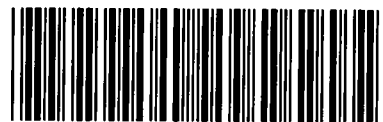


REGISTERED NUMBER: 03693911 (England and Wales)

**Annual Report and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2018
for
Accord Limited**

FRIDAY



A8EWSKKH

A48

27/09/2019

#229

COMPANIES HOUSE

Accord Limited

**Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2018**

Company Information	1
Strategic Report	2
Report of the Directors	3
Statement of Directors' Responsibilities	4
Independent auditor's report	5 to 7
Income Statement	8
Statement of Comprehensive Income	9
Balance Sheet	10
Statement of Changes in Equity	11
Notes to the Financial Statements	12 to 32

Accord Limited

**Company Information
for the Year Ended 31 December 2018**

Directors A L Milner
 A L Nelson

Company Secretary Sherard Secretariat Services Limited

Registered Office The Sherard Building
 Edmund Halley Road
 Oxford
 Oxfordshire
 OX4 4DQ

Auditor Deloitte LLP
 Statutory Auditor
 Abbots House
 Abbey Street
 Reading
 RG1 3BD

Accord Limited

Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2018

The Directors present their strategic report for the year ended 31 December 2018.

Principal activity

The Company's principal activity during the year is that of a holding company and the provision of employment services. There have been no changes in the Company's activities during the year.

Review of business and future developments

The Income statement for the year is set out on page 8 and shows revenue of £750,000 (2017 - £1,034,000) and a loss after tax amounting to £8,785,000 (2017 - £14,060,000), all of which arose from continuing activities.

The decrease in revenue for the year reflects a reduction in the additional contributions to the pension scheme due from fellow group undertakings following the non-recurring contributions made in 2017. The Directors remain confident that this level of activity will be maintained.

Charges for provisions against impairments to investments in subsidiary undertakings of £5,026,000 arose in the year (2017 - £11,864,000). These provisions reflect the difficult trading conditions being experienced by some of the Company's principal operating subsidiaries.

In 2018, the Company recorded a past service pensions charge of £225,000 (2017 - £nil) arising on the historic equalisation of Guaranteed Minimum Pension benefits between men and women for the years from 1990 to 1997, following the result of a recent high court judgement.

Post balance sheet events

On 11 July 2019 the Company issued an additional 3,000,000 ordinary shares of £1 each in exchange for proceeds of £3.0 million.

There have been no other events since the balance sheet date which materially affect the position of the Company.


Key performance indicators

The Company's principal key performance indicators are revenue and profit before tax which are shown in the Income statement for the year set out on page 8.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Company's risks and other key performance indicators are only reported and managed on a Divisional basis. To gain a further understanding of this business, details of the principal risks and uncertainties and other key performance indicators are contained in the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Intermediate parent undertaking, Amey UK plc ('the Group'), for the year ended 31 December 2018. The Company is a member of the Central Services division of the Group.

Approved by the Board on 27 July 2019 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
A.L. Nelson
Director

Accord Limited

Report of the Directors for the Year Ended 31 December 2018

The Directors present their annual report with the audited financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2018.

Strategic Report

Details of future developments and financial risk management can be found in the Strategic Report on page 2 and form part of this report by cross reference.

Dividends

No dividends were paid by the Company during the year (2017 - £nil).

Directors of the Company

The Directors who held office during the year and up to the date of this Report were as follows:

A L Milner

A L Nelson

Going concern

After making enquiries, and based on the assumptions outlined in note 2 to the financial statements, the Directors have concluded that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Policy on slavery and human trafficking

In accordance with the Modern Slavery Act 2015, the Group is committed to ensuring that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in our supply chains, or in any part of our business, with a zero tolerance for non-compliance. A full statement reflecting that commitment can be found on the Amey website www.amey.co.uk and an abridged statement is included in the financial statements of the Company's intermediate parent company, Amey UK plc.

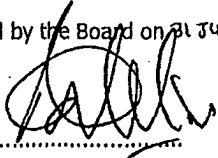
Statement as to disclosure of information to the auditor

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 Company's auditor is unaware, and each Director has taken all the steps that he or she ought to have taken as a director in order to make himself or herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditor is aware of that information.

Reappointment of auditor

Deloitte LLP has been appointed as Auditor and has expressed their willingness to continue in office as Auditor. In accordance with s487 of the Companies Act 2006, Deloitte LLP will be re-appointed as Auditor to the Company.

Approved by the Board on 21 July 2019 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
A L Nelson
Director

Accord Limited

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

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

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law), including FRS 101 'Reduced Disclosure Framework'.

Under company law the Directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the profit or loss of the Company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to:

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

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

Accord Limited

Independent auditor's report to the members of Accord Limited

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements of Accord Limited (the 'Company'):

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31 December 2018 and of its loss for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice including Financial Reporting Standard 101 'Reduced Disclosure Framework'; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements which comprise:

- the income statement;
- the statement of comprehensive income;
- the balance sheet;
- the statement of changes in equity; and
- the related notes 1 to 21.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 101 'Reduced Disclosure Framework' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report.

We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK including the Financial Reporting Council's (the 'FRC's') Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Material uncertainty related to going concern - Proposed plans to sell the Amey Group of Companies

We draw attention to note 2 of the financial statements concerning the proposed plans to sell the Group and the impact this will have on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, which is dependent on the loans the Group has from its ultimate parent undertaking, Ferrovial, S.A., together with the provision of external facilities which may be withdrawn on a change of control. Whilst the Directors of the Group consider that the Group is a going concern, the intentions of future management are uncertain, including the amount of support, if any, the Group will receive in the form of guarantees or loans from its new parent. As stated in note 2, these events or conditions, indicate the existence of a material uncertainty which may cast significant doubt about the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. The financial statements do not include the adjustments that would result if the Group was unable to continue as a going concern as it is not practicable to determine or quantify them. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Accord Limited

Independent auditor's report to the members of Accord Limited (continued)

Other information

The Directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion 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 such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in 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 in respect of these matters.

