Commercial First Mortgages Limited

Annual Report and Financial Statements
Registered Number 04461486
Year Ended 30 November 2015

COMPANIES HOUSE

Contents

Company Information	2
Strategic Report	. 3
Report of the Directors	5
Statement of Directors' Responsibilities	6
Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Commercial First Mortgages Limited	. 7
Profit and Loss Account	9
Balance Sheet	10
Cash Flow Statement	. 11
Notes to the Financial Statements	12

Company Information

Directors

J Barbour

S Cohen

S Lammin

T Theobald

Company Secretary

Neptune Secretaries Limited

T Theobald

Registered Office

Jessop House, Jessop Avenue Cheltenham Gloucestershire GL50 3WG

Trading Address

The Vineries
Broughton Hall Business Park
Skipton
North Yorkshire
BD23 3AE

Solicitors

Clifford Chance 10 Upper Bank Street London, E14 5JJ

Auditor

KPMG LLP
1 Sovereign Square
Sovereign Street
Leeds
LS1 4DA

Banker

Barclays Bank Plc One Churchill Place London E14 5HP Wiggin LLP Jessop House, Jessop Avenue Cheltenham Gloucestershire, GL50 3WG

Strategic Report

Principal Activities

The company's activities remain as the administration company and regulated entity within the Commercial First Group Limited group of companies (the "Group"). The Group's activities remain the provision of administration, due diligence and complimentary services for mortgage and other portfolios.

Business Review

The company continues to focus in providing mortgage portfolio services to purchasers, holders and sellers of mortgage portfolios. The company primarily acts in the commercial mortgage sector but the portfolios under management incorporate a wide range of loans ranging from loans secured both on commercial and residential property.

Through 2015 the company has continued to expand the offering it provides to customers and has broadened its regulatory permissions to include the administration of consumer credit loans.

The market in the United Kingdom through 2015 was difficult with limited activity in the first half of the year due to what appeared to be uncertainty about the result of the general election, the second half of the year was then dominated by very large transactions more suited to the large and established third party administrators. During the year the company has fostered links with these administrators and is now working with a number of them in some capacity.

In 2016 the company will continue to work with the large administrators to provide niche services to compliment the administrators' offering. The company will also continue to develop relationships with lenders to assist them in providing portfolio support services as an alternative or as complimentary to running an internal team.

The company is regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority for the administration of loans. As mentioned previously the portfolios under management comprises of regulated, unregulated and unsecured lending, and the company is keen to ensure that all borrowers, no matter what their regulatory status or lending type are treated in a fair manner. This does not mean that customers are always right nor does it mean that when things go wrong customers can be released from their contractual obligations. What it does mean to the company is that when things go wrong for customers, we will treat them in a professional way and work with them to try to give them the opportunity to recover the position and get their financial affairs back in order. The company has its own experienced specialist field force that will meet with customers to discuss the position and the customer's plans for working a way out of a problem financial position. The experience of the field force means that they are uniquely placed to listen and make an assessment of the issues and the likelihood that the borrower will be able to deliver the proposed recovery plan. The field force also understand that within treating customers fairly there is also an element of protecting customers from themselves, they appreciate the emotions involved in letting a business or property go but in some cases, there is no deliverable recovery plan and the field managers will try to work with the borrowers through this emotional decision. Whilst the reason for the underlying business failure may not be the fault of the borrower, there remain contractual obligations whether or not the business is trading. Many borrowers do not appreciate that the debt remains even though the property or the business may have gone.

Once a property comes into possession, everyone's goals are aligned in maximising the value for the property in the minimum time. As ever the maximum value of the property is what a willing buyer is able to pay at the time the property is being marketed – the expertise is marketing the property to give the widest audience the opportunity to buy the property.

The directors are disappointed with the result for the year which reflected a loss before tax of £528,000 (2014: profit of £46,000).

The assets under direct management at the end of 2015 amount to £0.6 billion (2014 £0.8 billion)

In 2015 the headcount has reduced from 33 to 28 which is reflective of the reduction in the current assets under management and the improved performance of those assets. Included in the figures above is the resignation of Philip George who served as director from 2003 to 2011, and then subsequently as non-executive director. The Board would like to thank Philip for his support and guidance during his service to the company.

Strategic Report (continued)

Future Developments

The directors believe that 2016 will continue to see opportunities in the primary activities of the company as commercial portfolios will continue to be traded. The directors are also keen to continue to expand the complimentary services that it can offer to lenders.

