Group Strategic Report, Report of the Directors and Consolidated Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

for

Pluss-Staufer Limited



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Pluss-Staufer Limited

Company Information for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

DIRECTORS:

R I Abdul W I Cardew ·

REGISTERED OFFICE:

Melton Office Melton Bottom

Melton North Ferriby

East Riding of Yorkshire HU14 3HU

REGISTERED NUMBER:

03138417 (England and Wales)

AUDITOR:

KPMG LLP One Snowhill

Snow Hill Queensway

Birmingham West Midlands B4 6GH

SOLICITOR:

Geldards LLP

Number One Pride Park Place

Pride Park Derby DE24 8QR

Group Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

The directors present their strategic report of the Company and the Group for the year ended 31 December 2019.

REVIEW OF BUSINESS AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The principal activities of the Group during the year were the manufacture of chemicals and the quarrying, processing and distribution of calcium carbonate and other raw materials for supply to the chemical, plastics, paint, rubber, paper, ink, foodstuffs, building products, pharmaceutical and allied industries.

The results for the year are shown on page 12 of the annual report and financial statements.

The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend for the year on the ordinary shares (2018 - £nil).

The 2019 business environment continued to be challenging across all segments in particular Printing and Writing.

A 2% increase in revenue was experienced versus 2018. Increased cost throughout the period mitigated the positive effect. Gross margin reduced from 9.05% in 2018 to 8.2% in 2019.

Competition remains strong, however with tight cost control and a selective investment programme the Group remains in a strong position going forward.

During the year an acquisition was made of Solar Inks Limited, a manufacturer of sustainable flexographic ink for the packaging industry. This acquisition provides Omya with an established product range and customer base, and will contribute toward the Group's long term strategy

BREXIT has had minimal effect on the 2019 accounts. Although there is some uncertainty surrounding business in the UK, the Directors and senior management are continually assessing the risks and opportunities and will act accordingly. As the majority of customers are UK based, the main risk comes from the importation of goods. In preparation for 2021, systems have been put in place to deal with additional administrative tasks, supplier contracts and relationships have been reviewed and renegotiated where needed and customers have been kept up to date with any future impacts on the delivery of goods.

The COVID-19 pandemic is having a significant impact, not only on public health but also on the global economy. In anticipation of this, Management is positioning the Group to weather both the pandemic and the economic downtum. The impact on the 2019 financial statements is negligible, however in 2020 the Group has experienced reduced revenue as a result of falling demand in the market place. The Group has maintained production throughout and has utilised Government support measures and initiatives where available. The trustees of the defined benefit pension scheme are closely monitoring the funding position and investment strategy with advice given by the scheme advisors, Mercer. The trustees are proposing to reduce future risk over this volatile period. Through a coordinated plan to manage working capital, reduce expenditure and ration capital expenditure, recovery and prosperity is being targeted in 2021.

ANALYSIS OF DEVELOPMENT AND PERFORMANCE

The Group results for 2019 are shown below and it is well positioned to develop its strategies and goals going forward.

During the year, the Group recorded a pre-tax loss of £4,588,000 (2018: £2,709,000).

The Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) are shown below:

Year	2019	2018	
	£'000	£'000	
Turnover	113,716	111,798	
EBITDA	3,357	4,452	
Net debt	63,366	52,541	
Shareholders' funds	4,571	4,817	

EBITDA is calculated as earnings before interest, taxation, depreciation, amortisation, impairment and related party debt. Net debt is calculated as the cash balances less group loans and overdrafts.

The Group continually reviews and monitors all aspects of the business, incorporating Health, Safety and Environmental, with a substantial number of the plants achieving ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001.

Group Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

All businesses face risks and these are reviewed thoroughly and regularly by the board as part of its ongoing corporate governance procedures.

The cost of energy related products are constantly monitored and with a combination of energy contract management and efficiencies achieved on usage the increases in energy and related costs have been minimised.

Raw material prices influenced by commodity cost shifts are monitored and managed, which together with selling price increases have protected margins.

FINANCIAL RISK

All treasury activities are focused on the management and hedging of risk. It is the Group's policy not to trade financial instruments or to engage in speculative financial transactions. There have been no significant changes in the Group's policies in the last year.

In addition to the above, the Group is exposed to various specific risks in connection with its financial operations and results, these include the following:

- The impact of movement in equity markets, interest rates and life expectancy on net pension liability.
- Maintenance of the Group's cash flows at an appropriate level and the exposure of debt and cash positions to changes in interest rates.
- The potential impact of changes in currency exchange rates on the Group's earnings and on the translation of its underlying net assets.

All of the above exposures are managed by the finance function which operates within written policies approved by the board and within the internal control framework of the Group.

The Group's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables which represent the Group's maximum exposure to credit risk in relation to financial assets. The Group's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables.

The Group trades only with recognised, creditworthy third parties. It is the Group's policy that all customers who wish to trade on credit terms are subject to credit verification procedures. In addition, receivable balances are monitored on an ongoing basis with the result that the Group's exposure to bad debts is not significant.

Prudent liquidity risk management implies maintaining sufficient cash and marketable securities, the availability of funding through an adequate amount of committed credit facilities and the ability to close out market positions. Due to the dynamic nature of the underlying businesses, the treasury function maintains flexibility in funding by maintaining availability under committed credit lines.

Credit risk arises from cash and cash equivalents, derivative financial instruments and deposits with banks and financial institutions. For banks and financial institutions, only independently rated parties with a minimum rating of 'A' are accepted.

The Group is exposed to commodity price risk as a result of its operations. The Group mitigates this risk by maintaining strong relationships with key suppliers.

The Group's interest rate risk arises from long term borrowings. This Group is funded substantially by a LIBOR linked interest bearing loan from the ultimate parent company.

Risks and uncertainties associated with foreign exchange are managed on a group basis. Risks associated with the pension scheme for the Group are managed by directors and risks associated with the pension scheme for the members are managed by the Trustees of the scheme.

Group Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

OTHER RISKS

The Group is exposed to varying degrees of risk and uncertainty related to other factors including competitive pricing, consumption levels, legislative, fiscal, tax and regulatory developments, political and social conditions in the environments where we operate. All of these risks could materially affect the Group's business, our turnover, operating profit, net profit, net assets and liquidity.

There may be risks which are unknown to the Group or which are currently believed to be immaterial.

STATEMENT BY THE DIRECTORS RELATING TO THEIR STATUTORY DUTIES UNDER SECTION 172(1) OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

The Directors, in line with their duties under s172 of the Companies Act 2006, act individually and collectively in the way they consider, in good faith, would be most likely to promote the success of the Group for the benefit of its member, and in doing so have regard, amongst other matters, to the:

Section 172 factor	Example
Consequences of any decision in the long term	Forecasting medium/long term cashflow approved by the board. Strategic objective and planning including M&A possibilities.
	Capital investment to ensure long term success.
Interests of employees	Employees are key to success. Welfare, health and safety of employees is our No. 1 priority. Annual appraisal is carried out for all employees, including target setting, 360° feedback and training plans.
	We ensure equal opportunities for all employees.
Fostering business relationships with suppliers, customers and others	Customers are at the centre of our business. Technical sales teams ensure we deliver what our customers want. We are fair and transparent with our dealings with suppliers. Our business partners are risk assessed to protect company assets.
Impact of the company's operations on the community and the environment	Sustainability is key to the future of our business and industry. We endeavour to limit the impact on the environment and protect communities in which we operate.
Maintaining a reputation for high standards of business conduct	Recognition through ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO 45001 accreditation. Continuous development of employees at the Omya Academy and online "Skillport".
Act fairly between members of the company	Corporate identity embodied in its core values Modesty, Courtesy, Integrity and Perseverance.

The Directors' regard to these matters is embedded in their decision-making process, through the Group's business strategy, culture governance, management information flows and stakeholder engagement processes.

Group Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

The Group's business strategy is focused on achieving success for the Group in the long-term. In setting this strategy, the Board takes into account the impact of relevant factors and stakeholder interests on the Group's performance. The Board also identifies principal risks facing the business and aims to manage identified risks.

The Board promotes a culture of upholding the highest standards of business conduct and regulatory conduct. The Board ensures these core values are communicated to the Group's employees and embedded in the Group's policies and procedures, employee induction and training programmes and its risk control.

The Board recognises that building strong and lasting relationships with stakeholders will help to deliver strategic objectives in line with long-term values, and operate sustainably.

ON B	EHALF OF THE BOARD:	
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R I Ab	dul - Director	••••
Datas	25.01.2021	
DAUG.		

Report of the Directors

for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

The directors present their report with the financial statements of the Company and the Group for the year ended 31 December 2019.

DIVIDENDS

No dividends will be distributed for the year ended 31 December 2019 (2018: £nil).

DIRECTORS

The directors shown below have held office during the whole of the period from 1 January 2019 to the date of this report.

R I Abdul

W I Cardew

The directors holding office at 31 December 2019 did not hold any beneficial interest in the issued share capital of the company, or any other UK group company, at 1 January 2019 (or date of appointment if later) or 31 December 2019.

CHARITABLE AND POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Donations to local charities amounted to £7,200 (2018: £3,383) and donations to national charities was nil (2018: £60).

No contributions were made for political purposes (2018: £nil).

STATEMENT ON INTERNAL CONTROLS

The directors acknowledge their ultimate responsibility for ensuring that the Group has in place a system of controls, financial and otherwise, that is appropriate to the business environments in which it operates.

These are designed to give reasonable assurance with respect to:-

- the reliability of financial information used within the business or for publication, and the maintenance of proper accounting records;
- the safeguarding of assets against unauthorised use or disposition; and
- the business being operated efficiently and effectively

The Group operates within a control framework developed and refined over a number of years and communicated throughout the Group by means of procedures. These lay down common accounting policies and financial control procedures, in addition to controls of a more operational nature.