Responsibilities of Directors

As explained more fully in the Directors' responsibilities statement, the Directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Directors 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.

Auditor's 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 auditor's 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.

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

Accord Limited

Independent auditor's report to the members of Accord Limited (continued)

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report in respect of the following matters if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the 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 respect of these matters.

Use of our report

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.



.....
Andrew Hornby (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Deloitte LLP
Statutory Auditor
Reading
United Kingdom

31/7/19

Accord Limited

Income Statement for the Year Ended 31 December 2018

	Notes	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Revenue	4	750	1,034
Cost of sales (Including exceptional charge of £225,000 (2017 - £nil))	6	<u>(1,715)</u>	<u>(1,817)</u>
Gross loss		<u>(965)</u>	<u>(783)</u>
Operating loss		(965)	(783)
Loss on disposal of fixed assets		-	(70)
Provision for investments in subsidiary undertakings	7	<u>(5,026)</u>	<u>(11,864)</u>
Loss before interest and taxation		(5,991)	(12,717)
Finance expense	8	<u>(1,569)</u>	<u>(1,757)</u>
Loss before taxation	9	(7,560)	(14,474)
Tax on loss	10	<u>(1,225)</u>	414
Loss for the year		<u><u>(8,785)</u></u>	<u><u>(14,060)</u></u>

The notes on pages 12 to 32 form part of these financial statements.

Accord Limited

Statement of Comprehensive Income for the Year Ended 31 December 2018

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Loss for the year	<u>(8,785)</u>	<u>(14,060)</u>
Other comprehensive income		
Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss:		
Remeasurements of post employment benefit obligations	7,009	5,358
Income tax relating to items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss	<u>(1,192)</u>	<u>(911)</u>
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of income tax	<u>5,817</u>	<u>4,447</u>
Total comprehensive loss for the year	<u><u>(2,968)</u></u>	<u><u>(9,613)</u></u>

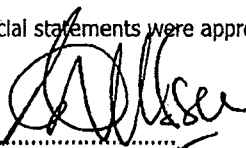
The notes on pages 12 to 32 form part of these financial statements.

Accord Limited (Registered number: 03693911)

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2018

	Note	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Fixed assets			
Investments	11	<u>75,076</u>	<u>80,102</u>
Current assets			
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	12	2,781	7,744
Debtors: amounts falling due after more than one year	12	6,661	455
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>95</u>	<u>-</u>
		9,537	8,199
Creditors:			
Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(85,374)</u>	<u>(85,984)</u>
Net current liabilities		<u>(75,837)</u>	<u>(77,785)</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		(761)	2,317
Provisions for liabilities	14	<u>(794)</u>	<u>(904)</u>
Net (liabilities)/assets		<u>(1,555)</u>	<u>1,413</u>
Capital and reserves			
Share capital	16	25,616	25,616
Share premium reserve		1,508	1,508
Retained earnings		<u>(28,679)</u>	<u>(25,711)</u>
Shareholders' (deficit)/funds		<u>(1,555)</u>	<u>1,413</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 31 July 2019 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
A L Nelson
Director

The notes on pages 12 to 32 form part of these financial statements.

Accord Limited

Statement of Changes in Equity for the Year Ended 31 December 2018

	Share capital £'000	Share premium £'000	Retained earnings £'000	Total £'000
At 1 January 2017	25,616	1,508	(16,098)	11,026
Loss for the year	-	-	(14,060)	(14,060)
Other comprehensive income	-	-	4,447	4,447
Total comprehensive loss	-	-	(9,613)	(9,613)
At 31 December 2017	25,616	1,508	(25,711)	1,413

	Share capital £'000	Share premium £'000	Retained earnings £'000	Total £'000
At 1 January 2018	25,616	1,508	(25,711)	1,413
Loss for the year	-	-	(8,785)	(8,785)
Other comprehensive income	-	-	5,817	5,817
Total comprehensive loss	-	-	(2,968)	(2,968)
At 31 December 2018	25,616	1,508	(28,679)	(1,555)

On 11 July 2019 the Company issued an additional 3,000,000 ordinary shares of £1 each in exchange for proceeds of £3.0 million, resulting in the following unaudited proforma statement of shareholders' equity at 31 December 2018.

	Share capital £'000	Share premium £'000	Retained earnings £'000	Total £'000
Actual balance at 31 December 2018	25,616	1,508	(28,679)	(1,555)
New share capital subscribed	3,000	-	-	3,000
Unaudited proforma balance at 31 December 2018	28,616	1,508	(28,679)	1,445

The notes on pages 12 to 32 form part of these financial statements.

Accord Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2018

1 General information

The principal activity of Accord Limited (the Company) is of a holding company and the provision of employment services and it operates principally within the UK. The Company is a private company limited by share capital, incorporated and domiciled in the UK and registered in England and Wales.

The Company Secretary and address of the registered office is as follows:

Sherard Secretariat Services Limited

The Sherard Building
Edmund Halley Road
Oxford
Oxfordshire
OX4 4DQ

2 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

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

On 1 January 2018, the following standards which might have an impact on the financial statements came into force in the European Union: IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers, IFRS 9 Financial Instruments, IFRIC Interpretation 22, Amendments to IFRS 2, IFRS 4 and IAS 40, and Annual Improvements to IFRS 2014-2016 cycle. No significant impact on the Company financial statements has been identified because of these amendments.

New standards or interpretations applicable to the Company for accounting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2019 are not expected to have a material impact on the Company.

