Audited Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021

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GENERAL INFORMATION

DIRECTORS

K J Potts

Chairman & Managing Director

J D S Booth

Non - Executive Director

J G K Matterson

Non - Executive Director

SECRETARY

A B Miller

REGISTERED OFFICE

10-11 Charterhouse Square

London EC1M 6EE

REGISTERED IN ENGLAND

No: 02877061

SOLICITORS

Macfarlanes LLP 20 Cursitor Street London EC4A 1LT V J Donegan

Non - Executive Director

AUDITOR

BDO LLP 55 Baker Street London W1U 7EU

BANKER

Barclays Bank plc

Level 12

1 Churchill Place

London E14 5HP

STRATEGIC REPORT

The directors present their strategic report for Herald Investment Management Limited (the 'Company') for the year ended 31st March 2021.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The principal activity of the Company during the year was that of investment management and related advisory services from which it derives its income. The directors consider that the operations of the Company will remain substantially unchanged for the foreseeable future.

BUSINESS REVIEW

The overall performance of the Company has been satisfactory with turnover increasing to £16.0m (2020: £11.7m) and profit on ordinary activities before taxation increasing to £9.7m (2020: £5.6m). At year end, assets under management have increased in value versus the prior year end.

The directors regard a key performance indicator for the Company as being the turnover from investment management and related advisory services. Turnover from investment management and related advisory services increased by £4.3m to £16.0m due to increases in the net asset value of funds advised over the year.

RESULTS AND DIVIDENDS

The results for the year to 31st March 2021 are set out on page 11 of the financial statements and the movement in reserves is shown in note 16. The profit for the financial year was £7,827,370 (2020: £4,509,393).

An interim dividend of 200p per share was paid on 28th September 2020 and a final dividend of 300p per share was paid on 22nd March 2021. Total dividends paid amounted to £4,870,874 or 500p per share (2020: £2,902,526 or 300p per share).

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The principal risk facing the Company is that clients may find the performance of the investment vehicles managed unsatisfactory and withdraw the Company's mandate. The Company's largest investment vehicle managed has a one year notice period and the role of investment manager is subject to a continuation vote every three years.

The fee income for investment vehicles managed by the Company is calculated as a percentage of funds managed and hence is subject to the price risk of the underlying investments in those funds. Credit risk is considered low on the fee income receivable, as assets held by the investment vehicles advised could be realised to provide funds sufficient to settle any amounts receivable by the Company.

Credit risk also arises from the Company's investments in debt securities and cash and deposits at banks and financial institutions. This is monitored on an ongoing basis by the Company.

In December 2019 an initial outbreak of coronavirus was reported in Hubei, China. As the spread of the coronavirus increased, it had an immediate impact on equity markets, with falls across all major stock exchanges. However the sectors in which the Company invests proved resilient, with minimal adverse effect. There may be an adverse impact in due course from the economic consequences, or some other unanticipated event.

In relation to the assessment and monitoring of economic, political and regulatory risks, the Company currently believes that the UK's decision to leave the EU will not present a significant threat to the Company's business model. The mandates for the funds under management are global, and many of the products and services targeted are exempt from tariffs in the targeted technology sector. Furthermore the board believes the UK is a world leader in the development and delivery of, in particular, innovative technological solutions and the directors see no reason why this should change.

STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)

GOING CONCERN

The directors have undertaken a rigorous review of the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, taking into account the impact of COVID-19 on the Company. At 30 April 2021, the net asset value of the largest investment vehicle managed by the Company was 84.6% higher than as at 1 April 2020, the beginning of the accounting period for these financial statements. Consequently, Company revenues have remained strong post year-end and the directors do not expect income to be significantly affected. As at 31 March 2021 the Company had £11.6m of cash and highly liquid assets and as such the directors are satisfied that the Company has adequate financial resources available to continue to be a going concern for at least 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements. These financial statements have therefore been prepared on a going concern basis.

By order of the Board

A B Miller

Company Secretary

24th May 2021

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors present the report and financial statements of Herald Investment Management Limited (the 'Company') for the year ended 31st March 2021. The Company is FCA regulated and is a subsidiary undertaking of HIML Holdings Limited (the 'Group').

In accordance with section 414C(11) of the Companies Act 2006, the following Directors' Report information has been included in the Strategic Report - Principal Activity; Business Review; Results and Dividends and Principal Risks and Uncertainties.

DIRECTORS

The directors of the Company who all held office throughout the period, are listed on page 3.

