Company Registration No. 06705101

BMG Rights Management (UK) Limited

Reports and Financial Statements

31 December 2018



Reports and Financial Statements 2018

Contents	Page
Officers and professional advisers	1
Strategic report	2
Directors' report	5
Statement of directors' responsibilities in respect of the financial statements	. 7
Independent auditors' report	8
Statement of comprehensive income	11
Statement of financial position	12
Statement of changes in equity	13
Statement of cash flows	14
Notes to the financial statements	15

Reports and Financial Statements 2018

Officers and professional advisers

Directors

Jonathan Baker Maximilian Dressendörfer Benjamin Katovsky Hartwig Masuch Alistair Norbury Paul Wilson

Registered Office

8th Floor 5 Merchant Square London United Kingdom W2 1AS

Independent Auditors

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
1 Embankment Place
London
WC2N 6RH

Strategic report

The directors present their Strategic report for the year ended 31 December 2018 for BMG Rights Management (UK) Limited (the "Company" or "BMG").

Business review

The Company is a United Kingdom subsidiary of Bertelsmann SE & Co. KGaA, which trades as "BMG", one of the world's leading independent music content groups. BMG ranks among the largest independent music publishers in Europe and in the United States and is one of the largest owners of master recordings among the independent recorded music companies in Europe.

The Company owns and administers rights to musical compositions, exploits and markets these compositions and receives royalties or fees for their use. It additionally contracts as a sub-publisher for collection and transfer of monies to other affiliated companies.

During the year, the Company undertook a reorganisation to rationalise its service function. Accordingly, staff employment contracts, office equipment and property assets were transferred from the Company to BMG Rights Management Services (UK) Limited during 2018.

Strategy

The Company is part of an international group of companies focused on the management of music rights. The Company covers the entire range of rights administration, development and exploitation, placing the needs of songwriters and artists at the core of its business model. At the core of the Company's strategy is delivering a high quality rights administration service to artists and writers.

The Company acts as a sub-publishing hub for all of the BMG affiliates worldwide. It therefore collects revenues on behalf of these companies and redistributes it on a quarterly basis.

Key performance indicators

The directors monitor the Company's performance in a number of ways including key performance indicators such as reported revenue, gross profit, operating loss, Earnings Before Interest and Taxes; ("EBIT") and EBITDA (as adjusted for depreciation and amortisation). The Company is financed through intercompany funding from its group parent companies and through equity. The Company continues to perform in line with expectations.

Business performance

As shown in the Company's Statement of comprehensive income on page 11, the Company reported revenues of £161,640,000 (2017: £125,240,000) and gross profit of £42,019,000 (2017: £27,473,000). Royalties on copyrights are typically received with a six to twelve months lag between distributions and collections by intermediating collection societies. Therefore, the Company's 2016 and 2017 investments in signings have contributed towards the organic growth seen in 2018 revenue and gross profit. Contracts entered into in 2018 will contribute towards 2019 income. Throughout 2018 the Company continued to invest in music rights. The Company has a strong roster of internationally successful songwriters and artists and therefore there remains a healthy mix of income from all traditional sources.

Profit from operations of £12,892,000 (2017: £3,737,000) is due to underlying business growth.

Profit before taxation was £26,490,000 (2017: £10,908,000) and includes impairment of investments driven by legal entity restructuring (Note 10). As part of the group wide restructuring exercise, the Company received dividends from its subsidiaries to the value of £166,677,000 (2017 £31,676,000).

The Company's net assets as at 31 December 2018 were £79,649,000 (2017: £53,603,000).

Strategic report (continued)

Principal risks and uncertainties

There are a number of market and business risks that could affect the Company. We set out below the Company's view of the main risks which could materially and adversely affect the Company, financial condition and return to stakeholders. Further risks and uncertainties which are not presently known to the directors at the date of this document, or that the directors currently deem less significant, may also have an adverse effect on the business, financial condition or results of the group.

Market risks

Global economic outlook

BMG Rights Management (UK) Limited receives income from worldwide sources and is susceptible to changes in the global economy. Failure to adjust to changes in the global economy could have a material adverse effect on the Company. BMG Rights Management (UK) Limited is part of a broader group of rights administration companies which are actively building a global business as a strategy to diversify this risk.

Impact of exiting the European Union

As a result of the UK European Union membership referendum, any macro uncertainty may have a knock on impact to the overall health of the UK consumer market. Furthermore, there could be broader changes in regulation or legislation within the markets in which the Company operates. The likelihood or extent of any impact is currently unknown; the Company continues to monitor and evaluate potential areas of risk.

