

Centrica PB Limited  
Annual report  
For the year ended 31 December 2004

Registered Number: 4262250



## Centrica PB Limited

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## Directors' report for the year ended 31 December 2004

The directors present their report and the audited financial statements of Centrica PB Limited ("the Company") for the year ended 31 December 2004.

### Principal activities

The principal activity of the Company is the operation of a 360MW gas fired combined cycle gas turbine generating station at Peterborough, Cambridgeshire.

### Review of business and future developments

During the year the Company continued the operation of Peterborough Power Station. There are no plans to change the nature of activities in the foreseeable future. The Company operates under a capacity tolling arrangement with British Gas Trading Limited who are responsible for energy procurement for the Centrica Group.

Trading for the year is in line with directors' expectation and a similar trading profile is expected in the coming year.

### Results and dividends

The profit on ordinary activities after taxation for the year ended 31 December 2004 is £4,808,000 (2003: £12,994,000). The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend for the year ended 31 December 2004 (2003: £nil).

### Directors

The following served as directors during the year:

	Date of Appointment	Date of Resignation
Michael Garstang	24/10/2001	
Jonathan Bradley	11/02/2004	
Simon Goodwin	11/02/2004	
Alan Bennett	06/11/2002	
Ian Wood	06/03/2003	11/02/2004
Amanda King	18/08/2003	
Simon Goodwin (alternate director)	06/03/2003	11/02/2004
Stephen Mancey (alternate director)	06/03/2003	11/02/2004

### Directors' interests

At no time did any Director holding office at 31 December 2004 have any interest in the shares of the Company or any other company within the Centrica plc Group except for the interests in, and the options over, the shares and interests of the ultimate parent company, Centrica plc.

On 25 October 2004, the ordinary share capital of Centrica plc was consolidated on the basis of 9 new ordinary shares of 6 <sup>14</sup>/<sub>81</sub> pence per share for every 10 existing ordinary shares of 5 <sup>5</sup>/<sub>9</sub> pence per share. Shares shown as 31 December 2003 are on a pre-consolidation basis and those shown at 31 December 2004 are shown on a post-consolidation basis.

The directors with interests in and options over the ordinary shares of Centrica plc at the year end are as follows:

**Directors' report for the year ended 31 December 2004 (continued)****Beneficial interests in ordinary shares**

	<b>As at 31 December 2004</b>	<b>As at 31 December 2003*</b>
Michael Garstang	-	246
Alan Bennett	2,077	3,810
Amanda King	1,380	758
Simon Goodwin	5,530	1,431
Jonathan Bradley	123,658	113,745

The above figures include shares appropriated under the terms of the Centrica Share Incentive Plan.

\* or at date of appointment.

**Centrica Sharesave scheme**

	<b>As at 31 December 2004</b>	<b>Lapsed during the year</b>	<b>Exercised during the year</b>	<b>Granted during The year</b>	<b>As at 31 December 2003*</b>
Michael Garstang	-	-	-	-	-
Alan Bennett	8,823	-	-	-	8,823
Amanda King	5,161	-	-	5,161	-
Simon Goodwin	10,776	-	-	-	10,776
Jonathan Bradley	8,823	-	-	-	8,823

Options over shares in Centrica plc were granted on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2004 at an option price of 182.6 pence per share.

\* or at date of appointment.

**Centrica Executive Share Option Scheme**

	<b>As at 31 December 2004</b>	<b>Exercised during the year</b>	<b>Granted during the year</b>	<b>As at 31 December 2003*</b>
Michael Garstang	-	-	-	-
Alan Bennett	169,298	-	66,979	102,319
Amanda King	-	-	-	-
Simon Goodwin	-	-	-	-
Jonathan Bradley	141,689	-	59,834	81,855

Options over shares in Centrica plc were granted on 18 March 2004 at an option price of 223.95 pence per share.

\* or at date of appointment.

**Directors' report for the year ended 31 December 2004 (continued)****Centrica Long term incentive scheme (LTIS)**

	As at 31 December 2004	Lapsed during the year	Exercised during the year	Granted during the year	As at 31 December 2003*
Michael Garstang	94,377	5,123	15,369	21,365	93,504
Alan Bennett	131,448	5,977	43,813	34,574	146,664
Amanda King	83,228	-	-	24,534	58,694
Simon Goodwin	17,121	2,037	6,111	9,275	15,994
Jonathan Bradley	117,558	5,062	38,406	30,895	130,131

Total allocations as at 31 December 2004 shown above include both allocations of shares that are subject to performance conditions and allocations of shares that have reached the conclusion of the relevant three-year performance period but are subject to a two-year retention period.