DIRECTORS' INDEMNITY

The Group provides a deed of indemnity to directors to the extent permitted by UK law whereby the Group is able to indemnify a director against any liability incurred in proceedings in which the director is successful, and against the cost of successfully applying to the court to be excused for breach of duty where the director acted honestly and reasonably.

DIRECTORS' STATEMENT AS TO DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITOR

The directors who held office at the date of approval of this Directors' Report confirm that, so far as they are each aware, there is no relevant audit information (as defined in Section 418(2) of the Companies Act 2006) of which the Company's auditors are unaware; and each director has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a director to make themself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditor is aware of that information.

AUDITOR

Pursuant to section 487 of the Companies Act 2006, a resolution to re-appoint BDO LLP as the auditor of the Company is to be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

By order of the Board

A B Miller

Company Secretary

24th May 2021

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE STRATEGIC REPORT, THE DIRECTORS' REPORT AND THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The directors are responsible for preparing the Strategic Report, the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business

The directors are responsible for keeping 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 to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF HERALD INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LIMITED

Opinion on the financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements of Herald Investment Management Limited ("the Company") for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the Profit and Loss Account and Other Comprehensive Income, the Balance Sheet and the Statement of Changes in Equity, and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including 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

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

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. 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 course of 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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 this regard.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF HERALD INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LIMITED (continued)

Other Companies Act 2006 reporting

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 Company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Strategic report and the Directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion;

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the 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.

Responsibilities of Directors

As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors Responsibilities, 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 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 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.

Extent to which the audit was capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We gained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the Company and considered the risk of acts by the Company which were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud. These laws and regulations included but were not limited to compliance with the Companies Act 2006 and UK accounting standards.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF HERALD INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LIMITED (continued)

We considered compliance with laws and regulations that could give rise to a material misstatement in the Company's financial statements. Our tests included, but were not limited to:

- agreement of the financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- · enquiries of directors and management;
- testing of journal postings made during the year to identify potential management override of controls; and
- review of meeting minutes throughout the period.

We communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and discussed how and where these might occur and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

Our audit procedures were designed to respond to risks of material misstatement in the financial statements, recognising that the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery, misrepresentations or through collusion. There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures performed and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we are to become aware of it.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

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.

DocuSigned by:

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Vanessa Bradley

Vanessa-Jayne Bradley (Senior Statutory Auditor) For and on behalf of BDO LLP, Statutory Auditor London, UK 24th May 2021

BDO LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales (with registered number OC305127).

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 <u>£</u>	2020 <u>£</u>
Turnover	2	15,969,580	11,648,275
Other operating income		1,075	10,650
OPERATING INCOME		15,970,655	11,658,925
Administrative expenses before long term bonus award gains and losses		(6,729,581)	(6,201,189)
Long term bonus award accruals Unrealised gains on investments held for long term bonus		(1,118,012) 1,019,900	(143,680) 128,400
		(98,112)	(15,280)
Administrative expenses		(6,827,693)	(6,216,469)
OPERATING PROFIT BEFORE LONG TERM BONUS AWARD GAINS AND LOSSES		9,241,074	5,457,736
OPERATING PROFIT	3	9,142,962	5,442,456
Interest receivable and similar income	6	28,962	58,888
Interest payable and similar expenses	7	(5,280)	-
Unrealised gains on investments		529,752	18,900
Net profit on sale of investments		-	45,836
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION		9,696,396	5,566,080
Taxation	8	(1,869,026)	(1,056,687)
PROFIT FOR THE YEAR		7,827,370	4,509,393
Basic and fully diluted earnings per share	15	803.5p	466.5p

There were no other items of comprehensive income for the year and therefore the profit for the year is also the total comprehensive income for the year.

All results derive from continuing operations.

