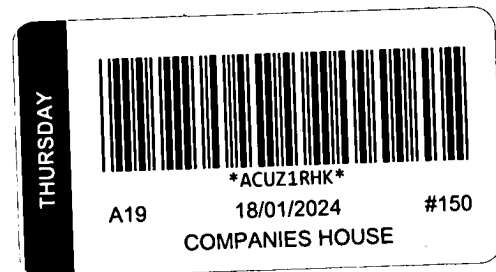


Registered number: 05192078

EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023



EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

COMPANY INFORMATION

Directors	J D Spiers P R Trueman S H Kennedy T J Walker
Company secretary	J Spiers
Registered number	05192078
Registered office	6th Floor 60 Gracechurch Street London EC3V 0HR
Independent auditor	MHA 2 London Wall Place London EC2Y 5AU

EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

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EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

GROUP STRATEGIC REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023

Introduction

The Directors present the Strategic Report of EQ Investors Group Limited (the "Company") and its subsidiaries, EQ Investors Limited and Best Investment Limited (together the "Group") the year ended 30 April 2023.

Principal activity and Business review

EQ Investors Limited is the principal operating company of EQ Investors Group Ltd, a registered B Corporation that is owned by staff and The EQ Foundation, a registered charity.

Based in the City of London, EQ is an award winning investment management and financial planning firm. It has a particularly strong proposition for investors seeking sustainable investment solutions.

After a number of years of strong growth, equity markets fell in the beginning of 2022 and have remained at these lower levels. This has impacted assets under management of £1.7bn at April 2023 which were at a similar level to April 2022. The average AUM in 2022 was higher than the current year resulting in a fall in revenue in the year. This combined with inflationary increases in overheads has meant a fall in profits this year. In spite of this difficult trading environment we were pleased to see negligible staff turnover and loss of clients.

Future developments

Global equity markets have remained subdued whilst world economies are facing headwinds from higher inflation and increased interest rates. Hopefully in the next 12 months the outlook for investors will improve and in the longer term markets will return to the longer trend of positive real returns. With continuing inflationary pressure on overheads, short term profitability will continue to be subdued in the first half of the current year however the company has a strong balance sheet and is in a good position to weather any further downside in global markets.

**GROUP STRATEGIC REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023**

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Board has identified a number of business, reputational and operational risks that are pertinent to the Group's future performance. There is also considerable focus on managing other business risks such as "know your client" and suitability of advice.

Ultimately, the Board is responsible for determining the level of risk acceptable to the group and this is subject to regular review. The Board ensures effective implementation of policies and procedures which minimise the extent of risk facing the Group at any time. The Group has a Risk Committee which regularly reviews risks and policies to mitigate these. The Group maintains a Risk Register which is the main tool for monitoring risk, assessing its impact and considering any mitigating action. A risk is rated based on its probability as well as its potential impact.

Market Risk

Most of the Group's revenues are linked to the value of clients' investments so a significant fall in markets would impact the Group's revenue. Most client portfolios have a diverse asset allocation matched to the clients risk profile which limits the impact of a fall in any one asset class. The finance team regularly models various economic scenarios to ensure adequate capital is maintained to cover these scenarios.

Know Your Client & Suitability

Suitability of investments for clients is considered an imperative throughout the Group's activities. The Group is also clear that sufficient "Know your client" information is held on all clients to mitigate risk on inappropriate advice to ensure that clients are provided with products and services that are suitable for them both when investing and on an ongoing basis.

Regulatory

The Group is regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority for the purposes of giving investment advice. The Group takes the obligations of this regulation very seriously and has a designated compliance officer who monitors the performance of the Group using stringent internal processes.

During the year the Directors agreed a plan for implementing the FCA's new Consumer Duty rules which take effect from 31st July 2023. These rules place increased demands on financial firms to act in the interests of their customers. This has absorbed a considerable amount of senior management time but is not expected to change materially the way in which the Company operates.

Competition

The Directors consider that the Group can compete effectively in the current environment in its target market. The Group has spent considerable time in positioning itself to give the most effective offering to clients within its chosen space and believe that this, together with a well-managed cost base, will enable competitive pressures to be withstood.

