

Registered number: 02902926

**PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

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## **PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**

### **COMPANY INFORMATION**

<b>Directors</b>	N Benning-Prince R C Dowley E A Gretton Dr C M Wendt
<b>Company secretary</b>	W F Rogers
<b>Registered number</b>	02902926
<b>Registered office</b>	Hanson House 14 Castle Hill Maidenhead SL6 4JJ
<b>Independent auditors</b>	PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP 2 Glass Wharf Bristol BS2 0FR

# **PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**

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## **PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**

### **DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

The Directors present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

#### **Principal activities and business review**

Following the disposal of its investment during the current year, the Company is now a group finance company.

On 20 May 2020, the Company sold its investment in Slotcount Limited to a fellow subsidiary undertaking, Hanson Overseas Holdings Limited, for £562,996,000, which was subsequently settled by the assignment of an intercompany receivable due from Houserate Limited to the Company. The Company did not realise neither a profit nor loss on disposal.

On 26 August 2020 the Company was assigned intercompany receivables of £314,000 due from Houserate Limited and £57,000 due from Hanson Building Materials Limited by Pioneer International Overseas Corporation, to fully settle its liability to the Company. On the same day, the Company assigned £381,000 and £235,000 of its intercompany receivable from Houserate Limited to Hanson Building Materials Limited and Hanson Finance Limited respectively to fully settle its liability to those companies.

On 1 December 2020, the Company reduced its AUS\$ denominated share capital from AUS\$345,627,048 to AUS\$nil by the cancellation of 11,505,297 Ordinary Shares of AUS\$1 each, 6,900,000 A Redeemable Preference Shares of AUS\$1 each and 327,221,751 E Redeemable Preference Shares of AUS\$1 each and reduced its share premium account from £726,762,000 to £nil.

On 15 December 2020, the Company assigned £1,636,000 of its intercompany receivable from Houserate Limited to fully settle its liability to Pioneer Concrete Holdings Limited. Subsequently, a dividend in specie of £885,376,000 was declared, which was satisfied by the assignment of intercompany receivables due from Houserate Limited of £733,669,000 and Hanson Limited of £151,707,000.

These transactions are part of a wider plan to simplify the group structure in the UK.

#### **Results and dividends**

The profit for the year, after taxation, amounted to £1,000 (2019 - £45,000).

A dividend in specie of £885,376,000 (2019 - £nil) was paid during the year. The Directors do not recommend the payment of a final dividend (2019 - £nil).

#### **Future developments**

The Directors anticipate that the Company will continue as a group finance company for the foreseeable future.

#### **Going concern**

The impact of COVID-19 on UK businesses is changing on a daily basis and the measures being adopted by the UK Government could have a significant impact in the foreseeable future. On the basis of their assessment of the Company's financial position and relevant enquiries, the Directors have no reason to believe that a material uncertainty exists that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Company to continue as a going concern.

Thus the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company will be able to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual financial statements.

## **PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**

### **DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

#### **Directors**

The Directors of the Company who were in office during the year and up to the date of signing the financial statements were:

N Benning-Prince  
R C Dowley  
E A Gretton  
Dr C M Wendt

#### **Directors' indemnity**

HeidelbergCement AG has indemnified, by means of directors' and officers' liability insurance, one or more Directors of the Company against liability in respect of proceedings brought by third parties, subject to the conditions set out in section 234 of the Companies Act. Such qualifying third party indemnity provision was in force during the year and is in force as at the date of approving the Directors' Report.

The articles of association also provide for the Directors to be indemnified by the Company subject to the provisions of the Companies Act.

#### **Disclosure of information to auditors**

Each of the persons who are Directors at the time when this Directors' Report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as the Director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditors are unaware, and
- the Director has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Director in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditors are aware of that information.

#### **Independent auditors**

Due to the introduction of EU Regulations regarding audit rotation of the Company's ultimate parent company, HeidelbergCement AG, the Company's previous auditors, Ernst & Young LLP, did not seek re-appointment.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP were appointed as auditors for the year ended 31 December 2020. PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP having indicated their willingness to act will continue in office, as auditors of the Company, in accordance with section 487 of the Companies Act 2006.