Of particular importance are those that relate to:

- the definition of the organisation structure and the appropriate delegation of responsibility to operational management;
- the definition of authorisation limits, financial and otherwise;
- the setting of detailed annual budgets, rolling forecasts and the monthly reporting of actual results against them;
- · capital expenditure and investment procedures; and
- physical and computer security matters and contingency planning.

HEALTH AND SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES

As the Group is not only conscious of the need to protect the environment but also recognises its responsibility to the communities in which it operates, it endeavours to conduct its operations so as to minimise all possible hazards. Risk Management (covering all such policies) is included on all meeting agendas (including Board Meetings) to ensure that the Group complies with the provisions of all relevant legislation and the Group's own policies and is committed to ensure that training is carried out in safe working practices throughout all departments and locations within the Group.

FIXED ASSETS

Changes in fixed assets are shown in note 11 of the financial statements.

Report of the Directors for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

MARKET VALUES OF INTERESTS IN LAND AND BUILDINGS

In the opinion of the directors the current open market values of the Group's freehold and leasehold interests in land and the buildings thereon, on an existing use basis, substantially exceed the amount at which they are included in the financial statements at 31st December 2019. The directors have not attempted to quantify the difference, as in their opinion no useful purpose would be served by this exercise. These assets are used exclusively for the conduct of the Group's main business.

SUPPLIER PAYMENT POLICY

It is Group policy to pay its suppliers promptly. Accordingly, approved invoices from suppliers are paid in accordance with agreed credit terms.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The Group invests in research and development to ensure that the range and quality of its products are continually up to date. The improvement of existing products and processes and the identification and development of new technologies are key aspects of the Group's strategy.

EMPLOYEES

The directors recognise the considerable benefits which accrue from informing employees of the activities of the Group and its progress and performance. To supplement normal communications within the organisation, quarterly updates are held.

The welfare, health and safety of employees are given special attention. It is the policy of the Group to treat all employees and potential employees equally and to give full consideration to suitable applications for employment from disabled persons where they have the necessary abilities and skills for the position, all necessary assistance with initial training is given. Where employees become disabled, the Group endeavours to continue to employ them provided there are duties they can perform given their disability.

The directors recognise the importance of training and education of all Group employees.

DIRECTORS' INDEMNITIES

The Group maintains liability insurance for its directors and officers. Following shareholder approval the Group has also provided an indemnity for its directors, which is a qualifying third party indemnity provision for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006. The indemnity was in force throughout the financial year and also at the date of approval of the financial statements.

PENSION SCHEME

The assets of the Group's Pension Scheme are held completely separate from those of the Group and the funds of the Scheme, which are administered by Trustees, are invested principally with JLT Benefits Solutions Limited. There are no loans between the Scheme and the Group.

The Defined Benefit Scheme was closed to future accrual in May 2009.

All employees, including directors, eligible for pension scheme benefits, may participate in a Stakeholder Scheme.

GOING CONCERN

Notwithstanding a loss before tax for the year then ended of £4,588,000, the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which the directors consider to be appropriate for the following reasons.

The directors have prepared cash flow forecasts for a period of 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements which indicate that, taking account of reasonably possible downsides, the Group will have sufficient funds, through its overdraft facility and in downside cases funding from its immediate parent company, Omya AG, to meet its liabilities as they fall due for that period.

Report of the Directors for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

Following the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic the Group undertook a detailed review of its forecast trading position assessing and revising the short to medium term prospects for its core revenue streams and implementing several cost control and mitigation measures. The Group has already taken swift actions including, but not limited to, deferring non-critical spending and leveraging the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme, to reduce the impact of the lower level of productivity. These forecasts take into account severe but plausible downsides based on the experience in the earlier months of the pandemic. This includes a reduction to revenue similar to that seen in the first lockdown and an increase in the cash collection period for debtors.

Those forecasts are dependent on Omya AG not seeking repayment of the amounts currently due to the group (which are repayable within the forecasted period), which at 31 December 2019 amount to £13,955,000, and providing additional financial support during the period.

Omya AG has indicated its intention to continue to make available such funds as are needed by the Group for the period covered by the forecasts. As with any company placing reliance on other group entities for financial support, the directors acknowledge that there can be no certainty that this support will continue although, at the date of approval of these financial statements, they have no reason to believe that it will not do so.

The directors, after reviewing these forecasts, including changes arising from the Covid-19 pandemic, are confident that the Group will have sufficient funds to continue to meet its liabilities as they fall due for at least 12 months from the date of approval of the financial statements and therefore have prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis.

POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

On 15 October 2020 a formal announcement was made to cease the Steeple Morden operation as a result of reduced business from the construction segment and the immediate effect of COVID 19. The site will remain operational until it's closure by the end of 2021.

STATEMENT AS TO DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITOR

So far as the directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information (as defined by Section 418 of the Companies Act 2006) of which the Group's auditor is unaware, and each director has taken all the steps that he ought to have taken as a directors in order to make himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Group's auditor is aware of that information.

AUDITOR

The auditor KPMG LLP has indicated their willingness to continue in office. Pursuant to Section 487 (2) of the Companies Act 2006, the members have dispensed with the obligation to appoint auditors annually and KPMG LLP shall be deemed to be re-appointed each year.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD:

R I Abdul – Director Melton Office

Melton, North Ferriby East Riding of Yorkshire

HU14 3HU

Melton Bottom

25.01.2021

'ajaan Alchu

Date:

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

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 group and parent company financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they have elected to prepare both the group and the parent company financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union (IFRSs as adopted by the EU) and applicable law.

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 group and parent company and of their profit or loss for that period. In preparing each of the group and parent company financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable, relevant and reliable;
- state whether they have been prepared in accordance with IFRSs as adopted by the EU;
- assess the group and parent company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern; and
- use the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the group or the parent company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the parent company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the parent company and enable them to ensure that its financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are 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, and have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the group and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Pluss-Staufer Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Pluss-Staufer Limited ("the company") for the year ended 31 December 2019 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income, Consolidated Statement of Financial Position, Company Statement of Financial Position, Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity, Company Statement of Changes in Equity, Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows, and related notes, including the accounting policies in note 1.

In our opinion:

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

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities are described below. We have fulfilled our ethical responsibilities under, and are independent of the company in accordance with, UK ethical requirements including the FRC Ethical Standard. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is a sufficient and appropriate basis for our opinion.

Going concern

The directors have prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis as they do not intend to liquidate the company or to cease its operations, and as they have concluded that the company's financial position means that this is realistic. They have also concluded that there are no material uncertainties that could have cast significant doubt over its ability to continue as a going concern for at least a year from the date of approval of the financial statements ("the going concern period").

We are required to report to you if we have concluded that the use of the going concern basis of accounting is inappropriate or there is an undisclosed material uncertainty that may cast significant doubt over the use of that basis for a period of at least a year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In our evaluation of the directors' conclusions, we considered the inherent risks to the group's business model and analysed how those risks might affect the group and company's financial resources or ability to continue operations over the going concern period. We have nothing to report in these respects.

However, as we cannot predict all future events or conditions and as subsequent events may result in outcomes that are inconsistent with judgements that were reasonable at the time they were made, the absence of reference to a material uncertainty in this auditor's report is not a guarantee that the group or the company will continue in operation.

Strategic report and directors' report

The directors are responsible for the strategic report and the directors' report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover those reports and we do not express an audit opinion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the strategic report and the directors' report and, in doing so, consider whether, based on our financial statements audit work, the information therein is materially misstated or inconsistent with the financial statements or our audit knowledge. Based solely on that work:

- we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report and the directors' report;
- in our opinion the information given in those reports for the financial year is consistent with the financial statements; and
- in our opinion those reports have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of Pluss-Staufer Limited (continued)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

We have nothing to report in these respects.

Directors' responsibilities

As explained more fully in their statement set out on page 9, the directors are responsible for: the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view; 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; assessing the group and parent company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern; and using the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the group or the parent company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities

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 our opinion in an auditor's report. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but does not 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 aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

A fuller description of our responsibilities is provided on the FRC's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities.

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

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.

Stuart Wood (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of KPMG LLP, Statutory Auditor
One Snowhill
Snow Hill Queensway
Birmingham
B4 6GH

25.01.2021

Date:

Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

	Notes	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
CONTINUING OPERATIONS Revenue	3	113,716	111,798
Cost of sales		(104,364)	(101,684)
GROSS PROFIT		9,352	10,114
Other operating income Administrative expenses Restructuring and litigation income	4	2,649 (14,325)	2,257 (13,569) <u>264</u>
OPERATING LOSS		(2,324)	(934)
Finance costs	6	(2,270)	(1,775)
Finance income	6	6	
LOSS BEFORE INCOME TAX	7	(4,588)	. (2,709)
Income tax	8	600	167
LOSS FOR THE YEAR		(3,988)	(2,542)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE (EXP Items that will not be reclassified to Actuarial gains/(losses) Income tax relating to items that will n profit or loss	profit or loss:	(729) 125	2,505 (426)
Items that may be reclassified subsections to the subsequently to profit or loss		(604) 	2,079
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE (EXPENSE)/INCOME FOR THE Y NET OF INCOME TAX	EAR,	(604)	2,079
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE (EXPI FOR THE YEAR	ENSE)	(4,592)	(463)
Loss attributable to: Owners of the parent		(3,988)	(2,542)
Total comprehensive income attributable Owners of the parent	ele to:	<u>(4,592)</u>	(463)

