Rule 4 49C Form 4.68

# **Liquidator's Progress Report**

Pursuant to Sections 92A, 104A and 192 of the Insolvency Act 1986

S.192

To the Registrar of Companies

Company Number

04286257

Name of Company

The Barracuda Bars Company Limited

We David Peter Hurst, David Christian Chubb and Michael John Andrew Jervis of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, 7 More London Riverside, London, SE1 2RT

the liquidators of the company attach a copy of our Progress Report under section 192 of the Insolvency Act 1986

The Progress Report covers the period from 19 March 2014 to 18 March 2015

Signed

Date 18 May 2015

Presenter's name,

Clare Napoli, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Benson House, 33 Wellington Street, Leeds, LS1

address and reference (if any)



**COMPANIES HOUSE** 

# **Private & Confidential**



## First progress report to members & creditors

18 May 2015

Company

The Barracuda Bars Company Limited - In Liquidation

**Registered Number** 

04286257

Registered address

Benson House, 33 Wellington Street, Leeds, LS1 4JP

Type of Insolvency

**Creditors' Voluntary Liquidation** 

**Date of Appointment** 

19 March 2014

**Appointees** 

David Peter Hurst, David Christian Chubb & Michael John Andrew

Jervis

Address

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

**Benson House** 

33 Wellington Street

Leeds LS1 4JP

**Dividend Prospects** 

Current estimate p in £ Previous estimate p in £

N/A

Preferential

N/A

N/A

Unsecured

2-100p

N/A

Please note that the guidance on dividend prospects is indicative only. It should not be used as the sole or principal basis of any bad debt provision decision.



# The Barracuda Bars Company Limited – In Liquidation ("the Company")

# **Report to Members & Creditors**

In accordance with Rule 4.49C of the Insolvency Rules 1986 ("IR86"), this is the Liquidators' first progress report to members and all known creditors covering the period from 19 March 2014 to 18 March 2015 Attached at appendix A is a summary of the financial information relating to the liquidation.

Background information and updates regarding the Company's assets have been provided to creditors in previous reports in the preceding administration. This information has not been repeated here for the purpose of this report.

# **Appointment of Administrators**

On 27 September 2012, David Peter Hurst, David Christian Chubb and Michael John Andrew Jervis of PricewaterhouseCoopersLLP were appointed Joint Administrators of the Company The Administration was concluded on 19 March 2014, being the date the Company moved into Creditors' Voluntary Liquidation.

### **Asset Realisations**

The company's assets have been realised as follows -

Surplus funds from administration

The sum of £265,943.13 was received from the administration

Disclaimed properties

There were a number of properties where we have not be able to extract any value from these and had offered leases surrenders. Once we moved the Company into liquidation we disclaimed our interest in these properties with effect from 20 May 2014.

Refunds

We have received £6,285 85 in respect of rates refunds

### **Investigations**

The liquidators have reviewed the affairs of the Company prior to liquidation and have also considered the points raised by creditors in discharging their duties under the Company Directors' Disqualification Act 1986

Creditors are reminded that the liquidators have a statutory obligation to consider the directors' conduct and to submit a return/report to the Insolvency Service. The liquidators can confirm that they have complied with this requirement

#### Other matters

We have reviewed unsecured creditor claims with a view to paying a dividend. We sent a number of letters to the creditors giving them the opportunity to submit their claims in the liquidation. We then issued our formal notice of our intention to pay a dividend to those creditors who had not proved their debt. The last date for creditors to prove their debts was 23 March 2015 and as such a dividend will need to declared by 23 May 2015.

However, we are currently corresponding with Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs ("HMRC") with regards to the validity of their large claim and we may not be able to resolve this prior to the dividend declaration date of 23 May. The HMRC claim will have a significant impact on the dividend that is paid to creditors. We, therefore, may need to cancel the current dividend and re-issue our intention to pay a dividend once the HMRC claim is resolved.

### **Outcome for Creditors**

#### Secured creditors

The Lenders' security gives fixed and floating charge over all of the Company's assets The initial sale of business transaction resulted in the release of secured liabilities of c £60m

It is anticipated that the secured creditors will suffer a shortfall under their security but the return is predicted to be higher than initially expected.

### Preferential creditors

The Company has no preferential creditors.

### Unsecured creditors

Surplus funds are available for the non-preferential unsecured creditors by virtue of Section 176A of the Insolvency Act 1986 ("IA86") and as detailed above will be distributed in due course. The current estimate of the net property, i.e. the funds available for the floating charge holder, is £150,736, resulting in the prescribed part, i.e. the funds available for unsecured creditors, being calculated at £33,147. Please note that the costs for distributing the prescribed part will be deducted from this sum before funds are distributed to unsecured creditors.

Based on current claims, and after deducting costs associated with this dividend, the dividend to unsecured creditors will be between 2p to 100p in the  $\pounds$ . The significant range is due to the uncertainty of the validity and quantum of HMRC's claim.