#### **Strategic Report exemption**

The Company has taken advantage of section 414B of the Companies Act 2006 not to prepare a Strategic Report.

This report was approved by the board on 14 October 2021 and signed on its behalf.



**W F Rogers**  
Secretary

## **PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**

### **DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

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

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 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, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and accounting 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;
- 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 to 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.

This Responsibilities Statement was approved by the board on 14 October 2021 and signed on its behalf.



**W F Rogers**  
Secretary

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED

# Report on the audit of the financial statements

## Opinion

In our opinion, Pioneer International Group Holdings Limited's financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31 December 2020 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 101 "Reduced Disclosure Framework", and applicable law); and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements, included within the Annual Report and Financial Statements (the "Annual Report"), which comprise: the Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2020; the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Statement of Changes in Equity for the year then ended; and the notes to the financial statements, which include a description of the significant accounting policies.

## Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities under ISAs (UK) are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## Independence

We remained independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, which includes the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

## Conclusions relating to going concern

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.

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.

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this conclusion is not a guarantee as to the Company's ability to continue as a going concern.

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

## **PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**

## **Reporting on other information**

The other information comprises all of the information in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The Directors are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, any form of assurance 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 an apparent material inconsistency or material misstatement, we are required to perform procedures to conclude whether there is a material misstatement of 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 based on these responsibilities.

With respect to the Directors' report, we also considered whether the disclosures required by the UK Companies Act 2006 have been included.

Based on our work undertaken in the course of the audit, the Companies Act 2006 requires us also to report certain opinions and matters as described below.

### **Directors' Report**

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, the information given in the Directors' report for the year ended 31 December 2020 is consistent with the financial statements and has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we did not identify any material misstatements in the Directors' report.

## **Responsibilities for the financial statements and the audit**

### **Responsibilities of the Directors for the financial statements**

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement, the Directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable framework and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The Directors are also responsible for such internal control as they 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.

### **Auditors' 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 auditors' 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.

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.



## **PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**

Based on our understanding of the company and industry, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to UK tax legislation, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006. We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to posting inappropriate journal entries. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Reading board minutes for evidence of breaches of regulations and reading relevant correspondence
- Identifying and testing journal entries, in particular journal entries posted with unexpected account combinations
- Inquiries of management in respect of any known or suspected instances of non compliance with Laws and Regulations and Fraud

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in the financial statements. Also, 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 or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

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](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditors' report.

#### **Use of this report**

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the Company's members as a body in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving these opinions, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

## **Other required reporting**

### **Companies Act 2006 exception reporting**

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

**PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**

**Entitlement to exemptions**

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion, the Directors were not entitled to: take advantage of the small companies exemption from preparing a strategic report. We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

*Stuart Couch*

Stuart Couch (Senior statutory auditor)  
for and on behalf of PricewaterhouseCooper LLP.  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors  
Bristol

Date: 18 OCTOBER 2021

**PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**

**STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>2020 £000</b>	<b>2019 £000</b>
Exceptional items - Reversal of impairment of fixed asset investments	6	-	45
Other operating income	4	1	-
<b>Profit before tax</b>		<u>1</u>	<u>45</u>
Tax on profit	7	-	-
<b>Profit for the financial year</b>		<u>1</u>	<u>45</u>
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		<u>1</u>	<u>45</u>

All amounts relate to continuing operations.