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Summary of disclosure exemptions

The Company has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 101 'Reduced Disclosure Framework':

- the requirements of paragraphs 45(b) and 46 to 52 of IFRS 2 Share-based Payment;
- the requirements of paragraphs 62, B64(d), B64(e), B64(g), B64(h), B64(j) to B64(m), B64(n)(ii), B64(o)(ii), B64(p), B64(q)(ii), B66 and B67 of IFRS 3 Business Combinations;
- the requirements of paragraph 33(c) of IFRS 5 Non Current Assets Held for Sale and Discontinued Operations;
- the requirements of IFRS 7 Financial Instruments: Disclosures;
- the requirements of paragraphs 91 to 99 of IFRS 13 Fair Value Measurement;
- the requirement in paragraph 38 of IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements to present comparative information in respect of:
 - paragraph 79(a)(iv) of IAS 1;
 - paragraph 73(e) of IAS 16 Property, Plant and Equipment;
 - paragraph 118(e) of IAS 38 Intangible Assets;
 - paragraphs 76 and 79(d) of IAS 40 Investment Property;
- the requirements of paragraphs 10(d), 10(f), 16, 38A, 38B, 38C, 38D, 40A, 40B, 40C, 40D and 111 of IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements;
- the requirements of paragraphs 134 to 136 of IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements;
- the requirements of IAS 7 Statement of Cash Flows;
- the requirements of paragraphs 30 and 31 of IAS 8 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors;
- the requirements of paragraphs 17 and 18A of IAS 24 Related Party Disclosures;
- the requirements in IAS 24 Related Party Disclosures to disclose related party transactions entered into between two or more members of a group; and
- the requirements of paragraphs 134(d) to 134(f) and 135(c) to 135(e) of IAS 36 Impairments of Assets.

Basis of consolidation

The Company is exempt from preparing consolidated financial statements under section 400 of the Companies Act 2006 on the grounds that it is itself a wholly owned subsidiary undertaking of a company registered in England and Wales. These financial statements therefore, present information about the individual undertaking and not about its group. These financial statements are separate financial statements.

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Going concern

The Company is a subsidiary of Amey UK plc (the Group) and its financial resources are managed on a group basis. The ultimate parent of the Group is Ferrovial, S.A. (Ferrovial). The Group is financed through a mixture of shareholder equity, other equity instruments issued to Ferrovial companies, intercompany debt from Ferrovial companies, finance leases, non-recourse project-related bank term loans, other bank loans and overdrafts.

The Group's key external banking facilities are through five five-year bilateral facility agreements of £32 million with each of HSBC Bank plc, Lloyds Bank plc, Royal Bank of Canada, The Royal Bank of Scotland plc and Santander (Abbey National Treasury Services plc). These agreements total £160 million with £32 million maturing in July 2021, £96 million maturing in July 2022 and £32 million maturing in November 2022. At 31 December 2018, these facilities were undrawn and the Group also held £118.4 million of unrestricted cash on the Group balance sheet.

Subsequent to the year-end, the following matters that have an impact on the Group's going concern assessment occurred:

- On 29 June 2019, the Group concluded an agreement with Amey Birmingham Highways Limited (ABHL) to exit from the contract to provide highways maintenance services to Birmingham City Council. Under the settlement arrangements, the Group is obliged to pay £215 million in total to ABHL over a six-year period (£100 million on 29 June 2019, two further instalments of £30 million each at the end of September and December 2019, £10 million each year from 2020 to 2024 and £5 million in 2025), for a full release of the Group's liability in respect of the Birmingham project from all key stakeholders.
- On 29 June 2019, the Group received a new intercompany loan of £75.0 million from Ferrofin, SL which was received in cash. This loan bears interest at 1-month LIBOR plus 227 basis points and is due to be repaid by 31 July 2020. This loan has been fully subordinated in favour of any amounts due to the Group's banks under the five five-year bilateral facility agreements in place and which have recourse to the Group's balance sheet; and
- On 8 July 2019, the terms and conditions of part of the Group's existing subordinated loans to Landmille Limited, which were held by a fellow subsidiary undertaking, Amey plc, were amended and £200.0 million of these loans replaced with a new Other Equity Instrument with Landmille Limited which will be classed as part of equity on the Group balance sheet. This loan instrument has no specified maturity date but can be redeemed by the Group at any time. The Group also has the power to delay timing of the interest payments at its sole discretion which cannot be claimed by the lender. The proceeds of this loan were used to reduce the existing loans of £369.0 million from Landmille Limited. The remaining loans of £169.0 million with Landmille Limited were consolidated into a new sterling revolver facility which bears interest at 1-month LIBOR plus between 372 and 472 basis points dependent on the drawn amount. This new sterling revolver facility is available until 31 July 2020. These loans have been fully subordinated in favour of any amounts due to the Group's banks under the five five-year bilateral facility agreements in place and which have recourse to the Group's balance sheet.

The impact of these transactions has been a net £85 million cash outflow together with an improved Group net asset position. This together with the impact of the timing of supplier payments, which have in certain cases been brought forward to comply with the requirements outlined in the Procurement Policy Note Issue by Cabinet Office, have reduced the level of cash headroom since the year-end.

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Going concern (continued)

In light of this reduced headroom, the Directors of the Group have reviewed a number of factors including: the future business plans of the Group (comprising the budget for 2019 and the strategic plan for 2019-2023); the availability of core and ancillary financing facilities; the compliance with the related net debt/EBITDA covenant; the projected drawn positions and headroom available on the core committed financing facilities; and the projected future cash flows of the Group comprising a Base Case forecast (which includes the settlement payments agreed as a result from exiting from the Birmingham City Council Highways PFI contract and the funding structure described in the previous paragraphs) and a Reasonable Worst Case ('RWC') forecast (which applies sensitivities against the base case for reasonably possible adverse variations in performance, reflecting the ongoing volatility in UK trading performance and sector dynamics). The RWC forecast looks at the following key sensitivities: compliance with the requirements outlined in the Procurement Policy Note Issue by Cabinet Office which aims to take into account a supplier's approach to payment in the procurement of major contracts; short-term timing delays in collections from customers; and longer-term reductions in performance and growth when compared to those set out in the Group's strategic plan. Even after assuming that the sensitivities outlined above will materialise the Group's cash flow forecasts show that there is sufficient liquidity to enable it to continue trading.

