£m
·	
(625.0)	(766.6)
(30.1)	•
(0.9)	· ·
(5.7)	(6.9)
	(52.5)
(9.8)	(2.4)
(671.5)	(828.4)

Included in amounts owed to group undertakings is £212.0m (2018: £211.3m) with Grosvenor UK Finance Plc which bears interest at a fixed rate of 6.7% (2018: 6.7%). The remainder of amounts due to group undertakings, other related parties and parent company are repayable on demand and do not bear interest.

# 7. INTEREST BEARING LOANS AND BORROWINGS

Non-current liabilities
10.42% Mortgage debenture stock 2034
5.57% Private placement bond 2031
6.05% Private placement bond 2041
3.38% Private placement bond 2022
4.97% Private placement bond 2037
2.75% Private placement bond 2028
2.95% Private placement bond 2033
3.05% Private placement bond 2040
Deferred finance costs

2019	2018
£m	£m
(50.0)	(50.0)
(95.0)	(95.0)
(30.0)	(30.0)
(60.0)	(60.0)
(30.0)	(30.0)
(100.0)	(100.0)
(105.0)	(105.0)
(45.0)	(45.0)
3.8	4.3
(511.2)	(510.7)

The 10.42% mortgage debenture stock 2034 is secured over investment properties in the Company's subsidiaries with a carrying value of £264.7m (2018: £256.3m).

Maturity profile of interest-bearing loans and borrowings

Due within one year

From 2 to 5 years

After 5 years

2019	2018
£m	£m
	-
•	(52.5)
(60.0)	(60.0)
(451.2)	(455.0)
(511.2)	(567.5)

# 8. SHARE CAPITAL

#### **Authorised**

Equity interests:

Ordinary shares of £1

Non-equity interests:

5% Cumulative redeemable preference shares of £1

2019		2018	
Number of	,	Number of	
shares	£m	shares	£m
1,000,000,000 450,000,000	1,000.0 450.0	1,000,000,000	1,000.0 450.0
1,450,000,000	1,450.0	1,450,000,000	1,450.0

# 8. SHARE CAPITAL (CONTINUED)

Allocated, called up and fully paid Equity interests:

Ordinary shares of £1

2019		2018	
Number of shares	£m	Number of shares	£m
			,
499,147,808	499.1	499,147,808	499.1

#### **RIGHTS OF CLASSES OF SHARES**

Profits determined by the directors as available for distribution are to be applied first in paying a fixed cumulative dividend of 5% per annum on the amounts paid up on any 5% cumulative redeemable preference shares. The balance of profits available for distribution is payable to the holders of the ordinary shares in proportion to the amounts paid up on their shares.

On a return of the Company's assets to shareholders the assets are to be applied first in repaying to the holders of any 5% cumulative redeemable preference shares the amounts paid up on their shares. The balance of the assets is payable to the holders of the ordinary shares in proportion to the amounts paid up on their shares.

The holders of any 5% cumulative redeemable preference shares are not entitled to vote at general meetings of the members of the Company except on resolutions varying or abrogating any of the special rights or privileges attaching to their shares or when the preferential dividend due on those shares is in arrears.

No 5% cumulative redeemable preference shares have been allocated, called up or paid at 31 December 2019.

## 9. RESERVES

#### Called up share capital

The balance classified as called up share capital includes the total net proceeds on issue of the Company's equity share capital, comprising £1 ordinary shares.

#### Distributable reserves

The reserve contains the balance of retained earnings to carry forward, being accumulated realised profits:

#### Non distributable reserves

The reserve contains the balance of retained earnings to carry forward which are not available for distribution.

# 9. RESERVES (CONTINUED)

The split of retained earnings between non distributable and distributable reserves are detailed below:

At 1 January 2019
Realised profits
Dividends paid
At 31 December 2019

Non-distributable	Distributable	Total
£m	£m	£m
•	124.5	124.5
-	120.4	120.4
,	(54.5)	(54.5)
•	190.4	190.4

#### 10. DIVIDENDS

Final regular dividend for the year ended 31 December 2019 of 10.9p (2018: 10.3p) per share

2019	2018
£m	£m
54.5	51.6
54.5	51.6

34 1/1

## 11. CONTROLLING PARTY

The Company's ultimate parent undertaking is Grosvenor Group Limited, a company incorporated in the United Kingdom and registered in England and Wales which is wholly owned by trusts on behalf of the Grosvenor family, headed by the Duke of Westminster.

The ultimate parent undertaking heads the largest group of undertakings of which the Company is a member and for which group accounts are prepared. The Company, an intermediate holding company, heads the smallest group of undertakings of which the Company is a member and for which group accounts are prepared.

Copies of the consolidated financial statements of Grosvenor Group Limited and Grosvenor Limited can be obtained from Companies House, 3 Crown Way, Maindy, Cardiff, CF14 3UZ.

The address of the registered office of Grosvenor Group Limited and Grosvenor Limited is 70 Grosvenor Street, London, W1K 3JP.