A conditional allocation of shares was made on 1 April at a price of 225.6 pence per share respectively.

\* or at date of appointment.

**Centrica Restructured Executive Share Option Scheme**

	As at 31 December 2004	Lapsed during the year	Exercised during the year	Granted during the year	As at 31 December 2003
Michael Garstang	-	-	-	-	-
Alan Bennett	-	-	-	-	-
Amanda King	-	-	-	-	-
Simon Goodwin	-	-	-	-	-
Jonathon Bradley	62,469	-	-	-	62,469

Options were granted under the terms of the ultimate parent company's Sharesave scheme, Executive Share Option scheme and Restructured Share Option scheme, and allocations made under the terms of the Long-term Incentive scheme. Details of these schemes and the Share Incentive Plan can be found in the 2004 accounts of Centrica plc, copies of which can be obtained from the Secretariat Department of Centrica plc or from [www.centrica.com](http://www.centrica.com).

The middle market price of a Centrica plc ordinary share on the last day of trading of 2004 (31 December) was 236.25 pence. The range during the year was 256.25 pence (high) and 196.94 pence (low).

As at 31 December 2004, 6,400,000 shares (1 January 2004: 21,200,505) were held by the trustee of the employee share trust under the LTIS rules. The directors are deemed to have a potential interest in those shares, being beneficiaries under the trust.

There were no contracts of significance during or at the end of the financial year to which the Company or any subsidiary and associated undertakings is a party and in which any director is or was materially interested.

**Directors' report for the period ended 31 December 2004 (continued)**

**Related party transactions**

The Company has taken advantage of the exemptions within Financial Reporting Standard No 8 "Related Party Disclosures" from disclosure of transactions with other Centrica group companies. There have been no other discloseable related party transactions during the period.

**Political and charitable donations**

The Company made no political or charitable donations during the period.

**Directors' and officers' liability**

Directors' and officers' liability insurance has been purchased by the ultimate parent company, Centrica plc, and was in place throughout the period under review.

**Creditor payment policy**

The Company aims to pay all of its creditors (of which none were trade creditors) promptly within the agreed contract terms.

**Auditors**

In accordance with Section 386 of the Companies Act 1985, the Company has elected to dispense with the obligation to reappoint auditors annually, and PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP will therefore continue in office.

This report was approved by the Board on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2005.

For and on behalf of  
Centrica Secretaries Limited  
Company Secretary



Ian Ritchie

**Registered office:**

Millstream  
Maidenhead Road  
Windsor  
Berkshire  
SL4 5GD

## **Statement of directors' responsibilities**

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the profit or loss of the Company for that period. The directors are required to prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business.

*The directors confirm that suitable accounting policies have been used and applied consistently. They also confirm that reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates have been made in preparing the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2004 and that applicable accounting standards have been followed.*

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## Independent Auditors' report to the Shareholder of Centrica PB Limited

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

### Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

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

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and United Kingdom Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. This report, including the opinion, has been prepared for and only for the Company's members as a body in accordance with Section 235 of the Companies Act 1985 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving this opinion, 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.

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

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

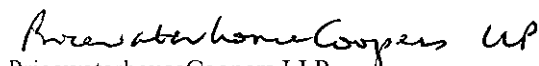
### Basis of opinion

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

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

### Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs at 31 December 2004 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

  
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors  
Hull

28 October 2005



**Profit and loss account for the year ended 31 December 2004**

	Notes	2004 £'000	2003 £'000
Turnover	3	27,822	31,600
Cost of sales		(11,512)	(11,065)
Gross profit		16,310	20,535
Distribution costs		(1,309)	(739)
Administration expenses		(2,476)	(2,992)
Other operating income		-	2,907
<b>Operating profit</b>	4	<b>12,525</b>	<b>19,711</b>
Interest payable and similar charges	7	(6,735)	(6,717)
<b>Profit on ordinary activities before taxation</b>		<b>5,790</b>	<b>12,994</b>
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	8	(982)	-
Profit for the year		4,808	12,994
Dividends		-	-
<b>Retained profit for the year</b>	16	<b>4,808</b>	<b>12,994</b>

The Company has no recognised gains and losses other than the profit above and therefore no separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has been presented.

There is no difference between the profit on ordinary activities after taxation and the retained profit for the period stated and their historical cost equivalents.

