Strategic Report, Report of the Directors and Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

for

Modern Biosciences Limited



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Modern Biosciences Limited

Company Information for the year ended 31 December 2020

DIRECTORS:

IP2IPO Services Limited

Dr S C Williams

SECRETARY:

Pinsent Masons Secretarial Limited

REGISTERED OFFICE:

The Walbrook Building

25 Walbrook London EC4N 8AF

REGISTERED NUMBER:

05414023 (England and Wales)

Strategic Report

for the year ended 31 December 2020

The directors present their strategic report for the year ended 31 December 2020.

RESULTS AND PERFORMANCE

Modern Biosciences Ltd ("Modern Biosciences" or the "Company") is a drug development company. Its business model is focussed on the development of MBS2320, a novel drug for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and related autoimmune conditions.

The statement of comprehensive income is set out on page 5 and shows the loss for the year.

Total research and development expenses of £4,228,304 (2019: £2,011,968) were incurred. This is almost entirely attributable to the spend on MBS2320.

No interim dividend was paid during the year (2019: £nil) and the directors do not propose a final dividend for the year ended 31 December 2020 (2019: £nil).

BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

The overall economic backdrop has a significant bearing on the Group's ability to pursue its strategic objectives. Short-term financial market volatility and investor risk appetite impacts the Group's ability to raise capital to fund its development programmes. Over the longer-term, Government spending on fundamental R&D as well as policy support towards the commercialisation of IP are key areas affecting the Group's business model.

In this context, these are uncertain times both economically and politically, particularly following events including the Covid-19 pandemic and the UK's vote to leave the European Union and the economic policy changes made, and under consideration, in the US.

Within the pharmaceutical industry, pressure on pricing and reimbursement from governments and payers has increased the need to fill pipelines with innovative new drugs that can command premium pricing. Thus, the appetite for licensing and acquiring early-stage drug-development assets by the pharmaceutical industry from smaller biotechnology companies remains healthy, and a strong global balance sheet amongst the top-20 pharmaceutical companies has allowed for a significant pace and size of deal-doing.

STRATEGY

The directors remain focussed on the Company's lead development drug, MBS2320, and assuring its success in clinical studies. MBS2320 is currently in the middle-stages (Phase 2) of clinical development. In addition, the Company has a couple of earlier-stage programmes in the discovery phase focussed on alternative ways of intervening at a molecular level in rheumatoid arthritis and other autoimmune conditions and cancer.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Given the nature of the business, the Company's directors are of the opinion that analysis using financial KPIs is not necessary for an understanding of the development, performance or position of the business.

Strategic Report

for the year ended 31 December 2020

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

. The management of the business and the execution of the Company's strategy are subject to a number of risks.

The key business risks and uncertainties affecting the Company are considered to relate to the undertaking of early-stage development programmes, protection of intellectual property and retention of key personnel.

The directors manage these risks in a variety of ways including confidentiality agreements, industry specific insurance arrangements (including clinical trial insurance where considered appropriate), employee share schemes and utilising the expertise of highly experienced officers, employees, consultants and service providers.

FUTURE OUTLOOK

The directors will aim to continue to maximise the development potential and value of MBS2320, whether through its own development efforts or in conjunction with a different pharmaceutical company.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

-	<i>Williams</i> ms (Dec 1, 2021 14:11 GMT)
Dr S C	Williams - Director
Date:	1/12/2021

Report of the Directors

for the year ended 31 December 2020

The directors present their report with the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 December 2020.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY

Modern Biosciences Limited is a drug development company. Further detail is included in the strategic report.

BUSINESS REVIEW AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The Directors' report should be read in conjunction with the Strategic report on pages 2 to 4 (which is incorporated in this Directors' report by reference), which together, include information about the Company's business, its financial performance during the year, and likely developments in the future.

DIVIDENDS

No dividends will be distributed for the year ended 31 December 2020 (2019: £nil).

EVENTS SINCE THE END OF THE YEAR

Information relating to events since the end of the year is given in the notes to the financial statements.

DIRECTORS

The directors shown below have held office during the whole of the period from 1 January 2020 to the date of this report.

IP2IPO Services Limited

Dr S C Williams

CHARITABLE AND POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

During the year the Company made no charitable or political contributions (2019: £nil).