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position 31 December 2019

	Notes	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
ASSETS			
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Owned			
Intangible assets	10	10,540	3,202
Property, plant and equipment	11	55,290	54,412
Right-of-use			
Property, plant and equipment	11, 20	3,736	-
Deferred tax	22	1,506	<u>781</u>
		71,072	58,395
CURRENT ASSETS			
Inventories	13	12 226	12 000
Trade and other receivables	14	13,226	13,009 21,136
		23,693	
Cash and cash equivalents	15	2,689	884
		39,608	35,029
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>110,680</u>	93,424
EQUITY			
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY			
Called up share capital	16	25,000	25,000
Share premium	17	7,010	7,010
Capital reserve	17	4,756	410
Mineral reserve	17	4,498	4,538
Retained earnings	17	(36,693)	(32,141)
Retained carrings	1 /	(30,073)	(32,141)
TOTAL EQUITY		4,571	4,817

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position - continued 31 December 2019

	Notes	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
LIABILITIES	140003	2 000	2000
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	18	5	6
Other financial liabilities		_	
Interest bearing loans and borrowings	19	54,985	48,500
Pension liability	23	15,003	16,724
Provisions	21	5,918	1,406
		75,911	66,636
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	18	15,091	16,883
Other financial liabilities			
Interest bearing loans and borrowings	19	14,909	4,925
Tax payable		60	-
Provisions	21	138	<u> 163</u>
			
		30,198	21,971
TOTAL LIABILITIES	4	106,109	88,607
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		<u>110,680</u>	93,424

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on _________ and were signed on its behalf by:

R I Abdul - Director

Company Statement of Financial Position

31 December 2019

ASSETS	Notes	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Investments	12	29,346	25,000
		29,346	25,000
CURRENT ASSETS			
Trade and other receivables	14	3,000	3,000
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>32,346</u>	28,000
EQUITY			
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY			
Called up share capital	1 6	25,000	25,000
Capital reserve	17	4,346	-
Retained earnings	17	<u>(7,936)</u>	<u>(7,936)</u>
TOTAL EQUITY		21,410	17,064
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES		·	
Bank overdrafts and loans			
Interest bearing loans and borrowings	19	10,936	10,936
TOTAL LIABILITIES		10,936	10,936
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		32,346	28,000

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on ______25.01.2021 _____ and were signed on its behalf by:

R I Abdul - Director

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

	Called up share capital £'000	Retained earnings	Share premium £'000
Balance at 1 January 2018	25,000	(31,813)	7,010
Changes in equity Deficit for the year Other comprehensive income	<u> </u>	(2,542) 2,079	<u>-</u>
Total comprehensive income Amortisation transfer	<u>-</u> _	(463) 135	<u>-</u>
Balance at 31 December 2018	25,000	(32,141)	7,010
Changes in equity Deficit for the year Other comprehensive expense	<u>-</u>	(3,988) (604)	- -
Total comprehensive expense Amortisation transfer	-	(4,592) 40	-
Balance at 31 December 2019	25,000	(36,693)	7,010
	Capital reserve £'000	Mineral reserve £'000	Total equity £'000
Balance at 1 January 2018	410	4,673	5,280
Changes in equity Deficit for the year Other comprehensive income	<u> </u>		(2,542) 2,079
Total comprehensive income Amortisation transfer	<u>-</u>	(135)	(463)
Balance at 31 December 2018	410	4,538	4,817
Changes in equity Deficit for the year Other comprehensive expense	<u>.</u>	<u>.</u>	(3,988) (604)
Total comprehensive expense Transaction with shareholders Amortisation transfer	4,346	- (40)	(4,592) 4,346
Balance at 31 December 2019	4,756	4,498	4,571

Company Statement of Changes in Equity for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

	Called up share capital £'000	Retained earnings £'000	Capital reserve £'000	Total equity £'000
Balance at 1 January 2018	25,000	(7,936)	-	17,064
Changes in equity	<u> </u>			
Balance at 31 December 2018	25,000	(7,936)		17,064
Changes in equity Transaction with shareholders	<u>-</u>	-	4,346	4,346
Balance at 31 December 2019	25,000	(7,936)	4,346	21,410

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

		2019	. 2018
	Notes	£'000	£'000
Cash flows from operating activities Cash used in from operations	26	(3,507)	(518)
Finance costs paid		(428)	(503)
Provisions		(95)	(1,176)
			
Net cash (used in) operating activities		(4,030)	(2,197)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of goodwill		(1)	-
Purchase of intangible fixed assets	•	(1)	(39)
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(5,340)	(8,620)
Acquisition of subsidiary		(4,346)	(0,020)
Sale of tangible fixed assets		189	1,064
Interest received		6	1,004
interest received			
Net cash from investing activities		(9,492)	<u>(7,595</u>)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Interest paid		(1,807)	(1,238)
Group loans received		12,631	10,640
Capital contribution on investment		4,346	-
Payment of lease liabilities		<u>(968</u>)	(7)
Net cash from financing activities	. •	14,202	9,395
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equi	ivalents	680	(397)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning o	of		
year	27	884	1,281
Cash acquired at acquisition		1,125	
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	27	<u>2,689</u>	884

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

General information

Pluss-Staufer Limited is a private company incorporated and domiciled in the United Kingdom under the Companies Act 2006. The address of the registered office is given in the company information.

Its immediate parent company is Omya AG, a company incorporated in Switzerland.

The principal activities of the Group during the year were the manufacture of chemicals and the quarrying, processing and distribution of calcium carbonate and other raw materials for supply to the chemical, plastics, paint, rubber, paper, ink, foodstuffs, building products, pharmaceutical and allied industries.

Summary of significant accounting policies

These financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis, under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain property, plant and equipment and in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and applicable accounting standards.

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

Basis of preparation

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union (IFRSs), IFRIC interpretations, SIC interpretations and the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies reporting under IFRSs. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain property, plant and equipment and financial instruments at fair value through the statement of comprehensive income.

The accounting policies set out below have unless otherwise stated, been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements.

Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the financial statements of the Company and entities controlled by the Company (its subsidiaries) made up to 31 December each year. Control is achieved where the Company has the power to govern the financial and operating policies of an investee entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

On acquisition, the assets and liabilities and contingent liabilities of a subsidiary are measured at their fair values at the date of acquisition. Any excess of the cost of acquisition over the fair values of the identifiable net assets acquired is recognised as goodwill. Any deficiency of the cost of acquisition below the fair values of the identifiable net assets acquired (i.e. discount on acquisition) is credited to profit and loss in the period of acquisition.

The results of subsidiaries acquired or disposed of during the year are included in the consolidated income statement from the effective date of acquisition or up to the effective date of disposal, as appropriate.

Where necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring the accounting policies used into line with those used by the group.

All intra-group transactions, balances, income and expenses are eliminated on consolidation.

Application of new and revised international financial reporting standards

The following amended standards became effective for the Group from 1 January 2019:

- Standard IFRS 16 Leases (effective date 1 January 2019)
- IFRIC Interpretations 23 Uncertainty over Income Tax Treatments (effective date 1 January 2019)
- Amendments to IFRS 9 Prepayment Features with Negative Compensation (effective date 1 January 2019)

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES-continued

The adoption of IFRIC Interpretations 23 - Uncertainty over Income Tax Treatments (effective date 1 January 2019), and Amendments to IFRS 9 - Prepayment Features with Negative Compensation (effective date 1 January 2019) did not have a significant impact on the financial statements of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2019.

IFRS 16

IFRS 16 has replaced IAS 17 'Leases' and three related Interpretations. It completes the IASB's long-running project to overhaul lease accounting. Leases will be recorded in the statement of financial position in the form of a right-of-use asset and a lease liability. There are two important reliefs provided by IFRS 16 for assets of low value and short-term leases of less than 12 months.

- The Company has taken the practical expedient not to reassess whether a contract is, or contains, a lease under IFRS 16 at the date of initial application and, instead, apply IFRS 16 to contracts that were previously identified as leases under IAS 17. The Company has applied IFRS 16 fully to new or modified contracts. As some leases will be modified or renewed in 2019, the Company will reassess these leases and they will be recognised on the statement of financial position as a right-of-use asset and corresponding lease liability.
- The Company has adopted IFRS 16 on 1 January 2019 using the Standard's modified retrospective approach. Under this approach the cumulative effect of initially applying IFRS 16 is recognised as an adjustment to equity at the date of initial application. Comparative information is not restated.
- The most significant impact for the Company is the need to recognise a right of use asset and a lease liability for all existing leases currently treated as operating leases.

Going concern

Notwithstanding a loss before tax for the year then ended of £4,588,000, the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which the directors consider to be appropriate for the following reasons.

The directors have prepared cash flow forecasts for a period of 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements which indicate that, taking account of reasonably possible downsides, the Group will have sufficient funds, through its overdraft facility and in downside cases funding from its immediate parent company, Omya AG, to meet its liabilities as they fall due for that period.

Following the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic the Group undertook a detailed review of its forecast trading position assessing and revising the short to medium term prospects for its core revenue streams and implementing several cost control and mitigation measures. The Group has already taken swift actions including, but not limited to, deferring non-critical spending and leveraging the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme, to reduce the impact of the lower level of productivity. These forecasts take into account severe but plausible downsides based on the experience in the earlier months of the pandemic. This includes a reduction to revenue similar to that seen in the first lockdown and an increase in the cash collection period for debtors

Those forecasts are dependent on Omya AG not seeking repayment of the amounts currently due to the group (which are repayable within the forecasted period), which at 31 December 2019 amount to £13,955,000, and providing additional financial support during the period.

Omya AG has indicated its intention to continue to make available such funds as are needed by the Group for the period covered by the forecasts. As with any company placing reliance on other group entities for financial support, the directors acknowledge that there can be no certainty that this support will continue although, at the date of approval of these financial statements, they have no reason to believe that it will not do so.

