

WMG Acquisition (UK) Limited

Report and Financial Statements

26 September 2014

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COMPANIES HOUSE

WMG Acquisition (UK) Limited

Registered No. 04987681

Directors

P M Robinson

R Booker

C Ancliff

Secretary

Olswang Cosec Limited

90 High Holborn

London

WC1V 6XX

Auditors

Ernst & Young LLP

1 More London Place

London

SE1 2AF

Registered Office

Seventh Floor

90 High Holborn

London

WC1V 6XX

Strategic Report

The directors present their Strategic report for the year ended 26 September 2014.

Principal activity and review of the business

WMG Acquisition (UK) Limited is a non-trading holding company. The principal activity of the company during the year continued to be as an investment holding company. The directors do not envisage any change in the company's activities in the foreseeable future.

The company's key financial and other performance indicators during the year were as follows:

	2014 £000	2013 £000	Change %
Loss after tax	(2,826)	(5,488)	-49%
Shareholders' funds	101,829	104,655	-3%
Current assets as % of current liabilities	116%	135%	-14%

Loss after tax has decreased by 49% due to a reduction in admin costs and an increase in interest receivable.

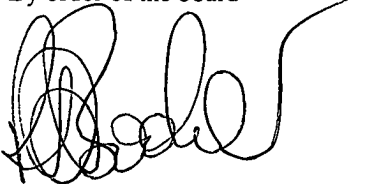
Shareholder's funds have decreased by 3% due to the retained profit.

Current assets as a % of current liabilities has decreased by 14% due to an increase in amounts owed by and to group undertakings.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The main risks and uncertainties facing the company relate to the risks and uncertainties facing its subsidiaries, which affects the value of its investments in its subsidiaries. The main risks and uncertainties facing its subsidiaries is the speed with and extent to which new digital revenue streams replace traditional income based on physical (mainly CD) sales, and that market forces may lead to a rise in the cost of acquiring song writing talent.

By order of the board



R Booker
Director

Date: 22nd June 2015

Directors' report

The directors present their report and group financial statements for the year ended 26 September 2014.

Results and dividends

The loss for the year, after taxation, amounted to £2,826,000 (2013 – £5,488,000).

The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend (2013 – £nil).

Directors and their interests

The directors who served during the year ended 26 September 2014 are as follows:

P M Robinson

R Booker

C Ancliff (Appointed 20th March 2015)

B Roberts (Resigned 6th March 2015)

There are no directors' interests requiring disclosure under the Companies Act 2006.

Going concern

The directors have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Disclosure of information to the auditors

So far as each person who was a director at the date of approving this report is aware, there is no relevant audit information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing its report, of which the auditor is unaware. Having made enquiries of fellow directors and the company's auditor, each director has taken all the steps that he is obliged to take as a director in order to make himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

Re-appointment of Auditors

In accordance with s.485 of the Companies Act 2006, a resolution is to be proposed at the Annual General Meeting for reappointment of Ernst & Young LLP as auditor of the company.

By order of the board



R Booker
Director

Date: 22nd June 2015

Statement of directors' responsibilities in respect of the accounts

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

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). 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 profit or loss of the company for that year. In preparing those 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; and
- 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 proper 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.

Independent auditors' report

to the members of WMG Acquisition (UK) Limited

We have audited the financial statements of WMG Acquisition (UK) Limited for the year ended 26 September 2014, which comprise the Profit and Loss Account, Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses, Balance Sheet and the related notes 1 to 14. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted 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 auditors

As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities on page 4, the directors are responsible for the preparation of 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). These standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the directors' report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on the financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the company's affairs as at 26 September 2014 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 matters 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 auditors' report continued

to the members of WMG Acquisition (UK) Limited

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 by the company, 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 or directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Philip Young LLP

Philip Young (Senior statutory auditor)
For and on behalf of Ernst & Young LLP, Statutory Auditor
London

Date: 23/6/15

Profit and loss account

for the year ended 26 September 2014

		2014 £000	2013 £000
Administrative expenses		991	(364)
OPERATING PROFIT / (LOSS)	2	<u>991</u>	<u>(364)</u>
Dividend income from investments		—	—
Interest receivable	3	7,864	1,857
Interest payable	4	(11,681)	(8,583)
LOSS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION		<u>(2,826)</u>	<u>(7,090)</u>
Tax on ordinary activities	5	—	1,602
LOSS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER TAXATION	11	<u><u>(2,826)</u></u>	<u><u>(5,488)</u></u>

All activities are continuing.

STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES

The company had no recognised gains or losses other than the loss of £2,826,000 for the year ended 26 September 2014 and the loss of £5,488,000 for the year ended 27 September 2013.

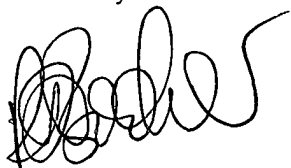
Balance Sheet

at 26 September 2014

	Notes	2014 £000	2013 £000
FIXED ASSETS			
Investments	6	201,974	201,974
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	136,881	99,057
Cash at bank and in hand		9,048	3,142
		<u>145,929</u>	<u>102,199</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	8	(126,376)	(75,613)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>19,553</u>	<u>26,586</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>221,527</u>	<u>228,560</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year	9	(119,698)	(123,905)
		<u>101,829</u>	<u>104,655</u>
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Called up share capital (£2)	10	–	–
Profit and loss account	11	101,829	104,655
EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS		<u>101,829</u>	<u>104,655</u>

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and were signed on behalf of the Board of Directors by:

R Booker
Director



Date: 22nd June 2015

Notes to the accounts

at 26 September 2014

1. Accounting policies

Accounting convention

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with accounting standards applicable in the United Kingdom.

Accounting period

The company prepares accounts for either 52 or 53 week periods ending within one week of 30 September.

Consolidated accounts

Consolidated accounts have not been prepared as WMG Acquisition (UK) Limited was, at 26 September 2014, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Warner Music Group Corp., a company registered in the United States of America, which prepares group accounts. Consequently these accounts only include information about the company as an individual undertaking and not about the group, as the exemption in section 401 of the Companies Act 2006 has been claimed.

Going concern

The directors have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Foreign currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate ruling on the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. All differences are taken to the profit and loss account.

Investments

Investments are carried at cost, less provisions for impairment in value.

Related parties

The company has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 8 not to disclose details of transactions between fellow wholly-owned group undertakings.

Cash flow statements

The company has taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No.1 Revised ("FRS1"). A cash flow statement has not been prepared because as at the year end the company was a wholly owned subsidiary of Warner Music Group Corp., a company incorporated in The United States of America, which prepares a group cash flow statement.

Deferred taxation

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed by the balance sheet date. Deferred tax assets are only recognised to the extent that they are considered recoverable against future taxable profits. Deferred tax is measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the periods in which the timing differences are expected to reverse. Deferred tax balances are not discounted.

Notes to the accounts

at 26 September 2014

2. Operating loss

This is stated after charging:

	2014 £000	2013 £000
Auditors' remuneration – audit services	2	2

The directors of the company are also directors of a number of subsidiaries of the ultimate parent undertaking. The directors do not believe that it is practicable to apportion the remuneration between remuneration as directors of the company and their remuneration as directors of the fellow subsidiary companies. The directors' remuneration is therefore disclosed in the accounts of the subsidiaries that make the remuneration payments.

Fees charged by a subsidiary company during the year for tax services performed by one of the directors of WMG Acquisition (UK) Limited amounted to £106,000 (2013 – £71,000).

3. Interest receivable

	2014 £000	2013 £000
Receivable from group undertakings	3,117	1,513
Bank and other interest	4,747	344
	<u>7,864</u>	<u>1,857</u>

4. Interest payable

	2014 £000	2013 £000
Payable to group undertakings	11,681	8,567
Bank and other interest	–	16
	<u>11,681</u>	<u>8,583</u>

Notes to the accounts

at 26 September 2014

5. Tax on profit on ordinary activities

a) The tax charge is made up as follows:

	2014 £000	2013 £000
<i>Current tax:</i>		
Group relief receipts	–	(1,602)
Total current tax credit (note b below)	–	(1,602)

b) Factors affecting the current tax charge

The standard rate of current tax for the year based on the UK standard rate of corporation tax is 22% (2013 23.5%). The current tax credit for the year differs from the standard rate for the reasons in the reconciliation below:

	2014 £000	2013 £000
Loss on ordinary activities before tax	(2,826)	(7,089)
Tax on ordinary activities at standard rate	(622)	(1,666)
<i>Factors affecting the tax credit:</i>		
Disallowable expenses	67	64
Tax losses arising in the period not recognised	27	–
Group relief surrendered for nil consideration	528	–
Total current tax (note 5a)	–	(1,602)

6. Investments

	£000
Cost and net book value:	
At 26 September 2014 and 27 September 2013	201,974

