Annual report and financial statements

For the 52 weeks ended 31 July 2021

Company registration no. 02930016

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Contents	Page
Officers and professional advisors	1
Strategic report	2
Directors' report	5
Directors' responsibilities statement	6
Balance sheet	7
Notes to the financial statements	8

# Officers and professional advisors

# **Directors**

R K O Kers C A Tomkinson

# Registered office

Trinity Park House Fox Way Wakefield West Yorkshire WF2 8EE

#### Strategic report

The directors present their Strategic Report for the 52 weeks ended 31 July 2021.

#### Business overview and principal activities

Solway Foods Limited ("the Company"), is a wholly owned indirect subsidiary of the group headed by Boparan Holdings Limited ("the Group").

The principal activity of the Company is that of a holding company.

The Company did not trade during the period. It is anticipated that the Company will remain dormant for the foreseeable future.

#### Key performance indicators

The Company has not identified any key performance indicators due to the nature of its operations as a holding company.

## Principal risks and uncertainties

The Company does not have exposure to external financing and funds its operations from a mixture of retained earnings and intragroup receivables.

The principle risk to the Company is the risk of impairments of the investment balance which is dependent on the performance of the underlying businesses within the Group. The performance of the underlying subsidiaries is periodically reviewed to mitigate this risk.

The principle risks and uncertainties facing the Group are discussed in the annual report of Boparan Holdings Limited, which does not form part of this annual report. The Group report is publicly available as detailed in note 10.

# Going concern

The directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in note 1.

# Our stakeholders

Section 172(1) statement

As a Board, we understand our long-term growth and success are dependent on engagement with all stakeholders. We continually consider how to make our decision making process more inclusive in order to involve our key stakeholders.

The leadership teams of the Group and each business unit make decisions in accordance with highest standards and Group policies with the long term success of the Group in mind. In taking these decisions, the Directors and leadership teams have regard for the likely consequence on the different stakeholders in both the short and long term.

Our decision making process through the current pandemic is a prime example of how we consider all stakeholders. The impact of COVID-19 has been widespread and we engaged with our colleagues and their representatives, our customers and suppliers, our bondholders and pension trustees to ensure we could continue to produce and supply food in a safe and efficient way.

Sustainability is a key priority for us. We aim to minimise our impact on the environment and respect the livelihoods of those working in our supply chains. It is our ambition to be the employer of choice within the Food Manufacturing Industry and to be welcomed and seen as a key part of the local community in which we operate.

# Strategic report (continued)

Engagement with our main stakeholder groups is summarised below.

Why we engage	How we	What matters	How we	Current year
<b>,..</b>	engage	most to our	respond	considerations
		stakeholders	•	and actions
Our people		1.0		
It is our colleagues that drive the business. We	Internal communication of developments	Employee health & safety	Employee engagement score	Welfare fund
want our colleagues to feel valued, so it is important to	Staff engagement	Employee wellbeing	improvement	Working from home (where possible)
understand what matters to them	surveys and "temperature" checks	Career and personal development opportunities	Annual appraisals including review of development plans	Socially distancing
	Intranet			Additional PPE
	Appraisals process	Employee engagement & retention	Introduction of Hybrid working	Education and guidance
	Colleague magazine	Fair pay and conditions		Twice weekly Group COVID management
		Improved working environment		meetings
Our customers				
We need to understand customer and consumer demands in order to create innovative products and respond to new trends By engaging and sharing	Key teams engage with customers in all areas to ensure effective communication	Our customers want quality products at a price that represent value for money underpinned by good levels of service  Sustainability is an	We continue to focus on new product development to meet emerging consumer trends	Working closely with retail customers to meet surges in demand and deliver mutually incentivising commercial structures
ideas with customers we can identify new ways of working together		important consideration as our consumers focus on the overall impact of their food choices on the environment		
Our suppliers				
We work closely with suppliers who share our values and beliefs in food safety, provenance and quality	Audits and visits Supplier policies	We need to ensure raw materials, ingredients and packaging are supplied at the right time to the right place and that the supply chain is transparent and sustainable	We continue to undertake supplier audits to ensure the safety, traceability, quality and provenance of the raw materials that we use	Remote audits  Ethical requirements
Trade bodies,				
industry and				
government				
groups				
We work with many trade bodies including, British Poultry Council (BPC), Chilled Food Association (CFA), Red Tractor. We also actively engage in key industry groups such as Food Industry Intelligence Network (Fiin), Food Industry Initiatives on Antimicrobials (FIIA) and Food Network, Ethical Trade(FNET), and DEFRA and Public Health England (PHE) engaged through the Food Resilience	Our Directors and management sit on steering committees, groups & boards including co- chairing some prominent industry groups such as FIIN and the IGD Sustainable diets forum.	BPC sets policies for the poultry industry; Red Tractor provides assurance that products are safe, traceable and farmed with care, and the RSPCA certifies higher welfare farming systems. FIIN shares industry Intelligence on Food integrity. FIIA supports farming practices for reduction and responsible use of antibiotics. FNET supports ethical	We continue to provide input, resources and leadership into these groups for the benefit of our business, the sectors we operate in and the food industry as a whole.	Remote support  Representative on government groups  Share of intelligence and best practice across the sector
Industry Forum		trade and human rights especially in our supply chains.		

