Report and Financial Statements

Year Ended

31 March 2013

Company Number 06539986

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# Report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013

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### **Directors**

N Temple-Heald

D J Graham

D Spruzen

R A Ramsey

K J Terry

### Secretary and registered office

D J Graham, Landscapes House, 3 Rye Hill Office Park, Birmingham Road, Allesley, Coventry, CV5 9AB

### Company number

06539986

### **Auditors**

BDO LLP, Bridgewater House, Finzels Reach, Counterslip, Bristol, BS1 6BX

## Report of the directors for the year ended 31 March 2013

The directors present their report together with the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013

### Results and dividends

The profit and loss account is set out on page 9 and shows the loss for the year

During the year dividends of £1,542,366 (2012 £1,341,189) were accrued, but not paid, in respect of amounts due to the preference shareholders

The directors have not recommended a dividend

### Principal activities, review of business and future developments

Hare Newco Limited is a holding company for the wider trading group and supported and funded by private equity fund Elysian Capital I LP. The group is a leading provider of specialist clean and green services, delivering grounds management, arboriculture, cleansing, park management & consultancy, facilities management and landscape construction services. Despite a continued headwind of public spending cuts both profit and cash flow performance improved in the group compared to prior year.

The group derives the majority of its income from the tendering for and delivery of long-term maintenance contracts. The group has an enviable record for the quality of its service delivery and consequently for retaining contracts when they come up for extension and renewal

During the year the group won a number of significant new long-term contracts most notably

A four way partnership with Hastings, Rother & AmicusHonzon Housing to deliver grounds maintenance services which mobilised on 1 October 2012 for an initial ten year term until November 2022 with a further extension option of two years until 2024

A grounds maintenance, street cleansing and facilities management contract with Mendip District Council, which mobilised on 1 November 2012 for an initial ten year term until November 2022 with a further five year extension option until 2027

The extremely prestigious Warwick District Council parks and open spaces contract, commencing on 1 April 2013 with an initial eight year term until 2021 with a further extension option until 2029 to provide amenity horticulture and parks management services in Warwick, Kenilworth and Royal Learnington Spa

There were further new contracts won in the year that started including those at South Staffordshire, Gloucestershire Schools, Weaver Vale Housing, Cambridgeshire Constabulary and Stratford-Upon-Avon also commencing on 1 April 2013 with an initial five year term until 2018 plus a further extension option until 2023

A significant milestone in the evolution of the business was the commencement in November 2012 of the Estates and Facilities Management service for the management of the public realm at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, covering green, clean, landscaping and waste recycling services and the management of the Park, Waterways and Play spaces. This runs for an initial term until 2024 and in the next few years is expected to develop and expand. The first task of the newly established QEOP team has been to act in the client function role overseeing the work of contractors during the transformation of the park from games time requirements to the final vision of the park in legacy and is operated in alliance with Balfour Beatty Work Place.

The only contract loss in the year was at North Somerset where following a two year extension the contract ended on 31 March 2013. The new contract tendered had a significant and high risk element of waste management and the group lost narrowly on price to a competitor who had an existing waste management infrastructure in the South West.

# Report of the directors for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

### Principal activities, review of business and future developments (continued)

The group continues therefore to be successful in implementing the group's three point strategy for growth namely

- Retaining and renewing existing contracts through the continued quality of service provision
- Organic growth via new contracts
- Acquisitive growth from selective strategic acquisitions

Following the new business won in the year, the group has increased its forward order book on grounds maintenance to £259m, including available extension periods totalling £92m. The bid pipeline remains healthy, with a number of significant tenders in the pipeline for 2013.

Management continues to address the issues surrounding the reducing budgets of many of our public sector clients, working even closer with them to help achieve their budget reductions and service delivery objectives. This approach has ensured the group protects its margin at the same time as delivering client objectives. This approach together with the group's enviable track record of securing contract extensions has meant that it continues to develop its first strategic objective to "keep and improve what we have got"

The underlying performance of the landscape construction business improved during the year as a result of the strategic decision to scale the business back in the face of an adverse market in construction. The activity was re-focused and now concentrates on the continuing profitable types of business managed from the North West. This area of the group continues to deliver a quality product in the face of the difficult economic environment. The prospects for the UK construction market do not look set to improve in 2013/14 and during the year management have taken action believed to be necessary to ensure that we continue to have a viable Landscape Construction business able to deliver a quality product once the economic cycle turns.

The group's financial position continues to be strong and this is reflected in industry recognised credit reports for both Hare Newco and its operating subsidiaries. The directors consider that the financial instruments relating to loan stock and preference shares are better understood as part of the shareholders' funds invested in the business, although these instruments are classified as long term liabilities in the balance sheet as required under UK GAAP. This is because the loan stock and preference shares, together with the associated accrued interest and dividends, will not result in any cash outflows until 2018. If the total £22,393,000 relating to the long term financial instruments of the loan stock and preference shares (together with the associated accrued interest and dividends) was reclassified to shareholders' funds, the adjusted consolidated net asset position at 31 March 2013 would be £9,095,000. The group continues to generate a positive cash flow after repaying its short term debt obligations.