The notes on pages 11 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

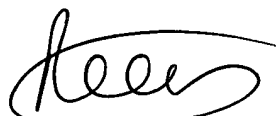
**PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**  
**REGISTERED NUMBER: 02902926**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Note	2020 £000	2019 £000
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Investments	9	-	562,996
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	10	80	324,712
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(79)	(2,332)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>1</u>	<u>322,380</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>1</u>	<u>885,376</u>
<b>Capital and reserves</b>			
Called up share capital	12	-	190,796
Share premium account		-	726,762
Profit and loss account		<u>1</u>	<u>(32,182)</u>
<b>Total equity</b>		<u>1</u>	<u>885,376</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board and were signed on its behalf on

14<sup>th</sup> October 2021



**R C Dowley**  
Director

The notes on pages 11 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

**PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	<b>Called up share capital £000</b>	<b>Share premium account £000</b>	<b>Profit and loss account £000</b>	<b>Total equity £000</b>
<b>At 1 January 2019</b>	190,796	726,762	(32,227)	885,331
<b>Comprehensive income for the year</b>				
Profit for the year	-	-	45	45
<b>At 1 January 2020</b>	190,796	726,762	(32,182)	885,376
<b>Comprehensive income for the year</b>				
Profit for the year	-	-	1	1
<b>Contributions by and distributions to owners</b>				
Capital reduction during the year	(190,796)	(726,762)	-	(917,558)
Transfer to profit and loss account	-	-	917,558	917,558
Dividend paid	-	-	(885,376)	(885,376)
<b>Total transactions with owners</b>	(190,796)	(726,762)	32,182	(885,376)
<b>At 31 December 2020</b>	-	-	1	1

The notes on pages 11 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

## **PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

#### **1. Accounting policies**

##### **1.1 General information**

Pioneer International Group Holdings Limited ("the Company") is a limited company incorporated and domiciled in the United Kingdom. The address of its registered office and principal place of business is disclosed in the Company Information.

##### **1.2 Basis of preparation of financial statements**

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

The Company's financial statements are presented in Sterling, which is also the Company's functional currency, and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand pounds (£'000).

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have, unless otherwise stated, been consistently applied to all periods presented.

##### **1.3 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 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 and 18A 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

This information is included in the consolidated financial statements of HeidelbergCement AG as at 31 December 2020 and these financial statements may be obtained from Berliner Strasse 6, D 69120 Heidelberg, Germany.

##### **1.4 Going concern**

The impact of COVID-19 on UK businesses is changing on a daily basis and the measures being adopted by the UK Government could have a significant impact in the foreseeable future. On the basis of their assessment of the Company's financial position and relevant enquiries, the Directors have no reason to believe that a material uncertainty exists that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Company to continue as a going concern.

Thus the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company will be able to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual financial statements.

## **PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

#### **1. Accounting policies (continued)**

##### **1.5 Financial instruments**

###### **Financial assets**

Financial assets are initially measured at fair value plus, in the case of a financial asset not subsequently measured at fair value through profit or loss, transaction costs.

The Company's financial assets comprise amounts owed by group undertakings.

Financial assets are subsequently measured at amortised cost where they are financial assets held within a business model whose objective is to hold financial assets in order to collect contractual cash flows, and the contractual terms of the financial asset give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding. Amortised cost is calculated using the effective interest method and represents the amount measured at initial recognition less repayments of principal plus the cumulative amortisation using the effective interest method of any difference between the initial amount and the maturity amount, adjusted for any loss allowance.

###### **Impairment of financial assets**

The Company recognises a loss allowance for expected credit losses ("ECL") on investments in debt instruments that are measured at amortised cost. The amount of expected credit losses is updated at each reporting date to reflect changes in credit risk since initial recognition of the respective financial instrument.

The ECL required for other debt instruments is determined using a three stage model.

- At the initial recognition of the financial asset an expected credit loss provision is recorded for the twelve month period following the reporting date. Any interest revenue is calculated on the gross carrying amount of the financial asset.
- If the credit risk of that financial instrument has increased significantly since initial recognition, a loss allowance for full lifetime expected credit losses is recorded. Any interest revenue is calculated on the gross carrying amount of the financial asset. Should the significant increase in credit risk reverse within subsequent reporting periods then the expected credit losses on the financial instrument revert to being measured based on an amount equal to the twelve month expected credit losses.
- If objective evidence of impairment exists, a loss allowance for full lifetime expected credit losses is recognised. Any interest revenue is calculated on the net carrying amount of the financial asset.

