# UNITED AUTOMOBILE SERVICES LIMITED ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2001

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# **COMPANY INFORMATION**

**Directors** 

S P Lonsdale

J A Ray

R A Bowler

Secretary

D P Turner

Company number

2953095

Registered office

Admiral Way

Doxford International Business Park

Sunderland SR3 3XP

**Auditors** 

PricewaterhouseCoopers

89 Sandyford Road Newcastle upon Tyne

NE99 1PL

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#### **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2001

The Directors present their report and the audited financial statements for the Company for the year ended 31st December 2001.

#### Principal activities and review of business

The Company's principal activity is that of a holding company.

#### Results and dividends

The results for the year are set out in the profit and loss account on page 4. The Directors recommend the payment of a dividend amounting to £2,000,000 (2000: £2,500,000).

The Directors consider the state of the Company's affairs to be satisfactory and there have been no material changes since the balance sheet date.

#### Directors

The Directors who held office during the year were:

S P Lonsdale

J A Ray

R A Bowler

#### **Directors' interests**

None of the Directors had any interest in the share capital of the Company during the year.

S P Lonsdale and J A Ray are also Directors of the ultimate parent company, ARRIVA plc, and their interests in the share capital of that company are disclosed in its Directors' Report.

The interests of R A Bowler in the ordinary share capital of ARRIVA plc are shown in the Directors' Report of the intermediate parent company, ARRIVA Passenger Services Limited.

#### Statement of Directors' responsibilities

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the profit or loss for that period.

The Directors confirm that suitable accounting policies have been used and applied consistently. They also confirm that reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates have been made in preparing the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2001 and that applicable accounting standards have been followed.

The Directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. 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.

# **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2001

#### **Auditors**

The auditors, PricewaterhouseCoopers, have indicated their willingness to continue in office. The Company has elected to dispense with the requirement to appoint auditors annually.

By order of the Board

D P Turner, Secretary 6th March 2002

# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF UNITED AUTOMOBILE SERVICES LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements which comprise the profit and loss account, the balance sheet and related notes which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out in the statement of accounting policies.

#### Respective responsibilities of Directors and Auditors

The Directors' responsibilities for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and accounting standards are set out in the statement of Directors' responsibilities.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and United Kingdom Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Directors' Report is not consistent with the financial statements, if the Company has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding Directors' remuneration and transactions is not disclosed.

We read the other information contained in the Annual Report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements. The other information comprises only the Directors' Report.

#### Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the Directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of the information in the financial statements.

#### **Opinion**

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31st December 2001 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

PricewaterhouseCoopers

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

Newcastle upon Tyne

17th September 2002

# PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2001

|   | Notes | 2001<br>£'000 | 2000<br>£'000 |
|---|-------|---------------|---------------|
| Income from shares in group undertakings      |       | 2,000         | 2,500         |
| Profit on ordinary activities before taxation | _     | 2,000         | 2,500         |
| Tax on profit on ordinary activities          |       | -             | -             |
| Profit for the financial year                 |       | 2,000         | 2,500         |
| Dividends                                     | 2     | (2,000)       | (2,500)       |
| Transfer to reserves                          | 7     |               |               |
|   |       |               |               |

All amounts relate to continuing activities.

The Company has no recognised gains and losses other than those included in the profit and loss account, and therefore no separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has been presented.

There is no difference between the profit on ordinary activities before taxation and the retained profit for the year stated above, and their historical cost equivalents.

# **BALANCE SHEET**

# **AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2001**

|  | Notes | 2001<br>£'000 | 2001<br>£'000 | 2000<br>£'000 | 2000<br>£'000 |
|--|-------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Fixed assets                                   |       |               |               |               |               |
| Investments                                    | 3     |               | 13,085        |               | 13,085        |
| Current assets                                 |       |               |               |               |               |
| Cash at bank and in hand                       |       | 154           |               | 154           |               |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year | 5     | (154)         |               | (154)         |               |
| Net current assets                             |       |               | -             |               | -             |
| Total assets less current liabilities          |       |               | 13,085        | _<br>_        | 13,085        |
| Capital and reserves                           |       |               |               |               |               |
| Called up equity share capital                 | 6     |               | 12,026        |               | 12,026        |
| Capital reserve                                | 7     |               | 1,059         |               | 1,059         |
| Profit and loss account                        | 7     |               | -             |               | •             |
| Equity shareholders' funds                     | 8     |               | 13,085        | _             | 13,085        |
|  |       |               |               | =             |               |

The financial statements on pages 4 to 8 were approved by the Board on 6th March 2002 and signed on its behalf by:

S P Lonsdale

Director

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2001

#### 1 Accounting policies

#### Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, using the accounting policies set out below and in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

#### Cash flow statement

The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary and the ultimate parent company has prepared a group cash flow statement. Accordingly, under FRS 1, the Company is exempt from preparing a cash flow statement.