IT Security

The Directors attach high priority to managing the risks posed by IT security breaches, including a review of cybersecurity and General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) compliance.

Other Business Risk

The Group is also exposed to a significant loss of clients either through reputational risk or the loss of key staff. The former is managed by a rigorous investment process and the latter by an alignment of interest between key employees and shareholders.

EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

GROUP STRATEGIC REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023

Financial key performance indicators

The financial key performance indicators are considered to be turnover and profit before amortisation of goodwill. Turnover decreased by 5% from £10.7 to £10.2m. Pre - tax profit before amortisation of goodwill decreased from £1.54m to £0.95m.

Other key performance indicators

Other key performance indicators are considered to be assets under management, staff turnover and client losses. These are discussed in the business review section of this report.

Directors' statement of compliance with duty to promote the success of the Group

Section 172(1) of the Companies Act 2006 requires the Directors of an entity to act in the way they consider, in good faith, would be most likely to promote the success of the entity for the benefit of its Members as a whole. As part of their deliberations and decision making process the Directors have taken into account the following;

- likely consequences of any decision in the long term;
- the interests of the Group's employees;
- the need to foster the Group's business relationships with suppliers, customers and others;
- the impact of the Group's operations on the community and the environment; and
- the desirability of the entity maintaining a reputation for high standards of business conduct and the need to comply with the rules of the Group's regulator, the UK Financial Conduct Authority.

The Directors recognise that building strong relationships with stakeholders will help deliver the Group strategy in line with its long-term values and is committed to effective engagement with the Group's stakeholders. Accordingly, the Directors require management to ensure that all stakeholder interests are considered in the Group's day to day management and operations, and seeks to understand the relative interests and priorities of the various stakeholders and to have regard to these in their decision making. The Directors acknowledge, however, that not every decision will necessarily result in a positive outcome for all stakeholders.

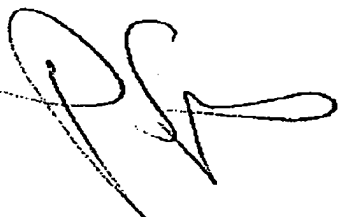
As a result of these activities, the Directors believe that they have demonstrated compliance with their legal duty under s172(1) of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the board on

21/8/23

and signed on its behalf.

J D Spiers
Director



EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2023.

Directors

The directors who served during the year ended 30 April 2023 and up to the date of approval of this report were:

J D Spiers
P R Trueman
S H Kennedy
T J Walker

N Papadakis, a Director during the year, resigned on 21 October 2022.

Results and dividends

The loss for the year, after taxation, amounted to £587,481 (2022 - profit £559,294).

During the year ended 30 April 2023 a dividend of £860,198 was paid to the shareholders (2022 - £409,270).

Directors' responsibilities statement

The directors are responsible for preparing the Group Strategic Report, the Directors' Report and the consolidated 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 applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'. 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 the Group and of the profit or loss of the Group for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies for the Group's financial statements and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and accounting 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;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Group 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 the Group and to 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 the Group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

**DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023**

Matters covered in the Group Strategic Report

In accordance with Section 414c (ii) of the Companies Act 2006, the Directors have chosen to include the following items in the Group Strategic Report:

- Principal activity and Business review
- Principal risks and uncertainties
- Future developments

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the persons who are directors at the time when this Directors' Report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as the director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company and the Group's auditor is unaware, and
- the director has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a director in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company and the Group's auditor is aware of that information.

Post balance sheet events

There have been no significant events affecting the Group since the year end.

Auditor

Following a rebranding exercise on 15 May 2023 the trading name of the company's independent auditor changed from MHA MacIntyre Hudson to MHA. A resolution to reappoint MHA as independent auditor will be proposed at the next Annual General Meeting.

This report was approved by the board and signed on its behalf.



J D Spiers
Director

Date: 21/8/23

EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of EQ Investors Group Limited (the 'parent Company') and its subsidiaries (the 'Group') for the year ended 30 April 2023, which comprise the Group Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Group and Company Balance Sheets, the Group Statement of Cash Flows, the Group and Company Statement of Changes in Equity and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's and of the parent Company's affairs as at 30 April 2023 and of the Group's 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.