We do not believe there will be any dividend for unsecured creditors outside of the prescribed part.

## **Professional Advisers**

On this assignment the liquidators have used the professional advisers listed below.

Name of Professional Adviser	Nature of Work	Basis of Fee Arrangement
CAPA	Agents to redeem council tax	% of refunds
DLA	Legal advice	Time costs

The liquidators' choice was based upon their perception of the advisers' experience and ability to perform this type of work, the complexity and nature of the assignment and the basis of the fee arrangement with them. The liquidators have reviewed the fees charged and are satisfied that they are reasonable in the circumstances of the case.

# Liquidators' remuneration

You may recall that during the Administration, in accordance with resolutions passed at the initial creditors meeting held by correspondence, the former administrators' fees were fixed under Rule 2 106 IR86 by reference to time properly given by the administrators' and their staff in attending to matters arising In accordance with Rule 4.127 IR86, the remuneration basis agreed in the Administration will continue in the liquidation.

To 18 March 2015, the liquidators have incurred time costs of £61,825.60. This represents 240 21 hours at an average hourly rate of £257.38 The liquidators have not drawn any fees to date.

It has been the joint liquidators' policy to delegate the routine administration of the liquidation to junior staff in order to maximise the cost effectiveness of the work performed. These staff have been supervised by senior staff and the liquidators. Any matter of particular complexity or significance that has required responsibility of an exceptional kind has also been dealt with by senior staff and the liquidators

All staff who work on this assignment (including cashiers, support and secretarial staff) charge time directly to the assignment and are included within any analysis of time charged. Each grade of staff is allocated an hourly charge out rate which is reviewed from time to time. Work undertaken by cashiers, support and secretarial staff is charged for separately and is not included in the hourly rates charged by partners or other members of staff. Time is charged by reference to actual work carried out on the assignment in 6 minute units. The minimum time chargeable is 3 minutes (i.e. o 5 units).

Details of the time costs incurred from the liquidators' appointment to 18 March 2015, by work category, are attached at appendix B. In addition there is an explanation of the work that we have carried out during the period of the report.

In common with all professional firms, scale rates increase from time to time over the period of the administration of each insolvency case. PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, or any successor firm, reserves the right to change the rates and grade structure. Full details of the charge out rates charged to this case from this date are included at appendix C. Specialist departments within PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, such as tax, VAT, property and pensions, sometimes charge a small number of hours should the liquidators require their expert advice. Their rates vary, however, the figures given provide an indication of the maximum rate per hour.

Creditors can also find information on their rights regarding the liquidators' remuneration at the following website:

http://www.icaew.com/~/media/Files/Technical/Insolvency/creditors-guides/c

## Liquidators' disbursements

Category 1 disbursements

The liquidators' have incurred disbursements of £75.82 during the period 19 March 2014 to 18 March 2015. These have not yet been drawn

Category 2 disbursements

The liquidators' current disbursements policy, as approved by the creditors, is as follows:

- Photocopying for circulars or any other bulk copying is charged at 5p per sheet,
- 2. Mileage this is reimbursed at a maximum of 67p per mile (up to 2,000cc) and 80p per mile (over 2,000cc).

All other disbursements are reimbursed at cost. The liquidators have incurred £33.82 and £0.00 in respect of photocopying and mileage respectively, during the period 19 March 2014 to 18 March 2015. These have not yet been drawn.

# Statement of expenses

The following expenses have been incurred during the period of the report, irrespective of whether payment has been made:

	Unpaid expenses carried over from administration	Incurred in this period	Expenses paid in this period	Unpaid expenses as at 18 March 2015
Liquidators' fees	_	61,825.60	-	61,825.60
Liquidators' disbursements	-	109.64	-	109.64
Administrators' final fees	114,326.15	-	110,194.74	4,131.41
Administrators' final disbursements	588.00	-	585.39	2.61
Legal fees- administration*	5,077.50	-	4,200.00	877 50
Legal expenses- administration	2.00	-	-	2 00
Legal fees- liquidation	-	13,374.00	-	13,374 00
Legal expenses- liquidation	-	-	-	-
Insurance	_	79.50	79.50	-
Advertising	_	76.72	76.72	-
Agents' fees	-	318.03	318.03	-
Corporation tax	-	546.39	546.39	-
Total	119,993.65	76,329.88	116,000.77	80,322.76

<sup>\*</sup>We stated in our final administration report that legal fees were £712.94. However our legal advisors subsequently confirmed the actual amount due was £5,077.50 The majority of this sum has been paid during this period.

### Additional information

If any creditor requires further explanations on any aspect of the liquidators' progress report, then please contact Clare Napoli on 0113 289 4623 or <u>clare e.napoli@uk pwc.com</u> who will be pleased to deal with such enquiries, however, any request for further information regarding the liquidators' remuneration or disbursements should be made in writing (Rule 4.49E).