# Report of the directors for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

The key performance indicators of the group are as follows

	2013 £'000	2012 £'000	Commentary
Turnover	44,598	47,119	Group turnover reduced in the year principally due to the intended reduction in the size of the landscape construction business The term Grounds Maintenance area of the business continued to grow
Gross profit %	15 4	13 1	Gross profit margin is the ratio of gross profit to turnover expressed as a percentage. The improvement underpins the grounds maintenance operational efficiency delivered in the year to the benefit of clients and the group.
Adjusted EBITDA**	4,009	3,255	EBITDA improved compared to the prior year with grounds maintenance margins increasing
Cash Cover	12	11	The group continues to operate with significant headroom on its cash flow. This demonstrates the group's positive management of its cash flow and ability to service its short term finance commitments.
Grounds Maintenance Order Book	259,200	218,000	With 12 new contracts won during the year, the group has significantly increased the term order book, providing solid future revenue generation beyond 2022

** Adjusted EBITDA is defined as follows	2013 £'000	2012 £'000
Operating profit/(loss) Add back	1,028	442
- depreciation	1,476	1,590
- amortisation	1,455	1,454
<ul> <li>exceptional costs restructuring costs and VAT on deal fees</li> </ul>	197	-
- exceptional credit onerous provision release	(415)	(378)
- investors' fees/other charges	268	147
Adjusted EBITDA	4,009	3,255
		<del></del>

### Financial risk management

The group's operations expose it to a variety of financial risks that include the effects of changes in market prices, credit risk, liquidity risk and interest rate risk. The group has in place a risk management programme that seeks to limit the adverse effects on the financial performance of the group, by monitoring levels of debt finance and the related finance costs. Given the size of the group, the directors have not delegated the responsibility of monitoring financial risk management to a sub-committee of the board. The policies set out by the board of directors are implemented by the group's finance department.

# Report of the directors for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

### Financial risk management (continued)

### Price risk

The group is exposed to commodity price risk as a result of its operations. However, given the size of the group's operations, the costs of managing exposure to commodity price risk exceed any potential benefits. The directors will revisit the appropriateness of this policy should the group's operations change in size or nature.

### Credit risk

The group has implemented policies that require appropriate credit checks on potential customers before sales are made. The group operates credit insurance for significant private sector transactions.

### Liquidity risk

The group, with the support of its principal shareholder, actively maintains a mixture of long term and short term debt finance that is designed to ensure the group has sufficient available funds for operations and planned expansions

### Interest rate cash flow risk

The group has both interest bearing assets and interest bearing liabilities. Interest bearing assets relate to cash balances which earn interest on rates linked to base rate and LIBOR. Interest bearing liabilities relate to bank overdrafts, loans and finance leases which are charged interest on rates linked to base rate, LIBOR and are fixed respectively. In addition the group has issued preference shares and loan notes which attract a fixed coupon of 15%, repayable in 2018.

### Business risk

The group regularly assesses risks that impact on the business. This includes our processes and procedures in relation to quality and health and safety. The group has maintained its full accreditation for ISO9001, ISO14001 and OHSAS18001. Through our quality management system the group conducts regular risk assessments and audits with management committed to improving controls and processes. The group's board regularly reviews such risk assessments together with related health and safety matters. During the year the group continued its training programme for managers to undertake NEBOSH and IOSH training courses. As at the year end 1 manager held the NEBOSH National Diploma qualification in Occupational Safety and Health and the iema Associate Certificate in Environmental Management. 12 directors and managers are qualified to NEBOSH certificate level. The company also has a policy of ensuring that every operational manager is qualified to IOSH level and has a continuous training programme to maintain this with new employees and as new mangers join at new contracts. As at 31 March 2013, there were 83 employees who had attained the IOSH Managing Safety qualification. Seven managers hold the CITB Site Managers Safety Certificate, with five Supervisors holding the Site Supervisor's equivalent. In addition, two managers have completed their full manager's qualification for the New Roads and Street-works certificates with another completing the CPCS Crane/Lift Supervisors certificate in relation to complex lifting operations.

### **Employment of disabled persons**

Full and fair consideration is given to all applications for employment

# Report of the directors for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

### **Employee involvement**

Through our quality based internal management systems the group regularly consults with employees and encourages involvement in the group's strategy and development of business plans. Full training, to meet the group's high standards and to enable career development, is available to staff.

The landscape industry over the last few years has been widely reported as suffering from a skills shortage and a lack of high calibre staff choosing a career in this industry. Hare Newco continues to be committed to the development and training of all staff and offers both college based and on-site flexible and relevant training for all its employees. This contributes to the low level of staff turnover relative to the industry and good retention levels of the skilled workforce. During the year the group had enrolled 2 graduates and 1 manager on the group's accelerated leadership programme. These employees have continued to develop in the business.

The group has committed to undertake initial NVQ training for permanent operatives to enable them to develop their skills in horticulture. During the year 179 employees enrolled onto a relevant development framework with 141 of those undertaking a formal development training scheme.

### **Directors**

The directors of the company during the year were

N Temple-Heald D J Graham D Spruzen

R A Ramsey

K J Terry

### **Directors' responsibilities**

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

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the group and company financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the group and company 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 and then apply them consistently,
- make judgements 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, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

# Report of the directors for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

### **Auditors**

All of the current directors have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any information needed by the company's auditors for the purposes of their audit and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information. The directors are not aware of any relevant audit information of which the auditors are unaware.