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 Group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Group's or the parent Company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED
(CONTINUED)**

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's Report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual Report. 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. 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 course of 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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 this regard.

Opinion 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 Group 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 Group Strategic Report and the Directors' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent Company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent Company 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.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED
(CONTINUED)**

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 4, 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 Group's and the parent 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 Group or the parent 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 Group financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- Enquiry of management around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Enquiry of staff to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for bias;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance; and
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

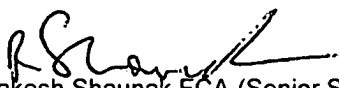
A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditor's Report.

EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED
(CONTINUED)**

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.



Rakesh Shaunak FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of
MHA

Statutory Auditors

London, United Kingdom

Date: 29/08/2023

MHA is the trading name of MacIntyre Hudson LLP, a limited liability partnership in England and Wales (registered number OC312313)

EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023**

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Turnover	4	10,153,593	10,669,783
Cost of sales		(1,224,354)	(1,337,934)
Gross profit		8,929,239	9,331,849
Administrative expenses		(7,980,308)	(7,791,143)
Amortisation of goodwill		(1,291,412)	(1,291,412)
Operating (loss)/profit	5	(342,481)	249,294
(Loss)/profit before taxation		(342,481)	249,294
Tax on (loss)/profit	8	(245,000)	310,000
(Loss)/profit for the financial year		(587,481)	559,294
(Loss)/profit for the year attributable to:			
Owners of the parent Company		(587,481)	559,294
		(587,481)	559,294
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to:			
Owners of the parent Company		(587,481)	559,294
		(587,481)	559,294

There was no other comprehensive income for 2023 (2022:£NIL).

The notes on pages 17 to 30 form part of these financial statements.

EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED
REGISTERED NUMBER: 05192078

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30 APRIL 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	10	1,829,500	3,120,912
Tangible assets	11	86,220	141,420
		<u>1,915,720</u>	<u>3,262,332</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	13	1,589,498	1,847,826
Cash at bank and in hand	14	3,678,241	3,736,559
		<u>5,267,739</u>	<u>5,584,385</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(1,177,999)	(1,393,578)
Net current assets		<u>4,089,740</u>	<u>4,190,807</u>
Net assets		<u><u>6,005,460</u></u>	<u><u>7,453,139</u></u>
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	17	16,562,490	16,562,490
Share premium account	18	257,149	257,149
Profit and loss account	18	(10,814,179)	(9,366,500)
		<u><u>6,005,460</u></u>	<u><u>7,453,139</u></u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board and were signed on its behalf on

J D Spiers
Director

The notes on pages 17 to 30 form part of these financial statements.

EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED
REGISTERED NUMBER: 05192078

COMPANY BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30 APRIL 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Investments	12	15,500,000	15,500,000
		<u>15,500,000</u>	<u>15,500,000</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	13	368,925	344,925
Cash at bank and in hand	14	1,020,025	1,011,805
		<u>1,388,950</u>	<u>1,356,730</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(7,679)	(6,775)
Net current assets		<u>1,381,271</u>	<u>1,349,955</u>
Net assets		<u><u>16,881,271</u></u>	<u><u>16,849,955</u></u>
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	17	16,562,490	16,562,490
Share premium account	18	257,149	257,149
Profit and loss account	18	61,632	30,316
		<u><u>16,881,271</u></u>	<u><u>16,849,955</u></u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board and were signed on its behalf by:

J D Spiers
 Director

Date:

21/8/23

The notes on pages 17 to 30 form part of these financial statements.

EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023**

	Called up share capital £	Share premium account £	Profit and loss account £	Equity attributable to owners of parent Company £	Total equity £
At 1 May 2021	16,375,287	64,345	(9,516,524)	6,923,108	6,923,108
Comprehensive income for the year					
Profit for the year	-	-	559,294	559,294	559,294
Contributions by and distributions to owners					
Dividends: Equity capital	-	-	(409,270)	(409,270)	(409,270)
Shares issued during the year	187,203	192,804	-	380,007	380,007
At 1 May 2022	16,562,490	257,149	(9,366,500)	7,453,139	7,453,139
Comprehensive income for the year					
Loss for the year	-	-	(587,481)	(587,481)	(587,481)
Contributions by and distributions to owners					
Dividends: Equity capital	-	-	(860,198)	(860,198)	(860,198)
At 30 April 2023	16,562,490	257,149	(10,814,179)	6,005,460	6,005,460

The notes on pages 17 to 30 form part of these financial statements.

EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

**COMPANY STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023**

	Called up share capital £	Share premium account £	Profit and loss account £	Total equity £
At 1 May 2021	16,375,287	64,345	(53,294)	16,386,338
Comprehensive income for the year				
Profit for the year	-	-	492,880	492,880
Contributions by and distributions to owners				
Dividends: Equity capital	-	-	(409,270)	(409,270)
Shares issued during the year	187,203	192,804	-	380,007
At 1 May 2022	16,562,490	257,149	30,316	16,849,955
Comprehensive income for the year				
Profit for the year	-	-	891,514	891,514
Contributions by and distributions to owners				
Dividends: Equity capital	-	-	(860,198)	(860,198)
At 30 April 2023	16,562,490	257,149	61,632	16,881,271

The notes on pages 17 to 30 form part of these financial statements.

EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023**

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
(Loss)/profit for the financial year		(587,481)	559,294
Adjustments for:			
Amortisation of intangible assets	10	1,291,412	1,291,412
Depreciation of tangible assets	11	55,200	55,200
Taxation charge	8	245,000	(310,000)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors		13,328	(37,347)
(Decrease) in creditors		(215,579)	(331,062)
Net cash generated from operating activities		801,880	1,227,497
 Cash flows from financing activities			
Issue of ordinary shares		-	380,007
Dividends paid	9	(860,198)	(409,270)
Net cash used in financing activities		(860,198)	(29,263)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents		(58,318)	1,198,234
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	14	3,736,559	2,538,325
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of year	14	3,678,241	3,736,559
 Cash and cash equivalents at the end of year comprise:			
Cash at bank and in hand		3,678,241	3,736,559
	14	3,678,241	3,736,559

The notes on pages 17 to 30 form part of these financial statements.

EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

**CONSOLIDATED ANALYSIS OF NET DEBT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023**

	At 1 May 2022 £	Cash flows £	At 30 April 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	3,736,559	(58,318)	3,678,241
Debt due within 1 year	-	-	-
	<u>3,736,559</u>	<u>(58,318)</u>	<u>3,678,241</u>

The notes on pages 17 to 30 form part of these financial statements.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023**

1. General information

EQ Investors Group Limited is a private company limited by shares and is incorporated in England and Wales. The Company registered number is 05192078.

The Company's registered office and is 6th Floor, 60 Gracechurch Street, London, EC3V 0HR. The Company's principal place of business is Centennium House, 100 Lower Thames Street, London, EC3R 6DL.

The financial statements are presented in pound sterling which is the functional currency of the Company and are rounded to the nearest pound.

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

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention unless otherwise specified within these accounting policies and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard.102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland and the Companies Act 2006.

The preparation of financial statements in compliance with FRS 102 requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires Group management to exercise judgment in applying the Group's accounting policies (see note 3).

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption allowed under section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 and has not presented its own Statement of Comprehensive Income in these financial statements.

The financial statements are presented in Pound Sterling which is the functional currency of the Group and Company and are rounded to the Pound Sterling.

The following principal accounting policies have been applied:

2.2 Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements present the results of the Company and its own subsidiaries ("the Group") as if they form a single entity. Intercompany transactions and balances between group companies are therefore eliminated in full.

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the results of business combinations using the purchase method. In the Balance Sheet, the acquiree's identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities are initially recognised at their fair values at the acquisition date. The results of acquired operations are included in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income from the date on which control is obtained. They are deconsolidated from the date control ceases.

In accordance with the transitional exemption available in FRS 102, the Group has chosen not to retrospectively apply the standard to business combinations that occurred before the date of transition to FRS 102, being 01 July 2014.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.3 Revenue

Turnover comprises revenue recognised by the Group in respect of services supplied. Turnover is recognised as earned when, and to the extent that, the firm obtains the right to consideration in exchange for its performance.