Risk management and control

The company's primary risk comes from the operational risk associated in performance and delivery of the contracts it has with customers. However, the company as a regulated entity still has the regulatory risk from direct dealing with borrowers. Despite not having performed any lending since 2008 the directors remain aware of the risk from legacy products and like many financial institutions the company does receive complaints and threats of litigation in respect of legacy products. Each complaint or claim is considered on the basis of its own merits, where the directors believe the borrower has a genuine grievance then they will seek to resolve the complaint in accordance with the relevant laws. However, where they believe the complaints are without merit or opportunistic they will vigorously defend them through the court process.

By order of the board

T Theobald Director

Date: 9 March 2016

Report of the Directors

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 30 November 2015.

Results and Dividend

The loss for the financial year amounted to £350,715 (2014: Profit - £45,807). The directors do not recommend the payment of dividend (2014: nil).

Directors

The directors who held office during the period and to date were as follows:

Name

Date of Appointment

Date of Resignation

J Barbour

S Cohen*

P A George*

23/03/2015

S Lammin*

T Theobald

None of the directors who held office at the end of the financial year had any direct interest in the shares of the company.

Disclosure of information to auditor

The directors who held office at the date of approval of this directors' report confirm that, so far as they are each aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditor is unaware; and each director has taken all the steps that he ought to have taken as a director to make himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditor is aware of that information

Auditor

The Company has elected to dispense with the following obligations:

- To lay accounts and reports before general meetings
- · To hold annual general meetings
- To appoint auditors annually.

By order of the board

T Theobald Director

Date: 9 March 2016

^{*}Non-executive directors.

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities in respect of the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report and the Financial Statements

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

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; 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 have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Independent Auditor's report to the Members of Commercial First Mortgages Limited

We have audited the financial statements of Commercial First Mortgages Limited for the year ended 30 November 2015 set out on pages 9 to 21. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and UK Accounting Standards (UK Generally Acceptable Accounting Practice).

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.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditor

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 6 the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit, and express an opinion on, the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's (APB's) Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

A description of the scope of an audit of financial statements is provided on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditscopeukprivate.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 30 November 2015 and of its loss for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
 and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion 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.

Independent Auditor's report to the Members of Commercial First Mortgages Limited (continued)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you 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

Andrew Walker (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of KPMG LLP, Statutory Auditor

Chartered Accountants

KPMG LLP 1 Sovereign Square Sovereign Street Leeds LS1 4DA

Date: 9 March 2016

Profit and Loss Account For the year ended 30 November 2015

	Note	2015 £000	2015 £000	2014 £000	2014 £000
Turnover Fees and commissions payable	. 2	3,427 (442)		4,820 (1,226)	
Net operating income			2,985		3,594
Operating expenses			(3,531)		(3,614)
Operating loss			(546)		(20)
Interest receivable and similar income	3		18		296
Interest payable and similar charges	4				(230)
(Loss)/profit on ordinary activities before taxation	5		(528)		46
Tax credit on (loss)/profit on ordinary activities	8		177		-
(Loss)/profit for the year	13	·	(351)		46

The notes on pages 12 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

The results in the above profit and loss account relate entirely to continuing operations.

There are no recognised gains and losses other than the (loss)/profit for the year shown above. Accordingly no statement of recognised gains or losses is required.

Balance Sheet					
At 30 November 2015	Note	2015	2015	2014	2014
		£000	£000	£000	£000
Fixed assets					
Investments	9		-		-
Tangible assets	10		100		157
			100		157
Current assets					
Debtors	11	14,079		13,509	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,461		2,416	
			15,540		15,925
Total assets			15,640		16,082
Capital and reserves					_
Called up share capital	12	13,000		13,000	
Profit and loss account	13	974		1,325	
Shareholders funds			13,974		14,325
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14		1,666		1,757
•					
Total equity and liabilities			15,640		16,082

The notes on pages 12 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

These financial statements were approved by the board of directors on 9 March 2016 and were signed on its behalf by:

T Theobald Director

Company Number: 4461486

Cash Flow Statement for the year to 30 November 2015

	Note	2015	2014
		£000	£000
Cash outflow from operating activities	. 19	(1,147)	(1,651)
Returns on investments and servicing of finance			
Interest paid		-	(230)
Interest received		18	296
Capital expenditure and financial investment			•
Proceeds on sale of investments		_	1,341
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	•	-	6
Purchase of fixed assets		(3)	(170)
New bank loans		-	1,341
Repayment of bank loans		• -	(1,341)
Taxation received		177	
Decrease in cash in the year		(955)	(408)

The notes on pages 12 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements

1 Accounting policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the company's financial statements.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, under the historical cost accounting rules.