The auditors, BDO LLP, are deemed to be re-appointed in accordance with section 487 of the Companies Act 2006

On behalf of the board

W. Tangle Hall.
N Temple-Heald

Director

Date 27 JUNE 2013

### Independent auditor's report

### To the members of Hare Newco Limited

We have audited the financial statements of Hare Newco Limited for the year ended 31 March 2013 which comprise the consolidated profit and loss account, the consolidated and company balance sheets, the consolidated cash flow statement, the consolidated statement of total recognised gains and losses and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice)

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed

### Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

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

### Scope of the audit of the financial statements

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

### Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and the parent company's affairs as at 31 March 2013 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

### Opinion on other matter 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

### Independent auditor's report (continued)

### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept 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

BOO LJ

Simon Brooker (senior statutory auditor)
For and on behalf of BDO LLP, statutory auditor
Bristol
United Kingdom

27 June 2013

BDO LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales (with registered number OC305127)

# Consolidated profit and loss account for the year ended 31 March 2013

	Note	2013 £'000	2012 £'000
Turnover	3	44,598	47,119
Cost of sales - excluding exceptional item Exceptional item	2	(38,165) 415	(41,311) 378
Cost of sales		(37,750)	(40,933)
Gross profit		6,848	6,186
Administrative expenses - general Exceptional items Amortisation of goodwill	2 4	(4,168) (197) (1,455)	(4,290) - (1,454)
Administrative expenses		(5,820)	(5,744)
Group operating profit	4	1,028	442
Other interest receivable Interest payable and similar charges Other finance charges	7 8	6 (3,289) (5)	(3,082)
Loss on ordinary activities before taxation		(2,260)	(2,644)
Taxation on loss on ordinary activities	9	(505)	(262)
Loss on ordinary activities after taxation		(2,765)	(2,906)

All amounts relate to continuing activities

# Consolidated statement of total recognised gains and losses for the year ended 31 March 2013

Consolidated statement of total recognised gains and losses	Note	2013 £'000	2012 £'000
Loss for the financial year Actuariat (losses)/gains on pension scheme	19	(2,765) (25)	(2,906) (198)
Total recognised gains and losses for the financial year		(2,790)	(3,104)

# Consolidated balance sheet at 31 March 2013

Company number 06539986	Note	2013 £'000	2013 £'000	2012 £'000	2012 £'000
Fixed assets Intangible assets Tangible assets	11 12		9,548 4,114		11,003 3,624
			13,662		14,627
Current assets Stocks Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	14 15	95 6,885 2,739		106 8,900 2,259	
		9,719		11,265	
Creditors amounts falling due within one year	16	9,913		11,604	
Net current liabilities			(194)		(339)
Total assets less current liabilities			13,468		14,288
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	17	26,542		24,185	
Provisions for liabilities	18	-		415	
			26,542 ——		24,600
Net liabilities excluding pension scheme liabilities			(13,074)		(10,312)
Pension scheme liabilities	19		(224)		(206)
Net liabilities including pension scheme liabilities			(13,298)		(10,518)

Consolidated balance sheet at 31 March 2013 (continued)

	Note	2013 £'000	2013 £'000	2012 £'000	2012 £'000
		2 000	2 000	2 000	2 000
Capital and reserves					
Called up share capital	20		4		4
Share premium account	21		350		350
Other reserves	21		-		(10)
Profit and loss account	21		(13,652)		(10,862)
Shareholders' deficit	22		(13,298)		(10,518)

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 27 Tune 2013

D J Graham Director

# Company balance sheet at 31 March 2013

Company number 06539986	Note	2013 £'000	2013 £'000	2012 £'000	2012 £'000
Fixed assets Fixed asset investments	13		86		86
Tixed asset investments	13		00		00
Current assets					
Debtors	15	6,567		6,678	
Cash at bank and in hand		88		55	
		6,655		6,733	
Creditors: amounts falling due within					
one year	16	356		379	
Net current assets			6,299		6,354
Total assets less current liabilities			6,385		6,440
Creditors, amounts falling due after					
more than one year	17		11,712		10,148
			<del></del>		
Net liabilities			(5,327)		(3,708)
			—		
Capital and reserves					
Called up share capital	20		4		4
Share premium account	21		350		350
Other reserves	21		-		(10)
Profit and loss account	21		(5,681)		(4,052)
Shareholders' deficit	22		(5,327)		(3,708)

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 27 Tune 2013

D J Graham Director

# Consolidated cashflow statement for the year ended 31 March 2013

	Note	2013 £'000	2013 £'000	2012 £'000	2012 £'000
Net cash inflow from operating activities	25		3,921		2,799
Returns on investments and servicing of finance Interest received Interest paid bank loans	g	6 (144)		- (349)	
Interest paid hire purchase		(201)		(171)	
Net cash outflow from returns on investments and servicing of finance	•		(339)		(520)
Taxation Corporation tax paid			(626)		(121)
Capital expenditure and financial investment				.=	
Payments to acquire tangible fixed asse Receipts from sale of tangible fixed assets	ets	(959) 28		(511) 36	
Net cash outflow from capital expenditure and financial investmen	t		(931)		(475)
Cash inflow before use of financing			2,025		1,683
Financing Ordinary shares purchased from Hare		40		07	
Discretionary Trust Loans repaid Capital element of finance leases repair	d	10 (550) (1,005)		27 (550) (1,001)	
Net cash outflow from financing			(1,545)		(1,524)
Increase in cash	26		480		159

# Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013

### 1 Accounting policies

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

The following principal accounting policies have been applied

### Going concern

The group's operations are funded by a combination of cash generated from operations, overdrafts, committed bank term loans and long term loan notes and preference shares

During the year the group continued to win a number of long term grounds maintenance contracts with the order book increasing. It is predicted that the order book will continue to increase as the investment in business development continues to be successful.