The notes on pages 14 to 20 form an integral part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	£	2021 £	£	202 <u>0</u> <u>£</u>
	ivotes	~	. **	<u>=</u>	₽
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	10	202,443		141,777	
Investments	11a _	5,367,773		3,851,511	
			5,570,216		3,993,288
CURRENT ASSETS					
Investments	11b	643,207		609,818	
Debtors	12	2,723,665		2,357,332	ø
Cash at bank and in hand	_	<u>5,545,117</u>		4,742,067	
		8,911,989		7,709,217	
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(1,805,188)	_	(2,445,551)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			7,106,801		5,263,666
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT		-	12,677,017	_	9,256,954
LIABILITIES			, ,		
CDCDCCCCC					
CREDITORS Amounts falling due after more than one year	14		(610,253)		(146,686)
Attributes fairing due after more than one year	14		(010,233)		(140,000)
NET ASSETS		-	12,066,764	_	9,110,268
		=	=====	=	
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			074		074
Called up share capital	15 16		974 669,648		974 669,648
Share premium account Other reserves	16		1,267,798		1,267,798
Profit and loss account	16		10,128,344		7,171,848
1 Total and 1000 decount	10		10,120,544		7,171,040
SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	17	-	12,066,764	=	9,110,268

The financial statements on pages 11 to 20 were approved and authorised for issue on behalf of the board by

K J Potts

Managing Director

24th May 2021

A B Miller Company Secretary

Company registration number 02877061

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Called up share capital	Share premium £	$\frac{\text{Other}}{\text{reserves}}$	$\frac{\text{Profit \&}}{\text{loss account}}$	$\frac{Shareholders}{Funds}$ $\frac{\mathbf{f}}{\mathbf{f}}$
Balance at 1 April 2019	964	569,958	1,267,798	5,564,981	7,403,701
Profit for the year and total comprehensive income	-	-	-	4,509,393	4,509,393
Dividends	-	-	-	(2,902,526)	(2,902,526)
Issue of shares	10	99,690	-	-	99,700
Balance at 1 April 2020	974	669,648	1,267,798	7,171,848	9,110,268
Profit for the year and total comprehensive income	-	· -	-	7,827,370	7,827,370
Dividends	- · ·	-	-	(4,870,874)	(4,870,874)
Balance at 31 March 2021	974	669,648	1,267,798	10,128,344	12,066,764

The notes on pages 14 to 20 form an integral part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

BASIS OF PREPARATION

The Company is a company limited by shares and incorporated, domiciled and registered in England and Wales in the United Kingdom.

These financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis and in accordance with FRS 102 (the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland) under the historical cost convention as modified to include the revaluation of financial instruments classified at fair value through the profit or loss. The presentation currency of these financial statements is sterling.

The directors have undertaken a rigorous review of the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, taking into account the impact of COVID-19 on the Company. At 30 April 2021, the net asset value of the largest investment vehicle managed by the Company was 84.6% higher than as at 1 April 2020, the beginning of the accounting period for these financial statements. Consequently, Company revenues have remained strong post year-end and the directors do not expect income to be significantly affected. As at 31 March 2021 the Company had £11.6m of cash and highly liquid assets and as such the directors are satisfied that the Company has adequate financial resources available to continue to be a going concern for at least 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements. These financial statements have therefore been prepared on a going concern basis.

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

Under FRS 102 the Company is exempt from the requirement to prepare a cashflow statement on the grounds that a parent undertaking includes the Company in its own published consolidated financial statements which are publicly available.

CONSOLIDATION

The Company is exempt by virtue of section 400 of the Companies Act 2006 from the requirement to present group financial statements. These financial statements present information about the Company as an individual undertaking and not about its group.

TANGIBLE ASSETS AND DEPRECIATION

All tangible assets are initially recorded at cost and reviewed for impairment annually. Any impairment is recognised in the profit and loss account in the year in which it occurs.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible assets other than antiques, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

- Fixtures and fittings 3 years straight line;
- Computer equipment is written off immediately on purchase; and
- Motor vehicles 30% of cost on purchase and 30% thereafter on the reducing balance.

INVESTMENTS AND FINANCIAL ASSETS

Financial assets within the scope of FRS 102 are classified as either financial assets at fair value through profit or loss or loans and receivables. When financial assets are recognised initially, they are measured at fair value, plus, in the case of investments not at fair value through profit or loss, directly attributable transaction costs.

The Company determines the classification of its financial assets after initial recognition and, where allowed and appropriate, re-evaluates this designation at each financial year end. All purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on the trade date, which is the date that the Company commits to purchase or sell the asset.

Following the adoption of FRS 102 all financial assets held by the Company, except loans and receivables, are held at fair value through profit or loss.

Gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of the financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are included in the profit and loss account for the period.

The loans and receivables and investments in subsidiaries and associates are unlisted and held at amortised cost less impairment.

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash balances.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

TAXATION

The charge for taxation is based on the result for the year and takes into account taxation deferred because of timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes.

Deferred tax is recognised, without discounting, in respect of all timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes which have arisen but not reversed by the balance sheet date, except as otherwise required by FRS 102.