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

The directors, after reviewing these forecasts, including changes arising from the Covid-19 pandemic, are confident that the Group will have sufficient funds to continue to meet its liabilities as they fall due for at least 12 months from the date of approval of the financial statements and therefore have prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis.

Revenue recognition

Revenue comprises the fair value of the consideration received or receivable for the sale of goods and services in the ordinary course of business, net of discounts, VAT and other sales related taxes. Under IFRS 15 the Company has adopted the cumulative effect method and has elected to adopt the practical expedient. Incremental costs of obtaining sales contracts are expensed as the associated amortisation period is 12 months or less. Sales are supported by a sales contract or by a sales offer and sales order. Revenue is recognised when goods are dispatched.

Interest

Interest income is accrued on a time basis, by reference to the principal outstanding and at the effective interest rate applicable, which is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset to that asset's net carrying amount.

Dividend Income

Dividend income from investments is recognised when the shareholders' rights to receive payment have been established.

Goodwill

Goodwill arising on consolidation represents the excess of the cost of acquisition over the Group's interest in the fair value of the identifiable assets and liabilities of a subsidiary, associate or jointly controlled entity at the date of acquisition. Goodwill is recognised as an asset and reviewed for impairment at least annually. Any impairment is recognised immediately in profit or loss and is not subsequently reversed.

On disposal of a subsidiary, associate or jointly controlled entity, the attributable amount of goodwill is included in the determination of the profit or loss on disposal.

Goodwill arising on acquisitions before the date of transition to IFRSs has been retained at the previous UK GAAP amounts.

Business combinations

For acquisitions on or after 1 January 2010, the Group measures goodwill at the acquisition date as:

- The fair value of the consideration transferred; plus
- The recognised amount of any non-controlling interests in the acquiree; plus
- The fair value of the existing equity interest in the acquiree; less
- The net recognised amount (generally fair value) of the identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed.

When the excess is negative, a bargain purchase gain is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

Costs related to the acquisition, other than those associated with the issue of debt or equity securities, are expensed as incurred.

Any contingent consideration payable is recognised at fair value at the acquisition date. If the contingent consideration is classified as equity, it is not remeasured and settlement is accounted for within equity. Otherwise, subsequent changes to the fair value of the contingent consideration are recognised in profit or loss.

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Lease acquired in a business combination

For leases acquired in a business combination, the Group measures the acquired lease liability at the present value of the remaining lease payments, as if the acquired lease were a new lease at the acquisition date. The right-of-use asset is measured at acquisition at the same amount as the lease liability, adjusted to reflect favourable or unfavourable terms of the lease when compared with market terms.

Lease liability and associated right-of-use assets acquired in a business combination for which the lease term ends within 12 months of the acquisition date or, leases for which the underlying asset value is low, are not recognised.

Intangible assets

Amortisation is charged on intangible assets from the date that they are available for use. The estimated useful lives of indemnified intangible assets are as follows:

- Customer lists 3 years
- Software 5 years

Impairment of tangible and intangible assets excluding goodwill

At each balance sheet date, the Group reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any). Where the asset does not generate cash flows that are independent from other assets, the Group estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. An intangible asset with an indefinite useful life is tested for impairment annually and whenever there is an indication that the asset may be impaired.

Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset for which the estimates of future cash flows have not been adjusted.

If the recoverable amount of an asset (or cash-generating unit) is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset (cash-generating unit) is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised as an expense immediately, unless the relevant asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease.

Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset (cash-generating unit) is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but so that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset (cash-generating unit) in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised as income immediately, unless the relevant asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the reversal of the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation increase.

Property, plant and equipment

Non mineral bearing land and buildings are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and any recognised impairment loss.

The Group has elected to use the revaluation of mineral bearing land before the date of transition to IFRSs as deemed cost at the date of the transition.

Land includes incidental costs (including stripping costs and planning applications) that are capitalised and depreciated in line with IAS 16.

Assets in the course of construction for production, rental or administrative purposes are carried at cost, less any recognised impairment loss. Cost includes professional fees and, for qualifying assets, borrowing costs capitalised in accordance with the Group's accounting policy. Depreciation of these assets, on the same basis as other property assets, commences when the assets are ready for their intended use.

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Plant and equipment, furniture and fittings and motor vehicles are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and any recognised impairment loss.

Depreciation is charged so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets, other than properties under construction down to their residual value, over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method, on the following bases:

- Freehold buildings 5% per annum
- Leasehold premises over the remaining period of the lease
- Plant and equipment 5- 33.33% per annum
- Furniture and fittings 10-15% per annum
- Motor vehicles 20-25% per annum

Mineral bearing land is depreciated using the Depletion Method. Minerals are depreciated by the proportion that the resources extracted in a period correspond to the total resource.

The gain or loss arising on the disposal or retirement of an asset is determined as the difference between the sales proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and is recognised in income.

Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost comprises raw materials, direct labour, and other direct costs and related production overheads (based on normal operating capacity) that have been incurred in bringing the inventories to their present location and condition. Cost is calculated using the standard cost method. Net realisable value represents the estimated selling price less all estimated costs of completion and costs to be incurred in marketing, selling and distribution.

Current and deferred income tax

The current tax charge is calculated on the basis of tax laws enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date and is based on the taxable profit for the year. Taxable profit differs from net profit as reported in the income statement because it excludes items of income or expense that are taxable or deductible in other years and it further excludes items that are never taxable or deductible.

Deferred tax is provided in full, using the liability method, on temporary differences arising between the taxbases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements. However, deferred tax is not accounted for if it arises from initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction other than a business combination that at the time of the transaction affects neither accounting nor taxable profit or loss.

Deferred tax is determined using tax rates (and laws) that have been enacted or substantially enacted by the balance sheet date and are expected to apply when the related deferred tax asset is realised or the deferred tax liability is settled.

Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be available against which the temporary differences can be utilised.

Research and development

Research expenditure is written off as incurred.

Development expenditure is also written off, except where the Directors are satisfied that a new or significantly improved product or process results and other relevant IAS 38 criteria are met as to the technical, commercial and financial viability of individual projects that would allow such costs to be capitalised. In such cases, the identifiable expenditure is capitalised and amortised over the period during which benefits are expected.

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Foreign currencies

The financial statements are presented in Pounds Sterling which is the Group's functional and presentation currency.

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions.

Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation at year-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the income statement, except when deferred in equity as qualifying cash flow hedges and qualifying net investment hedges.

Non-monetary assets and liabilities carried at fair value that are denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rates prevailing at the date when the fair value was determined. Gains and losses arising on retranslation are included in the income statement, except for exchange differences arising on non-monetary assets and liabilities where the changes in fair value are recognised directly in equity.

Lease

The Company recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability at the lease commencement date. The right of use asset is initially measured at cost, which comprises the initial amount of the lease liability adjusted for any lease payments made at or before the commencement date.

The right of use asset is subsequently depreciated using the straight line method from the commencement date to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the right-of use asset or the end of the lease term. The estimated useful lives of right-of-use assets are determined on the same basis as those of property and equipment. In addition, the right-of-use asset is periodically reduced by impairment losses, if any, and adjusted for certain remeasurements of the lease liability.

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at the commencement date, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease, or if that rate cannot be readily determined, the Company's incremental borrowing rate.

The lease liability is measured at amortised cost using the effect interest rate method. It is remeasured where there is a change in future lease payments arising from a change in an index or rate or if the Company changes its assessment of whether it will exercise a purchase, extension or termination option.

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

Short term leases and leases of low-value assets

The Company has elected not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for short-term leases of machinery that have a lease term of 12 months or less and leases of low value assets, including IT equipment. The Company recognises the lease payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Under IAS 17

In the comparative period, as a lessee the Company classified leases that transfer substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership as finance leases. When this was the case, the leased assets were measured initially at an amount equal to the lower of their fair value and the present value of the minimum lease payments. Minimum lease payments were the payments over the lease term that the lessee was required to make.

Subsequently, the assets were accounted for in accordance with the accounting policy applicable to that asset. Assets held under other leases were classified as operating leases and were not recognised in the Company's financial statement of financial position. Payments made under operating leases were recognised in profit or loss on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. Lease incentives received were recognised as an integral part of the total lease expense, over the term of the lease.

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Borrowings

Borrowings are recognised initially at fair value, net of transaction costs incurred. Borrowings are subsequently stated at amortised cost; any difference between the proceeds (net of transaction costs) and the redemption value is recognised in the income statement over the period of the borrowings using the effective interest method.

Borrowing costs directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of qualifying assets, which are assets that necessarily take a substantial period of time to get ready for their intended use or sale, are added to the cost of those assets, until such time as the assets are substantially ready for their intended use or sale. Investment income earned on the temporary investment of specific borrowings pending their expenditure on qualifying assets is deducted from the borrowing costs eligible for capitalisation.

Government grants

Government grants relating to property, plant and equipment are treated as deferred income and released to profit and loss over the expected useful lives of the assets concerned.

Trade receivables

Trade receivables are recognised initially at fair value and are held at fair value less provision for impairment.

A provision for impairment of trade receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the Group will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables. Significant financial difficulties of the debtor, probability that the debtor will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, and default or delinquency in payments are considered indicators that the trade receivable is impaired. The amount of the provision is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the original effective interest rate. The carrying amount of the asset is reduced through the use of an allowance account, and the amount of the loss is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income within administrative costs. When a trade receivable is uncollectible, it is written off against the allowance account for trade receivables. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against administrative costs in the statement of comprehensive income.

Investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at cost unless in the opinion of the directors there has been a permanent diminution in value, in which case an appropriate adjustment is made.

Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are recognised initially at fair value, net of transaction costs incurred. Financial liabilities are subsequently stated at amortised cost unless they are part of a fair value hedge accounting relationship; any difference between the amount on initial recognition and the redemption value is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income over the period of the financial liabilities using the effective interest method. Those financial liabilities that are part of a fair value hedge accounting relationship are also recorded on an amortised cost basis, plus or minus the fair value attributable to the risk being hedged with a corresponding entry in the income statement.

Trade payables

Trade payables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Provisions

Provisions for environmental restoration and legal claims are recognised when: the Group has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events; it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation; and the amount has been reliably estimated. Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses.

Provisions are measured at the present value of the expenditures expected to be required to settle the obligation using a pre-tax rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money. The increase in the provision due to passage of time is recognised as an interest expense.

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities on the balance sheet.

Share capital

Ordinary shares are classified as equity.

Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of new shares or options are shown in equity as a deduction, net of tax, from the proceeds.

Where any group company purchases the Group's equity share capital (treasury shares), the consideration paid, including and directly attributable incremental costs (net of income taxes) is deducted from equity attributable to the company's equity holders until the shares are cancelled or reissued. Where such shares are subsequently reissued, any consideration received, net of any directly attributable incremental transaction costs and the related income tax effects, is included in equity attributable to the Group's equity holders.

Life assurance costs

The cost of providing employee life assurance is accounted for in the period in which the cost is incurred by the provider.

The cost of employee life assurance benefits is recognised in the period in which the service is rendered and is not discounted.

Critical accounting estimates and judgements

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results.

The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are addressed below.

Employee benefits

Defined contribution plans

A defined contribution plan is a post-employment benefit plan under which the Group pays fixed contributions into a separate entity and will have no legal or constructive obligation to pay further amounts. Obligations for contributions to defined contribution pension plans are recognised as an expense in the income statement in the periods in which services are rendered by employees.

Defined benefit plans

A defined benefit plan is a post-employment benefit plan other than a defined contribution plan. The Group's net obligation in respect of defined benefit pension plans is calculated by estimating the amounts of future benefit that employees have earned in return for their service in the current and prior periods; that benefit is discounted to determine its present value, and the fair value of any plan assets (at bid price) are deducted. The Group determines the net interest on the net defined benefit liability/(asset) for the period by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the annual period to the net defined benefit liability.

The discount rate is the yield at the reporting date on bonds that have a credit rating of at least AA that have maturity dates approximating the terms of the Group's obligations and that are denominated in the currency in which the benefits are expected to be paid.

Remeasurements arising from defined benefit plans comprise actuarial gains and losses, the return on plan assets (excluding interest) and the effect of the asset ceiling (if any, excluding interest). The Group recognises them immediately in other comprehensive income and all other expenses related to defined benefit plans in employee benefit expenses in profit or loss.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

When the benefits of a plan are changes, or when a plan is curtailed, the portion of the changed benefit related to past service by employees, or the gain or loss on curtailment, is recognised immediately in profit or loss when the amendment or curtailment occurs.

The calculation of the defined benefit obligations is performed by a qualified actuary using the projected unit credit method. When the calculation results in a benefit to the Group, the recognised asset is limited to the present value of benefits available in the form of any future refunds from the plan or reductions in the future contributions and takes into account the adverse effect of any minimum funding requirements.

The Group recognises gains and losses on the settlement of a defined benefit plan when the settlement occurs. The gain or loss on a settlement is the difference between the present value of the defined benefit obligation being settled as determined on the date of settlement and the settlement price, including any plan assets transferred and any payments made directly by the Group in connection with the settlement.

Short-term benefits

Short-term employee benefit obligations are measured on an undiscounted basis and are expensed as the related service is provided. A liability is recognised for the amount expected to be paid under short-term cash bonus or profit-sharing plans if the Group has a present legal or constructive obligation to pay this amount as a result of past service provided by the employee and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

Impairment review

The Group assesses at each reporting date whether an asset may be impaired. If any such indicator exists the Group tests for impairment by estimating the recoverable amount. If the recoverable amount is less that the carrying value an impairment loss is recognised. The main estimates and judgements taken by management relate to the forecasting of future cashflows and the discount rate used to estimate the present value of cash flows to be generated by the asset under review. The Group determines the appropriate discount rate at the time based on the weighted average cost of capital of the Group.

Company accounting policies

The separate financial statements of the Company are presented as required by the Companies Act 2006. As permitted by that Act, the separate financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union.

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis. The principal accounting policies adopted are the same as those set out in note 1 to the consolidated financial statements except as noted below.

The Company is exempted by Section 408 of the Companies Act (2006) from disclosing its statement of comprehensive income, the result for the year is £nil (2018: £nil).

The Company has not presented a cash flow statement as no cash and cash equivalents are held by the Company and there have been no movements in cash and cash equivalents during the year.

Fixed asset investments are stated at cost unless in the opinion of the directors there has been a permanent diminution in value, in which case an appropriate adjustment is made.

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

2. ACQUISITION OF BUSINESS

On 30th November 2019 Omya UK Limited a 100% owned subsidiary of The Pluss-Staufer Group acquired the entire share capital of Solar Inks Limited. The business is a manufacturer of sustainable flexographic ink in the packaging industry. It subsequently contributed revenue of £144,000.

			Recognised
		Fair value	on
	Book value	adjustment	acquisition
Acquiree's net assets at the acquisition date:	£'000	£'000	£'000
Intangible assets	73	· <u>-</u>	73
Property	3	-	3
Tangible fixed assets	109	-	109
Stock	139	-	139
Trade and other debtors	687	-	687
Cash	758	-	758
Trade and other creditors	(506)	-	(506)
Corporation tax	<u>(61</u>)		<u>(61</u>)
Net identifiable assets	1,202		1,202
Consideration paid			
Initial cash consideration			4,346
Deferred consideration (earn out) discounted			4,426
Total consideration			8,772
Customer list on acquisition			7,570

Deferred consideration

The Group has agreed to pay the vendors consideration dependent on certain performance criteria. The estimated additional consideration payment of £ 4,500,000 is planned to be paid over a 3 year period. The deferred consideration (discounted) has been included in provisions in the Balance Sheet.

Customer list

A customer list was included in the acquisition of Solar Inks Limited. This is critical in enabling the Group to realise it's forecasted performance and strategic objectives. The customer list was identified as a separable asset and will be amortised over 3 years, in accordance with the Group's accounting policy.

Acquisition related costs

The Group incurred acquisition related cost of £146,000. These costs have been included in administrative expenses in the Group's consolidated statement of comprehensive income.

3. REVENUE

Segmental reporting

An analysis of the Group's revenue is as follows

	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
Sale of goods	113,716	<u> 111,798</u>

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

4. OTHER OPERATING INCOME

5.

Rental income Other group related income	2019 £'000 108 2,541 2,649	2018 £'000 60 2,197 2,257
EMPLOYEES AND DIRECTORS	2019	2018
Wages and salaries	£'000 12,920	£'000 12,946
The average number of employees during the year was as follows:	2019	2018
Production Sales and logistics Administration	171 44 12	176 44 11
Administration	<u> 227</u>	231
Their aggregate remuneration comprised		
	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Wages and salaries	9,931	9,844
Social security costs Other costs	1,013 674	1,094 663
Life assurance	113	117
Other pension costs	1,189	1,228
	1 <u>2,920</u>	12,946

Remuneration of Key Management Personnel

The remuneration of the key management personnel of the Group, is set out below in aggregate for each of the categories specified in IAS 24 Related Party Disclosures. Key Management Personnel is defined as the directors of the Group.

	2019	2018
		£'000
Short-term employee benefits	427	416
Post-employment benefits	31	21
	<u>458</u>	<u>437</u>

Included in the above figures are directors' emoluments of £458,000 (2018: £437,000). The number of directors accruing benefits under defined benefit pensions schemes are 2 (2018: 2). The emoluments of the highest paid director are £314,000 (2018: £298,000). The pension contributions of the highest paid director are £21,000 (2018: £11,000). The accrued pension for the highest paid director at 31 December 2019 was £23,000 (2018: £23,000) per annum.

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

6. NET FINANCE COSTS

Finance costs	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
Interest on bank overdrafts	53	38
Interest on group loans	1,625	1,197
Unwinding of discounts in provisions	35	37
Net interest on defined benefit plans	428	503
Interest Expenditure	129	
	2,270	1,775
		
Finance Income	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
Deposit account interest	6	_
·		
	6	-

7. LOSS BEFORE INCOME TAX

The loss before income tax is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
Cost of inventories recognised as expense	63,570	63,411
Depreciation - owned assets	4,146	3,856
Depreciation - assets on hire purchase contracts	-	7
Depreciation – right of use assets	1,071	-
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	(28)	(18)
Customer relationships amortisation	284	72
Software amortisation	22	35
Auditor's remuneration for audit services	36	41
Auditor's remuneration for tax services	10	8
Foreign exchange differences	17	121
Impairment of property, plant and equipment	158	_1,065

The auditors' remuneration for audit services includes an amount of £4,000 (2018: £4,000) for the audit of the holding company Pluss Staufer Limited.

8. INCOME TAX

Analysis	of tax	income
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Deferred tax (see note 22)	£'000 (600)	£'000 (167)
Total tax income in consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income	(600)	_(167)

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

8. INCOME TAX - continued

Factors affecting the tax expense

The tax assessed for the year is lower than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK. The difference is explained below:

Loss before income tax		2019 £'000 (4,588)	2018 £'000 (2,709)
Loss multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK (2018 - 19%)	of 19%	(872)	(515)
Effects of: Non-deductible expenses Fixed asset differences Impact of change in the UK tax rate Amortisation of acquisition intangibles Other		48 107 67 40 	45 229 74 -
Tax income		<u>(600</u>)	<u>(167</u>)
Tax effects relating to effects of other comprehensive income	Gross	Tax	Net
2019 Actuarial losses	£'000 (729)	£'000 125	£'000 (604)
2018 Actuarial losses	2,505	(426)	<u>2,079</u>

Factors that may affect future tax charges

The current tax charge provision is based on the tax charge as calculated at the date of approval of the financial statements.

