

Direct Group Investment Limited

**Directors' report and financial
statements**

Registered number 5433486

For the year ended 31 January 2010

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Directors' report

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 January 2010

Principal activities

Direct Group Investment Limited is a holding company

Business review

The company generated an operating loss of £nil (2009 £4,000) and a loss for the financial year of £1,976,000 (2009 profit £6,636,000)

Dividends

The directors recommend payment of a final ordinary dividend of £nil (2009 £nil) making, with the interim of £nil (2009 £5,000,000) a total of £nil (2009 £5,000,000) for the year

Policy and practice on payment of creditors

The company's current policy concerning the payment of trade creditors is to

- settle the terms of payment with suppliers when agreeing the terms of each transaction,
- ensure that suppliers are made aware of the terms of payment by inclusion of the relevant terms in contracts, and
- pay in accordance with the company's contractual and other legal obligations

At the year end, there were nil days (2009 nil days) purchases in trade creditors

Directors

The directors who held office during the year were as follows

DJ Coles

SW Hough

CA Mason

Political and charitable contributions

The company made no political donations (2009 £nil) or charitable contributions (2009 £nil) during the year

Directors' report *(continued)*

Disclosure of information to auditors

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

Auditors

Pursuant to Section 487 of the Companies Act 2006, the auditors will be deemed to be reappointed and KPMG Audit Plc will therefore continue in office

By order of the board



DJ Coles
Director

Direct House
4 Sidings Court
White Rose Way
Doncaster
DN4 5NU

15 June 2010

Statement of directors' responsibilities in respect of the directors' report and the financial statements

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

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

Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of its profit or loss for that period. In preparing the company financial statements, the directors are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that its financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the group and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the company's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Independent auditors' report to the members of Direct Group Investment Limited

We have audited the financial statements of Direct Group Investment Limited for the year ended 31 January 2010 set out on pages 5 to 14. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and UK Accounting Standards (UK 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 auditors' 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 Directors' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 3, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's (APB's) Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

A description of the scope of an audit of financial statements is provided on the APB's web-site at www.frc.org.uk/apb/scope/UKNP.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 January 2010 and of the company's loss for the year then ended,
- have been properly prepared in accordance with UK 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 Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

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 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.



Karen T Orr (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of KPMG Audit Plc, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants

1 The Embankment
Neville Street
Leeds
LS1 4DW

15 June 2010

Profit and loss account
for the year ended 31 January 2010

	<i>Notes</i>	2010 £000	2009 £000
Turnover and gross profit	<i>1</i>	-	-
Administrative expenses		-	(4)
Operating loss		<u>-</u>	<u>(4)</u>
Other interest receivable and similar income	<i>5</i>	796	9,296
Interest payable and similar charges	<i>6</i>	(2,772)	(2,656)
(Loss)/profit on ordinary activities before taxation	<i>2</i>	<u>(1,976)</u>	<u>6,636</u>
Tax on (loss)/profit on ordinary activities	<i>7</i>	-	-
(Loss)/profit for the financial year		<u><u>(1,976)</u></u>	<u><u>6,636</u></u>

The profit and loss account has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations

The notes on pages 8 to 14 form an integral part of these financial statements

There are no differences between the loss for the financial year reported above and the total recognised gains and losses relating to the financial year

Balance sheet
at 31 January 2010

	Notes	2010 £000	2010 £000	2009 £000	2009 £000
Fixed assets					
Investments	9		39,232		39,232
Current assets					
Debtors	10	6,168		5,372	
Cash at bank and in hand		-		12	
		<u>6,168</u>		<u>5,384</u>	
Creditors amounts falling due within one year	11	(45,367)		(42,607)	
Net current liabilities			<u>(39,199)</u>		<u>(37,223)</u>
Net assets			<u>33</u>		<u>2,009</u>
Capital and reserves					
Called up share capital	13		1,230		1,230
Profit and loss account	14		(1,197)		779
Total shareholders' funds			<u>33</u>		<u>2,009</u>

The notes on pages 8 to 14 form an integral part of these financial statements

These financial statements were approved by the board of directors on 15 June 2010 and were signed on its behalf by



CA Mason
Director

Reconciliation of movements in shareholders' funds
for the year ended 31 January 2010

	2010 £000	2009 £000
(Loss)/profit for the financial year	(1,976)	6,636
Dividends paid	-	(5,000)
Net (reduction in)/addition to shareholders' funds	(1,976)	1,636
Opening shareholders' funds	2,009	373
Closing shareholders' funds	33	2,009

Notes

(forming part of the financial statements)

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies are set out below and have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the company's financial statements

Basis of preparation

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

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

Under FRS 1 the company is exempt from the requirement to prepare a cash flow statement on the grounds that a parent undertaking includes the company in its own published consolidated financial statements.