During the year the group met all its banking covenants and continues to generate sufficient cash to meet short term liabilities as they fall due

The group has prepared forecasts and projections for the next 12 months, taking account of reasonably possible changes in trading performance, which show that the group should be able to operate within the level of its current facility and meet its covenants. The group has a committed Revolving Credit Facility ("RCF"), which includes an overdraft facility which has been renewed until July 2014.

After making appropriate enquires, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the group has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The nature of the activities and funding throughout the group allows each group company to support, as necessary, other group companies, to ensure that they can operate effectively as a going concern. For these reasons the group continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

### Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the results of Hare Newco Limited and all of its subsidiary undertakings as at 31 March 2013 using the acquisition or merger method of accounting as required. Where the acquisition method is used, the results of subsidiary undertakings are included from the date of acquisition.

### Goodwill

Goodwill arising on an acquisition of a subsidiary is the difference between the fair value of the consideration paid and the fair value of the assets and liabilities acquired. Positive goodwill is capitalised and amortised through the profit and loss account over the directors' estimate of its useful economic life of 10 years. Impairment tests on the carrying value of goodwill are undertaken at the end of the first full financial year following acquisition or if there are any indications of impairment.

### Turnover

Turnover for service contracts represent the fair value of work performed in connection with grounds maintenance services, exclusive of value added tax

Turnover for long term contract projects, relating to landscape construction projects, is accounted for under the principles of long term contract accounting and is recognised on the basis of an assessment of fair value of works performed and is exclusive of value added tax. Differences between this and amounts invoiced are held as amounts recoverable on contract or payments on account. Full provision for loss making contracts is made for any foreseeable losses.

# Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

### Depreciation

Depreciation is provided to write off the cost, less estimated residual values, of all tangible fixed assets, over the useful economic life of that asset. It is calculated at the following rates

Freehold property Leasehold property - 2% - 10% straight line

Plant and machinery
Motor vehicles

evenly over the term of the lease10% - 50% straight line

- 25% straight line

Office equipment - 10% -

- 10% - 33% straight line

Freehold land is not depreciated

### Financial instruments

Financial instruments are classified and accounted for according to the substance of the contractual arrangement, as either financial liabilities or equity instruments. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the company after deducting all of its liabilities.

Preference shares are classified in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 25 'Financial Instruments'

### Dividends

Dividends on shares wholly recognised as liabilities are recognised as expenses and classified within interest payable

### Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is based on the cost of purchase on a first in, first out basis. Net realisable value is based on estimated selling price less additional costs to completion and disposal.

### Work in progress

Work in progress is valued on the basis of direct costs plus attributable overheads based on normal level of activity. No element of profit is included in the valuation of work in progress.

### Leased assets

Where the company enters into a lease which entails taking substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of an asset, the lease is treated as a finance lease. The assets are recorded in the balance sheet as tangible fixed assets and are depreciated in accordance with the above depreciation policies. Future instalments under such leases, net of finance charges, are included within creditors. Rentals payable are apportioned between the financial element, which represents a constant proportion of the balance of capital repayments outstanding, and the capital element which reduces the outstanding obligation for future instalment.

### Operating lease agreements

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged on a straight line basis over the period of the lease

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

### Pension costs

Contributions to the group's defined contribution pension scheme are charged to the profit and loss account in the year in which they become payable

The defined benefit scheme in operation has 31 active members. The group offers a broadly comparable defined benefit pension scheme where it tenders for long term contracts and there is a requirement to continue such benefits as part of the tender.

The difference between the fair value of the assets held in the group's defined pension scheme and the scheme's liabilities measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method is recognised in the group's balance sheet as a pension asset or liability as appropriate. The carrying value of any resulting pension scheme asset is restricted to the extent that the group is able to recover the surplus either through reduced contributions in the future or through funds from the scheme. The pension scheme balance is recognised net of any related deferred tax balance, with recognition of any deferred tax asset following the principles described in the deferred taxation policy below.

Changes in the defined benefit pension scheme asset or liability arising from factors other than cash contributions by the group are charged to the profit and loss account or the statement of total recognised gains or losses in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 17 'Retirement Benefits'

### Deferred taxation

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date where transactions or events that result in an obligation to pay more tax in the future or a right to pay less tax in the future have occurred at the balance sheet date. Timing differences are differences between the group's taxable profit and its results as stated in the financial statements that arise from the inclusion of gains and losses in tax assessments in periods different from those in which they are recognised in the financial statements.

Deferred tax is measured at the average tax rates that are expected to apply in the periods in which timing differences are expected to reverse, based on tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantially enacted by the balance sheet date. Deferred tax is measured on a non-discounted basis

Deferred tax assets are recognised when the factors that are required to realise deferred tax assets are virtually certain

### Liquid resources

For the purposes of the cash flow statement, liquid resources are defined as current asset investments and short term deposits

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

### 2 Exceptional items

The exceptional credit of £414,871 (2012 £377,687) relates to the release of a provision for an onerous contract

The exceptional costs of £196,377 (2012 £Nil) include £83,366 (2012 £Nil) relating to potentially disallowable Value Added Tax and £113,011 (2012 £Nil) related primarily to operational restructuring costs

### 3 Turnover

	2013	2012
	£,000	£'000
Analysis by class of contract		
Grounds maintenance	35,626	32,950
Landscape construction	8,972	14,169
	44,598	47,119
Turnayar areas salaky within the United Kinadam		