Turnover due for the year end, but not received until after year end, is disclosed in the accounts and recognised under accrued income.

Turnover is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Group and the turnover can be reliably measured. Turnover is measured as the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, excluding discounts, rebates, value added tax and other sales taxes. The following criteria must also be met before turnover is recognised:

Rendering of services

Turnover from a contract to provide services is recognised in the period in which the services are provided in accordance with the stage of completion of the contract when all of the following conditions are satisfied:

- the amount of turnover can be measured reliably;
- it is probable that the Group will receive the consideration due under the contract;
- the stage of completion of the contract at the end of the reporting period can be measured reliably; and
- the costs incurred and the costs to complete the contract can be measured reliably.

2.4 Operating leases: the Group as lessee

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to profit or loss on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Benefits received and receivable as an incentive to sign an operating lease are recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease term, unless another systematic basis is representative of the time pattern of the lessee's benefit from the use of the leased asset.

2.5 Pensions

Defined contribution pension plan

The Group operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the Group pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the Group has no further payment obligations.

The contributions are recognised as an expense in profit or loss when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals as a liability in the Balance Sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the Group in independently administered funds.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.6 Current and deferred taxation

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

The current income tax charge is calculated on the basis of tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date in the countries where the Company and the Group operate and generate income.

Deferred tax balances are recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed by the balance sheet date, except that:

- The recognition of deferred tax assets is limited to the extent that it is probable that they will be recovered against the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future taxable profits;
- Any deferred tax balances are reversed if and when all conditions for retaining associated tax allowances have been met; and
- Where they relate to timing differences in respect of interests in subsidiaries, associates, branches and joint ventures and the Group can control the reversal of the timing differences and such reversal is not considered probable in the foreseeable future.

Deferred tax balances are not recognised in respect of permanent differences except in respect of business combinations, when deferred tax is recognised on the differences between the fair values of assets acquired and the future tax deductions available for them and the differences between the fair values of liabilities acquired and the amount that will be assessed for tax. Deferred tax is determined using tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

2.7 Intangible assets

Goodwill

Goodwill represents the difference between amounts paid on the cost of a business combination and the acquirer's interest in the fair value of the Group's share of its identifiable assets and liabilities of the acquiree at the date of acquisition. Subsequent to initial recognition, goodwill is measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses. Goodwill is amortised on a straight-line basis to the profit and loss account over its useful economic life.

Other intangible assets

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, intangible assets are measured at cost less any accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

All intangible assets are considered to have a finite useful life. If a reliable estimate of the useful life cannot be made, the useful life shall not exceed ten years.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.8 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets under the cost model are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, over the following basis:

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Fixtures and fittings	- 10 years straight-line
Computer equipment	- 33% reducing balance

The assets' residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted prospectively if appropriate, or if there is an indication of a significant change since the last reporting date.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount and are recognised in profit or loss.

2.9 Valuation of investments

Investments in subsidiaries are measured at cost less accumulated impairment.

Investments in unlisted Group shares, whose market value can be reliably determined, are remeasured to market value at each balance sheet date. Gains and losses on remeasurement are recognised in the profit or loss for the period. Where market value cannot be reliably determined, such investments are stated at historic cost less impairment.

Investments in listed company shares are remeasured to market value at each balance sheet date. Gains and losses on remeasurement are recognised in profit or loss for the period.

2.10 Debtors

Short-term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment. Loans receivable are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment.

2.11 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

In the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Group's cash management.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.12 Creditors

Short-term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other financial liabilities, including bank loans, are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.13 Financial instruments

The Group only enters into basic financial instrument transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like trade and other debtors and creditors, loans from banks and other third parties, loans to related parties and investments in ordinary shares.

Debt instruments (other than those wholly repayable or receivable within one year), including loans and other accounts receivable and payable, are initially measured at present value of the future cash flows and subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Debt instruments that are payable or receivable within one year, typically trade debtors and creditors, are measured, initially and subsequently, at the undiscounted amount of the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received. However, if the arrangements of a short-term instrument constitute a financing transaction, like the payment of a trade debt deferred beyond normal business terms or in case of an out-right short-term loan that is not at market rate, the financial asset or liability is measured, initially at the present value of future cash flows discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument and subsequently at amortised cost, unless it qualifies as a loan from a director in the case of a small company, or a public benefit entity concessionary loan.