As noted in the Group Annual Report and Accounts, in October 2018, Ferrovial, S.A., the ultimate parent company, announced a strategic review of the markets it operates in. This review concluded in February 2019 that Ferrovial would divest their wider Services portfolio, which includes the Group. This decision does not impact day-to-day operations and, in any event, as the Group does not rely on Ferrovial contractual guarantees there are no implications to the ongoing trading operations of the Group. The impact on financing on a change of control would be as follows:

- The external facilities may become due for repayment subject to the detailed change of control requirements which are primarily dependent on the credit worthiness of the purchaser. The Directors of the Group believe that the Group would be able to renew or replace these facilities, if necessary;
- Any consideration still outstanding to Amey Birmingham Highways Limited would be immediately payable under the terms of the settlement agreement; and
- The facilities due to the parent totalling £274 million would be due for repayment in the event that this debt was not transferred to a new shareholder.

Whilst the Directors consider that the Group is a going concern, in the circumstances of any sale of the Group by the existing shareholder, the intentions of any future parent as regards shareholder financing is uncertain, including the amount of support, if any, the Group would receive from any new parent. However, as would be usual in the context of a third-party sale arrangement, the Directors would expect the existing shareholder debt to be managed in an appropriate manner as part of the sale process.

These events or conditions indicate, only in the event of a sale, the existence of a material uncertainty which may cast significant doubt about the Group's, and therefore the Company's, ability to continue as a going concern. These financial statements do not include the adjustments that would result if the Company was unable to continue as a going concern as it is not practicable to determine or quantify them. Notwithstanding this, the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Therefore, the Directors continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Other principal accounting policies

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

Revenue recognition

Revenue is the total amount receivable by the Company for services provided, excluding VAT and trade discounts.

Investment in subsidiary undertakings

Investments by the Company in the shares of subsidiary undertakings are stated at cost less accumulated impairment losses.

Current and deferred income tax

The tax expense for the period comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in profit or loss, except that a change attributable to an item of income or expense recognised as other comprehensive income is also recognised directly in other comprehensive income.

The current income tax charge is calculated on the basis of tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date in the countries where the company operates and generates taxable income.

Deferred income tax is recognised on temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements and on unused tax losses or tax credits in the company. Deferred income tax is determined using tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date.

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets are reviewed at each reporting date and a valuation allowance is set up against deferred tax assets so that the net carrying amount equals the highest amount that is more likely than not to be recovered based on current or future taxable profit.

Trade and other receivables

Trade and other receivables are amounts due from customers for services performed in the ordinary course of business. They are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost, less provision for impairment.

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Financial instruments

Recognition and de-recognition

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Group becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. Financial assets are de-recognised when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire, or when the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards are transferred. A financial liability is de-recognised when it is extinguished, discharged, cancelled or expires.

Classification and initial measurement of financial assets

Except for those trade receivables that do not contain a significant financing component, and which are measured at the transaction price in accordance with IFRS 15, all financial assets are initially measured at fair value adjusted for applicable transaction costs. Financial assets, other than those designated and effective as hedging instruments, are classified into the following categories: amortised cost; fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL); or fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI). The classification is determined by both the Group's business model for managing the financial asset and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial asset.

Subsequent measurement of financial assets

- (a) Financial assets at amortised cost - financial assets are measured at amortised cost if the assets meet the following conditions (and are not designated as FVTPL): they are held within a business model whose objective is to hold the financial assets and collect its contractual cash flows and the contractual terms of the financial assets give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest.
- (b) Financial assets at FVTPL - financial assets that are held within a different business model other than 'hold to collect' or 'hold to collect and sell' are categorised at FVTPL. Further, irrespective of business model, financial assets whose contractual cash flows are not solely payments of principal and interest are accounted for at FVTPL. All derivative financial instruments fall into this category, except for those designated and effective as hedging instruments, for which the hedge accounting requirements apply (see below).
- (c) Financial assets at FVOCI - the Group accounts for financial assets at FVOCI if the assets meet the following conditions: they are held under a business model whose objective it is 'hold to collect' the associated cash flows and the contractual terms of financial assets give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest. Any gains or losses recognised in other comprehensive income (OCI) will be recycled upon de-recognition of the asset.

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Financial instruments (continued)

Impairment of financial assets

IFRS 9's impairment requirements use forward-looking information to recognise expected credit losses - the 'expected credit loss (ECL) model'. Instruments within the scope of the requirements include loans and other debt-type financial assets measured at amortised cost and FVOCI, trade receivables, contract assets recognised and measured under IFRS 15 and loan commitments and some financial guarantee contracts (for the issuer) that are not measured at FVTPL. Recognition of credit losses is no longer dependent on the Group first identifying a credit loss event. Instead the Group considers a broader range of information when assessing credit risk and measuring expected credit losses, including past events, current conditions, and reasonable and supportable forecasts that affect the expected collectability of the future cash flows of the instrument.

In applying this forward-looking approach, a distinction is made between: Stage 1 - financial instruments that have not deteriorated significantly in credit quality since initial recognition or that have low credit risk; Stage 2 - financial instruments that have deteriorated significantly in credit quality since initial recognition and whose credit risk is not low; and Stage 3 - financial assets that have objective evidence of impairment at the reporting date. Twelve-month expected credit losses are recognised for the first category while lifetime expected credit losses are recognised for the second category. Measurement of the expected credit losses is determined by a probability-weighted estimate of credit losses over the expected life of the financial instrument.