Turnover arises solely within the United Kingdom

### 4 Operating profit

	2013 £'000	2012 £'000
This is arrived at after charging		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,476	1,590
Amortisation of positive goodwill	1,455	1,454
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	14	17
Hire of plant and machinery - operating leases	1,391	1,701
Hire of other assets - operating leases	517	505
Fees payable to the company's auditor for the auditing of the		
company's annual accounts	37	39
Fees payable to the company's auditor for other services		
- audit-related assurance services	2	2
- taxation advisory services	7	7
- other non-audit services	7	7
Defined contribution pension cost	239	207
Defined benefit pension cost (see below)	82	56
	صحيي	

Amounts paid to the company's auditor in respect of services to the company, other than the audit of the company's financial statements, have not been disclosed as the information is required instead to be disclosed on a consolidated basis

The audit fee for the company in 2013 and 2012 has been borne by other group companies

# Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

4	Operating profit (continued)		
		2013	2012
	Defined benefit pension costs charged in arriving at the operating profit comprise the following	5,000	£,000
	Current service cost	82	56
5	Employees		
	Staff costs (including directors) consist of		
		Group 2013 £'000	Group 2012 £'000
	Wages and salaries Social security costs Other pension costs	18,119 1,416 321	18,097 1,477 263
		19,856	19,837
	The average number of employees (including directors) during the year was as	follows	
		Group 2013 Number	Group 2012 Number
	Administration staff Field operational, including managers Executive and non-executive directors	74 860 5	86 854 6
		939	946
	The average number of employees of the company was 5 (2012 6)		
6	Directors' remuneration		
		2013 £'000	2012 £'000
	Directors' emoluments Company contributions to money purchase pension schemes	333 7	309 7

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

### 6 Directors' remuneration (continued)

The total amount payable to the highest paid director in respect of emoluments was £151,107 (2012 £128,253) Company pension contributions of £7,200 (2012 £7,150) were made to a money purchase scheme on his behalf

### 7 Interest payable and similar charges

8

	2013	2012
	£,000	5,000
Bank loans and overdrafts	145	349
Accrued loan note interest and similar charges	1,393	1,215
Finance leases and hire purchase contracts	201	171
Accrued preference share dividend and similar charges	1,550	1,347
	3,289	3,082
Other finance charges		
	2013	2012
	2,000	£'000
Expected return on pension scheme assets	(51)	(49)
Interest on pension scheme liabilities	<b>`56</b> ´	53
	5	4

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

Taxation on loss on ordinary activities		
	2013 £'000	2012 £'000
UK Corporation tax		
Current tax on profits of the year	557	410
Adjustment in respect of previous periods	(52) ———	(148)
Total current tax	505	262
The tax assessed for the year is higher than the standard rate of corporation before tax. The differences are explained below	on tax in the UK appl	ied to loss
	2013	2012
	5,000	£,000
Loss on ordinary activities before tax	(2,260)	(2,644)
Loss on ordinary activities at the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK		
of 24% (2012 26%) Effect of	(542)	(687)
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	703	714
Depreciation for period in excess of capital allowances	119	120
Adjustment to tax charge in respect of previous periods	(52)	(148)
Other short term timing differences	283	265
Adjustment to small companies rate	-	(2)
Amounts charged directly to STRGL	(6) 	

Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that they are regarded as recoverable. Accordingly, a deferred tax asset of £1,767,969 (2012 £1,495,161) has not been recognised. It is made up as follows

Fixed asset timing differences £265,056 (2012 £195,033) Short-term timing differences £1,187,822 (2012 £915,288) Losses and other deductions £315,091 (2012 £384,840)

### 10 Profit for the financial year

9

The company has taken advantage of the exemption allowed under section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 and has not presented its own profit and loss account in these financial statements. The group loss for the year includes a loss after tax of £1,629,000 (2012 £1,410,000) which is dealt with in the financial statements of the parent company

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

### 11 Intangible fixed assets

### Group

	Goodwill on consolidation
Cost At 1 April 2012 and 31 March 2013	Σ'000 15,876
Amortisation At 1 April 2012 Provided for the year	4,873 1,455
At 31 March 2013	6,328
Net book value At 31 March 2013	9,548
At 31 March 2012	11,003

Hare Newco Limited

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

5	Tangible fixed assets Group	Freehold land and buildings	Short leasehold land and buildings	Plant and machinery £'000	Motor vehicles	Office equipment 2'000	Total £'000
	Cost At 1 April 2012 Additions Disposals Transfers	168	379 51 (258)	8,492 1,611 (559) (158)	1,590 283 (289) 158	827 63 (425)	11,456 2,008 (1,531)
	At 31 March 2013	168	172	9,386	1,742	465	11,933
	Depreciation At 1 April 2012 Provided for the year Disposals Transfers	£ 4	295 22 (258)	5,983 1,097 (536) (128)	922 245 (270) 128	621 108 (425)	7,832 1,476 (1,489)
	At 31 March 2013	15	59	6,416	1,025	304	7,819
	<i>Net book value</i> At 31 March 2013	153	113	2,970	717	191	4,114
	At 31 March 2012	157	84	2,509	899	206	3,624

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

# 12 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

The net book value of tangible fixed assets includes an amount of £2,800,391 (2012 £2,416,986) in respect of assets held under finance leases and hire purchase contracts. The related depreciation charge on these assets for the year was £839,055 (2012 £775,273)