All activities relate to continuing operations.

The notes on pages 9 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

## Balance sheet as at 31 December 2004

	Note	2004 £'000	2003 £'000
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible assets	9	84,375	90,115
<b>Current assets</b>			
Stock	10	983	583
Debtors	11	49,146	37,489
Cash at bank and in hand		-	-
		50,129	38,072
Creditors – amounts falling due within one year	12	(3,229)	(2,702)
<b>Net current assets</b>		46,900	35,370
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		131,275	125,485
Creditors – amounts falling due after more than one year	13	(99,500)	(99,500)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	14	(982)	-
<b>Net assets</b>		30,793	25,985
<b>Capital and reserves</b>			
Called-up share capital	15	-	-
Profit and loss account	16	30,793	25,985
<b>Equity shareholder funds</b>	17	30,793	25,985

The financial statements on pages 7 to 16 were approved by the Board of Directors on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2005 and were signed on its behalf by:



Amanda King  
Director

The notes on pages 9 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

**Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2004****1 Statement of accounting policies****Basis of accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the applicable Accounting Standards and the Companies Act 1985.

**Turnover**

Turnover is recognised on an accruals basis and principally relates to the sale of power generation capacity to a fellow Group undertaking during the period in accordance with the capacity tolling arrangement.

**Fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is charged on all fixed assets, other than freehold land and gas turbine components in the course of a major overhaul and assets in the course of construction. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write-off the cost of each asset on a straight line basis over its expected useful life as follows for these asset classes:

- Power Station assets :	20 years
- Other plant and machinery :	3-6 years

For gas turbine components depreciation is provided to write off the cost of the assets over their operating lives on an equivalent operating hours basis.

**Overhaul costs**

Contract work involved in replacing gas turbine components are capitalised and depreciated over their expected economic life, typically to the period of the next overhaul. Repairs and other costs that are not of a capital nature are charged directly to the profit and loss account as incurred.

**Operating leases**

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the profit and loss account as incurred.

**Stocks**

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost incurred in bringing each item to its present location and condition and net realisable value.

**Deferred taxation**

Current tax, including UK corporation tax, is provided at amounts expected to be paid (or recovered) using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantially enacted by the balance sheet date.

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date where transactions or events that result in an obligation to pay more tax in the future or a right to pay less tax in the future have occurred at the balance sheet date. Timing differences are differences between the company's taxable profits and its results stated in the financial statements that arise from the inclusion of gains and losses in tax assessments in periods different from those in which they are recognised in the financial statements.

A net deferred tax asset is regarded as recoverable and therefore recognised only when, on the basis of all available evidence, it can be regarded as more likely than not that there will be suitable taxable profits in the foreseeable future from which the reversal of the underlying timing differences can be deducted.

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2004 (continued)

### 1 Statement of accounting policies (continued)

#### Deferred tax (continued)

Deferred tax is measured at the average tax rates that are expected to apply in the periods in which the timing differences are expected to reverse, based on tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

Deferred tax is measured on a non-discounted basis.

### 2 Cash flow statements and related party disclosures

The Company is a wholly-owned subsidiary of GB Gas Holdings Limited and is included in the consolidated financial statements of Centrica plc, which are publicly available. Consequently, the Company has taken advantage of the exemption from preparing a cash flow statement under the terms of Financial Reporting Standard No. 1 "Cash Flow Statements". The Company is also exempt under the terms Financial Reporting Standard No. 8 "Related Party Disclosures" from disclosure of transactions with other companies that are part of the Centrica plc group.

### 3 Segmental reporting

All turnover relates to the principal activity of the business and occurs wholly in the United Kingdom.

### 4 Operating profit

	2004 £'000	2003 £'000
<b>Operating profit is stated after charging:</b>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		
- owned assets	6,249	5,896
Auditors' fees	23	15
Payment arising on termination of lease	-	(2,907)

### 5 Directors' emoluments

The directors received no emoluments during the year as they are employed by other Centrica group companies. All of the Directors who served during the year are members of the ultimate parent company's defined benefit pension scheme.

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2004 (continued)

### 6 Employee information

The Company has no direct employees. However, costs amounting to £2,325,000 (2003: £2,245,000) were incurred during the year in respect of an average of 43 (2003: 41) staff providing services to Centrica PB Limited under an employee services agreement with a Centrica group company.