The company is exempt by virtue of s400 of the Companies Act 2006 from the requirement to prepare Group financial statements. These financial statements present information about the company as an individual undertaking and not about its Group.

Turnover policy

The turnover shown in the profit and loss account represents revenue recognised by the company in respect of services supplied during the year net of value added tax and discounts.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided to write off the cost less the estimated residual value of tangible fixed assets by equal instalments over their estimated useful economic lives as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and furniture 5 years Computer equipment 3 years

Fixed asset investments

The company holds investments at cost less provision for any permanent diminution in value.

Leases

Assets acquired under finance leases are capitalised and the outstanding future lease obligations are shown in creditors. Operating lease rentals are charged to the profit and loss account on a straight line basis over the period of the lease. The benefits of lease incentives are recognised as a reduction of rental expenses over the period of the lease.

Pension costs

The company operates a Group personal pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The amount charged to the profit and loss account represents the contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the accounting year.

Taxation

The charge for taxation is based on the results for the year and takes into account taxation deferred because of timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes. Provision is made for deferred tax only to the extent that it is probable that an actual liability will crystallise.

2015	2014
0003	£000
Loan administration 2,289	3,773
Miscellaneous income 213	-
Commission income 925	999 48
Recovery of VAT -	
3,427	4,820
3 Interest receivable and similar income	
2015	2014
£000	£000
Investment income -	278
Bank interest 18	18
18	296
4 Interest payable and similar charges	
2015	2014
£000	£000
On other loans -	230
5 Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	
2015	2014
0003	£000
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation is stated after charging	
Auditor remuneration:	2.5
Audit Fees paid to the auditor and its associates in respect of other services – tax 7	35 10
Fees paid to the auditor and its associates in respect of other services – other services – other services	12
Depreciation – Owned Assets 60	27
Property rent 48	48

6 Remuneration of directors

	2015 £000	2014 £000
Directors' emoluments	505	500
Amounts paid to defined contribution personal pension schemes	18	27
	523	527
The emoluments of the highest paid director were as follows:	•	
Aggregate emoluments	255	173
Amounts paid to defined contribution personal pension schemes	9	9
	264	182

Two (2014: three) directors participated in the company's defined contribution personal pension scheme at some point during the year.

7 Staff numbers and costs

The average number of persons employed by the company (including directors) during the year, analysed by category, was as follows:

	2015	2014
Management and administration	31	34
The aggregate payroll costs of these persons were as follows:		
	2015	2014
	£000	£000
Wages and salaries	1,810	1,912
Social security costs .	237	253
Other pension costs	76	89
	2,123	2,254

8 Taxation

Analysis of tax charge in year		
•	2015	2014
	£000	£000
UK corporation tax		
Current tax	177	-
Total current tax	177	-
Deferred tax		
Current year movement	-	-
Tax charge on profit on ordinary activities	177	_

Factors affecting taxation for the current year

The current tax charge for the year is lower than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK (20.33%) (2014: 21.67%). The differences are explained below.

	2015 £000	2014 £000
Current tax reconciliation (Loss)/profit on ordinary activities before tax	(528)	46
Current tax at 20.33% (prior year: 21.67%)	(107)	10
Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Depreciation for the year in excess of capital allowances	1 (71)	1 (11)
Total current tax (see above)	(177)	

The 2014 Budget on 9 March2014 announced that the UK corporation tax rate will reduce to 20% with effect from 1 April 2015. Reductions in the rate from 23% (effective from 1 April 2013), and to 21% (effective from 1 April 2014) were substantively enacted on 3 July 2012 and 17 July 2013 respectively. This will reduce the company's future tax charge accordingly. The deferred tax asset balance at 30 November 2015 has been calculated based on the rate of 20% substantively enacted at the balance sheet date.

9 Investments

•	Investments in Group undertakings £000	Other investments £000	Total £000
As at 1 December 2014	-	-	-
Additions	·-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
		· 	
As at 30 November 2015	-	-	. -
		·	

The subsidiary undertakings of the company are as follows:

Subsidiary undertakings

Principal Activity

Commercial First Life Insurance Services Limited				
Commercial	First	Buildings	Insurance	Services
Limited				

England and Wales England and Wales

Life insurance provider Buildings insurance provider

The subsidiaries are 100% owned by the company and were acquired on incorporation of the subsidiary or prior to the company trading at the par value of the shares issued.