(a) Trade and other receivables - trade receivables are initially recognised and carried at the lower of their original invoiced value and recoverable amount. Balances are written off when the probability of recovery is remote. The Group makes use of a simplified approach in accounting for trade and other receivables and records the loss allowance as lifetime expected credit losses. These are the expected shortfalls in contractual cash flows, considering the potential for default at any point during the life of the financial instrument. The Group uses historical experience, external indicators and forward-looking information to calculate the expected credit losses. The Group assesses impairment of trade receivables on a collective basis. Where they possess shared credit risk characteristics, they have been grouped based on industry sector global default rates.

(b) Intercompany loans receivable - Intercompany advances to other Group companies are all held to maturity, neither parties have an option to call or prepay the loan before the contracted maturity date. Such assets are held under a business model to hold and collect contractual cash flows and therefore meet the 'solely payments of principal and interest' test. No embedded derivatives are currently recognised in these advances, and the amortised cost classification is not impacted. All intercompany advances are assessed for impairment under the ECL model.

Classification and measurement of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered. An equity instrument is any contract that provides a residual interest in the assets of a business after deducting all other liabilities.

The Group's financial liabilities include borrowings, trade and other payables and derivative financial instruments. Financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value, and, where applicable, adjusted for transaction costs unless the Group designated a financial liability at FVTPL. Subsequently, financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate (EIR) method except for derivatives and financial liabilities designated at FVTPL, which are carried subsequently at fair value with gains or losses recognised in profit or loss (other than derivative financial instruments that are designated and effective as hedging instruments). All interest-related charges and, if applicable, changes in an instrument's fair value that are reported in profit or loss are included within finance costs.

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Financial instruments (continued)

Classification and measurement of financial liabilities (continued)

(a) Borrowings - borrowings are recognised initially at fair value, net of transaction costs incurred. Borrowings are subsequently stated at amortised cost unless they form part of a fair value hedge relationship. Any difference between the amount initially recognised (net of transaction costs) and the redemption value is recognised in the income statement over the period of the borrowings using the EIR method. Borrowings being novated or cancelled and re-issued, with a substantial modification of the terms, are accounted for as an extinguishment of the original financial liability and the recognition of a new financial liability, with any resulting gain or loss recognised in the income statement.

(b) Trade and other payables - trade and other payables are non-interest bearing and are stated at their fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the EIR method.

(c) Derivative financial instruments and hedging activities - derivatives are initially recognised at fair value on the date a derivative contract is entered and are subsequently re-measured at their fair value. Derivative financial instruments are accounted for at FVTPL except for derivatives designated as hedging instruments in cash flow hedge relationships, which require a specific accounting treatment. To qualify for hedge accounting, the hedging relationship must meet the following requirements: there is an economic relationship between the hedged item and the hedging instrument; and the effect of credit risk does not dominate the value changes that result from that economic relationship. The method of recognising the resulting gain or loss depends on whether the derivative is designated as a hedging instrument, and if so, the nature of the item being hedged. The Group designates certain derivatives either as fair value hedges, where they hedge exposure to changes in the fair value of the hedged asset or liability or as cash flow hedges, where they hedge exposure to variability in cash flows that are attributable to a risk associated with any changes in the fair value of the hedged asset, liability or forecasted transaction. The Group documents at the inception of the transaction the relationship between hedging instruments and hedged items, as well as its risk management objectives and strategy for undertaking various hedging transactions. The Group also documents, both at hedge inception and on an ongoing basis, its assessment of whether the derivatives used in hedging transactions are highly effective in offsetting changes in fair values or cash flows of hedged items. The fair value of a derivatives is classified as a non-current asset or liability when the remaining maturity is more than 12 months and as a current asset or liability where it is less than 12 months.

(d) Fair value hedge - all hedging relationships that were hedging relationships under IAS 39 at the 31 December 2017 reporting date meet the IFRS 9's criteria for hedge accounting at 1 January 2018 and are therefore regarded as continuing hedging relationships. Changes in the fair value of derivatives that are designated and qualify as fair value hedges are recorded in the income statement, together with any changes in the fair value gains and losses on any underlying hedged items that are part of a fair value hedging relationship. If the hedge no longer meets the criteria for hedge accounting, the adjustment to the carrying amount of a hedged item for which the EIR method is used is amortised in the income statement over the period to maturity.

(e) Cash flow hedge - the effective portion of changes in the fair value of derivatives that are designated and qualify as cash flow hedges is recognised in OCI. To the extent that the hedge is effective, changes in the fair value of derivatives designated as hedging instruments in cash flow hedges are recognised in OCI and included within the cash flow hedge reserve in equity. Any ineffectiveness in the hedge relationship is recognised immediately in profit or loss. Amounts accumulated in equity are recycled in the income statement in the periods when the hedged item affects profit or loss. When a hedging instrument expires or is sold, or when a hedge no longer meets the criteria for hedge accounting, any cumulative gain or loss existing in equity at that time remains in equity and is recognised when the forecast transaction is ultimately recognised in the income statement. When or if a forecast transaction is no longer expected to occur, the cumulative gain or loss that was reported in equity is immediately transferred to the income statement.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

Financial instruments (continued)

Classification and measurement of financial liabilities (continued)

(f) Derivatives at fair value through profit and loss - certain derivative instruments do not qualify for hedge accounting. Changes in the fair value of these derivative instruments are recognised immediately in the income statement. When derivatives are designated in a hedge relationship, the net interest payable or receivable on those derivatives is recorded net of the interest on the underlying hedged item in the income statement. When derivatives are not in a hedge relationship, the fair value changes on these derivatives are recognised within fair value gains or losses on financial instruments in the income statement. The interest payable and receivable on those derivatives are recorded at their net amount in finance costs in the income statement.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and deposits with banks. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

Creditors

Obligations to pay for goods and services are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Post employment benefit obligations - defined benefit pension schemes

The Company accounts for post-employment benefit obligations arising on defined benefit pension schemes in accordance with IAS 19.