#### Consolidation

As permitted by S228 of the Companies Act 1985 the Company has not prepared consolidated financial statements.

#### Investment income

Investment income comprises dividends and interest and is accounted for on a receivable basis.

#### Investments

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Investments are included at cost less amounts written off. Profits or losses arising from disposals of fixed asset investments are treated as part of the result from ordinary activities.

| 2 | Dividends   | 2001<br>£'000                      | 2000<br>£'000 |
|---|---|------------------------------------|---------------|
|   | Equity dividends  |                                    |               |
|   | Ordinary dividends payable of 20.8p per share (2000: 26.0p per share) | 2,000                              | 2,500         |
| 3 | Fixed asset investments   |                                    |               |
|   |   | Shares in<br>group<br>undertakings | Total         |
|   | Cost  | £'000                              | £'000         |
|   | At 1st January 2001 and 31st December 2001                            | 13,085                             | 13,085        |
|   | Net book value At 31st December 2000 and 31st December 2001           | 10.005                             | 10.005        |
|   | At 51st December 2000 and 51st December 2001                          | 13,085                             | 13,085        |

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2001

| 4 Shares | in | group | undertakings |
|----------|----|-------|--------------|
|----------|----|-------|--------------|

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Details of shares in group undertakings are as follows:

| Downs of shares in group undertakings are as folk  | 5,,,0,                                  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| Name of company  | Nature of business                      | Country of incorporation and operation | Percentage<br>holding                  |
| ARRIVA North East Limited  | Administration and engineering services | England & Wales                        | 100                                    |
| North Western Road Car Company Limited   | Holding company                         | England & Wales                        | 100                                    |
| In the opinion of the Directors, the carrying value  | of investments is not mor               | e than their realisable value.         |  |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year   |   | 2001<br>£'000                          | 2000<br>£'000                          |
| Amounts owed to group undertakings   |   | 154                                    | 154                                    |
| The Company is party to an unlimited multi-latera group undertakings.  Called up share capital  Authorised |   | 2001<br>£'000                          | 2000<br>£'000                          |
| Equity shares 9,621,000 Ordinary shares of £1.25 each  |   | 12,026                                 | 12,026                                 |
| Allotted and fully paid<br>Equity shares   |   |  |  |
| 9,621,000 Allotted, called up and fully paid ordina  | ary shares of £1.25 each                | 12,026                                 | 12,026                                 |
| Reserves   |   |  | n., . e4                               |
|  |   | Capital<br>reserve<br>£'000            | Profit<br>and loss<br>account<br>£'000 |
| At 1st January 2001<br>Profit for the year   |   | 1,059                                  | -                                      |
| At 31st December 2001  |   | 1,059                                  |  |

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2001

| Reconciliation of movement in equity shareholders' funds | 2001<br>£'000 | 2000<br>£'000 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Profit for the financial year                            | 2,000         | 2,500         |
| Dividends  | (2,000)       | (2,500)       |
| Movement in equity shareholders' funds                   |               |               |
| Opening equity shareholders' funds                       | 13,085        | 13,085        |
| Closing equity shareholders' funds                       | 13,085        | 13,085        |

# 9 Ultimate parent company

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The ultimate parent company and ultimate controlling party is ARRIVA plc, a company which is registered in England and Wales, and which has prepared group accounts incorporating the results of United Automobile Services Limited. Copies of these accounts can be obtained from Admiral Way, Doxford International Business Park, Sunderland, SR3 3XP.

Transactions with other companies in the ARRIVA Group are not specifically disclosed as the company has taken advantage of the exemption available under FRS 8 "Related Party Disclosures" for wholly-owned subsidiaries.