Music industry growth

The music industry is experiencing a period of on-going financial challenge due to the changing means by which consumers choose to access music, retail piracy, industrial piracy and a corresponding decline in the sale of the physical product, which may not be offset completely by new digital and internet-based revenue streams.

Intense competition in the music industry could result in higher artist and writer acquisition costs or failure to attract and retain key talent. Such competition may affect customer choices and options available to them for music publishing and administration contracts. These changes could materially and adversely affect the Company.

Music industry regulatory and business legal risk

The music publishing industry is regulated, with mechanical and performance royalty rates set by industry bodies, over which the Company has no control. Any significant change to the payment structures operating within the music industry or any decrease in current mechanical or performance royalty rates could have a material adverse effect on the Company. Also, future copyright royalty rate arbitration and other industry wide regulations can change the relationships between record labels, artists and music publishers/writers. Such changes in regulations could materially and adversely affect the Company. Copyright royalties are either collected or controlled by third parties, such as collection societies, ceding control over royalty collections to such entities. This diminishes control and might result in lower revenues if collection fees were revised upwards or collection scope was narrowed, thus affecting the Company. The Company is highly dependent upon copyright ownership, a subject which has encountered increased litigation in recent years. If the Company is alleged to infringe the intellectual property rights of a third party, any litigation to defend the claim could be costly and would divert the time and resources of management of the Company, regardless of the merits of the claim. If the Company were to lose a litigation relating to intellectual property, it could be forced to pay monetary damages and to cease the sale of certain products or the use of certain technology. Any of the foregoing may adversely affect the Company.

Strategic report (continued)

Financial risks

Exchange rate fluctuation risk

The Company transacts and accounts in underlying currencies, principally GBP, USD and EUR, which are converted into the Company's reporting currency of GBP, creating an underlying exposure to movements in foreign exchange rates. The Company manages its foreign exchange exposure through matching of cash flows from investments, financing and operations. The Company actively manages its residual foreign exchange exposures through the use of foreign exchange forward instruments, as appropriate, to manage future foreign exchange rates.

Interest rate fluctuation risk

The Company is financed through intercompany borrowings provided by Bertelsmann SE & Co. KGaA and its affiliates which bear interest at short-term Bank of England base rate plus a margin. The Company is therefore exposed to fluctuations in interest rates. These exposures are not hedged.

Business risks

If the Company fails to keep pace with industry trends and developments, it may experience competitive disadvantage, which may result in lower margins and loss of market share. Failure to directly or indirectly exploit new growth areas, such as the use of music individual media, could have a material adverse effect on the Company. The Company's future success therefore depends on the successful implementation of its growth strategy, both through signings and acquisitions.

Client retention and performance of releases

The Company's prospects may be adversely impacted if the business fails to identify, sign and retain songwriters and artists and by the absence of successful releases. The decisions of potential clients to sign with the Company or decisions of existing clients to remain with the Company are complex and involve considerations of many factors. As such it is uncertain how many new clients the Company will sign and what proportion of existing clients will extend their agreements. Equally, the Company has no control over the release schedule of partnering record companies and the phasing of album releases can impact the Company's results on an annual basis.

Dependency on third party service partners and shareholder affiliates

Emerging channels for music distribution could significantly change the operational setting/configuration and financial performance/returns in the business. The Company relies on a number of third party business partners and shareholders' affiliates to operate successfully. These include sub-publishers, who support the Company in international rights management and licence income collections. The Company is also supported through licensing and commercial distribution arrangements with partners for a portion of its Recorded Music business.

Additionally, the Company outsources information technology infrastructure, certain finance and accounting functions and other back-office functions to affiliates operating as service providers in the respective functions.

Approved by the Board of Directors and signed on behalf of the Board

Paul Wilson Director

14 March 2019

Directors' report

The directors present their Directors' report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2018 for BMG Rights Management (UK) Limited (the "Company").

Principal activities

The Company combines music publishing and recordings business, with a focus on service to artists and writers. The principal business of the Company during the year ended 31 December 2018 was the generation, collection and payment of royalties.

The Company's music publishing business can be summarised as an intellectual property business focused on the exploitation of the copyright of songs. In return for promoting, placing, marketing and administering the creative output of a songwriter, the Company retains a share of revenues generated from use of the song. The services described above are also carried out on behalf of other rights holders such as catalogue owners and other publishing companies.

On a selective basis, the Company also signs self-contained artists for new recordings, typically in combination with the signing of a publishing deal. In return for the licensing and administering the creative output of a recording artist, the Company retains a share of revenues generated from the use of the recording.

Outlook

The Company continued to show strong growth in revenues and operating EBIT in fiscal year 2018. The business continues to undergo review to identify further optimisation potential and cost structures are likewise being optimised and brought into alignment with business expectations.