Financial assets that are measured at cost and amortised cost are assessed at the end of each reporting period for objective evidence of impairment. If objective evidence of impairment is found, an impairment loss is recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income.

For financial assets measured at amortised cost, the impairment loss is measured as the difference between an asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. If a financial asset has a variable interest rate, the discount rate for measuring any impairment loss is the current effective interest rate determined under the contract.

For financial assets measured at cost less impairment, the impairment loss is measured as the difference between an asset's carrying amount and best estimate of the recoverable amount, which is an approximation of the amount that the Group would receive for the asset if it were to be sold at the balance sheet date.

2.14 Dividends

Equity dividends are recognised when they become legally payable. Interim equity dividends are recognised when paid. Final equity dividends are recognised when approved by the shareholders at an annual general meeting.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023**

3. Judgments in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The Group and Company makes estimates and assumptions concerning future performance. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities are set out below:

3.1 Valuation of intangible assets

The goodwill of the Group is intrinsically linked with the applicability of the going concern concept and the ongoing assessment of the Group's profitability. The Directors has assessed the future financial projections of the Group and Company and consider that the Group and Company will achieve this in the medium term.

4. Turnover

The whole of the turnover is attributable to wealth management.

All turnover arose within the United Kingdom.

5. Operating (loss)/profit

The operating (loss)/profit is stated after charging:

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	55,200	55,200
Amortisation of goodwill	1,291,412	1,291,412
Other operating lease rentals	313,921	302,410
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

6. Auditor's remuneration

During the year, the Group obtained the following services from the Company's auditor:

	2023 £	2022 £
Fees payable to the Company's auditor for the audit of the consolidated and parent Company's financial statements	26,400	24,700

EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023**

Fees payable to the Group's auditor and its associates in respect of:

	2023 £	2022 £
The auditing of accounts of the Group pursuant to legislation	22,200	20,700
Taxation compliance services	4,200	4,000
	26,400	24,700

7. Employees

Staff costs, including directors' remuneration, were as follows:

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Company 2023 £	Company 2022 £
Wages and salaries	4,961,956	4,700,973	-	-
Social security costs	593,205	530,571	-	-
Cost of defined contribution scheme	345,272	435,859	-	-
	5,900,433	5,667,403	-	-

The average monthly number of employees, including the directors, during the year was as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Consultants and administrative staff	69	65

The Company has no employees other than the directors, who did not receive any remuneration (2022 - £NIL)

EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023**

8. Taxation

	2023 £	2022 £
Total current tax	-	-
Deferred tax		
Origination and reversal of timing differences	245,000	(310,000)
Total deferred tax	245,000	(310,000)
Tax on (loss)/profit	245,000	(310,000)

Factors affecting tax charge for the year

The tax assessed for the year is lower than (2022 - *lower than*) the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19% (2022 - 19%). The differences are explained below:

	2023 £	2022 £
(Loss)/profit on ordinary activities before tax	(342,481)	249,294
(Loss)/profit on ordinary activities multiplied by standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19% (2022 - 19%)	(65,071)	47,366
Effects of:		
Non-tax deductible amortisation of goodwill and impairment	245,368	245,368
Utilisation of tax losses	64,703	(602,734)
Total tax charge for the year	245,000	(310,000)

Factors that may affect future tax charges

The Group has tax losses of approximately £190,000 (2022 - £1,200,000) available for use against future trading profits.

EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023**

9. Dividends

	2023 £	2022 £
Dividends paid	860,198	409,270
	<u>860,198</u>	<u>409,270</u>

10. Intangible assets**Group and Company**

	Goodwill £
Cost	
At 1 May 2022	11,114,120
At 30 April 2023	<u>11,114,120</u>
Amortisation	
At 1 May 2022	7,993,208
Charge for the year on owned assets	1,291,412
At 30 April 2023	<u>9,284,620</u>
Net book value	
At 30 April 2023	<u>1,829,500</u>
At 30 April 2022	<u>3,120,912</u>

EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023**

11. Tangible fixed assets**Group**

	Fixtures and fittings £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 May 2022	417,420
At 30 April 2023	<u>417,420</u>
Depreciation	
At 1 May 2022	276,000
Charge for the year on owned assets	55,200
At 30 April 2023	<u>331,200</u>
Net book value	
At 30 April 2023	<u>86,220</u>
At 30 April 2022	<u>141,420</u>

12. Fixed asset investments**Company**

	Investments in subsidiary companies £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 May 2022	15,500,000
At 30 April 2023	<u>15,500,000</u>

EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023**

12. Fixed asset investments (continued)**Subsidiary undertakings**

The following were subsidiary undertakings of the Company:

Name	Class of shares	Holding
EQ Investors Limited (Company registered number 07223330)	Ordinary	100%
Best Investment Limited (Company registered number 02278967)	Ordinary	100%

The registered office address for the subsidiaries above is 6th Floor, 60 Gracechurch Street, London, EC3V 0HR.

13. Debtors

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Company 2023 £	Company 2022 £
Due after more than one year				
Other debtors	202,994	202,994	-	-
	<u>202,994</u>	<u>202,994</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Due within one year				
Trade debtors	2,910	25,295	-	-
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	172,846	195,296
Other debtors	270,459	250,307	196,079	149,629
Prepayments and accrued income	1,048,135	1,059,230	-	-
Deferred taxation	65,000	310,000	-	-
	<u>1,589,498</u>	<u>1,847,826</u>	<u>368,925</u>	<u>344,925</u>

14. Cash and cash equivalents

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Company 2023 £	Company 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	3,678,241	3,736,559	1,020,025	1,011,805
	<u>3,678,241</u>	<u>3,736,559</u>	<u>1,020,025</u>	<u>1,011,805</u>

EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023**

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Company 2023 £	Company 2022 £
Trade creditors	7,830	114,984	-	-
Other taxation and social security	309,680	297,490	-	-
Other creditors	42,780	77,684	-	-
Accruals and deferred income	817,709	903,420	7,679	6,775
	<u>1,177,999</u>	<u>1,393,578</u>	<u>7,679</u>	<u>6,775</u>

16. Deferred taxation

Group

	2023 £
At beginning of year	310,000
Charged to profit or loss	(245,000)
At end of year	<u>65,000</u>

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £
Fixed assets	2,000	2,000
Pensions	19,000	19,000
Losses	44,000	289,000
	<u>65,000</u>	<u>310,000</u>

17. Share capital

	2023 £	2022 £
Allotted, called up and fully paid		
2,362,490 (2022 - 2,362,490) Ordinary shares of £1.00 each	2,362,490	2,362,490
14,200,000 (2022 - 14,200,000) Preference shares of £1.00 each	14,200,000	14,200,000
	<u>16,562,490</u>	<u>16,562,490</u>

EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023**

17. Share capital (continued)

The ordinary shares and preference shares carry equal voting rights. The preference shares do not have any dividend rights but have equal rights to the ordinary shares with regard to exit proceeds.

18. Reserves**Share premium account**

The Share premium account is non-distributable and represents the accumulated premium received on the issue of share capital. Any transaction costs associated with the issuing of shares are deducted from share premium.

Profit and loss account

The Profit and Loss account represents the accumulation of retained profits, net of dividends, which are in the form of distributable reserves.

19. Pension commitments

The Group operates a defined contributions pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Group in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the Group to the fund and amounted to £345,722 (2022 - £435,859).

Contributions totalling £40,169 (2022 - £77,684) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

20. Commitments under operating leases

At 30 April 2023 the Group and the Company had future minimum lease payments due under non-cancellable operating leases for each of the following periods:

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £
Not later than 1 year	338,324	338,324
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	209,761	548,085
	548,085	886,409

21. Related party transactions

During the year dividends totalling £860,198 (2022 - £409,270) were paid to the Directors of the Company.

The remuneration of key management personnel for the Group was £1,520,076 (2022 - £1,449,582).

EQ INVESTORS GROUP LIMITED

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2023**

22. Controlling party

The ultimate controlling party of the Group and the Company is considered to be J Spiers, a Director.