# Strategic report (continued)

Why we engage	How we engage	What matters most to our stakeholders	How we respond	Current year considerations and actions
Our communities				
We produce from 20 facilities across the UK covering multiple towns and cities. We want to be part of these communities and give back where we can	Foodbank donations  Working with local schools and universities  Charity fundraising  We provide employment	Local communities have a justifiable expectation that businesses operate safely and sustainably. We need to reduce edible food waste and increase the amount of food that can be shared in the community	We support a wide range of projects within our local communities.	Additional food donations  PPE donations to local hospitals
Our financial creditors and shareholders				
The Company is part of a Group that is funded through the public markets in conjunction with a supportive banking group.  Along with the shareholders and pension trustees, these external stakeholders rely on timely, accurate and insightful reporting from the Group to manage their risks	Annual Financial Accounts  Quarterly updates to lenders including trading updates, financial statement and outlook  Regular announcements and press releases  Website including Investor Relations section	The commercial success and financial health of the Group is paramount to our lenders as they assess their appetite to support the Group going forward and our pension trustees, as they monitor our covenant strength	We provide regular press releases and results announcements to ensure our external stakeholders have the latest information on our performance  Further dialogue is had through our Investor Relations team who respond to any further queries	Regular dialogue on the impact of temporary site closures  Update on financial impacts of COVID-19 on the Group  Liquidity management

# **Future prospects**

The directors consider the future prospects of the Company to be satisfactory and expect the current level of activity to continue in the foreseeable future.

Approved by the board and signed on its behalf by:

C A Tomkinson Director

7 July 2022

#### Directors' report

The directors present their annual report and financial statements for the 52 weeks ended 31 July 2021.

#### **Directors**

The directors of the company who served during the period ended 31 July 2021 and up to the date of signing the financial statements are those listed on page 1.

#### **Directors' indemnities**

The Company made qualifying third party indemnity provisions for the benefit of its directors during the period which remain in force at the date of this report.

#### Dividends

No interim dividend was paid in the period (2020: £nil) and the directors do not recommend the payment of a final dividend (2020: nil).

#### Going concern

Details of the going concern basis of preparation of the Company can be found in the Strategic Report on page 2 and form part of this report by cross – reference.

#### Business overview and principal activities

The Company did not trade during the period. It is anticipated that the Company will remain dormant for the foreseeable future.

#### Financial risk management

The financial risks faced by the Company and the way these are managed are addressed within the Strategic Report on page 2.

# **Employees**

The company has no employees other than directors. Details of the directors' emoluments can be found in note 4.

#### **Auditor**

For the period ended 31 July 2021 the Company is entitled to exemption from audit under section 480 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to dormant company. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the period in question in accordance with section 476.