Financial instruments

Exposure to credit, liquidity, interest rate and currency risks arises in the normal course of the Company. The Company's exposure to financial instruments are discussed in the notes to the financial statements under the heading "Financial instruments".

Going concern

The directors have considered the financial resources available along with the future plans for the Company and the support provided by the ultimate parent company, Bertelsmann SE & Co. KGaA, when considering the going concern status of the Company.

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

Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in Note 1 to the financial statements.

Directors

The directors of the Company who were in office during the year and up to the date of signing the financial statements were as follows:

Jonathan Baker (appointed 31 December 2018)

Maximilian Dressendörfer

Benjamin Katovsky (appointed 31 December 2018)

Hartwig Masuch

Alistair Norbury (appointed 26 February 2018)

Paul Wilson

Dividends

The directors do not recommend a dividend (2017: £nil).

Directors' report (continued)

Employees

Disabled employees

We confirm that BMG Rights Management (UK) Limited complies with the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, which replaced the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act 1944.

Where existing employees become disabled, it is the Company's policy wherever practical to provide continuing employment under normal terms and conditions and to provide training, career development and promotion wherever appropriate.

Employment involvement

During the year, the policy of providing employees with information about the Company has continued and employees are encouraged to present their suggestions and views on the Company's performance. Regular meetings are held between management and employees to allow a free flow of information and ideas.

Political and charitable contributions

The Company made no political contributions or incurred any political expenditure during the year (2017: £nil). The Company made charitable contributions of £2,000 during the year (2017: £1,000).

Independent Auditors

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP have expressed their willingness to continue in office as auditors.

Approved by the Board of Directors and signed on behalf of the Board

Director

14 March 2019

Statement of directors' responsibilities in respect of the financial statements

The directors are responsible for preparing the Reports and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and regulation.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have prepared the financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union. 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 the profit or loss of the Company for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- state whether applicable IFRSs as adopted by the European Union have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent; 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 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.

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.

Directors' confirmations

In the case of each director in office at the date the Directors' report is approved:

- so far as the director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditors are unaware; and
- they have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditors are aware of that information.

Approved by the Board of Directors and signed on behalf of the Board

Paul Wilson Director

14 March 2019

Independent auditors' report to the members of BMG Rights Management (UK) Limited

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

In our opinion, BMG Rights Management (UK) Limited's financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31 December 2018 and of its profit and cash flows for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union, and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements, included within the Report and Financial Statements (the "Annual Report"), which comprise: the Statement of financial position as at 31 December 2018; the Statement of comprehensive income, the Statement of cash flows, the Statement of changes in equity for the year then ended; and the notes to the financial statements, which include a description of the significant accounting policies.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities under ISAs (UK) are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence

We remained independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, which includes the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

Conclusions relating to going concern

ISAs (UK) require us to report to you when:

- the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the directors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that
 may cast significant doubt about the Company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis
 of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are
 authorised for issue.

We have nothing to report in respect of the above matters.

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this statement is not a guarantee as to the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. For example, the terms on which the United Kingdom may withdraw from the European Union, which is currently due to occur on 29 March 2019, are not clear, and it is difficult to evaluate all of the potential implications on the Company's trade, customers, suppliers and the wider economy.

Independent auditors' report to the members of BMG Rights Management (UK) Limited (continued)

Reporting on other information

The other information comprises all of the information in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify an apparent material inconsistency or material misstatement, we are required to perform procedures to conclude whether there is a material misstatement of the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report based on these responsibilities.

With respect to the Strategic report and Directors' report, we also considered whether the disclosures required by the UK Companies Act 2006 have been included.

Based on the responsibilities described above and our work undertaken in the course of the audit, ISAs (UK) require us also to report certain opinions and matters as described below.

Strategic report and Directors' report

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, the information given in the Strategic report and Directors' report for the year ended 31 December 2018 is consistent with the financial statements and has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the Company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we did not identify any material misstatements in the Strategic report and Directors' report.

Responsibilities for the financial statements and the audit

Responsibilities of the directors for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of directors' responsibilities in respect of the financial statements set out on page 7, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable framework and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The directors are also responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the FRC's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditors' report.

Independent auditors' report to the members of BMG Rights Management (UK) Limited (continued)

Use of this report

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the Company's members as a body in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving these opinions, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

Other required reporting

Companies Act 2006 exception reporting

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

- · we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- 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
- · certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns.