As all of the company's voting rights are controlled within the group headed by Direct Newco Limited, the company has taken advantage of the exemption contained in FRS 8 and has therefore not disclosed transactions or balances with entities which form part of the group (or investees of the group qualifying as related parties). The consolidated financial statements of Direct Newco Limited, within which this company is included, can be obtained from the address in note 16.

Fixed asset investments

Investments in subsidiary undertakings are stated at cost less any provision for impairment.

Impairment policy

Provisions are calculated based on the fair values of the business based on discounted cash flows. The investments are deemed to be impaired if there is an excess of the carrying value over the recoverable amount. Impairment is recognised in the profit and loss account in the year in which it occurs. Impairment reviews are carried out when there is an indication that impairment has occurred.

Taxation

The charge for taxation is based on the profit/(loss) for the year and takes into account taxation deferred because of timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes.

Deferred tax is recognised without discounting, in respect of all timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes which have arisen but not reversed by the balance sheet date, except as otherwise required by FRS 19.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are calculated at the tax rate expected to be effective at the time the timing differences are expected to reverse.

Turnover

Turnover represents the company's management fees charged to a wholly owned subsidiary, Direct Group Limited, for services provided by the company's directors.

Classification of financial instruments issued by the company

Financial instruments issued by the company are treated as equity (i.e. forming part of shareholders' funds) only to the extent that they meet the following two conditions:

- a) they include no contractual obligations upon the company to deliver cash or other financial assets or to exchange financial assets or financial liabilities with another party under conditions that are potentially unfavourable to the company, and

Notes (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Classification of financial instruments issued by the company (continued)

- b) where the instrument will or may be settled in the company's own equity instruments, it is either a non-derivative that includes no obligation to deliver a variable number of the company's own equity instruments or is a derivative that will be settled by the company exchanging a fixed amount of cash or other financial assets for a fixed number of its own equity instruments

To the extent that this definition is not met, the proceeds of issue are classified as a financial liability. Where the instrument so classified takes the legal form of the company's own shares, the amounts presented in these financial statements for called up share capital and share premium exclude amounts in relation to those shares.

Finance payments associated with financial liabilities are dealt with as part of interest payable and similar charges. Finance payments associated with financial instruments that are classified as part of shareholders' funds (see dividend policy) are dealt with as appropriations in the reconciliation of movements in shareholders' funds.

Interest receivable and payable

Interest receivable and payable is recognised in the profit and loss account on an accruals basis. If the collection of interest is considered doubtful, it is suspended and excluded from interest income in the profit and loss account.

Dividends

Dividends payable or receivable are accounted for in the period in which the company is liable to pay or receive them.

Dividends payable are treated as a charge on reserves and accounted for through the reconciliation of movements in shareholders' funds. Dividends receivable are treated as a credit to the profit and loss account within the heading 'other interest receivable and similar income'.

2 Notes to the profit and loss account

	2010 £000	2009 £000
<i>Loss/profit on ordinary activities before taxation is stated after charging</i>		
Auditors' remuneration		
Audit of these financial statements	3	3

Auditors' remuneration in the current year was borne by another group company on behalf of the company. Fees paid for services other than the statutory audit of the company are not disclosed in these financial statements since the consolidated accounts of the company's ultimate parent undertaking, Direct Newco Limited, are required to disclose non-audit fees on a consolidated basis.

3 Remuneration of directors

	2010 £000	2009 £000
Directors' emoluments	-	-

The aggregate of emoluments and amounts receivable under long term incentive schemes of the highest paid director was £nil (2009 £nil) and company pension contributions of £nil (2009 £nil) were made on his behalf.

Notes *(continued)*

4 Staff numbers and costs

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

	2010 Nº	2009 Nº
Directors	3	3
Administration	-	-
	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

Staff costs are borne by another group company on the company's behalf

5 Other interest receivable and similar income

	2010 £000	2009 £000
Other interest	796	796
Dividend income from subsidiary undertakings	-	8,500
	<u>796</u>	<u>9,296</u>

6 Interest payable and similar charges

	2010 £000	2009 £000
On bank loans and overdrafts	41	(46)
On all other loans	2,731	2,702
	<u>2,772</u>	<u>2,656</u>

Notes (continued)

7 Taxation

	2010 £000	2009 £000
<i>UK corporation tax @ 28% (2009 28.33%)</i>		
Current tax on income for the year	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Deferred tax (see note 12)		
Reversal of timing differences	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

The current tax charge for the year is lower (2009 lower) than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK (28%, 2009 28.33%). The differences are explained below