### 7 Interest payable and similar charges

	2004 £'000	2003 £'000
Interest payable on loans from fellow subsidiary undertaking	6,735	6,717

### 8 Tax on profit on ordinary activities

	2004 £'000	2003 £'000
<b>The tax charge comprises :</b>		
United Kingdom corporation tax at 30% (2003: 30%) based on the profit/(loss) for the period		
Current	-	-
Deferred - current year	337	-
- adjustment in respect of prior year	645	-
<b>Total tax on profit on ordinary activities</b>	<b>982</b>	<b>-</b>

The difference between the total current tax shown and the amount calculated by applying the standard rate of UK corporation tax to the profit before tax is as follows:

	2004 £'000	2003 £'000
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	5,790	12,994
Tax on profit on ordinary activities at standard UK corporation tax rate of 30%	1,737	3,898
Effects of :		
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	1,626	1,753
Depreciation in excess of capital allowances	(337)	-
Group relief for no payment	(3,026)	(5,651)
<b>Current tax charge for the year</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2004 (continued)

### 9 Tangible assets

	Power Station assets £'000	Turbine Components, other plant and machinery £'000	Total £'000
<b>Cost</b>			
At 31 December 2003	86,481	15,276	101,757
Additions	-	409	409
<b>At 31 December 2004</b>	<b>86,481</b>	<b>15,685</b>	<b>102,166</b>
<b>Accumulated Depreciation</b>			
At 31 December 2003	9,504	2,138	11,642
Charge for the year	4,317	1,832	6,249
<b>At 31 December 2004</b>	<b>13,821</b>	<b>3,970</b>	<b>17,791</b>
<b>Net book amount</b>			
<b>At 31 December 2004</b>	<b>72,660</b>	<b>11,715</b>	<b>84,375</b>
At 31 December 2003	76,977	13,138	90,115

### 10 Stocks

	2004 £'000	2003 £'000
Consumable spares	983	583

### 11 Debtors

	2004 £'000	2003 £'000
Trade debtors	-	4
Amounts owed by group undertakings	48,723	36,928
Other debtors	191	292
Prepayments and accrued income	232	265
	<b>49,146</b>	<b>37,489</b>

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2004 (continued)

### 12 Creditors – amounts falling due within one year

	2004 £'000	2003 £'000
Bank loans and overdrafts	50	186
Trade creditors	93	85
Amounts owed to group undertakings	2,423	1,869
Accruals and deferred income	663	562
	<b>3,229</b>	<b>2,702</b>

Amounts due to group undertakings are unsecured, interest free and repayable on demand.

### 13 Creditors – amounts falling due after more than one year

	2004 £'000	2003 £'000
Amounts due to group undertakings	99,500	99,500

Amounts due to group undertakings represent an unsecured loan, which is repayable on 19 October 2016 and bears interest at 6.75%.

### 14 Provisions for liabilities and charges

Full provision has been made for deferred taxation arising from accelerated capital allowances as follows:

	2004 £'000
At 1 January 2004	-
Profit and loss account (note 8)	982
At 31 December 2004	<b>982</b>

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2004 (continued)

### 15 Called-up share capital

	2004 £'000	2003 £'000
<b>Authorised</b>		
150,000,000 ordinary shares of £1 each	150,000	150,000
<b>Allotted and fully paid</b>		
2 ordinary shares of £1 each	-	-

### 16 Reserves

	Profit and loss account £'000
At 31 December 2003	25,985
Retained profit for the year	4,808
<b>At 31 December 2004</b>	<b>30,793</b>

### 17 Reconciliation of movements in shareholder funds

	2004 £'000	2003 £'000
Profit for the year	4,808	12,994
Shareholder funds at 1 January	25,985	12,991
<b>Shareholder funds as at 31 December</b>	<b>30,793</b>	<b>25,985</b>

### 18 Pension commitments

The pension commitment for the staff providing services to the Company is held in the Centrica group company that holds the service level agreement. The total cost recharged to the Company for pension costs under the service level agreement was £284,000 (year ended 31 December 2003: £238,000).

### 19 Commitments and contingent liabilities

#### Capital expenditure

Contracted future capital expenditure as at 31 December 2004 was £816,000 (2003: £159,000)



**Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2004 (continued)**

**20 Ultimate parent undertaking**

The immediate parent undertaking is GB Gas Holdings Limited.

The ultimate parent undertaking and controlling party is Centrica plc, a company registered in England and Wales. Copies of Centrica plc consolidated financial statements can be obtained from the Company Secretary at Centrica plc, Millstream, Maidenhead Road, Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 5GD.