###### **Financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value and, in the case of loans and borrowing and payables, net of directly attributable transactions costs.

The Company's financial liabilities comprise amounts owed to group undertakings.

Financial liabilities which are neither contingent consideration of an acquirer in a business combination, held for trading, nor designated as at fair value through profit or loss are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. This is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial liability and of allocating interest expense over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments through the expected life of the financial liability, or where appropriate a shorter period, to the amortised cost of a financial liability.

## **PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

#### **1. Accounting policies (continued)**

##### **1.5 Financial instruments (continued)**

###### **Offsetting of financial instruments**

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset and the net amount is reported in the Balance Sheet if there is a currently enforceable legal right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis, to realise the assets and settle the liabilities simultaneously.

##### **1.6 Investments**

Investments in subsidiaries are shown at cost less provision for impairment.

##### **1.7 Current tax**

Current tax assets and liabilities are measured at the amount expected to be recovered from or paid to the taxation authorities, based on tax rates and laws that are enacted or substantively enacted by the Balance Sheet date.

Income tax is charged or credited to other comprehensive income if it relates to items that are charged or credited to other comprehensive income. Similarly, income tax is charged or credited directly to equity if it relates to items that are credited or charged directly to equity. Otherwise income tax is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

##### **1.8 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 shareholders at an annual general meeting.

##### **1.9 Exceptional items**

The Company presents as exceptional items those material items of income and expenditure which, because of their nature and expected infrequency of the events giving rise to them, merit separate presentation to allow shareholders to understand better the elements of financial performance in the year, so as to facilitate comparison with prior periods and to assess better trends in financial performance.

#### **2. Judgments in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

##### **Impairment of investments**

The Company reviews investments in subsidiaries and other investments for impairment if there are any indications that the carrying values may not be recoverable. The carrying value of the investment is compared to the recoverable amount and where a deficiency exists, an impairment charge is considered by management.

The recoverable amount represents the net assets of the investment at the time of the review or where applicable is represented by an estimate of future cash flows expected to arise from the investment. A suitable discount rate is applied to the future cash flows in order to calculate the present value.

Reversals of impairments are recognised where there is a favourable change in the economic assumptions in the period since the provision was made.



**PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**2. Judgments in applying accounting policies (continued)**

**Recoverability of amounts owed by group undertakings**

The Company recognises a loss allowance for expected credit losses ("ECL") on investments in debt instruments that are measured at amortised cost. The amount of expected credit losses is updated at each reporting date to reflect changes in credit risk since initial recognition of the respective financial instrument.

**3. Auditors' remuneration**

Fees for audit services have been borne by other group undertakings. It is not practicable to ascertain what proportion of such fees relates to the Company.

**4. Other operating income**

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Foreign exchange gain	1	-

**5. Staff costs**

The average monthly number of employees, including the Directors, during the year was nil (2019 - nil).

The Directors of the Company are also directors of a number of the group's fellow subsidiaries. The Directors received total remuneration of £918,000 (2019 - £876,000), which was paid by various fellow subsidiaries. The Directors do not believe that it is practicable to apportion this amount between their services as Directors of the Company and their services as directors of fellow subsidiary companies.

**6. Exceptional items**

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Reversal of impairment of fixed asset investments	-	45

During the prior year the Company partially reversed the impairment made against its investment in Slotcount Limited to bring the carrying value in line with the underlying net assets.

**7. Taxation**

	2020 £000	2019 £000
<b>Current tax</b>		
Current UK Corporation tax on profit for the year	-	-
<b>Total current tax</b>	-	-

**PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**7. Taxation (continued)**

**Reconciliation of the tax charge for the year**

The tax assessed for the year is the same as (2019 - lower than) the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19% (2019 - 19%). The differences are explained below:

	<b>2020 £000</b>	<b>2019 £000</b>
Profit before tax	<u>1</u>	<u>45</u>
Profit multiplied by standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19% (2019 - 19%)	-	9
<b>Effects of:</b>		
Non-tax deductible amortisation of goodwill and impairment	-	(9)
Group relief	(230)	(824)
Transfer pricing adjustments	<u>230</u>	<u>824</u>
<b>Total tax charge for the year</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

**Change in corporation tax rate**

The main rate of corporation tax is 19% (2019 - 19%). On 3 March 2021, the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that the main rate of corporation tax would increase from 19% to 25% from 1 April 2023.