	2010 £000	2009 £000
(Loss)/profit on ordinary activities before tax	<u>(1,976)</u>	<u>6,636</u>
Current tax at 28% (2009 28.33%)	(553)	1,880
<i>Effects of</i>		
Income not taxable for tax purposes	405	(2,408)
Other short term timing differences	-	-
Utilisation of group tax losses	-	528
Losses carried forward	148	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total current tax charge (see above)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

8 Dividends

	2010 £000	2009 £000
<i>Recognised as financial distributions in the year</i>		
Equity shares		
Interim dividends of £nil (2009 £4 0650) per share paid in respect of the current year	<u>-</u>	<u>5,000</u>

9 Fixed asset investments

	Shares in group undertakings £000
<i>Cost and net book value</i>	
At beginning and end of year	<u>39,232</u>

Notes (continued)

9 Fixed asset investments (continued)

The company holds 100% of the ordinary share capital of the following group undertakings, all of which were incorporated in England and Wales

	<i>Status and principal activity</i>	<i>Holding</i>
Direct Group Holdings Limited	Intermediate holding company	100% Direct
Direct Group Limited	Trading – Insurance Service Provider	100% Indirect
Direct Group Property Services Limited	Trading – Household Insurance Service Provider	100% Direct
Millennium Insurance Brokers Limited	Trading – Insurance Broker	100% Direct
Direct Creditor Administration Limited	Dormant	100% Indirect
Direct Warranty Administration Limited	Dormant	100% Indirect
Direct Finance & Insurance Services Limited	Dormant	100% Indirect

10 Debtors

	2010 £000	2009 £000
Amounts due from group undertakings	<u>6,168</u>	<u>5,372</u>

11 Creditors

	2010 £000	2009 £000
<i>Amounts falling due within one year</i>		
Amounts owed to group undertakings	45,367	42,365
Accruals and deferred income	-	242
Total creditors	<u>45,367</u>	<u>42,607</u>

Other loan interest

On 3 August 2007 the company received a £37,749,000 loan from Direct Newco Limited. The interest on the loan was a fixed rate of 7%, with none being paid, resulting in a loan obligation of £44,355,094 (2009 £41,712,994) to Direct Newco Limited as at 31 January 2010.

On 2 June 2008 Direct Newco Limited paid cash consideration of £1,266,668 for the purchase of Millennium Insurance Brokers Limited before the company was hived down to Direct Group Investment Limited on the same date. The interest on this loan was a fixed rate of 7%, with none being paid, resulting in an obligation of £147,778 (2009 £59,111) to Direct Newco Limited as at 31 January 2010.

Interest rate hedging

At 31 January 2009, the company held an interest rate structured collar at a cap of 5.25% and a floor of 4.07%. This instrument was discharged on 1 October 2009.

Notes (continued)

12 Provisions for liabilities

	2010 £000	2009 £000
<i>Deferred tax</i>		
At beginning of year	-	-
Charge to the profit and loss for the year	-	-
At end of year	-	-

The amounts provided for deferred taxation and the amounts not provided are set out below

	2010 Provided £000	2010 Unprovided £000	2009 Provided £000	2009 Unprovided £000
<i>Deferred tax</i>				
Losses	-	(148)	-	-
Deferred tax asset	-	(148)	-	-

13 Called up share capital

	2010 £000	2009 £000
<i>Authorised</i>		
395,000 Preferred ordinary shares of £1 each	395	395
415,000 A ordinary shares of £1 each	415	415
190,000 B ordinary shares of £1 each	190	190
229,948 Deferred shares of £1 each	230	230
	1,230	1,230
<i>Allotted, called up and fully paid</i>		
395,000 Preferred ordinary shares of £1 each	395	395
415,000 A ordinary shares of £1 each	415	415
190,000 B ordinary shares of £1 each	190	190
229,948 Deferred shares of £1 each	230	230
	1,230	1,230

Preferred, A and B ordinary shares of £1 each

On a return of capital on winding up, or otherwise, the preferred, A and B ordinary shares participate pari passu

The preferred, A and B ordinary shares carry one vote per share

Deferred shares of £1 each

On a return of capital on winding up, or otherwise, these shares realise their nominal value once £500 million has already been distributed to the Preferred, A and B ordinary shares

The deferred shares carry no voting rights

Notes (continued)

14 Reserves

	2010 £000	2009 £000
Profit and loss account		
At beginning of year	779	(857)
Retained (loss)/profit for the year	(1,976)	1,636
At end of year	(1,197)	779

15 Commitments

The company did not have any capital or financial commitments as at 31 January 2010 and 31 January 2009

16 Ultimate parent company

The company is a subsidiary undertaking of Direct Newco Limited, incorporated in England and Wales

The largest group in which the results of the company are consolidated is that headed by Direct Newco Limited. The consolidated accounts of this group are available to the public and may be obtained from Direct House, 4 Sidings Court, Doncaster, DN4 5NU