	2014 £000	2013 £000
Unlisted investments	201,974	201,974

Notes to the accounts

at 26 September 2014

6. Investments (continued)

Details of the principal investments in which the group and the company held more than 20% of the nominal value of any class of share capital as at 26 September 2014 were as follows:

Subsidiary undertakings:

<i>Name of Company</i>	<i>Country of registration (or incorporation and operation)</i>	<i>Holding</i>	<i>Proportion of voting rights and shares held</i>	<i>Nature of business</i>
Warner Music International Services Limited	England and Wales	Ordinary shares	100%	Group services and investment holding company
WMIS Limited*	England and Wales	Ordinary shares	100%	Group services
Warner Music UK Limited*	England and Wales	Ordinary shares	100%	Record company
A+E Records Limited*	England and Wales	Ordinary shares	100%	Record company
Infectious Records Limited*	England and Wales	Ordinary shares	100%	Record company
1967 Limited*	England and Wales	Ordinary shares	100%	Record company
679 Recordings Limited*	England and Wales	Ordinary shares	100%	Record company
Warner Chappell Music Group (UK) Limited	England and Wales	Ordinary shares	100%	Investment holding company
Warner/Chappell Music Limited	England and Wales	Ordinary shares	100%	Music Publishing
Warner Records 90 Limited*	England and Wales	Ordinary Shares	100%	Record company

* Held by a subsidiary undertaking

7. Debtors

	<i>2014</i>	<i>2013</i>
	<i>£000</i>	<i>£000</i>
Amounts owed by group undertakings	136,163	97,330
Group relief receivable	—	1,602
Other debtors	—	—
Prepayments and accrued income	718	125
	<u>136,881</u>	<u>99,057</u>

Notes to the accounts

at 26 September 2014

8. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2014	2013
	£000	£000
Bank overdraft	25,411	5,223
Amounts owed to group undertakings	100,951	70,365
Accruals and deferred income	14	25
	<u>126,376</u>	<u>75,613</u>

9. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2014	2013
	£000	£000
Amounts owed to group undertakings	<u>119,698</u>	<u>123,905</u>

The principal amount of the loan of £100,000,000 (2013 £100,000,000), is payable in full on or prior to 01 November 2020. Interest accrues on the outstanding amount at a fixed annual interest rate of 8.125%, and is payable semi-annually. The company has the option to make prepayments on the outstanding principal amount at a redemption charge of a percentage of the applicable premium, the percentage being the proportion of the principal being redeemed. The applicable premium is the greater of:

- i) 1.0% of the outstanding principal amount.
- ii) the excess over the outstanding principal amount of the present value of future payments discounted at the UK Government Bond Treasury Yield to maturity at the redemption date plus 50 basis points.

10. Share capital

	2014	2013
	No.	No.
<i>Authorised:</i>		
Ordinary shares of £1 each	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
	£	£
<i>Allotted, called up and fully paid:</i>		
Ordinary shares of £1 each	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

Notes to the accounts

at 26 September 2014

11. Reconciliation of shareholders' funds and movements on reserves

	<i>Share capital £000</i>	<i>Profit and loss account £000</i>	<i>Total £000</i>
At 27 September 2013	–	104,655	104,655
Loss for the year	–	(2,826)	(2,826)
Dividend Paid	–	–	–
At 26 September 2014	–	101,829	101,829

12. Contingent liabilities

The company has entered into a group composite accounting agreement with its bankers. The terms of the agreement permit the bankers, without notice, to draw down funds deposited into the system, to offset borrowings drawn down from the system by other group members who are also parties to these arrangements. At the balance sheet date, funds deposited by the company into the system and potentially at risk to cover liabilities elsewhere in the group amounted to £9,048,000 (2013 – £3,142,000).

13. Post-balance sheet events

Since the year end the company has neither increased nor decreased the amount of short-term loans due to group undertakings.

14. Ultimate parent undertaking

The company is 100% owned by WMG Acquisition Corp., the immediate parent undertaking.

On 20 July 2011 Warner Music Group Corp. the ultimate parent undertaking at the time, a company incorporated in the United States of America, merged with a subsidiary of Access Industries LLC. As a result, at 26 September 2014, Access Industries LLC was the ultimate parent undertaking. Warner Music Group Corp. was the parent undertaking of the smallest group of undertakings of which the company was a member and for which group financial statements are drawn up. Copies of Warner Music Group Corp.'s financial statements can be obtained from 1209 Orange Street, Wilmington, DE 19801, USA.