**8. Dividend**

	<b>2020 £000</b>	<b>2019 £000</b>
Dividend paid	<u>885,376</u>	<u>-</u>

**PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**9. Fixed asset investments**

	<b>Investment in associated company £000</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 January 2020	890,016
Disposals	(890,016)
At 31 December 2020	-
<b>Impairment</b>	
At 1 January 2020	327,020
Disposals	(327,020)
At 31 December 2020	-
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 December 2020	-
At 31 December 2019	562,996

During the year, the Company sold its shares in Slotcount Limited to a fellow group undertaking at its market value of £562,996,000, realising neither a gain nor a loss on disposal.

**10. Debtors**

	<b>2020 £000</b>	<b>2019 £000</b>
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Amounts owed by group undertakings	80	324,712

Amounts owed by group undertakings are unsecured, interest free, have no fixed date of repayment and are repayable on demand.

**11. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2020 £000</b>	<b>2019 £000</b>
Amounts owed to group undertakings	79	2,332

Amounts owed to group undertakings are unsecured, interest free, have no fixed date of repayment and are repayable on demand.

**PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**12. Share capital**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
<b>Authorised</b>		
2 (2019 - 2) ordinary shares of £1 each	-	-
500,000,000 (2019 - 500,000,000) ordinary shares of AUS\$1 each	247,323	247,323
1,000,000,000 (2019 - 1,000,000,000) 'A' redeemable preference shares of AUS\$1 each	494,646	494,646
10,000,000 (2019 - 10,000,000) 'B' redeemable preference shares of £1 each	10,000	10,000
1,000,000,000 (2019 - 1,000,000,000) 'C' redeemable preference shares of US\$1 each	678,422	678,422
500,000,000 (2019 - 500,000,000) 'D' redeemable preference shares of AUS\$1 each	247,323	247,323
500,000,000 (2019 - 500,000,000) 'E' redeemable preference shares of AUS\$1 each	247,323	247,323
	<u>1,925,037</u>	<u>1,925,037</u>
<b>Allotted, called up and fully paid</b>		
2 (2019 - 2) ordinary shares of £1 each	-	-
Nil (2019 - 11,505,297) ordinary shares of AUS\$1 each	-	4,693
Nil (2019 - 6,900,000) 'A' redeemable preference shares of AUS\$1 each	-	3,843
Nil (2019 - 327,221,751) 'E' redeemable preference shares of AUS\$1 each	-	182,260
	<u>-</u>	<u>190,796</u>

The rights and restrictions of the 'A' and 'E' redeemable preference shares of AUS\$1 each are identical in all respects to those attaching to the ordinary shares. The 'A' and 'E' preference shares have been accounted for as equity with all classes of share ranking pari passu.

**13. Related party transactions**

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption under paragraph 8(k) of FRS 101 not to disclose transactions with wholly owned subsidiaries in the group headed by HeidelbergCement AG. Balances outstanding at 31 December with related parties, are as follows:

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Amounts owed by fellow subsidiary undertakings	80	324,712
Amounts owed to fellow subsidiary undertakings	(57)	(2,332)
Amounts owed to parent undertaking	(22)	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>322,380</u>

## **PIONEER INTERNATIONAL GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

#### **14. Ultimate parent undertaking and controlling party**

The Company's immediate parent undertaking is Hanson Limited, a company registered in the United Kingdom. The Company's ultimate parent undertaking is HeidelbergCement AG, a company registered in Germany. The largest and smallest group in which the results of the Company are consolidated is that headed by HeidelbergCement AG. Copies of the consolidated financial statements of HeidelbergCement AG may be obtained from Berliner Strasse 6, D 69120 Heidelberg, Germany.