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

### 13 Fixed asset investments

### Company

Investment in group undertakings £'000

Cost or valuation
At 1 April 2012 and 31 March 2013

86

Subsidiary undertakings, associated undertakings and other investments

The principal undertakings in which the company's interest at the year end is 20% or more are as follows

	Country of incorporation	Class of share capital held	Proportion of share capital held	Nature of business
Hare Bidco Limited Inhoco 4085 Limited *** Banyards Limited ***	England England England	Ordinary Ordinary Ordinary	100% 100% 100%	Holding company Holding company Grounds maintenance and landscape construction projects
Western Landscapes Limited ***	England	Ordinary	100%	Grounds maintenance and landscape construction projects
The Landscape Group Limited *	England	Ordinary	100%	Management company for the group's operations
English Landscapes Maintenance Limited **	England	Ordinary and Preference	100%	Grounds maintenance
English Landscapes Limited **	England	Ordinary	100%	Landscape construction projects
English Woodlands Limited **	England	Ordinary	100%	Dormant

<sup>\*</sup> Owned by Inhoco 4085 Limited

<sup>\*\*</sup> Owned by The Landscape Group Limited

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Owned by Hare Bidco Limited

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

### 14 Stocks

	Group	Group	Company	Company
	2013	2012	2013	2012
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Raw materials and consumables	95	106	-	-

There is no material difference between the replacement cost of stocks and the amounts stated above

### 15 Debtors

	Group 2013 £'000	Group 2012 £'000	Company 2013 £'000	Company 2012 £'000
Trade debtors	2,840	3,466	-	-
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	6,401	6,522
Corporation tax recoverable	-	6	-	-
Other debtors	227	191	166	156
Prepayments and accrued income	1,836	1,648	-	-
Amounts recoverable on contracts	1,982	3,589	•	-
	6,885	8,900	6,567	6,678

All amounts shown under debtors fall due for payment within one year

Included within company other debtors is a trust asset of £155,820 (2012 £155,820), further details are given in note 17

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

### 16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2013 Σ'000	Group 2012 £'000	Company 2013 £'000	Company 2012 £'000
Bank loans and overdrafts (secured)	700	550	-	-
Trade creditors	1,610	2,763	-	-
Amounts owed to group undertakings	•	-	-	90
Corporation tax	286	413	-	-
Other taxation and social security Obligations under finance lease and hire	1,276	1,183	-	-
purchase contracts	932	921	-	-
Other creditors	372	300	339	288
Accruals and deferred income	4,737	5,474	17	1
	9,913	11,604	356	379

There is a cross guarantee and debenture over all the assets of the group companies in respect of the group overdraft and bank loan, which at 31 March 2013 amounted to £Nil and £3,614,000 respectively (2012 £Nil and £4,096,000 respectively)

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

	Group 2013	Group 2012	Company 2013	Company 2012
	£,000	5,000	£,000	£,000
Bank loans (secured)	2,915	3,546	-	
Loan stock due 2018 Obligations under finance lease and hire	5,764	5,764	•	
purchase contracts	1,229	1,196	-	
Preference shares Other creditors	6,263 10,371	6,240 7,439	6,263 5,449	6,240 3,908
	26,542	24,185	11,712	10,148
				-
Maturity of debt				
	Loans and overdrafts	Loans and overdrafts	Finance leases	Finance leases
	2013	2012	2013	2012
	5,000	5,000	€,000	5,000
In one year or less, or on demand	700	550	932	921
In more than one year but not more than				
two years	2,915	-	693	1,196
In more than two years but not more than	·			•
five years	5,764	3,546	536	
In more than five years		5,764 ———		
	8,679	9,310	1,229	1,196
	***************************************			~
Included in creditors due after more than or years	ne year are the fo	ollowing amounts	s repayable in m	ore than five
	Group	Group	Company	Company
	2013 £'000	2012 £'000	2013 £'000	2012 £'000
Loan stock due 2018	•	5,764	_	-
Preference shares	-	6,240	-	6,240
Other creditors	•	7,431	-	3,907
	<del></del>			<del></del>

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

### 17 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year (continued)

The increase in the preference shares creditor relates to the amortisation of related issue costs

The loan notes accrue interest at a compound rate of 15%. All interest and principle is repayable in 2018.

The preference shares are called up, fully paid and accrue dividends at a compound coupon rate of 15%, with dividends and amounts paid up on preference share capital payable on redemption in 2018

Included in other creditors of the company is £5,449,803 (2012 £3,907,438) in respect of preference shares dividends, which are the cumulative amounts accrued to 31 March 2013. In another group company £4,916,628 (2012 £3,523,535) is recorded in respect of accrued loan note interest, which is payable upon redemption of the loan notes.

In the period ended 31 March 2010 the company set up Hare Discretionary Trust to act as a vehicle to hold all classes of financial instruments purchased from a number of directors who resigned from office. The purpose of the trust is to hold such financial instruments for re-distribution to existing shareholders and management and new management. The trust is under *de facto* control of Hare Newco Limited. At the balance sheet date a trust asset of £136,438 (2012 £136,438) was held in respect of preference shares and a trust asset of £19,382 (2012 £19,382) in respect of loan notes acquired by the trust, and is classified within other debtors. In respect of ordinary and A ordinary shares in Hare Newco Limited a trust asset of £Nil (2012 £10,430) is held in an ESOP reserve. No shares are under option or have been conditionally gifted.