GOING CONCERN

The Company has adequate financial resources and as a consequence, the Directors believe that the Company is well placed to manage its business risks successfully and to meet its liabilities as they fall due for at least twelve months from the date of approval of these financial statements.

QUALIFYING THIRD PARTY INDEMNITY PROVISION

The Company has arranged qualifying third-party indemnity for all of its directors.

BRANCHES

The Company operates from a single location in the UK and consequently has no branches.

CREDITOR PAYMENT POLICY

It is the Company's current policy to establish payment terms with suppliers when agreeing terms of supply, to ensure that suppliers are made aware of the terms of payment, and to adhere to those terms. The Company's average trade payable payment period at 31 December 2020 was 28 days (2019: 28 days).

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

	<u>VILLIAMS</u> s (Dec 1, 2021 14:11 GMT)	
Dr S C	Williams - Director	
Date:	1/12/2021	

Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 31 December 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
TURNOVER		-	-
Administrative expenses		(5,168,832)	(2,687,270)
·		(5,168,832)	(2,687,270)
Other operating income		69	
OPERATING LOSS		(5,168,763)	(2,687,270)
Interest receivable and similar income		3,209	1,987
		(5,165,554)	(2,685,283)
Interest payable and similar expenses	. 4	-	6
LOSS BEFORE TAXATION	5	(5,165,554)	(2,685,289)
Tax on loss	6	1,101,237	102,242
LOSS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR	R	(4,064,317)	(2,583,047)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOM	MŒ		
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE LOSS I	FOR	(4,064,317)	(2,583,047)

Statement of Financial Position

31 December 2020

		203	20	20	19
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	7		887		2,800
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors: amounts falling due within one	8	1,895,953		1,377,788	
year		ν,			
Debtors: amounts falling due after more th	nan				
one year	8	1,072,572		1,824,754	
Cash at bank		2,067,865		284,793	
		5,036,390		3,487,335	
CREDITORS		2,000,000		5,107,555	
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(6,729,763)		(1,422,750)	
NET CURRENT (LIABILITIES)/ASSE	ETS		(1,693,373)		2,064,585
THE CORRECT (ELABILITIES)/ASSE			(1,025,575)		2,001,505
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT					
LIABILITIES			(1,692,486)		2,067,385
OPEDITORS					
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one	10		(9 206 409)		(8,306,408)
year	10		(8,306,408)		(8,300,408)
NET LIABILITIES			(9,998,894)		(6,239,023)
CAPITAL AND RESERVES					
Called up share capital	12		70,205		70,205
Share premium	13		17,275		17,275
Capital redemption reserve	13		99,033		99,033
Capital reserve	13		64,318		64,318
Retained earnings	13		(10,249,725)		(6,489,854)
SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS			(9,998,894)		(6,239,023)

Statement of Financial Position - continued 31 December 2020

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2020.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and of its profit or loss for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 1/12/2021....... and were signed on its behalf by:

Sam Williams
Sam Williams (Dec 1, 2021 14:11 GMT)

Dr S C Williams - Director

Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 31 December 2020

	Called up share capital £	Retained earnings £	Share premium £
Balance at 1 January 2019	70,205	(4,196,807)	17,275
Changes in equity Total comprehensive loss LTIP share option charge	-	(2,583,047) 290,000	<u>-</u>
Balance at 31 December 2019	70,205	(6,489,854)	17,275
Changes in equity Total comprehensive loss LTIP share option charge	· -	(4,064,317) 304,446	-
Balance at 31 December 2020	70,205	(10,249,725)	17,275
	Capital redemption reserve £	Capital reserve £	Total equity £
Balance at 1 January 2019	redemption reserve	reserve	equity
Balance at 1 January 2019 Changes in equity Total comprehensive loss LTIP share option charge	redemption reserve £	reserve £	equity £
Changes in equity Total comprehensive loss	redemption reserve £	reserve £	equity £ (3,945,976) (2,583,047)
Changes in equity Total comprehensive loss LTIP share option charge Balance at 31 December 2019	redemption reserve £ 99,033	reserve £ 64,318	equity £ (3,945,976) (2,583,047) 290,000
Changes in equity Total comprehensive loss LTIP share option charge	redemption reserve £ 99,033	reserve £ 64,318	equity £ (3,945,976) (2,583,047) 290,000

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

1. STATUTORY INFORMATION

Modern Biosciences Limited is a private company, limited by shares, registered in England and Wales. The company's registered number and registered office address can be found on the Company Information page.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the Company's financial statements. These financial statements were prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 101 Reduced Disclosure Framework ("FRS 101"). The amendments to FRS 101 issued subsequently and which are effectively immediately have been applied.

