

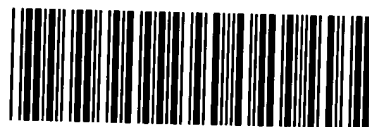
Registered number: 03239587

BEFOREBLEND LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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BEFOREBLEND LIMITED

COMPANY INFORMATION

Directors	N Benning-Prince R C Dowley E A Gretton Dr C M Wendt
Company secretary	W F Rogers
Registered number	03239587
Registered office	Hanson House 14 Castle Hill Maidenhead SL6 4JJ
Independent auditors	PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP 2 Glass Wharf Bristol BS2 0FR

BEFOREBLEND LIMITED

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BEFOREBLEND LIMITED

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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

Principal activities and business review

The Company is a group investment holding company. It did not have any transactions which affected the Statement of Comprehensive Income during the current or prior year and, therefore, the financial statements comprise the Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity and related notes only.

On 26 August 2020 the Company was assigned intercompany receivables of £3,591,000 and £61,000 due from Houserate Limited by Hanson Finance (2003) Limited and Hanson Holdings (1) Limited respectively to fully settle their liabilities to the Company.

This is part of a wider plan to simplify the group structure in the UK.

Results and dividends

The result for the year, after taxation, amounted to £nil (2019 - £nil (unaudited)).

The Directors do not recommend payment of a final dividend (2019 - £nil (unaudited)).

Future developments

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

Going concern

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

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

Directors

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

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

Directors' indemnity

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

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

BEFOREBLEND LIMITED

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

Disclosure of information to auditors

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

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

Independent auditors

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

Strategic Report exemption

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

This report was approved by the board on 8 July 2021, and signed on its behalf.



W F Rogers
Secretary

BEFOREBLEND LIMITED

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'. Under company law the Directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the profit or loss of the Company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to:

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

The Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This Responsibilities Statement was approved by the board on 8 July 2021 and signed on its behalf.



W F Rogers
Secretary

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

In our opinion, Beforeblend Limited's financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31 December 2020;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", and applicable law); and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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

Basis for opinion

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

Independence

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

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

BEFOREBLEND LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BEFOREBLEND LIMITED

Reporting on other information

The other information comprises all of the information in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The Directors are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify an apparent material inconsistency or material misstatement, we are required to perform procedures to conclude whether there is a material misstatement of the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report based on these responsibilities.

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

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

Directors' Report

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

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

Responsibilities for the financial statements and the audit

Responsibilities of the Directors for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement, the Directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable framework and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The Directors are also responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

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

BEFOREBLEND LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BEFOREBLEND LIMITED

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

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

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in the financial statements. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the FRC's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditors' report.

Use of this report

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

Other required reporting

Companies Act 2006 exception reporting

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

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

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

Entitlement to exemptions

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

BEFOREBLEND LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BEFOREBLEND LIMITED

Other matter

The financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019, forming the corresponding figures of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020, are unaudited.

Stuart Couch

Stuart Couch (Senior statutory auditor)
for and on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
Bristol
Date: 9 July 2021

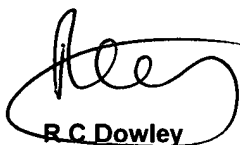
BEFOREBLEND LIMITED
REGISTERED NUMBER: 03239587

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Note	2020 £000	Unaudited 2019 £000
Fixed assets			
Investments	6	200,059	200,059
Current assets			
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	7	3,652	3,652
Net assets		<u>203,711</u>	<u>203,711</u>
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	8	81	81
Share premium account		203,630	203,630
Total equity		<u>203,711</u>	<u>203,711</u>

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

8th July 2021



R.C. Dowley
 Director

The notes on pages 10 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

BEFOREBLEND LIMITED

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

	Called up share capital £000	Share premium account £000	Total equity £000
At 1 January 2019 (unaudited)	81	203,630	203,711
At 1 January 2020 (unaudited)	81	203,630	203,711
At 31 December 2020	81	203,630	203,711

The notes on pages 10 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

BEFOREBLEND LIMITED

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

1. General information

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

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland and the Companies Act 2006.