LEASING COMMITMENTS

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the profit and loss account on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

DIVIDENDS ON SHARES PRESENTED WITHIN EQUITY

Dividends unpaid at the balance sheet date are only recognised as a liability at that date to the extent that they are appropriately authorised and are no longer at the discretion of the Company. Unpaid dividends that do not meet these criteria are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

PENSIONS

The Company operates a work place pension scheme on behalf of its employees and in addition makes payments to several employees' personal pension plans. The pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Company to these plans in respect of the year.

REVENUE RECOGNITION

Turnover is recognised on an accruals basis and is stated net of VAT and any discounts or rebates. It is primarily derived from the provision of investment management and advisory services. Other operating income and interest receivable are calculated on an accruals basis.

BASIC FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Trade and other debtors are recognised initially at transaction price less attributable transaction costs. Trade and other creditors are recognised initially at transaction price plus attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses in the case of trade debtors. If the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, for example if payment is deferred beyond normal business terms, then it is measured at the present value of future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

USE OF JUDGEMENTS AND ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements requires the Company to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect amounts reported for assets and liabilities as at the balance sheet date and the amounts reported for revenues and expenses during the year. In the course of preparing the financial statements, no judgements have been made in the process of applying the Company's accounting policies, that have had a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements, other than those involving estimations in the valuations of unquoted investments. The nature of estimation means that the actual outcomes could differ from those estimates, possibly significantly. The estimates relate to the investments where there is no appropriate market price i.e. the unquoted investments. Whilst the Company considers the methodologies and assumptions adopted in the valuation are supportable, reasonable and robust, because of the inherent uncertainty of valuation, those estimated values may differ significantly from the values that would have been used had a ready market for the investment existed. As at 31 March 2021, the Company does not have any single key assumption concerning the future, or other key sources of estimation uncertainty, that, in the directors' opinion has a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

2. TURNOVER

Turnover is entirely attributable to the principal activity of the Company, which is conducted wholly in the United Kingdom.

3. NOTES TO THE PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

Operating profit is stated after charging:	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	$\overline{\mathfrak{T}}$	$oldsymbol{ar{ t t}}$
Depreciation charge	88,981	118,436
Operating lease rentals - land and buildings	367,430	367,430
Auditor's remuneration:		
Audit of these financial statements	19,158	17,425
Amounts payable to the auditor and their associates in respect of:		
Audit of financial statements of subsidiaries	3,198	3,075

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

4. REMUNERATION OF DIRECTORS

	2021 £	<u>2020</u> <u>£</u>
Directors' emoluments	1,984,680	363,500

The aggregate of emoluments of the highest paid director was £1,194,155 (2020: £277,500). No pension contributions are made by the Company on behalf of any directors. The Company operates a long term bonus scheme in which directors may participate. The scheme is hedged by holdings in Herald Worldwide Technology Fund plc - see note 11b.

5. STAFF COSTS (including directors)

5. STAFF COSTS (including directors)		
	2021	2020
	<u>2021</u> £	<u>2020</u> <u>£</u>
	<u>r</u>	<u>~</u>
Wages and salaries	4,113,086	2,026,250
Social security costs	549,610	254,663
Pension costs	225,488	193,313
1 distoit vosts	223,100	.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
	4,888,184	2,474,226
Average number of employees during the year	<u>20</u>	<u>19</u>
	_	_
6. INTEREST RECEIVABLE AND SIMILAR INCOME		
	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	$\underline{\mathbf{t}}$	<u>£</u>
Bank interest	1,531	31,275
Interest on loans and bonds	27,431	27,613
	28,962	58,888
7. INTEREST PAYABLE AND SIMILAR EXPENSES	2021	2020
	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
•	$oldsymbol{ar{t}}$	$\underline{\mathbf{t}}$
Other interest marchie	5,280	
Other interest payable	3,200	-
	5,280	
	5,200	
8. TAXATION		
	<u> 2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
a) Analysis of the tax charge for the year	_	_
	1 405 426	1,024,146
UK corporation tax on profit for the year Adjustments in respect of prior periods	1,405,436 23	(6,638)
Total current tax charge	1,405,459	1,017,508
Total current tax charge	1,405,455	1,017,500
Deferred tax		
Origination of timing differences	448,290	26,533
Adjustments in respect of prior periods	15,277	12,646
Total deferred tax	463,567	39,179
Tax on profit	1,869,026	1,056,687

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

8. TAXATION (continued)

b) Factors affecting the tax charge for the current year

The effective rate of tax in the year is 19.28% (2020: 18.98%). The current tax charge for the year is higher (2020: lower) than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19% (2020: 19%).