Pension scheme assets are measured using market values. Pension scheme liabilities are measured using the projected unit actuarial method and are discounted at the current rate of return that the Directors consider would be available on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liability. The increase in the present value of the liabilities of the Company's defined benefit pension schemes expected to arise from employee service in the period is charged to operating profit. The net return on the scheme assets and the increase during the year in the present value of the scheme liabilities arising from the passage of time is included in finance costs. The Company recognises actuarial gains and losses directly in other comprehensive income and these are therefore shown in the statement of comprehensive income (OCI).

Pension scheme deficits, to the extent that they are considered payable, are recognised in full and presented as part of provisions for liabilities.

3 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with FRS 101 requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise judgement in the process of applying the Company's existing accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are disclosed below:

The Company believes that the most critical accounting policies and significant areas of judgement and estimation arise from the accounting for post-employment benefit obligations arising on defined benefit pension schemes under IAS 19 (Employee Benefits) and impairment of investment in subsidiary undertakings including amounts due from fellow group undertakings.

IAS 19:

Post-employment benefit obligations arising on defined benefit pension schemes are accounted for in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries, but significant judgements are required in relation to the assumptions for future salary and pension increases, inflation, investment returns and member longevity that underpin their valuations.

Impairments of investment in subsidiary undertakings and amounts due from fellow group undertakings:

Management have assessed the carrying value of investments in subsidiary undertakings and the amounts due from fellow group undertakings for any change in the level of impairment provision against carrying value. For operating companies, the assessment considers whether the carrying value of the investment or receivable exceeds its recoverable amount which is the higher of the fair value of the investment or receivable and its value in use. The value in use is calculated using the present value of the future cash flows incorporating variations in the amount and timing of cash flows, time value of money, price for bearing the inherent uncertainty in the asset and other factors such as illiquidity. For non-operating companies the impairment provision reflects the net asset position of the related subsidiary undertaking.

4 Revenue

Revenue is wholly attributable to the principal activity of providing employment services on behalf of Amey UK plc Group companies. The costs of the employees are fully recharged to other Amey UK plc Group companies. All revenue arises solely in the UK.

5 Employees and Directors

The Company had no direct employees in either 2018 or 2017. The costs of employees of Amey Services Limited are recharged to this Company in direct support of its trade.

No Directors were remunerated through the Company in either 2018 or 2017.

Details of the remuneration of the other Directors, whose services are of a non-executive nature and who are also directors of the Company's intermediate parent undertaking, Amey UK plc are disclosed in that company's financial statements. Their remuneration is deemed to be wholly attributable to their services to that company.

Accord Limited**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2018 (continued)****6 Exceptional items**

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Guaranteed minimum pension equalisation of past service charge	<u>225</u>	<u>-</u>

In 2018, the Company recorded a past service pensions charge of £225,000 arising on the historic equalisation of Guaranteed Minimum Pension benefits between men and women for the years from 1990 to 1997, following the result of a recent high court judgement.

7 Provision for investments in subsidiary undertakings

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Charge for the year	<u>(5,026)</u>	<u>(11,864)</u>

8 Finance expense

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Other interest payable	36	-
Payable to fellow subsidiary undertakings	1,521	1,325
Finance expense on post employment benefit obligations	<u>12</u>	<u>432</u>
	<u>1,569</u>	<u>1,757</u>

9 Loss before taxation

The loss before taxation is stated after charging:

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Charges arising under post employment benefit obligations	<u>1,767</u>	<u>2,249</u>

The auditor's remuneration is borne by Amey Group Services Limited, a fellow subsidiary undertaking of the Company, and is not recharged.

Accord Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2018 (continued)

10 Taxation

Analysis of tax expense/(Income)

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Current tax		
Tax - current year	(394)	(639)
UK corporation tax adjustment to prior periods	<u>-</u>	<u>63</u>
Total current tax	<u>(394)</u>	<u>(576)</u>
Deferred tax - current year charge	1,619	131
Deferred tax - adjustment in respect of prior period	<u>-</u>	<u>31</u>
Total deferred tax	<u>1,619</u>	<u>162</u>
Total tax expense/(Income) in Income statement	<u><u>1,225</u></u>	<u><u>(414)</u></u>

Factors affecting the tax expense

The tax assessed for the year differs from the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19.00% (2017 - 19.25%)

The differences are reconciled below:

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Loss before income tax	<u>(7,560)</u>	<u>(14,474)</u>
Tax on loss calculated at standard rate	(1,436)	(2,786)
Effects of:		
Increase in tax from adjustment for prior periods	-	94
Increase from effect of expenses not deductible in determining taxable profit	955	2,297
Increase/(decrease) in current tax from unrecognised temporary difference from a prior period	1,697	-
Deferred tax expense/(credit) relating to changes in tax rates or laws	<u>9</u>	<u>(19)</u>
Tax charge/(Income)	<u><u>1,225</u></u>	<u><u>(414)</u></u>

Accord Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2018 (continued)

10 Taxation (continued)

Tax effects relating to effects of other comprehensive income

	Gross £'000	Tax £'000	2018 Net £'000
Actuarial gain on post-employment benefit obligations	7,009	(1,192)	5,817
	<u>7,009</u>	<u>(1,192)</u>	<u>5,817</u>
	Gross £'000	Tax £'000	2017 Net £'000
Actuarial gain on post-employment benefit obligations	5,358	(911)	4,447
	<u>5,358</u>	<u>(911)</u>	<u>4,447</u>

The UK Finance Act 2016 included provision for the main rate of corporation tax to reduce from 19% to 17% from 1 April 2020. This will reduce the Company's future tax charge accordingly.