In preparing these financial statements, the Company applies the recognition, measurement and disclosure requirements of International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU ("Adopted IFRSs"), but makes amendments where necessary in order to comply with Companies Act 2006 and has set out below where advantage of the FRS 101 disclosure exemptions has been taken.

In these financial statements, the Company has applied the exemptions available under FRS 101 in respect of the following disclosures: a Cash Flow Statement and related notes; disclosures in respect of capital management; the effects of new but not yet effective IFRSs; and disclosures of transactions with a management entity that provides key management personnel services to the Company.

The Company proposes to continue to adopt the reduced disclosure framework of FRS 101 in its next financial statements.

The preparation of financial statements in compliance with generally accepted accounting principles requires the use of estimates and assumptions that affect the amount reported of assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date and the amounts reported as revenue and expenditure of the reporting period.

Going concern

The Company's cash position at 31 December 2020 was £2,067,865 (2019: £284,793).

The operations of the Company are structured to focus on developing the most promising commercialisation opportunities whilst maintaining a controlled overhead base. Detailed financial forecasts for the Company, primarily comprising cash flows for the 12-month period post signing of the accounts, have been prepared. On the basis of these forecasts the directors have concluded that the going concern basis of preparation remains appropriate. The financial statements do not include any adjustments that would result if the going concern basis of preparation were no longer appropriate.

Significant accounting estimates and judgements

The directors make judgements and estimates concerning the future. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, such as expectations of future events, and are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Computer equipment - between 20% and 33% on cost

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the year ended 31 December 2020

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Financial assets

In respect of regular way purchases or sales, the Company uses trade date accounting to recognise or derecognise financial assets. Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the assets have expired or the Company has transferred substantially all risks and rewards of ownership.

The Company classifies its financial assets into one of the categories listed below, depending on the purpose for which the asset was acquired. None of the Company's financial assets are categorised as fair value through profit or loss, held for trading or held to maturity.

Loans and receivables

These assets are non-derivative financial assets with fixed and determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. They arise principally through the payment of expenses on behalf of other group companies and value added tax on expenses not yet recovered from HM Revenue & Customs. Loans and receivables are carried at cost less provision for impairment.

Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are comprised of trade payables and other short-term monetary liabilities, which are recognised at amortised cost.

Interest-free loans, which are not repayable on demand, are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. The difference between fair value on initial recognition and proceeds received is recognised as income or a capital contribution, dependent upon the parties to the loan. This difference is recognised as imputed interest through the income statement using the effective interest method.

The fair value on initial recognition is determined as the net present value of future cash flows discounted at a market interest rate.

Unless otherwise indicated, the carrying amounts of the Company's financial liabilities are a reasonable approximation to their fair value.

Deferred tax

Full provision is made for deferred tax on all temporary differences resulting from the carrying value of an asset or liability and its tax base. Deferred tax is determined using tax rates (and laws) that have been enacted or substantially enacted by the balance sheet date and are expected to apply when the related deferred tax asset is realised or deferred tax liability settled. Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that the deferred tax asset will be recovered in the future.

Employee benefit costs

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the company's pension scheme are charged to the income statement in the period to which they relate.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities on the balance sheet.

Share capital

Financial instruments issued by the Company are treated as equity if the holders have only a residual interest in the Company's assets after deducting all liabilities. The objective of the Company is to manage capital so as to provide shareholders with above average returns through capital growth over the medium to long term. The Company considers its capital to comprise its share capital, share premium and retained earnings. The Company is not subject to any externally imposed capital requirements.

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Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the year ended 31 December 2020

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Changes in accounting policies

(i) New standards, interpretations and amendments effective from 1 January 2020

There are no new standards have been applied in these financial statements.

(ii) New standards, interpretations and amendments not yet effective

No new standards, interpretations and amendments not yet effective are expected to have a material effect on the Company's future financial statements.

3. EMPLOYEES AND DIRECTORS

4.

5.