#### **Future prospects**

Details of the future prospects of the Company can be found in the strategic report and form part of this report by cross reference.

Approved by the board and signed on its behalf by:

C A Tomkinson Director

7 July 2022

## Directors' responsibilities statement

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 financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

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; 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 hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

#### **Balance sheet**

## At 31 July 2021

At 31 July 2021	Note	31 July 2021 £'000	1 August 2020 £'000
Non-current assets			
Investments	5	10,000	10,000
Current assets			
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	6	174	174
Net current assets		174	174
Total assets less current liabilities		10,174	10,174
Net assets		10,174	10,174
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	7	1,035	1,035
Profit and loss account		9,139	9,139
Shareholders' funds		10,174	10,174

For the period ended 31 July 2021 the Company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 480 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to dormant companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements of Solway Foods Holdings Limited were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 7 July 2022. They were signed on its behalf by:

C A Tomkinson Director

Company number 02930016

## Notes to the financial statements For the 53 weeks ended 31 July 2021

#### 1. Accounting policies

#### Basis of accounting

Solway Foods Holdings Limited is a company incorporated in the United Kingdom under the Companies Act 2006. The Company is a private company limited by shares and is registered in England and Wales. The address of the Company's registered office is shown on page 1 and the nature of the Company's operations and its principal activities are set out in the strategic report.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS102) issued by the Financial Reporting Council.

The functional currency of the Company is considered to be pounds sterling, because that is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Company operates. These financial statements are also presented in pounds sterling.

## Financial Reporting Standard 102 - reduced disclosure exemptions

The Company, as a qualifying entity, has taken advantage of the disclosure exemptions available to it in FRS102 Paragraph 1.12. In preparing these financial statements, exemptions have been taken in respect of:

- The requirements of Section 3; Financial Statement Presentation paragraph 3.17(d), and Section 7, Statement of Cashflows;
- The requirements of Section 11; Basic Financial Instruments paragraphs 11.41(b) (c), 11.41 (e) (f), 11.42, 11.44 11.45, 11.47, 11.48(aiii) (aiv), 11.48(b) (c);
- The requirements of Section 12; Other Financial Instruments Issues paragraph 12.26 12.27, 12.29(a) (b) and 12.29A; and
- The requirements of Section 33; Related Party Disclosures paragraph 33.7.

The Company is consolidated in the financial statements of its ultimate parent, Boparan Holdco Limited. Copies of these financial statements may be obtained from the Company's registered office.

#### Going concern

The Company has no external debt and is in a net asset position. The directors have considered the future activities of the Company and have concluded that the Company is a going concern. The financial statements have therefore been prepared on a going concern basis.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) For the 53 weeks ended 31 July 2021

## 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### Financial instruments

All amounts due from, or owed to Group undertakings are repayable on demand and held at amortised cost.

## **Equity instruments**

Equity instruments issued by the Company are recorded at the fair value of cash or other resources received, net of direct issue costs.

#### Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are shown at cost less provision for impairment. Investments are reviewed for impairment if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. When a review for impairment is conducted, the recoverable amount is assessed by reference to the net present value of expected future cash flows of the relevant cash generating unit. The discount rate applied is based upon the Company's weighted average cost of capital, with appropriate adjustment for the risks associated with the relevant unit.

# **Group financial statements**

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption from preparing consolidated accounts afforded by section 400 of the Companies Act 2006, because it is a wholly owned indirect subsidiary of Boparan Holdings Limited which is the smallest group of undertakings which prepare publicly available consolidated accounts that incorporate the results of the Company. Therefore these financial statements present information about the Company as an individual undertaking and not about its group.

# 2. Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The significant estimates and assumptions used in the preparation of the Company's Financial Statements are outlined below:

Investments are reviewed for impairment at each balance sheet date to determine if there is any indication of impairment. As part of this review, a discount rate is applied to each investment's projected future cashflows in order to estimate the investment's value. Where this value is lower than the carrying value of the investment, an impairment charge is booked. Further details regarding the carrying value of investments can be found in note 5.