Reductions in the main rate of UK corporation tax to 17% by 2020 were announced in the budget on 16 March 2016. The reduction to 17% (effective 1 April 2020) was substantively enacted on 6 September 2016. Deferred tax assets and liabilities have been calculated using this rate.

Subsequently a change to the main UK corporation tax rate, announced in the Budget on 11 March 2020, was substantively enacted for IFRS purposes on 17 March 2020. The rate applicable from 1 April 2020 now remains at 19 per cent, rather than the previously enacted reduction to 17 per cent.

9. PROFIT OF PARENT COMPANY

As permitted by Section 408 of the Companies Act 2006, the statement of comprehensive income of the parent company is not presented as part of these financial statements. The parent company's profit for the financial year was £0 (2018 - £0).

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

10. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

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Group	Goodwill £'000	Customer relationships £'000	Software £'000	Totals £'000
COST	£ 000	2 000	2 000	2 000
At 1 January 2019 Additions	2,880 	602 	1,795 1	5,277 7,644
At 31 December 2019		8,245	1,796	12,921
AMORTISATION				
At 1 January 2019	-	350	1,725	2,075
Amortisation for year		284	22	306
At 31 December 2019		634	1,747	2,381
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 December 2019	2,880	<u></u>	<u>49</u>	10,540
		Customer		
•	Goodwill	relationships	Software	Totals £'000
COST	£'000	£'000	£'000	£ 000
At 1 January 2018	2,880	602	1,756	5,238
Additions		<u>-</u>	39	39
A. 21 December 2010	2.000	602	1 705	5 277
At 31 December 2018	2,880	602	1,795	5,277
AMORTISATION				
At 1 January 2018	•	278	1,690	1,968
Amortisation for year			35	<u>107</u>
At 31 December 2018		<u>350</u>	1,725	2,075
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 December 2018	2,880	252	70	3,202
				

Customer relationships consist of customer lists. The addition in 2019 is as a result of the acquisition of Solar lnks Limited. Technology based intangible assets relate to software which has been capitalised.

Impairment tests for goodwill have been performed, the recoverable amount is determined based on value in use calculations. These calculations use pre-tax cash flow projections covering a five year period. The assumptions used are: Gross Margin 10% (2018: 14%), Growth Rate 3% (2018: 3%) and a Pre-tax discount Rate of 6.5% (2018: 7.0%).

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

11. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

C	r۸		n
v	ıυ	u	ν

Group					
		Land	Buildings	Mineral bearing land	Assets under construction
COST		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
COST At 1 January 2019		6,447	28,148	5,577	5,155 5,234
Additions Disposals	•	(202)	(12)	-	3,234
Transfer to ownership		3	-	-	-
Reclassification/transfer		47	1,222		<u>(7,518)</u>
At 31 December 2019		6,295	29,358	5,577	<u>2,871</u>
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 January 2019		1,711	15,876	1,038	-
Charge for year		259 (202)	800 (12)	40	<u>-</u>
Eliminated on disposal Impairments		(202) 	(12) 	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 December 2019		1,768	16,664	1,078	
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 December 2019		4,527	12,694	4,499	<u>2,871</u>
		Fixtures			
	Plant &	and	Motor	Right of	
	Equipment	fittings	vehicles	use assets	Totals
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
COST					
At 1 January 2019	74,481	2,353	4,028	4,564	130,753
Additions	(2.207)	(29)	(900)	243	5,477
Disposals Transfer to ownership	(2,297) 106	(28)	(890)	-	(3,429) 109
Reclassification/transfer	<u>5,452</u>	437	360		
At 31 December 2019	77,742	2,762	3,498	4,807	132,910
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 January 2019	49,091	1,576	2,485	· -	71,777
Charge for year	2,535	178	334	1,071	5,217
Eliminated on disposal	(2,213)	(28)	(813)	-	(3,268)
Impairments	158		-		<u> 158</u>
At 31 December 2019	49,571	1,726		1,071	73,884
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 December 2019	<u>28,171</u>	<u>1,036</u>	<u>1,492</u>	3,736	<u>59,026</u>

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

11. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT - continued

Group

	Land £'000	Buildings £'000	Mineral bearing land £'000	Assets under construction £'000
COST				
At 1 January 2018	6,663	25,826	5,577	5,854
Additions	-	-		8,620
Disposals	(2,032)	(369)	-	-
Reclassification/transfer	1,816	2,691		<u>(9,319</u>)
At 31 December 2018	6,447	28,148	5,577	5,155
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 January 2018	1,506	15,377	903	-
Charge for year	303	532	46	-
Eliminated on disposal	(985)	(61)	-	-
Impairments	887	28	89	-
At 31 December 2018	1,711	15,876	1,038	
NET BOOK VALUE At 31 December 2018	<u>4,736</u>	12,272	4,539	5,155
		Fixtures		
	Plant &	and	Motor	
	Equipment	fittings	vehicles	Totals
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
COST		2.252	2.226	100 (10
At 1 January 2018	73,511	2,252	3,936	123,619
Additions	(2.255)	(57)	(227)	8,620
Disposals Reclassification/transfer	(3,355) 4,325	(57) 158	(237) 329	(6,050)
Reclassification/transfer	4,323	138	329	
At 31 December 2018	74,481	2,353	4,028	126,189
DEPRECIATION				
At I January 2018	49,900	1,469	2,347	71,502
Charge for year	2,476	164	342	3,863
Eliminated on disposal	(3,312)	(57)	(238)	(4,653)
Impairments	27		34	1,065
At 31 December 2018	49,091	1,576	2,485	71,777
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 December 2018	25,390	<u>777</u>	<u>1,543</u>	54,412

At 31 December 2019 the Group had entered into contractual commitments for the acquisition of property, plant and equipment amounting to £840,000 (2018: £983,000).

The net book value of Plant & Equipment includes £14,000 (2018 - £20,000) in respect of assets held under hire purchase contracts

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

12. INVESTMENTS

Company

·	Investment in subsidiaries £'000
COST At 1 January 2019 Additions	25,000 4,346
At 31 December 2019	29,346
NET BOOK VALUE At 31 December 2019	29,346

	Investment
	· in
	subsidiaries
	£'000
COST	
At 1 January 2018	

At 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2018	25,000
NET BOOK VALUE At 31 December 2018	_25,000

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

12. INVESTMENTS - continued

Details of the Group's subsidiaries at 31 December 2019 are as follows

Name of subsidiary	Place of incorporation	Class of Share held	Ownership	Voting Principal power activity
Omya UK Limited	England & Wales	Ordinary	100%	100% See below
Solar Inks Limited	England & Wales	Ordinary	100% (Indirect)	100% See below

The principal activities of Omya UK Limited during the year were the manufacture of chemicals and the quarrying, processing and distribution of calcium carbonate and other raw materials for supply to the chemical, plastics, paint, rubber, paper, ink, foodstuffs, building products, pharmaceutical and allied industries.

During the year the investment in Omya UK Limited was increased to fund the acquisition of Solar Inks Limited.

Omya UK Limited registered office address is Melton Office, Melton Bottom, Melton, North Ferriby, East Riding of Yorkshire, HU14 3HU.

The principal activities of Solar Inks Limited during the year were the producer of sustainable flexographic inks, barriers and adhesives for the packaging industry.

Solar Inks Limited registered office is Unit 3E, Halesfield 23, Telford, Shropshire, TF7 4NY.

13. INVENTORIES

	G	roup
•	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
Raw materials	1,860	1,682
Finished goods	10,257	9,243
Spare parts	534	753
Stock in transit	575	1,331
	13,226	13,009

During the year £102,000(2018: £nil) was provided for slow moving and obsolete stocks.

14. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	Group		Comp	any
	2019	2018	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Current:				
Trade receivables	21,013	19,219	-	-
Receivables from related parties	1,563	1,205	3,000	3,000
Other receivables	4	77	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	1,113	<u>635</u>		
	23,693	21,136	3,000	3,000

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

14. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES - continued

Ageing of trade receivables

15.

16.