	2020 £	2019 £
Wages and salaries	353,581	295,801
Social security costs	43,090	22,208
Other pension costs	19,944	13,856
	416,615	331,865
The average number of employees during the year was as follows:	2020	2010
	2020	2019
Administrative and Directors	2	2
•	2020	2019
	£	£
Directors' remuneration		
INTEREST PAYABLE AND SIMILAR EXPENSES		
INTEREST I ATABLE AND SIMILAR EXCESS	2020	2019
	£	£
Loan	-	6
LOSS BEFORE TAXATION		•
The loss before taxation is stated after charging:		
The loss octors assault to based atter charges	2020	2019
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	2,911	11,937
Auditors' remuneration	(2,427)	-
Foreign exchange differences	8,941	4,605
Share based payment charge	304,446	290,000

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the year ended 31 December 2020

6. TAXATION

7.

Analysis of tax income	2020	2019
	£	£
Current tax: Tax	(1,101,237)	(547,721)
Deferred tax		445,479
Total tax income in statement of comprehensive income	(1,101,237)	(102,242)
Factors affecting the tax expense The tax assessed for the year is lower (2019 - higher) than the standard rate difference is explained below:	of corporation tax	in the UK. The
	2020	2019
Loss before income tax	£ (5,165,554)	£ (2,685,289)
Loss multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19% (2019 - 19%)	(981,455)	(510,205)
Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous periods Tax rate changes Effect of R & D relief Deferred tax not recognised Effect of share-based payment charge	17,612 31 - (473,846) 278,576 57,845	55,136 (36,532) 17,855 (215,586) 587,090
Tax income	(1,101,237)	(102,242)
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS		Computer equipment £
COST At 1 January 2020 Additions		99,095 998
At 31 December 2020		100,093
DEPRECIATION At 1 January 2020 Charge for year		96,295 2,911
At 31 December 2020		99,206
NET BOOK VALUE At 31 December 2020		<u>887</u>
At 31 December 2019		2,800

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the year ended 31 December 2020

8.	DEBTORS	2020	2019
		£	£
	Amounts falling due within one year:		
	Other debtors	55,449	67,598
	Tax	1,594,486	1,251,586
	VAT	246,018	58,604
		1,895,953	_1,377,788
	Amounts falling due after more than one year:		
	Amounts owed by group undertakings	1,072,572	1,824,754
	Aggregate amounts	2,968,525	3,202,542
	Aggregate amounts	2,900,323	3,202,342
9.	CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
		2020	2019
		£	£
	Trade creditors	540,661	179,115
	Social security and other taxes	17,201	7,084
	Other creditors	6,134,053	1,160,371
	Accruals and deferred income	37,848	76,180
	•	6,729,763	1,422,750
10.	CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR	2020	2019
		£	£
	Amounts owed to group undertakings	8,306,408	8,306,408
11.	CATEGORISATION OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS		
		Loans	
		and	
		receivables	Total
	Financial assets	£	£
	At 31 December 2020		
	Trade and other receivables	1,128,021	1,128,021
	Cash and cash equivalents	2,067,865	2,067,865
	_	3,195,886	3,195,886
	At 31 December 2019		
	Trade and other receivables	1,892,351	1,892,351
	Cash and cash equivalents	284,793	284,793
	——————————————————————————————————————	201,773	201,170
	_	2,177,144	2,177,144

All financial liabilities are categorised as other financial liabilities and recognised at amortised cost.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the year ended 31 December 2020

12. CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL

Allotted, issued and fully paid: Number: Class:		paid:		Nominal value:	2020 £	2019 £	
	70,204,880	Ordinary			0.1p	70,205	70,205
13.	RESERVES		Retained earnings £	Share premium £	Capital redemption reserve £	Capital reserve £	Totals £
	At 1 January 2 Deficit for the LTIP share op	year	(6,489,854) (4,064,317) 304,446	17,275 <u>-</u>	99,033	64,318	(6,309,228) (4,064,317) 304,446
	At 31 Decemb	per 2020	(10,249,725)	17,275	99,033	64,318	(10,069,099)

14. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Company receives business support services from IP2IPO Limited, a subsidiary company of IP Group plc, which is a significant shareholder in the Company's parent company Istesso Limited. No amounts were invoiced or are outstanding at balance sheet date for these services during the year (2019: £nil).

The Company has received an £8.3m loan from IP Group plc.