#### 3. Profit and loss account

The Company has not traded during the period and there are no recognised gains or losses in either the current or prior period, consequently the financial statements comprise of a balance sheet only.

#### 4. Remuneration of directors

None of the directors received any remuneration for their services to the Company in either period.

# Notes to the financial statements (continued) For the 53 weeks ended 31 July 2021

#### 5. Investments

mvesunents	31 July 2021 £'000	1 August 2020 £'000
Investment in subsidiary undertakings held at cost	10,000	10,000

The Company holds 100% of the ordinary share capital of Solway Foods Limited, a company registered in England and Wales. The principal activity of Solway Foods Limited is the manufacturer of chilled food products.

In the opinion of the directors, the value of the Company's investments in its subsidiaries is not less than the amount at which they are stated in the balance sheet.

The registered address of both Solway Food Limited and The Salad Company Limited is Trinity Park House, Trinity Business Park, Fox Way, Wakefield, West Yorkshire, WF2 8EE.

## 6. Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year

bestors. Amounts failing due Within one year	31 July 2021 £'000	1 August 2020 £'000
Amounts due from Group undertakings	174	174

All amounts due from Group undertakings are repayable on demand and held at amortised cost.

#### 7. Called up share capital

Caneu up snare capital	31 July 2021 £'000	1 August 2020 £'000
Allotted, called up and fully paid:		
10,349,030 ordinary shares of 10p each	1,035	1,035

The Company has one class of ordinary shares which carry no right to fixed income.

# 8. Related party transactions

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption under FRS102 Section 33; Related Party Disclosures paragraph 33.7, as a wholly owned indirect subsidiary of Boparan Holdings Limited, not to disclose related party transactions with other wholly owned members of the Group.

# Notes to the financial statements (continued) For the 53 weeks ended 31 July 2021

## 9. Contingent liabilities

Solway Foods Holdings Limited and other Group subsidiary companies are guarantors in respect of the Senior Loan Notes due 2025, whereby they absolutely and unconditionally guarantee the principal and interest on the Senior Loan Notes. The same companies are cross guarantors in respect of the Boparan Holdings Group's £80m plus £10m accordion super senior Revolving Credit Facility which is a facility of Boparan Holdings Limited.

The amount drawn down on this facility at the balance sheet date was £25.0m (2020: £78.0m). The total bond value as at 31 July 2021 per the Group financial statements was £474.5m net of fees (2020: £611.8m).

The Company and its affiliates focus on proactively managing and improving its capital structure, through opportunities such as refinancing and repaying or repurchasing debt, including through redemptions, open market purchases, tender offers or other such options. Such retirements or repurchases, if any, may depend on prevailing market conditions, the Company's liquidity requirements, contractual restrictions and other factors. The Company and its affiliates may undertake any of these activities from time to time.

Since the balance sheet date the Group has agreed new financing arrangements. Details of this can be found in note 11.

# 10. Ultimate parent undertaking

The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Northern Foods Limited, a company registered in England and Wales. The parent company of the smallest group of undertakings for which group financial statements are drawn up and of which the Company is a member is Boparan Holdings Limited, registered in England and Wales.

The parent company of the largest group of undertakings for which group financial statements are drawn up and of which the Company is a member is Boparan Holdco Limited, registered in England and Wales. Copies of the consolidated financial statements can be obtained from the Company's registered office as detailed on page 1.

As at 31 July 2021 Boparan Holdco Limited was also the Company's ultimate parent undertaking. Their registered address is Colmore Court, 9 Colmore Row, Birmingham, B3 2BJ.

R S Boparan and B K Boparan are the ultimate controlling parties.

## 11. Post balance sheet event

On 23 November 2021 the directors secured access to a further funding facility of £10m, "Term Loan B", maturing in May 2025.

On 24 November 2021 the directors secured additional funding of £50m through an additional note issuance that mirrors the terms of the existing Sterling Senior Loan Notes totalling £475m maturing in November 2025.