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

Jonathan Ford (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors

London

14 March 2019

Statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 31 December 2018

	Note	Year ended 31 December 2018 £'000	Year ended 31 December 2017 £'000
	11010	2 000	2 000
Revenue Cost of sales	2	161,640 (119,621)	125,240 (97,767)
Gross profit		42,019	27,473
Administrative expenses		(29,127)	(23,736)
Profit from operations	.3	12,892	3,737
Finance income Dividend income Other income Gain on disposal of intangible assets Loss on disposal of fixed assets	. 5	388 166,677 1,922 927	1,334 31,676 550 23 (4)
Finance cost Impairment of investments	6 10	(10,055) (146,261)	(7,709) (18,699)
Profit before taxation		26,490	10,908
Taxation	7	(197)	959
Profit and total comprehensive income for the year		26,293	11,867

The accompanying notes on pages 15 to 42 are an integral part of this Statement of comprehensive income. For the year ended 31 December 2018, the Company did not have any items of other comprehensive income (2017: £nil). All results relate to continuing operations.

Statement of financial position as at 31 December 2018

	Note	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Assets			
Non-current assets Intangible assets Property, plant and equipment	· 8 9	319,644	221,913 1,115
Investments in subsidiaries Long-term loans	10 15	181,244 74	295,993 8,290
Total non-current assets		500,962	527,311
Current assets Trade and other receivables Cash and cash equivalents	. 11 12	170,487 7,028	147,807
Total current assets		177,515	147,881
Total assets		678,477	675,192
Liabilities Non-current liabilities Other non-current payables Long-term loans	14 15	(15,915) (3,982)	(16,355) (6,826)
Total non-current liabilities		(19,897)	(23,181)
Current liabilities Trade and other payables	13	(578,931)	(598,408)
Total current liabilities		(578,931)	(598,408)
. Net assets		79,649	53,603
Equity	47		
Share capital Retained earnings	17	79,649	53,603
Total equity		79,649	53,603

The accompanying notes on pages 15 to 42 are an integral part of this Statement of financial position.

The financial statements, on pages 11 to 42, of BMG Rights Management (UK) Limited, registered number 06705101, were approved by the Board of Directors on 14 March 2019.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors

Paul Wilson Director

Statement of changes in equity for the year ended 31 December 2018

	Note	Share capital £'000	Share premium £'000	Retained earnings £'000	Total equity £'000
As at 1 January 2017		-	-	41,736	41,736
Profit and total comprehensive income for the year				11,867	11,867
As at 31 December 2017 Change in accounting policy	23	-		53,603 (247)	53,603 (247)
Restated total equity at 1 January 2018		-	-	53,356	53,356
Profit and total comprehensive income for the year		_		26,293	26,293
As at 31 December 2018		_	-	79,649	79,649

The accompanying notes on pages 15 to 42 are an integral part of this Statement of changes in equity.

Statement of cash flows for the year ended 31 December 2018

	Note	Year ended 31 December 2018 £'000	Year ended 31 December 2017 £'000
Net cash (used in)/generated from operating activities	21	(14,847)	73,283
Cash flows from investing activities Acquisition of investments Acquisition of intangible assets Acquisition of fixed assets Proceeds from disposal of intangible assets Proceeds from disposal of fixed assets Dividend income		(29,744) (113,273) (199) 1,477 1,035 164,177	(92,796) (54,196) (257) 23 1 20,827
Net cash generated from/(used in) investing activities		23,473	(126,398)
Cash flows from financing activities Movement in loans from group companies Interest paid Interest received		7,872 (10,055) 388	59,496 (7,709) 1,334
Net cash (used in)/generated from financing activities		(1,795)	53,121
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		6,831 74	68
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	•	6,905	74

The accompanying notes on pages 15 to 42 are an integral part of this Statement of cash flows.

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 December 2018

1. Accounting policies

BMG Rights Management (UK) Limited (the "Company") is a private company incorporated in the United Kingdom.

The accounting policies set out below have, unless otherwise stated, been applied consistently to all years presented in these financial statements.

The Company has taken exemption from preparing consolidated financial statements afforded by section 400 of the Companies Act 2006, because it is a wholly owned subsidiary of Bertelsmann SE & Co. KGaA which prepares consolidated financial statements that are publicly available (refer to Note 22).

Basis of preparation

The financial statements are presented in pounds sterling, rounded to the nearest thousand. They are prepared on the historical cost basis except for financial instruments which are recognised as per the measurement convention below.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Companies Act 2006 and European Union ("EU") adopted International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") and interpretations issued by the IFRS Interpretations Committee (IFRS IC) applicable to companies reporting under IFRS.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the year in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that year or in the year of the revision and future year if the revision affects both current and future years.

Measurement convention

The financial statements are prepared on the historical cost basis except financial instruments classified as fair value through the profit or loss. Non-current assets and disposal groups held for sale are stated at the lower of carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell.