As part of the provision of ongoing financial support to a number of its subsidiaries, the Company has permitted those subsidiaries to recharge the Company for their research related expenditure in the year. An analysis of the amounts recharged is as follows:

	2020 £	2019 £
PIMCO 2664 Limited	•	

With the exception of the above, the Company has not sold to, or purchased from, any related party in the year. The amounts owed by group undertakings arose through the settlement of expenses by the Company which were incurred by another group undertaking. This amount is repayable on demand and does not bear interest. Its book value is considered to be its fair value at the balance sheet date.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the year ended 31 December 2020

14. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (continued)

The directors consider the key management of the Company to solely comprise the board of directors whose aggregate remuneration is that disclosed in note 3 to the financial statements. Details of the Company's subsidiary undertakings at 31 December 2020 are as follows:

	Place of incorporation (or registration) and operation	Place of ownership interest and voting power held %
PIMCO 2664 Limited*	England and Wales	100
Modern Biosciences Nominees Limited*	England and Wales	100
MBS Secretarial Limited*	England and Wales	100
MBS Director Limited*	England and Wales	100

All the above companies marked with a * are dormant.

15. EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

At present, the Directors do not envisage the Covid-19 pandemic will result in a significant adverse impact for the Company, however given that the outcome of the Covid-19 pandemic is uncertain we acknowledge that a definitive assessment of its impact cannot be made at this time.

16. IMMEDIATE AND ULTIMATE PARENT COMPANY AND CONTROLLING PARTY

The immediate parent company and the ultimate controlling party is Istesso Limited. Copies of the ultimate parent company's financial statements may be obtained from its registered address.

17. SHARE-BASED PAYMENTS

In 2019, the Company began to incentivise employees with EMI options through its Share Option Scheme.

Istesso Limited Share Option Scheme ("the Scheme")

The EMI options allow an employee to exercise the option to purchase a specified class of Istesso Limited shares, at a specified price. The EMI options are subject to time-based vesting over three years (1/3 after year one, 1/3 after year two and 1/3 after year three) provided that the value of Istesso Limited's ordinary shares increases by 10% per year over the three-year period.

An analysis of movements in the EMI ordinary share options outstanding is as follows:

	Number of options 2020	Weighted average exercise price 2020	Number of options 2019	Weighted average exercise price 2019
At 1 January EMI options granted in the year Exercised during the year	1,123,147 73,298	249,339 11,361 -	1,126,126 -	250,000
Lapsed during the year			(2,979)	<u>(661</u>)
At 31 December	1,196,445	234,760	1,123,147	249,339
Exercisable at 31 December	-	-	<u>-</u>	-

The options outstanding at 31 December 2020 had exercise prices between £0.155 and £0.222 (2019: £0.222) and a remaining contractual life of 8.6 years (2019: 9.6 years).

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the year ended 31 December 2020

17. SHARE-BASED PAYMENTS (continued)

An analysis of movements in the EMI growth share options outstanding is as follows:

·	Number of options 2020	Weighted average exercise price 2020	Number of options 2019	Weighted average 'exercise price 2019
At 1 January EMI options granted in the year Exercised during the year Lapsed during the year	183,399 - - -	183 - - -	183,399 - -	183
At 31 December	183,399	183	183,399	183
Exercisable at 31 December	-	_	-	-

The options outstanding at 31 December 2020 had an exercise price of £0.001 (2019: £0.001) and a remaining contractual life of 8.5 years (2019: 9.5 years).

The fair value of EMI ordinary share options notionally awarded during the year was calculated using Monte Carlo pricing models with the following key assumptions:

	2020	2019
Share price at date of award	£1.11	£1.11
Exercise price	£0.155	£0.222
Fair value at grant date	£0.96	£0.51
Expected volatility	36%	36%
Expected life (years)	3.0	3.0
Expected dividend yield	0%	0%
Risk-free interest rate	0.1%	0.7%

The fair value of EMI growth share options notionally awarded during the year was calculated using Monte Carlo pricing models with the following key assumptions:

	2020	2019
Share price at date of award	-	£1.11
Exercise price	-	£0.001
Fair value at grant date	-	£0.56
Expected volatility	-	36%
Expected life (years)	-	3.0
Expected dividend yield	-	0%
Risk-free interest rate	-	0.6%