11 Investments

	Shares in group undertakings £'000
Subsidiaries	
Cost or valuation	
At 1 January 2018	<u>91,966</u>
At 31 December 2018	<u>91,966</u>
Provision for impairment	
At 1 January 2018	11,864
Provided during the year	<u>5,026</u>
At 31 December 2018	<u>16,890</u>
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2018	<u>75,076</u>
At 31 December 2017	<u>80,102</u>

Accord Limited**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2018 (continued)**

11 Investments (continued)

At 31 December 2018, the Company held share capital of the following subsidiary undertakings, none of which are publicly traded and all of which are registered in England and Wales and operate in the UK:

Undertaking	Nature of business	Class of share capital held	Share capital held
Accord Asset Management Limited	Dormant	Ordinary	100.00%
Accord Network Management Limited*	Dormant	Ordinary	100.00%
Accord Consulting Services Limited	Dormant	Ordinary	100.00%
Accord Environmental Services Limited	Inactive holding Company	Ordinary	100.00%
Slough Enterprise Limited*	Provision of environmental services	Ordinary	100.00%
Enterprise (AOL) Limited	Outsourced support services, facilities management, transportation services and professional services	Ordinary	100.00%
Enterprise Islington Limited	Dormant	Ordinary	100.00%
Haringey Enterprise Limited	Dormant	Ordinary	100.00%
JDM Accord Limited	Dormant	Ordinary	100.00%

* indicates Indirect Investment

The registered office of all subsidiary and joint venture undertakings is The Sherard Building, Edmund Halley Road, Oxford, OX4 4DQ, United Kingdom.

Accord Limited**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2018 (continued)****12 Trade and other receivables**

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Amounts owed by group undertakings	2,781	5,881
Deferred tax asset (see note 15)	-	1,863
	<u>2,781</u>	<u>7,744</u>
Amounts falling due after more than one year:		
Deferred tax asset (see note 15)	-	154
Financial assets	1,014	301
Post employment benefit obligations (see note 17)	5,647	-
	<u>6,661</u>	<u>455</u>
Aggregate amounts	<u>9,442</u>	<u>8,199</u>

Due to the funding levels of the Amey OS Pension Scheme - Accord Section at the last valuation, the Trustee had agreed that no Deficit Repair Contributions would be required if the Company maintains its payments to a dedicated escrow account which is disclosed as financial assets above.

Amounts owed by group undertakings are unsecured and are repayable on demand. There is no difference between the book value and the fair value of amounts owed by group undertakings.

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Amounts owed to group undertakings	85,333	85,537
Accruals and deferred income	41	447
	<u>85,374</u>	<u>85,984</u>

Amounts due to fellow group undertakings are unsecured and are payable on demand. There is no difference between the book value and the fair value of amounts owed to group undertakings.

Accord Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2018 (continued)

14 Provisions for liabilities

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Post employment benefit obligations (see note 17)	-	904
Deferred tax (see note 15)	794	-
	<u>794</u>	<u>904</u>

	Deferred Tax provision £'000	Post employment benefits £'000	Total £'000
At 1 January 2018	-	904	904
Employer contributions	-	(1,309)	(1,309)
Amounts recognised in profit or loss	-	1,767	1,767
Amounts taken to Other Comprehensive Income	-	(7,009)	(7,009)
Transfer with trade and other receivables	794	5,647	6,441
At 31 December 2018	<u>794</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>794</u>

15 Deferred tax asset/(provision)

	Capital allowances £'000	Trading losses £'000	Post employment benefit obligations £'000	Total £'000
Balance at 1 January 2018	136	1,727	154	2,017
Charged to the Income statement during the year	30	(1,727)	78	(1,619)
Credited to other comprehensive Income during year	-	-	(1,192)	(1,192)
Balance at 31 December 2018	<u>166</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(960)</u>	<u>(794)</u>

All deferred tax assets and liabilities have been measured at a rate of 17% (2017 - 17%).

The Company has recognised deferred tax assets in full in respect of deferred capital allowances as the reversal of those items is foreseeable in future periods. Deferred tax assets on trading losses held by the Company have been recognised dependent on the availability of trading profits of the Amey Group that are expected to arise in the foreseeable future and which can be accessed by the Company.

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Unrecognised deferred tax assets comprise:		
Trading losses	<u>131</u>	<u>131</u>

Accord Limited**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2018 (continued)****16 Share capital**

Ordinary shares of £1 each	Number	£'000
Authorised, issued and fully paid at 1 January 2017, 31 January 2017 and 31 December 2018	<u>25,616,241</u>	<u>25,616</u>

On 11 July 2019 the Company issued an additional 3,000,000 additional ordinary shares of £1 each in exchange for proceeds of £3.0 million (see note 20).

17 Post employment benefit obligations

The Company operates a number of defined benefit pension schemes for the benefit of certain employees of the Group. Trustees or product providers administer the assets of the funded schemes in funds independent from those of the Company. Pension costs in respect of schemes offering defined benefits are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent, qualified actuaries. External professional pension administrators normally conduct the administration of these schemes.

The principal defined benefit schemes are as follows:

- Amey OS Pension Scheme - Amey section, offered historically to former public sector employees who have transferred into the Group under a variety of public sector outsourcing contracts. This is now essentially closed to new members.
- Amey OS Pension Scheme - Accord section, provided historically for those eligible employees who worked principally within Accord Limited, a subsidiary of Enterprise acquired in 2013. This is now essentially closed to new members.

For the schemes that are closed to new entrants, the current service costs as a percentage of pay are expected to rise significantly as members approach retirement.

The latest actuarial funding valuations of the defined benefit schemes have been updated by the actuaries to 31 December 2018 on a basis consistent with the requirements of IAS 19. In particular, scheme liabilities have been discounted using the rate of return on high quality bonds rather than the expected rate of return on the assets used in the funding valuations. The valuations were carried out on the dates indicated below.