Going concern

The Company's business activities, together with the factors likely to affect its future development, performance and position are set out in the Directors' report and Strategic report on pages 2 to 6. The directors have considered the financial resources available along with the future plans for the Company, and the support provided by the ultimate parent company Bertelsmann SE & Co. KGaA, through a letter of support for a period of at least 12 months from signing the financial statements, when considering the going concern of the Company. After making enquiries, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company will have access to adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Foreign currency

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated to the Company's functional currency at the foreign exchange rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the Statement of financial position date are translated at the foreign exchange rate ruling at that date. Foreign exchange differences arising on translation are recognised in the Statement of comprehensive income.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Foreign currency (continued)

Non-monetary assets and liabilities that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction. Non-monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies that are stated at fair value are translated at foreign exchange rates ruling at the dates the fair value was determined.

Intangible assets

Intangible assets that are acquired by the Company are stated at cost less accumulated amortisation and impairment losses.

Amortisation is charged to the Statement of comprehensive income on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of intangible assets unless such lives are indefinite. Intangible assets with an indefinite useful life and goodwill are systematically tested for impairment at each Statement of financial position date. Other intangible assets are amortised from the date they are available for use. The estimated useful lives are as follows:

Music catalogues

15 - 25 years

Property, plant and equipment

Fixed assets that are acquired by the Company are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation.

Depreciation is charged to the Statement of comprehensive income on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives. The estimated useful lives are as follows:

Office equipment

3 years

Leasehold improvements

5 years

Investments in subsidiaries

Investments in subsidiaries are carried at cost less accumulated impairment losses in the Company's Statement of financial position. On disposal of investments in subsidiaries the difference between disposal proceeds and the carrying amounts of the investments are recognised in the Statement of comprehensive income.

Impairment excluding inventories and deferred tax assets

The carrying amounts of the Company's assets are reviewed at each Statement of financial position date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If any such indication exists, the asset's recoverable amount is estimated.

An impairment loss is recognised whenever the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount. Impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of comprehensive income.

Impairment losses recognised in respect of cash-generating units are allocated first to reduce the carrying amount of any goodwill allocated to cash-generating units and then to reduce the carrying amount of the other assets in the unit on a pro rata basis. A cash generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that generates cash inflows that are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

When a decline in the fair value of an available-for-sale financial asset has been recognised directly in equity and there is objective evidence that the asset is impaired, the cumulative loss that had been recognised directly in equity is recognised in profit or loss even though the financial asset has not been derecognised. The amount of the cumulative loss that is recognised in profit or loss is the difference between the acquisition cost and current fair value, less any impairment loss on that financial asset previously recognised in profit or loss.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Calculation of recoverable amount

The recoverable amount of the Company's receivables earned at amortised cost is calculated as the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the original effective interest rate (i.e. the effective interest rate computed at initial recognition of these financial assets). Receivables with a short duration are not discounted.

The recoverable amount of other assets is the greater of their net selling price and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. For an asset that does not generate largely independent cash inflows, the recoverable amount is determined for the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Reversal of impairment

An impairment loss in respect of receivables earned at amortised cost is reversed if the subsequent increase in recoverable amount can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised.

In respect of other assets, an impairment loss is reversed when there is an indication that the impairment loss may no longer exist and there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount.

An impairment loss is reversed only to the extent that the asset's carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss had been recognised.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash balances and call deposits. Bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Company's cash management are included as a component of cash and cash equivalents for the purpose only of the Statement of cash flows.

Loan receivables and payables

Long term loans are measured at fair value net of transaction costs.

Trade and other receivables

Trade and other receivables to group companies include the group cash pooling financing facility with the parent company in Germany. The facility earns interest at a margin of 0.125% less the bank of England base rate. Trade and other receivables at the Statement of financial position date are stated at amortised cost which approximates to cost less impairment losses.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Investments and other financial assets

From 1 January 2018, the Company measures its financial assets at amortised cost. The Company's financial assets consist of trade receivables and long-term loans receivable.

Financial assets are recognised on the trade date (the date the Company commits to purchase or sell the asset) and derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or the risks and rewards of ownership of those rights have been transferred to another party.

The Company measures a financial asset at the amount recognised at initial recognition minus principal repayments, plus or minus the cumulative amortisation of any difference between the initial amount and the maturity amount, and any loss allowance. Interest income is calculated using the effective interest method and is recognised in profit and loss. Changes in fair value are recognised in profit and loss when the asset is derecognised or reclassified.

Impairment

From 1 January 2018, the Company assesses the expected credit losses associated with its financial assets carried at amortised cost.