The bank loan is secured by a cross guarantee and global debenture over all assets of group companies Facility A, which was for a loan of £3,000,000, is repayable by 31 March 2014 and Facility B, which is for £3,000,000 is repayable by 31 March 2015. Interest is at the LIBOR rate plus a margin of between 3% and 1.75% dependent on the leverage of the group. As at the balance sheet date £700,000 of the Facility A loan was outstanding and £3,000,000 of the Facility B loan was outstanding.

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

### 18 Provisions for liabilities

### Group

	Provision for onerous contracts £'000
At 1 April 2012 Released in year	415 (415)
At 31 March 2013	

The provision for onerous contracts related to a long term, loss-making contract. The directors consider that the provision is no longer required and it has been released.

### 19 Pensions

Several pension schemes are operated by the group. The defined benefit scheme was established under an irrevocable Deed of Trust by Hare Newco Limited for its employees and those of subsidiary undertakings. The Deed determines the appointment of trustees to the fund. At 31 March 2013 there were 31 active members of the Federated Pension Plan Scheme, which was transferred from Scottish Life with effect from 31 July 2008. As at 31 March 2013, the assets and liabilities of the Scottish Life scheme had not transferred to the Federated Pension Plan. The Federated Pension Plan scheme is open to new members transferring under TUPE (Transfer of Undertakings and Protection of Employment) where the group enters into customer contracts requiring a broadly comparable pension scheme offering to those transferring employees who currently contribute to a defined benefit pension scheme. The trustees of the fund are required to act in the best interests of the beneficiaries. Pension benefits generally depend on age, length of service and salary level. A full actuarial valuation of the defined benefit scheme was carried out as at 5 April 2010 for the 31 March 2011 accounts and updated as at 31 March 2013 by a qualified actuary on a Financial Reporting Standard 17 basis.

	2013 £'000	2012 £'000
Reconciliation of present value of plan liabilities		
At the beginning of the year	(1,213)	(924)
Current service cost	(82)	(56)
Interest cost	(56)	(53)
Contributions by participants	(16)	(13)
Actuarial losses	(62)	(177)
Benefits paid	76	10
At the end of the year	(1,353)	(1,213)

# Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

Pensions (continued)		
	2013 Σ'000	2012 £'000
Composition of plan liabilities	2 000	2000
Schemes wholly or partly funded	1,353	1,213
	2013 £'000	2012 £'000
Reconciliation of fair value of plan assets	1 000	£ 000
At the beginning of the year	1,007	899
Expected rate of return on plan assets	51 07	49
Actuarial gains/(losses)	37 94	(21) 77
Exchange gains Contributions by group	94 16	13
Benefits paid	(76)	(10)
At the end of the year	1,129	1,007
	2013	2012
Reconciliation to balance sheet	5,000	£.000
Drocont value of funded obligations	(1.252)	(1.010)
Present value of funded obligations Fair value of plan assets	(1,353) 1,129	(1,213) 1,007
Plan deficit	(224)	(206)
	2013	2012
The emplicate recognized in profit and loss are as follows	5,000	5,000
The amounts recognised in profit and loss are as follows		
Included in administrative expenses Current service cost	82	56
Included in other finance (income)/expense	50	50
Interest cost Expected return of plan assets	56 (51)	53 (49)
	<del></del> 87	60

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 *(continued)* 

Pensions (continued)		
	2013 £'000	2012 £'000
Analysis of amount recognised in statement of total recognised gains ai losses		2 000
Actual return less expected return on pension plan assets Experience gains and losses arising on the scheme liabilities	37	(21) 9
Changes in assumptions underlying the present value of the scheme liabilities	(62)	(186)
Actuarial losses recognised in the statement of total recognised gains a losses	ind (25)	(198)
	2013 £'000	2012 £'000
Cumulative amount of gains/(losses) recognised in the statement of total recognised gains and losses	al (156)	(131)
	2013 £'000	2012 £'000
Composition of plan assets	2000	4000
European equities European bonds	248 124	197 99
Property Cash	756 1	703 8
Total plan assets	1,129	1,007
Narrative description of the basis used to determine the overall expecte	ed rate of return of assets	
Overall expected rate of return on plan assets is based upon his performance adjusted to reflect expectations of future long-term returns		vestment
	2013 £'000	2012 £'000
Actual return on plan assets	88	28

# Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

19	Pensions (continued)					
					2013	2012
	Principal actuarial assumption	ns used at the ha	lance sheet date	<b>a</b>	%	%
	i imoipai actuariai assumptioi	is used at the ba	dile sileet date	7		
	Discount rates Expected rates of return on p	lan assets			4.50	4 60
	Equities				6.10	7 40
	Bonds				3.10	4 40
	Property				5.00	5 00
	Cash				0.50	0 50
	Future salary increases				3.00	3 00
	Future pension increases				3.50	3 30
	Proportion of employees optin	ng for early retire	ment		3 50 3 50	3 30
	Inflation assumption Mortality rates				3.50	3 30
	<ul> <li>before retirement</li> </ul>				24.65	24 55
	- after retirement				26.85	26 55
		31 March 2013 £'000	31 March 2012 £'000	31 March 30 5 2011 £'000	September 30 5 2010 £'000	September 2009 £'000
	Past five accounting periods	2 000	2 000	2 000	2 000	2 000
	Present value of the plan liabilities	(1,353)	(1,213)	(924)	(877)	(573)
	Fair value of the plan assets	1,129	1,007	899	758	595
	433613					
	(Deficit)/surplus on the pension plans	(224)	(206)	(25)	(119)	22
	Experience adjustments arising on					
	Plan liabilities	-	9	51	24	(49)
	Plan assets	37	(21)	35	31	(122)