	Date of Valuation
Amey OS Pension Scheme - Amey section	30 September 2017
Amey OS Pension Scheme - Accord section	30 September 2017

The principal actuarial assumptions used are as follows:

	2018	2017
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.55	3.55
Rate of increase in pensions in payment	2.25 - 5.00	2.25 - 5.00
Discount rate	2.85	2.45
Inflation assumption - RPI	3.25	3.25
Inflation assumption - CPI	2.25	2.25

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2018 (continued)

17 Post employment benefit obligations (continued)

The mortality assumptions have been updated in the year and life expectancies are as follows:

	2018 Years	2017 Years
Remaining life of a member aged 65		
- men	21.6	21.7
- women	22.9	23.1
Remaining life of a member aged 45		
- men	23.0	23.8
- women	24.5	25.2

The duration of a scheme is an indicator of the weighted-average time until benefit payment will be made. For the schemes in aggregate, the duration is around 18.0 years reflecting the appropriate split of the defined benefit obligation between current employees, deferred members and pensioners.

The amount recognised in the balance sheet was as follows:

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Present value of funded obligations	(151,337)	(165,712)
Fair value of scheme assets	156,984	164,808
Asset/(liability)	5,647	(904)

The amount recognised in the income statement was as follows:

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Current service cost	1,024	1,163
Past service charge	225	-
Administrative expenses paid	506	654
Finance expense	12	432
Total income statement charge	1,767	2,249

In 2018, the Company recorded a past service pensions charge of £225,000 arising on the historic equalisation of Guaranteed Minimum Pension benefits between men and women for the years from 1990 to 1997, following the result of a recent court case.

Pension costs and credits, excluding interest, is charged to cost of sales. The best estimate of the contributions expected to be paid to the defined pension scheme for the next financial year is £760,000 (2017 - £1,336,000) for regular payments and £503,000 (2017 - £191,000) for additional top-up payments.

The amount recognised in other comprehensive income was as follows:

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Actuarial gains	7,009	5,358
Total income recognised in the SOCI	7,009	5,358

Accord Limited**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2018 (continued)****17 Post employment benefit obligations (continued)**

Actuarial gains and losses have been reported in the SOCI. The Company's share of the actual performance of fund assets was a decrease of £3,968,000 (2017 - Increase of £7,832,000).

	2018	2017
	£	£
At 1 January	(904)	(17,197)
Amounts recognised in operating profit or loss	(1,767)	(2,249)
Amounts taken to the Statement of Comprehensive Income	7,009	5,358
Employer contributions - regular payments	750	1,071
Employer contributions - additional top-up payments	559	12,113
	<u>5,647</u>	<u>(904)</u>

Scheme obligations

The movements in the present value of fund obligations were as follows:

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Present value at start of year	165,712	166,361
Service cost, including employees' share	1,340	1,288
Actuarial gain	(14,961)	(1,420)
Interest cost	3,996	4,326
Benefits paid	(4,750)	(4,843)
Present value at end of year	<u>151,337</u>	<u>165,712</u>

Scheme assets

The movements in the fair value of fund assets were as follows:

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Fair value at start of year	164,808	149,164
Interest income	3,984	3,894
Actuarial gain	(7,952)	3,938
Employer contributions - regular payments	750	1,071
Employer contributions - additional top-up payments	559	12,113
Contributions by scheme participants	91	125
Benefits paid	(4,750)	(4,843)
Administration expenses	(506)	(654)
Fair value at end of year	<u>156,984</u>	<u>164,808</u>

17 Post employment benefit obligations (continued)

Analysis of assets

The fair values of the assets held by the various schemes were as follows:

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Equity	22,554	38,852
Corporate bonds	25,091	17,458
Government bonds	73,093	52,730
Property	5,075	6,340
Cash	31,171	49,428
	<u>156,984</u>	<u>164,808</u>

Sensitivity analysis

The sensitivity of the balance sheet position to changes in the key assumptions is set out below:

	Increase in liability on the balance sheet £'000
+0.5% change to the RPI assumption	9,231
-0.5% change to discount rate assumed	12,527
Members' life expectancy increases by one year	<u>3,738</u>

18 Contingent liabilities

As a member of the Amey UK plc Group of Companies, the Company is a participating guarantor in respect of certain Group borrowings, the Group VAT registration and HMRC UK Corporation Tax Group Payment arrangement and is jointly and severally liable with other group companies for the total Group balances outstanding. At 31 December 2018, the only net liability arising across the Amey Group was £27,937,000 (2017 - £43,311,000) in respect of VAT.

Losses, for which no provision has been made in these financial statements, which might arise from litigation in the normal course of business are not expected to be material in the context of these financial statements.

There were no other contingent liabilities at 31 December 2018 or at 31 December 2017.

19 Capital commitments

The Company had no capital commitments at 31 December 2018 or at 31 December 2017.

20 Post balance sheet events

On 11 July 2019 the Company issued an additional 3,000,000 ordinary shares of £1 each. The proceeds of £3.0 million were used to offset amounts due to fellow group undertakings.

Accord Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2018 (continued)

21 Controlling parties

The immediate parent undertaking is Enterprise plc.

The ultimate parent undertaking and the largest group to consolidate these financial statements is Ferrovial, S.A., a company incorporated in Spain.

Copies of the Ferrovial, S.A. consolidated financial statements can be obtained from:

Ferrovial, S.A.
Príncipe de Vergara, 135
28002 Madrid
Spain

or from the Ferrovial, S.A. website: www.ferrovial.com

The parent of the smallest group in which these financial statements are consolidated is Amey UK plc, incorporated in England and Wales.

Copies of those consolidated financial statements can be obtained from the registered office of Amey UK plc:

The Company Secretary
Amey UK plc
The Sherard Building
Edmund Halley Road
Oxford, OX4 4DQ
United Kingdom