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

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

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

2.2 Financial reporting standard 102 - reduced disclosure exemptions

The Company has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by the FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland":

- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows;
- the requirements of Section 3 Financial Statement Presentation paragraph 3.17(d);
- the requirements of Section 11 Financial Instruments paragraphs 11.42, 11.44 to 11.45, 11.47, 11.48(a)(iii), 11.48(a)(iv), 11.48(b) and 11.48(c);
- the requirements of Section 12 Other Financial Instruments paragraphs 12.26 to 12.27, 12.29(a), 12.29(b) and 12.29A;
- the requirements of Section 33 Related Party Disclosures paragraph 33.7.

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

2.3 Going concern

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

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

BEFOREBLEND LIMITED

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

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Investments

Investments held as fixed assets are shown at cost less provision for impairment.

2.5 Financial instruments

The Company only enters into basic financial instrument transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities, loans to related parties and investments in ordinary shares.

Financial assets that are measured at cost and amortised cost are assessed at the end of each reporting period for objective evidence of impairment. If objective evidence of impairment is found, an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the Balance Sheet when there is an enforceable legal right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

3. Judgments in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty

Impairment of investments

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

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

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

Recoverability of amounts owed by group undertakings

The Company reviews the recoverability of amounts owed by group undertakings by reviewing the net assets of the counterparty. If the counterparty has net liabilities a provision is made by management for the amount considered irrecoverable.

4. Auditors' remuneration

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

BEFOREBLEND LIMITED**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020****5. Staff costs**

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

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

6. Fixed asset investments

	Investments in associated undertaking £000
Cost	
At 1 January 2020 (unaudited) and 31 December 2020	200,059
Net book value	
At 31 December 2020	200,059
At 31 December 2019 (unaudited)	200,059

There is no impairment during the year as net assets exceed or equal the carrying value.

Direct associate undertaking

The investment in which the Company directly held any class of share capital is as follows:

Name	Country of incorporation	Class of shares	Holding	Principal activity
Hanson America Holdings (3) Limited	England and Wales	'A' Ordinary	42%	Investment holding company

BEFOREBLEND LIMITED

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

Indirect associate undertaking

The investment in which the Company indirectly held any class of share capital is as follows:

Name	Country of incorporation	Class of shares	Holding	Principal activity
Hanson America Holdings (1) Limited	England and Wales	'A' Ordinary	100%	Group finance company
		'B' Ordinary	100%	
		'C' Ordinary	100%	

The registered office of the investments is Hanson House, 14 Castle Hill, Maidenhead, SL6 4JJ.

During the year Hanson America Holdings (3) Limited increased its interest in Hanson America Holdings (1) Limited and now owns 100% of the subsidiary.

7. Debtors

	2020 £000	Unaudited 2019 £000
Due within one year		
Amounts owed by group undertakings	3,652	3,652

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

8. Share capital

	2020 £000	Unaudited 2019 £000
Allotted, called up and fully paid		
20,365 (2019 - 20,365 (unaudited)) 'A' ordinary shares of £1 each	20	20
61,102 (2019 - 61,102 (unaudited)) 'B' ordinary shares of £1 each	61	61
	81	81

'A' ordinary shares and 'B' ordinary shares rank pari passu in all respects except for rights in respect of dividends, voting and return on capital which are in the proportion of 10,000:1 respectively.

BEFOREBLEND LIMITED

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

9. Related party transactions

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption under paragraph 33.1A of FRS102 not to disclose transactions with wholly owned subsidiaries in the group headed by HeidelbergCement AG. Balances outstanding at 31 December with related parties, are as follows:

	2020	Unaudited
	£000	2019
		£000
Amounts owed by fellow subsidiary undertakings	3,652	3,652

10. Ultimate parent undertaking and controlling party

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