The Company applies the IFRS 9 simplified approach to measuring expected credit losses which uses a lifetime expected loss allowance for all trade receivables.

Trade and other payables

Trade and other payables to group companies include the group cash pooling financing facility with the parent company in Germany. The facility bears interest at a margin of 1.25% above the bank of England base rate. Trade and other payables at the Statement of financial position date are stated at amortised costs which approximates to cost less impairment.

Revenue

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration receivable and represents amounts receivable for services provided in the normal course of business, net of discounts and value added tax

Revenue from royalty licensing is recognised in accordance with IFRS 15: According to IFRS 15 revenue from royalties shall be recognised when it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the Company and the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably. Where revenue streams have a forward visibility revenue is recognised on an accruals basis. If there is no or minimal forward visibility of revenue streams it is not possible to measure the revenue streams reliably until cash is collected.

Royalties

Royalties derived from the exploitation of the Company's rights are included on a receivable and/or due basis calculated on sales arising during each accounting year as reported by licensees. Based on the matching principle, royalties payable are accrued at the time the revenue is recognised.

Where the Company receives advances which are recoupable from future sales or profits, or are otherwise conditional on continued performance of duties by the Company, these are recorded as liabilities. Revenue is recognised as it is earned.

Advance payments to artists are carried forward within other receivables where they relate to proven artists and where it is estimated that sufficient future income will be recouped against those advance payments. The advance payments should be written off if these are not covered by future income. In case of unproven contract the advance payments should be immediately written off. Any other royalty licensing income is recognised on a cash basis.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Employee benefits

The Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Company in an independently administered fund. Obligations for contributions to the defined contributions pension plan are recognised as an expense in the Statement of comprehensive income as incurred.

Operating lease payments

Payments made under operating leases are recognised in the Statement of comprehensive income on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. Lease incentives received are recognised in the Statement of comprehensive income as an integral part of the total lease expense.

Net financing costs

Net financing costs comprise interest payable, interest receivable on funds invested, dividend income and foreign exchange gains and losses that are recognised in the Statement of comprehensive income. Interest income and interest payable is recognised in profit or loss as it accrues, using the effective interest method.

Taxation

Tax for the year comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in the Statement of comprehensive income except to the extent that it relates to items recognised directly in equity, in which case it is recognised in equity.

Current tax is the expected tax payable on the taxable income for the period, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the Statement of financial position date, and any adjustment to tax payable in respect of previous years.

Deferred tax is provided on temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes. The amount of deferred tax provided is based on the expected manner of realisation or settlement of the carrying amount of assets and liabilities, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the Statement of financial position date. A deferred tax asset is recognised only to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which the asset can be utilised.

Business combinations

Acquisitions of subsidiaries and businesses are accounted for using the acquisition method. The consideration for each acquisition is measured at the aggregate of the fair values (at the date of exchange) of assets given, liabilities incurred or assumed, and equity instruments issued by the Group in exchange for control of the acquiree. Acquisition-related costs are recognised in profit or loss as incurred.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The following are the critical judgements, apart from those involving estimations (which are dealt with separately below), that the directors have made in the process of applying the Group's accounting policies and that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in financial statements.

The Company uses estimates to calculate the writer royalties due for the second half of the year for all the royalty receipts and uses industry standard rates to estimate the royalty accruals.

Writer advances provisions were made during the year based on calculation used in the Company and across other affiliated companies.

New standards, amendments and interpretations

IFRS 15 Revenue from contracts with Customers

IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers sets out the principles to be applied in revenue recognition, replacing those in IAS 18 Revenue and its related guidance.

IFRS 15 is effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018 and has since been applied by the Company.

Currently, the amount of revenue recognised in prior years under IAS 18 and related guidance does not differ materially from that which would have been recognised had IFRS 15 always been applied.

IFRS 9 Financial instruments

IFRS 9 Financial Instruments replaces IAS 39 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018, bringing together all three aspects of the accounting for financial instruments: classification and measurement; impairment; and hedge accounting.

The Company has applied IFRS 9 retrospectively, with the initial application date of 1 January 2018, the effect on comparative figures is not material to the accounts.

IFRS 16 Leases

The Company has assumed early adoption of the new accounting standard *IFRS16 Leases* commencing 1 January 2019. The amendment will require the Company, as a lessee, to recognise leases on the balance sheet which will reflect its right to use the asset and the associated liability for payments. Adopting this standard is not expected to have a material effect on the financial statements of the group or parent company in the financial year 2019. The profile of cash payments is not affected by this standard.