In addition, should any creditor consider the liquidators' remuneration and disbursements to be excessive or inappropriate, they have the right to challenge the amounts in accordance with Rule 4.131 IR86

# Appendix A

The Barracuda Bars Company Limited - in liquidation Summary of financial information as at 18 March 2015

	Total for the period from appointment to 18 March 2015
	£
Realisations	
Interest received gross	579.02
Refunds	6,285.85
Surplus from the administration	265,943.13
	272,808.00
Payments	
Bank charges	(1.35)
Corporation tax	(546 39)
Insurance	(79.50)
Legal fees (administration fees)	(4,200.00)
Office holder's disbursements (final administration disbursements)	(585.39)
Office holder's fees (final administration fees)	(110,194.75)
Agents' fees	(318 03)
Statutory Advertising	(76.72)
	(116,002.13)
VAT Control Account	(22,234.97)
Balance at Bank at 18 March 2015	134,570.90

Appendix B The Barracuda Bars Company Limited - CVL

Analysis of time costs for the period from 19 March 2014 to 18 March 2015

Aspect of assignment	Partner	Director	Senior Manager	Manager	Senior Associate	Associate	Secretarial	Total hours	Time cost	Average bourly rate
1 Strategy & Planning	,	150	1,0	,	240	200	1 25	7.86	2,488 95	936.56
2 Secured creditors	,	ı	,	•	385	ı	•	3.85	703-35	182.69
3 Trading	1	•	r	0.40	0.30	2.80	<del></del>	3.50	620.60	177.31
4 Assets	1	,	3.08	•	24 10	0.50	•	27.68	5,984.40	216 20
5/Investigations	•	ı	0.50	٠	330	1		3.80	843.50	221.97
6, Creditors	1	1	2.06	٠	25.45	050	10.00	38.01	8,321.25	218 92
7 Accounting and treasury	1	•	176	•	12 65	7.75	0,0	22.86	4,491.90	196.50
8 Statutory and compliance		5.20	12.60	•	40.20	18.70	16 10	92.80	20,315-25	218.91
9 Tax & VAT	•	ı	9.50	5171	18.05	010	•	38.80	17,843.25	459.88
to Employees & pensions		ı	•	010	•	•	•	0.10	45.00	450 00
11 Gosure procedures	•	•	1		0.95	•	•	0.95	168.15	177 00
(Total for the period	0.00	6.70	30.21	11.65	131.25	32.35	28.05	240.21	61,825.60	257 38
	, , ,							240.21	61.825.60	257.38

# Appendix B- continued Narrative of key areas of work carried out during the period 19 March 2014 to 18 March 2015

Area of work	Work undertaken included:
Strategy and Planning	<ul> <li>Setting up case on various systems</li> <li>Completion of ethical checklist.</li> <li>Reviewing legal advisors costs.</li> </ul>
Assets	<ul> <li>Reviewing property schedules to establish which properties require disclaiming.</li> <li>Liaising with legal advisors regarding property disclaimers.</li> <li>Instructing legal advisors to draft disclaimer notices and reviewing the same.</li> <li>Ensuring insurance cover in place.</li> <li>Dealing with receipt of American Express funds and returning funds to them</li> <li>Dealing with rates refunds.</li> <li>Ad hoc property enquiries.</li> </ul>
Creditors	<ul> <li>Ad hoc creditor enquiries</li> <li>Liaising with secured creditors regarding distributions.</li> <li>Instructing creditor team to agree creditor claims and pay dividend.</li> <li>Initial letter to creditors regarding claims.</li> <li>Sending formal notice to creditors confirming our intention to declare a dividend</li> <li>Reviewing claims.</li> </ul>
Accounting and Treasury	<ul> <li>New bank account set up.</li> <li>Bank reconciliations.</li> <li>Payments to third parties.</li> <li>Receipts from third parties.</li> <li>Payment of administrators' fees and expenses</li> </ul>
Statutory and Compliance	<ul> <li>Initial strategy review</li> <li>Preparing and sending statutory initial letters.</li> <li>Drafting and sending final administration progress report.</li> <li>Case filing.</li> <li>Statutory internal 6 monthly review of case.</li> <li>Reviewing appointees' bond.</li> </ul>
Tax and VAT	<ul> <li>Tax return for period ending September 2013.</li> <li>Tax return for period ending March 2014</li> <li>Liaising with internal tax colleagues.</li> <li>VAT reclaim</li> </ul>

Appendix C Charge out rates for the period 19 March 2014 to 18 March 2015

Current Charge out rates per hou	Liquidators' staff		Specialist (max)	
•	19 March - 30 June 2014	1 July 2014 - 18 March 2015	19 March - 30 June 2014	1 July 2014 - 18 March 2015
Grade	£/hr	£/hr	£/hr	£/hr_
Partner	775	795	1075	1130
Director	680	695	1085	1040
Senior Manager	405	415	915	875
Manager	320	330	600	630
Senior Associate (qualified)	240	250	410	465
Senior Associate (unqualified)	177	180	-	<b>-</b>
Associate	152	160	210	225
Support Staff	82	85	120	130