Total trade receiv Less: impairment	rables provision for trade receivables		2019 £'000 21,027 (14) 21,013	2018 £'000 19,506 (287) 19,219
Past due more tha	o 10 days on 10 days but less than two months on two months but less than six months on six months but less than twelve months		12,959 5,753 1,205 1,096	13,188 5,507 592 5 (73) 19,219
The carrying amo	unts of the Group's trade and other receivable	es are denominated in	the following cur	rencies
British Pound Euro US Dollar Norwegian Krone	·		2019 £'000 19,372 3,922 399 ————————————————————————————————	2018 £'000 19,199 3,360 562 14 23,135
CASH AND CAS	SH EQUIVALENTS			
Cash in hand Bank accounts			Group 2019 £'000 3 2,686	2018 £'000 2 882
CALLED UP SH	IARE CAPITAL			
	nd fully paid: Class: Ordinary	Nominal value:	2019 £'000 25,000	2018 £'000 25,000

17. RESERVES

Group	Retained earnings £'000	Share premium £'000	Capital reserve £'000	Mineral reserve £'000	Totals £'000
At 1 January 2019 Deficit for the year	(32,141) (3,988)	7,010	410	4,538	(20,183) (3,988)
Transaction with shareholders Actuarial gains and losses	-	-	4,346	-	4,346
on defined benefit pension Amortisation transfer	(604) <u>40</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	(40)	(604)
At 31 December 2019	<u>(36,693)</u>	<u>7,010</u>	4,756	<u>4,498</u>	<u>(20,429</u>)
Company			Retained earnings £'000	Capital reserve £'000	Totals £'000
At 1 January 2019 Profit for the year			(7,936)	-	(7,936)
Transaction with shareholders			_ _ -	4,346	4,346
At 31 December 2019			<u>(7,936)</u>	4,346	<u>(3,590)</u>

18. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	Group	
	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
Current:		
Trade payables	12,648	14,671
Amounts due to related parties	1,967	1,402
Other tax and social security	250	576
Accruals and deferred income	225	233
Deferred government grants	1	1
	15,091	16,883
		
Non-current:		
Deferred government grants	5	6
5 5		
	5	6
Aggregate amounts	15,096	16,889
rissiosate amounts	13,070	10,007

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

19. OTHER FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

OTHER PINANCIAE BIABLETTIES				Group 2019	2018
Current:				£'000	£'000
Lease Liabilities (see note 20) Ultimate parent company loan				954 13,955	1 <u>4,924</u>
				14,909	4,925
Non-current					
Ultimate parent company loan Lease liabilities (see note 20)				52,100 2,885	48,500
				54,985	<u>48,500</u>
Lease liability and ultimate parent company	v loan are renav	able as follows			
On demand or within 1 year Between two and five years	y loan are repay	vable as follows		14,909 54,985	4,925 4 <u>8,500</u>
				69,894	5 <u>3,425</u>
				Company	
				2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Current: Payables to related parties				10,936	10,936
Non-current Payables to related parties				-	
Payables to related parties are due as follow	vs			10.026	10.026
On demand or within 1 year After five years				10,936	10,936
Payables from related parties are in sterling	ζ,				
Group					
Analysis of bank overdraft and ultimate	parent compa	ny by currency	,		
	Total £'000	Sterling £'000	Euros £'000	US Dollars £'000	Others £'000
At 31 December 2018 Ultimate parent company loan	53,424	53,424			
At 31 December 2019	// 0mm	(()] [
Ultimate parent company loan	66,055	66,055		 -	

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

19. OTHER FINANCIAL LIABILITIES- continued

The weighted average interest rates paid were as follows

	2019	2018
Bank overdrafts	1.75%	1.93%
Ultimate parent company loan	2.67%	2.64%

The other principal features of the Group's borrowings are as follows:

- (i) Bank overdraft was repayable on demand.
- (ii) The Group has the following principal loan:

A loan of £66.1m (2018: £53.4m) with the ultimate parent company. This loan was taken out in May 2006 and was renewed in 2008, 2010, 2013, 2014, 2018 and 2019. The loan carries an interest rate of 2.52% (2018: 2.64%) which is the rate of 1.60% over 3 months LIBOR. No security is pledged for these loans. Repayment of £14m is due 2020 with the remainder being due for repayment in 2022 and 2023.

At 31 December 2019, the Group had available £0.1m (2018: £3.1m) of undrawn committed borrowing facilities in respect of which all conditions precedent had been met.

20. LEASING

Group

Right-of-use assets

Property, plant and equipment

	2019
COST	£'000
At 1 January 2019	4,564
Additions	
At 31 December 2019	4,807
DEPRECIATION At 1 January 2019	
Charge for year	1,071
At 31 December 2019	1,071
NET BOOK VALUE	3,736

On transition to 1FRS 16, the Company recognised £4,821,000 of right of use assets and £4,821,000 of lease liabilities resulting in no difference to recognise in retained earnings. When measuring lease liabilities, the Company discounted lease payments using its incremental borrowing rate at 31 December 2018.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

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20. LEASING - continued

Group

Lease liabilities

In addition to the right of use assets above, the following amounts are recognised in the Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2019:

	31.12.19	31.12.18
	£'000	£'000
Gross obligations repayable:		
Within one year	954	1
Between one and five years	1,218	_
In more than five years	1,667	-
	3,839	1

£129,293 of interest expenses on lease liabilities are recognised in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income for the year ended 31 December 2019.

The Group has applied IFRS 16 from 1 January 2019 using the modified retrospective method, meaning the comparative information for the year ending 31 December 2019 has not been restated. As a result, the comparative information provided for the fiscal period below continues to be accounted for in accordance with the Group's previous lease accounting policy under IAS 17 Leases.

Leases as a lessee under IAS 17

Non-cancellable operating lease rentals are disclosed as follows:

Total lease payments	3,153
In more than five years	624
Between one and five years	1,603
Within one year	926
•	£'000
	2018

The total operating lease charge in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income for the year ended 31 December 2018 was £ 1,286,000.

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Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

21. PROVISIONS

•				Grou	ıp
				2019	2018
				£'000	£'000
Restructuring provision				-	. 55
Litigation provision				138	108
Restoration and dilapidations pro				1,492	1,406
Deferred consideration on acquis	ition			4,426	
				6,056	1,569
Analysed as follows:				138	162
Current					163 1,406
Non-current				5,918	1,400
				6,056	1,569
		Restoration and			
	Restructuring	dilapidation	Other	Litigation	Total
	provision	provision	provision	provision	provisions
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 January 2019	55	1,406	_	108	1,569
Additional provision in the year	-	52	4,426	130	4,608
Utilisation of provision	(55)	-	-	(100)	(155)
Unwinding of discount	 :	34			34
At 31 December 2019		1,4 <u>92</u>	4,426	138	6,056
- Current	_	-		138	138
- Non-current		1,492	4,426		5,918

Estimated long term restoration provisions, are based on the Group's environmental management plans in compliance with current technological, environmental and regulatory requirements. Based on damage done to date the net present value of expected restoration cost estimates are recognised and provided for in full in the financial statements. This provision is estimated to be utilised between 2020 and 2054.

The Group made the decision to close one of its manufacturing sites at the end of 2017. The restructuring provision made in 2017 was utilised for the costs that occurred in relation to the closure of the site in 2018.

The Group was subject to a case of illegal dumping at one of its quarries in 2017. The site was cleaned-up in co-operation with the Environment Agency. The litigation provision made in 2017 was utilised for the costs that occurred in relation to the clean-up of the site in 2018.

The estimates are reviewed annually and are discounted using a pre-tax risk-free rate (1.55%) that is adjusted to reflect the current market assessments of the time value of money.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

22. DEFERRED TAX

The following are the major deferred tax liabilities and (assets) recognised by the Group and movements thereon during the current reporting period.

,	Accelerated tax depreciation £'000	Revaluation of mineral reserve £'000	Retirement benefit obligations £'000	Tax losses £'000	Total £'000
At 1 January 2018	3.084	803	(3,682)	(1,245)	(1,040)
Recognised in income	(645)	-	396	82	(167)
Recognised in equity		<u>-</u>	426		426
At 31 December 2018	2,439	803	(2,860)	(1,163)	(781)
Recognised in income Recognised in equity	1,493	(40)	415 (125)	(2,468)	(600) (125)
At 31 December 2019	3,932	763	(2,570)	(3,631)	(1,506)

Certain deferred tax assets and liabilities have been offset.

The following is the analysis of the deferred tax balances (after offset) for financial reporting purposes:

	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
Deferred tax liabilities	4,696	3,242
Deferred tax assets	(6,202)	(4,023)
	(1,506)	<u>(781</u>)

Temporary differences not recognised in the above are insignificant.

At the balance sheet date, the Group has unused tax losses of £15.5m (2018: £7.3m) available for offset against future profits and a deferred tax asset has been recognised in respect of these losses. The deferred tax asset has been recognised as the Group is expected to generate adequate taxable profits in the foreseeable future to recover the asset.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

23. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The Group operates a defined benefit scheme for qualifying employees which requires contributions to be made to a separately administered fund.

The most recent actuarial valuations of plan assets and the present value of the defined benefit obligation were carried out in June 2016 by Mercer LLC, a firm of actuaries. The present value of the defined benefit obligation, the related current service cost and past service cost were measured using the projected unit credit method.

The Defined Benefit Scheme was closed to future accrual in May 2009.

The actuarial valuations described above have been updated at 31 December 2019 by the actuaries using assumptions that are consistent with the requirements of IAS 19.

The amounts recognised in the statement of financial position are as follows:

F	Defined benefit	
	pension	plans
	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
Present value of funded obligations	(101,587)	(95,060)
Fair value of plan assets	86,584	78,336
Net liability	<u>(15,003</u>)	<u>(16,724</u>)

The amounts recognised in profit or loss are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	2019	2018
	€'000	£'000
Current service cost	-	-
Net interest from net defined benefit		
asset/liability	428	503
Past service cost	1	7
Interest cost	2,610	2,536
Interest income	$\underline{(2,182})$	(2,033)
	<u>857</u>	1,013
Actual return on plan assets	2,182	663

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

23. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation are as follows:

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation are as follows:				
	Defined benefit pension plans			
	2019	2018		
	£'000	£'000		
Opening defined benefit obligation	95,060	105,114		
Past service cost	1	7		
Interest cost	2,610	2,536		
Remeasurements - Effects of		•		
changes in financial				
assumptions	7,622	(5,201)		
Benefits paid	(3,706)	(7,396)		
•				
	101,587	95,060		
Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:				
	Defined benefit			
	pension plans			
	2019	2018		
	£'000	£'000		
Opening fair value of scheme assets	78,336	83,554		
Contributions by employer	2,879	2,841		
Interest income	2,182	2,033		
Benefits paid	(3,706)	(7,396)		
Remeasurements - return on plan assets (excluding interest)	6,893	(2,696)		
(exolutions)		_(2,0)		
	86,584	78,336		
The amounts recognised in other comprehensive income are as follows: Actuarial gains		d benefit on plans 2018 £'000 2,505		

2,505

<u>(729</u>)

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

23. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued

The major categories of scheme assets as amounts of total scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit	
	pension plans	
	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
Equity instruments	4,921	3,468
Debt instruments	11,743	11,346
Cash and cash equivalents	2,214	1,053
Index-linked Gilts	3,304	2,543
Assets held insurance company	26,126	24,551
Liability driven investments	13,062	15,057
Diversified growth funds	25,214	20,318
	86,584	78,336

Principal actuarial assumptions at the statement of financial position date (expressed as weighted averages):

	2019	2018
Discount rate	2.00%	2.80%
Inflation rate (consumer price index)	2.10%	2.40%
Future pension increases	2.80%	3.10%
Interest income on assets	-	2.40%
Return on corporate bonds	2.00%	-

The overall expected rate of return on assets is determined based on market prices prevailing on that date, applicable to the period over which the obligation is to be settled.