The differences are explained below:

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Profit before taxation	9,696,396	5,566,080
Corporation tax at 19% (2020: 19%)	1,842,315	1 057 555
•	1,042,313	1,057,555
Factors adjusted for:		
Disallowed expenses	13,798	3,821
Non taxable income	(2,387)	(2,393)
Capital allowances greater than depreciation	(12,282)	(21,351)
(Decrease)/increase in directors bonus accrual net of hedging	(334,052)	2,903
Unrealised gains on investments	(101,956)	(6,821)
Profit and loss on sale of investments	-	(8,733)
Short term timing differences	-	(835)
Origination of timing differences in respect of deferred tax	448,290	26,533
Adjustments in respect of prior period deferred tax	15,277	12,646
Adjustments in respect of prior periods	23	(6,638)
Tax charge for the year	1,869,026	1,056,687

There is a deferred tax asset of £77,811 arising from timing differences on accelerated capital allowances, unpaid bonuses and provisions (2020: £245,641). There is an offsetting tax liability of £373,794 (2020: £286,727) from listed investments - see note 11. The resulting deferred taxation liability is included in creditors. It is expected that the implementation of the Finance Act 2021 will result in an increase of the deferred tax rate to 25%. The resultant change would produce a materially higher deferred tax charge.

9. DIVIDENDS

		<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
		pence per share	pence per share	$\underline{\mathbf{t}}$	<u>£</u>
Interim dividend paid		200	200	1,948,349	1,928,351
Final dividend		300	100	2,922,525	974,175
Total dividends for the year	-	500	300	4,870,874	2,902,526
	• =				-,-,-,
10. TANGIBLE ASSETS					
	Fixtures &	Computer	Motor	Antiques	Total
	fittings	equipment	Vehicles	•	
	£	£	£	<u>£</u>	£
Cost:					
At 1 April 2020	233,032	362,113	159,224	23,774	778,143
Additions	-	9,602	140,045		149,647
At 31 March 2021	233,032	371,715	299,269	23,774	927,790
Depreciation:		-	 		
At 1 April 2020	226,485	362,113	47,768	_	636,366
Charge for the year	3,928	9,602	75,451	-	88,981
At 31 March 2021	230,413	371,715	123,219	-	725,347
Net book value:	•				
At 31 March 2020	6,547	_	111,456	23,774	141,777
At 31 March 2021	2,619	•	176,050	23,774	202,443

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

11. INVESTMENTS

(a) Non-current assets

	2021 <u>£</u>	2020 <u>£</u>
Fair value through profit or loss investments-quoted Investment in subsidiaries	5,367,672 101 5,367,773	3,851,410 101 3,851,511
(b) Current assets	<u>2021</u> <u>£</u>	2020 £
Fair value through profit or loss investments-quoted	643,207	609,818

The fair value through profit or loss-quoted investments are listed debt and fund investments held at fair value calculated using the quoted bid price at the year end date. The fund investments include an interest in the Herald Worldwide Technology Fund which is acting as a hedge to a Company long term bonus scheme. If the listed investments had been sold at market value there would have been a liability to tax of £757,154 (2020 - £469,065). The investments in subsidiaries are unlisted and held at cost less impairment.

(c) Listed investments fair value analysis

An analysis of the movement in the fair value of the listed investments included above is as follows:

	<u>2021</u> <u>£</u>	2020 <u>£</u>
Acquisition cost b/fwd	1,973,134	1,100,709
Revaluation surplus b/fwd	2,488,094	<u>2,313,345</u>
Fair value b/fwd	4,461,228	3,414,054
Disposals at cost	-	(127,575)
Unrealised gains on disposals b/fwd	-	27,450
Fair value b/fwd disposed		(100,125)
Additions at cost	-	1,000,000
Unrealised losses on additions		(10,496)
Fair value c/fwd of additions		989,504
Revaluation of investments not traded during the period	1,549,651	157,795
Fair value c/fwd	6,010,879	4,461,228

The historical cost of the listed investments is £1,973,134 (2020 - £1,973,134).