No other new standards, amendments or interpretations, effective for the first time for the financial year beginning on or after 1 January 2018, have had a material impact on the group or parent company.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

2. Revenue

An analysis of the Company's revenue is as follows:

	Year ended 31 December 2018 £'000	Year ended 31 December 2017 £'000
UK	87,428	69,559
North America	32,198	25,164
Europe	24,822	16,387
Other	17,192	14,130
	161,640	125,240

The operations of the Company take place wholly in the United Kingdom. Revenue was derived principally from activities conducted within the United Kingdom and North America. The Company does not have any separable operating segments. All assets used by the Company are held in the United Kingdom.

3. Profit from operations

Profit from operations is stated after charging/(crediting):

	Year ended 31 December 2018 £'000	Year ended 31 December 2017 £'000
Amortisation of intangible assets	13,861	9,616
Auditors' remuneration	00	70
 in respect of the Company 	90	72
in respect of affiliates	58	236
Depreciation	279	376
Net foreign exchange (gain)/loss	(250)	397
Management fees/(income)	4,118	(11,729)
Operating lease rentals		
- land and buildings	937	1,135
- plant and machinery	21	30

Audit fees of £90,000 (2017: £72,000) related to the audit of these financial statements are included within 'Auditors' remuneration'.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

4. Employee costs and directors' remuneration

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

Average number of employees

	Year ended 31 December 2018 Number	Year ended 31 December 2017 Number
Management Administration	5 45	18 147
	50	165

The Company transferred employee contracts to BMG Rights Management Services (UK) Limited in April 2018. Following the transfer, the number of persons employed by the Company was nil.

The aggregate payroll costs of these persons were as follows:

	Note	Year ended 31 December 2018 £'000	Year ended 31 December 2017 £'000
Wages and salaries Social security costs	16	2,234 310 160	11,825 1,304 602
Other pension costs	10	2,704	13,731

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

4. Employee costs and directors' remuneration (continued)

Remuneration of directors

•	Year ended 31 December 2018 £'000	Year ended 31 December 2017 £'000
Emoluments (excluding pension contributions) Severance benefits Social security costs	540 - 115	709 744 96
Pension costs	15 670	1,588
Highest paid director	Year ended 31 December 2018 £'000	Year ended 31 December 2017 £'000
Emoluments (excluding pension contributions) Severance benefits Social security costs Pension costs	218 - 48 - 5 	464 744 63 24 1,295
	=======================================	1,290

5. Finance income

•	Year ended 31 December 2018 £'000	Year ended 31 December 2017 £'000
Interest receivable on intercompany balances	388	1,334

Finance income on intercompany balances represents interest received from the parent company and other related parties in respect of cash pooling and loan facilities provided.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

6. Finance cost

	Note	Year ended 31 December 2018 £'000	Year ended 31 December 2017 £'000
Interest payable on intercompany balances Discount on deferred consideration Interest payable to third parties	14	(9,741) (313) (1)	(7,658) (46) (5)
		(10,055)	(7,709)

Interest charges on intercompany balances represent interest charged by the parent company and other related parties in respect of cash pooling and loan facilities provided.

7. Taxation

	Year ended 31 December 2018 £'000	Year ended 31 December 2017 £'000
Current taxation	, <u>-</u> ,	40.4
UK corporation tax – current year	(720)	424
Double tax relief	969	-
UK corporation tax – prior year	149	1,417
Foreign tax charge	(1,217)	(882)
Deferred taxation		
Deferred taxation – current year	617	-
Deferred taxation – prior year	5	-
Total tax (charge)/credit	(197)	959

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

7. Taxation (continued)

The tax assessed for the year differs from the standard effective rate of corporation tax in the UK for the year ended 31 December 2018 of 19% (2017: 19.25%). The differences are explained below:

Tax reconciliation

	Year ended 31 December 2018 £'000	Year ended 31 December 2017 £'000
Profit before taxation	26,490	10,908
Tax at 19% (2017: 19.25%)	(5,033)	(2,100)
Effects of: UK corporation tax – prior year Dividends from wholly owned UK subsidiaries Foreign tax Profit on disposal of intangible assets in group company Non-deductible impairment of investments Non-deductible expenses Rate difference Losses not recognised now utilised Deferred tax – prior year Recognition of tax from subsidiaries made dormant	149 31,669 (249) 39 (27,790) (780) 130 1,723 5 (60)	1,417 6,098 (712) - (3,600) (225) (12) 93
Total tax (charge)/credit	(197)	959

At 31 December 2018 a deferred tax asset has been recognised for the tax base in relation to temporary differences to the extent that the future benefit is expected to be utilised by the company or surrendered to other UK group companies.