10 Tangible fixed assets

Ü	Fixtures and fittings £000	Computer Equipment £000	Total £000
Cost	70	221	200
At 1 December 2014 Additions	78 3	221	299 3
Disposals	-	(45)	(45)
At end of year	81	176	257
Depreciation			
At 1 December 2014	72	70	142
Charge for year	2	58	60
On disposals	·	(45)	(45)
At end of year	74	83	157
Net book value			
At 30 November 2015	7	93	100
At 30 November 2014	6	151	157

11 Debtors			
		2015 £000	2014 £000
Prepayments and accrued income		973	879
Amount due from Group undertakings		12,766	12,557
Other debtors		340	73
		14,079	13,509
The amounts owed by Group undertakings are unsecured and rep	payable on demand.		
12 Called up share capital			
		2015	2014
		£000	£000
Allotted, called up and fully paid 13,000,002 Ordinary shares of £1.00 each		13,000	13,000
13 Reconciliation of movements in shareholders' funds			
	Share capital £000	Profit and loss account £000	Total £000
At 1 December 2014	13,000	1,325	14,325
Retained loss for the year	-	(351)	(351)
At 30 November 2015	13,000	974	13,974

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2015 £000	2014 £000
Amounts due to Group undertakings	87	142
Trade creditors	455	265
Taxation and social security	60	3
Other creditors	•	-
Accruals and deferred income	1,064	1,347
	1,666	1,757
,	•	· ·

The amounts due to Group undertakings are unsecured and repayable on demand.

15 Contingent liabilities

The company in common with many financial institutions receives and deals with complaints on legacy products. Each complaint is considered and treated on the basis of its own merits and is treated accordingly. Where complaints are received that are believed to be without merit or opportunistic they will be defended vigourously. As at 30 November 2015 the directors do not believe there is a requirement to provide for any potential claims (2014: Nil).

16 Commitments

Annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2015	2014
	Land and	Land and
	Buildings	Buildings
	€000	£000
Operating leases which expire:		
Within one year	-	-
In the second to fifth years inclusive	48	48
Over five years	-	
		
	48	48
	-	

17 Pension scheme

The company operates a defined contribution company personal pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the company to the scheme and amounted to £76,348 (2014: £88,562).

There were no overdue contributions at the end of the financial year.

18 Deferred Taxation

There are no amounts of provided deferred taxation at 30 November 2015 or November 2014.

The amounts of unprovided deferred taxation were:	2015 £000	2014 £000
At 1 December 2014	1,421	1,428
Utilisation of losses	(96)	-
Current year short term differences	(115)	(7)
At 30 November 2015	1,210	1,421
		

As at 30 November 2015, deferred tax asset of £1,209,952 has not been recognised on the grounds that there is uncertainty over recoverability against future profits (2014: £1,421,365 asset).

The elements of deferred tax are as follows:	2015 £000	2014 £000
Short term timing differences	345	460
Losses	865	961
At 30 November 2015	1,210	1,421

19 Reconciliation of operating loss to operating cash flows

		2015 £000	2014 £000
Operating loss		(546)	(20)
Profit on disposal of fixed assets		-	(1)
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment charges		60	27
Increase in debtors		(570)	(1,530)
Decrease in creditors		(91)	(127)
Net cash outflow from operating activities		(1,147)	(1,651)
20 Analysis of net debt	٠		
	At beginning of year	Cash flow	At end of Year
	£000	£000	£000
Cash at bank and in hand	2,416	(955)	1,461

21 Post balance sheet events

Subsequent to the year end and in accordance with section 644(5) of the Companies Act 2006, the company passed a resolution on the 9 March 2016, to reduce the issued share capital in the company to a paid up amount equivalent to £0.0001 per share.

22 Related party disclosure

Mr T Theobald is a director of both Commercial First Mortgages Limited and the BMF securitisation vehicles.

During the year and in accordance with the securitisation offering circulars the company received cash bond administration fees of £2.2m (2014: £3.8m) from the BMF securitisation vehicles at a commercial rate.

23 Ultimate parent company

The results of the company are consolidated within the financial statements of Commercial First Group Limited, a company incorporated in England. This company is both the immediate and ultimate parent undertaking. The consolidated financial statements of this company are available by application, from the Company Secretary, The Vineries, Broughton Hall Business Park, Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 3AE.