(d) Details of investments

Details of the investments in which the Company holds 20% or more of the nominal value of any class of share capital are as follows:

		% of voting rights	Nature of
Name of Company	Holding	and shares held	<u>Business</u>
Herald GP Limited	Ordinary Shares	100%	General Partner
Herald GP II Limited	Ordinary Shares	100%	General Partner

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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12. DEDITORS	2021 <u>£</u>	2020 <u>£</u>
Trade debtors	35,019	6,945
Prepayments and accrued income	2,387,546	1,907,736
Called up share capital not paid Other debtors	301,100	437,000 5,651
Other debtors	-	3,031
	2,723,665	2,357,332
13. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year		2000
	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	$\underline{\mathbf{t}}$
Trade creditors	23,195	44,773
Corporation tax payable	650,436	504,146
Other taxes and social security costs	6,350	7,583
Accruals and deferred income*	1,125,207	1,889,049
	1 905 199	2,445,551
* including bonus award accruals	1,805,188	2,443,331
14. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year	2021	2020
	<u>2021</u> <u>£</u>	2020 <u>£</u>
	<u>~</u>	<u>~</u>
Deferred tax liability	610,253	146,686
15. SHARE CAPITAL		
	<u> 2021</u>	2020
Allotted and called up:	<u>2021</u> £	£
	~	₩ 2
944,175 (2020: 929,175) ordinary shares of 0.1p each, fully paid	944	929
30,000 (2020: 45,000) ordinary shares of 0.1p each, nil paid	20	45
30,000 (2020: 43,000) ordinary snares of 0.1p each, in paid	30	
50,000 (2020: +3,000) ordinary snates of 0.1p each, im paid	974	974

The weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the year was 974,175 (2020: 966,641).

The earnings per share disclosed in the profit and loss account have been calculated using the above weighted average number of ordinary shares and the "Profit for the year".

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

16. RESERVES

10. RESERVES		Other					
	Share premium	distributable	Profit and loss				
	•						
	account	reserve	account				
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	£				
Balance at 1 April 2019	569,958	1,267,798	5,564,981				
Profit for the year and total comprehensive income	-	-	4,509,393				
Dividends	-	-	(2,902,526)				
Issue of shares	99,690	-	-				
Balance at 1 April 2020	669,648	1,267,798	7,171,848				
Profit for the year and total comprehensive income	-	-	7,827,370				
Dividends	•	-	(4,870,874)				
Balance at 31 March 2021	669,648	1,267,798	10,128,344				
17. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS							
	2021		2020				
	<u>£</u>		<u>£</u>				
Opening shareholders' funds	9,110,268		7,403,701				
Profit for the year and total comprehensive income	7,827,370		4,509,393				
Dividends	(4,870,874)		(2,902,526)				
Issue of shares	-		99,700				
Closing shareholders' funds	12,066,764	<u>-</u>	9,110,268				
18. FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS							
Total commitments under non-cancellable operating leases expiring:							
	<u>2021</u>		<u>2020</u>				
Land and buildings			22.50.5				
within 1 year	£322,130		£358,378				
Between 1 and 5 years	£0		£211,376				

19. RELATED PARTIES

Subsidiary undertakings of the Company act as general partners to Herald Ventures Limited Partnership, Herald Ventures Limited Partnership II, Herald Ventures Limited Partnership III (together known as "HV I") and Herald Ventures II Limited Partnership ("HV II"). As a result the Company earned a management fee for advisory services provided to HV I until September 2011 and HV II until 10 June 2017. From 1st September 2011, the Company only receives a profit share from HV I once the proceeds distributed per unit exceed the distribution per unit made to partners who resigned from HV I on 31st August 2011. From 10 June 2017 there has been no further profit share from HV II.

HIML Holdings Limited, the Company's parent, is a partner in HVII. In 2021 the Company also received a management fee from HIML Holdings Limited.

The fees for advisory services received during the year by the Company were £119,600 from HV I (2020 - £14,283) and £NIL from HV II (2020 - £NIL) and £1,195,793 from HIML Holdings Limited (2020 - £NIL). There were unsettled fees of £NIL at year end (2020 - £NIL).

J G K Matterson is a director of the Company and also holds an interest in Rossie House Investment Management LLP. From 1st June 2018 Rossie House Investment Management LLP entered into a tenancy at will for premises at the offices of the Company at an annual rental of £5,000.

20. ULTIMATE PARENT COMPANY

The ultimate holding company and controlling party of the Company is HIML Holdings Limited, a company incorporated in England and Wales. Copies of the accounts are available from Companies House, Crown Way, Cardiff, CF14 3UZ.