The group's best estimate of the contributions expected to be paid in the year beginning on the 1 April 2013 is £149,000

The group also operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the group in an independently administered fund. The pension charge amounted to £164,800 (2012 £208,442) Contributions amounting to £10,907 (2012 £17,327) were payable to the fund at 31 March 2013 and are included in creditors

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

20	Share capital		
		2013 £'000	2012 £'000
	Allotted, called up and fully paid		
	89,180 ordinary shares of £0 01 each 285,820 A ordinary shares of £0 01 each	1 3	1 3
		4	4

The ordinary shares and A ordinary shares rank pari passu in all respects

During the year the company cancelled 10,430 A ordinary shares of £0.01 each and reissued them as 10,430 ordinary shares of £0.01 each

### 21 Reserves

### Group

	Share premium account £'000	Other reserves £'000	Profit and loss account £'000
At 1 April 2012 Loss for the year Actuarial loss on pension scheme liabilities net of related	350 -	(10) -	(10,862) (2,765)
taxation	-	-	(25)
ESOP shares acquired by Hare Discretionary Trust	-	10	-
At 31 March 2013	350	-	(13,652)
Company			
	Share premium account £'000	Other reserves £'000	Profit and loss account £'000
At 1 April 2012	350	(10)	(4,052)
Loss for the year	•	-	(1,629)
ESOP shares purchased from Hare Discretionary Trust	-	10	-
		<del></del>	
At 31 March 2013	350	-	(5,681)

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

### 22 Reconciliation of movements in shareholders' deficit

	Group 2013 £'000	Group 2012 £'000	Company 2013 £'000	Company 2012 £'000
Loss for the year Other net recognised gains and losses	(2,765)	(2,906)	(1,629)	(1,410)
relating to the year ESOP shares purchased from Hare Discretionary Trust	(25)	(198)	-	-
	10	27	10	27
Net deductions from shareholders' deficit	(2,780)	(3,077)	(1,619)	(1,383)
	(=,: 55)	(0,011)	(1,010)	(1,000)
Opening shareholders' deficit	(10,518)	(7,441)	(3,708)	(2,325)
Closing shareholders' deficit	(13,298)	(10,518)	(5,327)	(3,708)

### 23 Commitments under operating leases

The group had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as set out below

Operating leases which expire	Land and buildings 2013 £'000	Other 2013 £'000	Land and buildings 2012 £'000	Other 2012 £'000
Within one year In two to five years After five years	64 202 18	292 1,129 -	31 179 103	380 1,038
	284	1,421	313	1,418

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

### 24 Related party disclosures

### Controlling parties

The company is controlled by Elysian Capital I LP, on the basis that it holds a controlling interest in the voting rights of the share capital Elysian Capital I LP holds £5,727,634 (2012 £5,727,634) loan notes in Hare Bidco Limited, a subsidiary company, which accrue interest at 15% payable upon redemption of the loan notes in 2018

Preference shares in Hare Newco Limited of £6,216,948 (2012 £6,240,140) are held by Elysian Capital I LP which accrue a dividend of 15% payable upon redemption in 2018

### Related party transactions

K J Terry and R A Ramsey, directors of Hare Newco Limited are members of Elysian Capital LLP. The group has a loan agreement in place with Elysian Capital LLP for costs incurred through the employment of another director of the company. The loan accrues interest at 2% above base rate, payable on demand. The balance as at 31 March 2013 was £338,848 (2012 £278,830).

During the year, N Temple Heald and D J Graham purchased 5,430 and 5,000 ordinary shares respectively from the Hare Discretionary Trust

2013

2012

### 25 Reconciliation of operating profit to net cash inflow from operating activities

	€,000	£,000
Operating profit	1,028	442
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	1,455	1,454
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,476	1,590
Loss on sale of tangible fixed assets	14	17
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	11	(12)
Decrease in debtors	2,015	98
Decrease in creditors	(1,794)	(444)
Decrease in provisions	(415)	(415)
Loan from Elysian	52	68
Pension contribution adjustment	(12)	(21)
Amortisation of bank fees	91	22
Net cash inflow from operating activities	3,921	2,799

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2013 (continued)

26	Reconciliation of net cash flow to movemen	t in net debt			
				2013 £'000	2012 £'000
	Increase in cash			480	159
	Cash inflow from changes in debt			1,555	1,551
	Movement in net debt resulting from cash flows			2,035	1,710
	Inception of finance leases Other non cash movements			(1,049) (3,025)	(1,285) (2,733)
	Movement in net debt			(2,039)	(2,308)
	Opening net debt			(23,389)	(21,081)
	Closing net debt			(25,428)	(23,389)
27	Analysis of net debt				
		At 1 April 2012 £'000	Cash flow £'000	Other non- cash items £'000	At 31 March 2013 £'000
	Cash at bank and in hand	2,259	480	-	2,739
	Debt due within one year Debt due after one year Finance leases	(550) (22,981) (2,117)	550 - 1,005	(700) (2,325) (1,049)	(700) (25,306) (2,161)
			1,555		
	Total	(23,389)	2,035	(4,074)	(25,428)

Non-cash movements in net debt relate to accrued but unpaid preference share dividends and costs, and purchases of fixed assets under finance leases