In assessing the post retirement mortality of members in the defined benefit scheme, the Company has used:

Non-pensioner: S2NxA tables with a -0.3 year male age rating and a -1.5 year female age rating. CMI 2018 projections with a 1.00% p.a. long term improvement rate have been used for mortality improvements.

<u>Pensioner:</u> S2NxA tables with a -0.2 year male age rating and a -1 year female age rating. CMI 2018 projections with a 1.00% p.a. long term improvement rate have been used for mortality improvements.

Assumed life expectations on retirement at age 65

	2019	2018
Retiring today (male member age 65)	21.8	22.3
Retiring in 25 years (male member age 40 today)	23.2	23.6
Retiring today (female member age 65)	23.8	24.9
Retiring in 25 years (female member age 40 today)	25.3	26.8

The calculation of the defined benefit obligation is sensitive to the assumptions set out above. The following table shows the defined benefit obligation resulting from adjustments to the assumptions.

	2019	2018
:	£'000	£'000
Decrease in discount rate of 0.25% (2018: 0.25%)	105,549	98,767
Decrease in inflation rate of 0.25% (2018: 0.25%)	103,212	96,961
Increase in life expectancy of 1 year (2018: 1 year)	105,549	98,577
Members commutation 10% less on retirement (2018: 10%)	102,197	95,345

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

23. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS - continued

The estimated amount of contributions expected to be paid to the scheme during the 2019 financial year is £2,954,000 (2018: £2,879,000).

Defined contribution scheme

The Group operates defined contribution retirement benefit schemes for certain qualifying employees. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the Group in funds under the control of trustees. Where there are employees who leave the scheme prior to vesting fully in the contributions, the contributions payable by the Group are reduced by the amount of forfeited contributions.

The total cost charged to income of £1,189,000 (2018: £1,228,000) represents contributions payable to these schemes by the Group at rates specified in the rules of the plans.

24. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

a) Other

Other contingent liabilities arise in the normal course of business. It is not anticipated that any material loss will arise in connection therewith.

b) Other Guarantee

The Group has a duty guarantee for £500,000 (2018: £500,000) and a Stand By Letter of Credit for £800,000 (2018: £800,000).

25. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Group

Related party transactions of the Group which are considered to be material are as follows:-

a) Ultimate Controlling Party

The ultimate parent company is Omya AG, a company registered in Switzerland.

b) Subsidiary Companies

Details of investments in subsidiary companies are disclosed in note 12.

c) Overseas Group Companies

During the year, the Group traded with fellow subsidiary companies of Omya AG, situated overseas. The Group's trading activities, all of which were in the ordinary course of business and at arms'- length with these companies, included £11,778,667 (2018: £11,107,795) for the sale of goods, £2,049,768 (2018: £2,143,404) for services provided to the Group, £11,544,958 (2018: £12,256,587) for the purchase of goods, £1,624,679 (2018: £1,197,475) or interest expenses on loans and £6,776,489 (2018: £5,521,430) for service charges from group companies.

The amounts owed by overseas group companies at the year-end amounted to £1,562,591 (2018: £1,205,000) and the amounts owed to overseas group companies at the year-end amounted to £1,969,934 (2018: £1,402,000).

Details of loans from the parent company, which is a related party, are provided in note 19.

Company

Related party transactions of the Company which are considered to be material are as follows:-

Included within receivables from related parties are amounts due from UK related parties which arose mainly from trading transactions in prior years totalling £3,000,000 (2018: £3,000,000). The receivables are unsecured in nature and bear no interest.

Included within payables to related parties are amounts due to UK related parties totalling £10,936,000 (2018: £10,936,000). The payables bear no interest.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

26. RECONCILIATION OF LOSS BEFORE INCOME TAX TO CASH USED IN OPERATIONS

	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
Loss before income tax	(4,588)	(2,709)
Depreciation charges	5,217	3,863
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	(28)	(18)
Amortisation and impairment charges	464	1,172
Difference between pension charge and cash contributions	(2,449)	(2,331)
Movement in provisions	182	(873)
Finance costs	2,270	1,775
Finance income	(6)	:
	1,062	879
Increase in inventories	(217)	(1,209)
Increase in trade and other receivables	(2,557)	(1,107)
(Decrease)/increase in trade and other payables	<u>(1,795</u>)	919
Cash used in operations	<u>(3,507)</u>	<u>(518</u>)

27. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

The amounts disclosed on the Statement of Cash Flows in respect of cash and cash equivalents are in respect of these Statement of Financial Position amounts:

Year ended 31 December 201	19	
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Cook and cook conjugate	31.12.19 £'000	1.1.19 £'000
Cash and cash equivalents Year ended 31 December 2018	<u>2,689</u>	
2010	31.12.18 £'000	1.1.18 £'000
Cash and cash equivalents	884	1,281

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

28. FINANCIAL AND CAPITAL RISK

The Group's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks: market risk, credit risk and liquidity risk. The Group's overall risk management programme seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the Group's financial performance. Risk management is carried out by the treasury function under policies approved by the board of directors.

Market risk - The Group's interest rate risk arises from long-term borrowings. The Group is funded substantially by a LIBOR linked interest bearing loan from the ultimate parent company. At 31 December 2019, the Group had a loan of 66.1m (2018: £53.4m) with the ultimate parent company which carried an interest rate at 1.60% over 3 months LIBOR.

Credit risk - The Group's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The Group trades only with recognised, creditworthy third parties. It is the Group's policy that all customers who wish to trade on credit terms are subject to credit verification procedures. In addition, receivable balances are monitored on an ongoing basis with the result that the Group's exposure to bad debts is not significant. At 31 December 2019, 4.7% (2018: 0.4%) of trade debtors were over two months overdue.

Liquidity risk - Prudent liquidity risk management implies maintaining sufficient cash and marketable securities, the availability of funding through an adequate amount of committed credit facilities and the ability to close out market positions. Due to the dynamic nature of the underlying businesses, the treasury function maintains flexibility in funding by maintaining availability under committed credit lines. At 31 December 2019, the Group had available 0.1m (2018: £3.1m) of undrawn committed borrowing facilities in respect of which all conditions precedent had been met.

Interest rate risk - The Group is funded substantially by interest bearing payables to the Omya AG group. As a consequence the Group is dependent on the Omya AG group treasury department for managing interest rate risk. The impact of the interest rate risk is passed down from the Omya AG group to the Group through the increase or decrease in the rate payable on group funding. If the Group interest rate had increased by 1% with all other variables held constant, pre-tax profit for the year would have been £645,000 (2018: £427,000) lower.

The following table analyses the Group non-derivative financial liabilities into relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining period at the balance sheet date to the contractual maturity date. The amounts disclosed in the table are the contractual undiscounted cash flows.

	Less than 3 months n	Between 3 nonths and 1 year	Between 1 and 2 years	Between 2 and 5 years	Over 5 years
At 31 December 2019		<i>y</i> c			juni
Borrowings	-	13,955	-	-	52,100
Trade and other payables	17,095	225	6	-	-
Provisions		138	 -	4,426	1,492
	<u>17,095</u>	14,318	6	4,426	53,592
At 31 December 2018					
Borrowings	-	4,924	-	-	48,500
Trade and other payables	19,648	233	8	-	-
Provisions		163	 -	-	1,406
	19,648	5,320	8	<u> </u>	49,906

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

28. FINANCIAL AND CAPITAL RISK- continued

Capital Risk - The Group's objectives when managing capital are to safeguard the Group's ability to continue as a going concern in order to provide returns for shareholders and benefits for other stakeholders and to maintain an optimal capital structure to reduce the cost of capital.

In order to maintain or adjust the capital structure, the Group may adjust the amount of dividends paid to shareholders, return capital to shareholders, issue new shares or sell assets to reduce debt.

Consistent with others in the industry, the Group monitors capital on the basis of the gearing ratio. This ratio is calculated as net debt divided by total capital. Net debt is calculated as total borrowings (including 'current and non-current borrowings' as shown in the balance sheet) less cash and cash equivalents. Total capital is calculated as 'equity' as shown in the balance sheet plus net debt.

29. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the Group in 2020. Reduced demand has been triggered by slowing consumer spending, the halting of construction projects, and a general lack of confidence globally. The Group have a well-diversified portfolio of customers in different sectors which helps to offset the effects of reduced sales in certain sectors, however, nonetheless the performance of the Group will be effected. Overall 2020 volumes and revenue are predicted to reduce by circa 16%. The Group has maintained production throughout 2020 and has utilised Government support measures and initiatives where available. Through a coordinated plan to manage working capital, reduce expenditure and rationing capital expenditure, recovery is targeted in 2021.

On 15 October 2020 a formal announcement was made to cease the Steeple Morden operation as a result of reduced business from the construction segment and the immediate effect of COVID 19. The site will remain operational until it's closure by the end of 2021.