Deferred tax assets

	1 January 2017 £'000	Prior year adjustment £'000	Transferred from Group companies £'000	Movement £'000	31 December 2018 £'000
Losses	-	31	(104)	(477)	(550)
Other	<u> </u>	(36)	51	(140)	(125)
	<u>-</u>	(5)	(53)	(617)	(675)

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

8. Intangible assets

	Music catalogues £'000
Cost At 1 January 2018 Additions Disposals	254,506 112,141 (892)
At 31 December 2018	365,755
Accumulated amortisation At 1 January 2018 Disposals Charge for the year	32,593 (343) 13,861
At 31 December 2018	46,111
Net book amount At 31 December 2018	319,644
At 31 December 2017	221,913

The amortisation charge is recognised in the Statement of comprehensive income under the line "Administrative expenses".

During the year, the following transactions in intangible assets took place with related parties:

- On 3 May 2018, the Company acquired publishing catalogue from Plangent Visions Music Limited at fair value.
- On 18 May 2018, the Company acquired rights in a publishing catalogue from BMG Rights Management (US) LLC at fair value.
- On 23 May 2018, the Company acquired rights in a publishing catalogue from Chrysalis Music Limited at fair value.
- On 31 May 2018, the Company acquired publishing catalogue from Villeston Limited at fair value.
- On 31 May 2018, the Company acquired publishing catalogue from Cherry Westfield Limited at fair value.
- On 29 June 2018, the Company acquired publishing catalogue from Chrysalis Music Limited at fair value.
- On 28 September 2018, the Company sold its Beds and Beats production music catalogue to BMG Production Music (UK) Limited at fair value.
- On 31 October 2018, the Company acquired publishing catalogue from Hornall Brothers Music Limited at fair value.
- On 22 November 2018, the Company acquired recorded catalogue from Cherry Westfield Limited at fair value.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

8. Intangible assets (continued)

- On 29 November 2018, the Company acquired a publishing catalogue from BMG VM Music Limited at fair value.
- On 30 November 2018, the Company acquired recorded catalogue from Chrysalis Copyrights Limited at fair value.
- On 30 November 2018, the Company acquired publishing catalogue from Touch Tones Music Limited at fair value.
- On 14 December 2018, the Company acquired publishing catalogue from Hewrate Limited at fair value.
- During the year, the Company sold publishing catalogues to BMG Rights Management (US) LLC and to BMG Rights Management (France) SARL at fair value.

The following changes in intangible assets occurred since 31 December 2018:

- On 31 January 2019, the Company acquired publishing catalogue from BMG VM Music Limited at fair value.
- On 27 February 2019, the Company acquired publishing catalogue from Stage Three Music Publishing Limited at fair value.
- On 27 February 2019, the Company acquired UK publishing catalogue and UK recorded catalogues from Stage Three Music (Catalogues) Limited at fair value.
- On 7 March 2019, the Company sold US publishing catalogue to BMG Rights Management (US) LLC at fair value.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

9. Property, plant and equipment

	Office equipment £'000	Leasehold improvements £'000	Total £'000
Cost At 1 January 2018 Additions Disposals	1,017 158 (1,175)	1,205 41 (1,246)	2,222 199 (2,421)
At 31 December 2018	_		_
Accumulated depreciation At 1 January 2018 Disposals Charge for the year	545 (640) 95	562 (746) 184	1,107 (1,386) 279
At 31 December 2018			<u> </u>
Net book amount At 31 December 2018	_	_	_
At 31 December 2017	472	643	1,115

The depreciation charge is recognised in the Statement of comprehensive income under the line "Administrative expenses".

During the year, the following transactions in fixed assets took place with related parties:

- On 1 July 2018, the Company sold office equipment to BMG Rights Management Services (UK) Limited at book value.
- On 1 November 2018, the Company sold leasehold improvements to BMG Rights Management Services (UK) Limited at book value.
- On 23 November 2018, title to the lease of the premises occupied by the Company was registered in the name of BMG Rights Management Services (UK) Limited.

As at 31 December 2018, the Company held no tangible assets.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

10. Investments in subsidiaries

The movement in the year was as follows:

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Cost		
At 1 January	335,052	334,874
Acquisitions	31,512	109,546
Disposals	(30,629)	(109,368)
At 31 December	335,935	335,052
Amounts provided		
At 1 January	(39,059)	(129,728)
Disposals	30,629	109,368
Charge in year	(146,261)	(18,699)
At 31 December	(154,691)	(39,059)
Net book amount at the end of the year	181,244	295,993
Net book amount at the beginning of the year	295,993	205,146
		•

The investments shown above represent the cost of the shares; less provisions made for any impairment in value.

During the year, the Company acquired the following companies from third parties:

- On 12 April 2018, the Company acquired 100% of the share capital of Plangent Visions Music Limited. The music rights were immediately acquired by the Company at fair value and on 28 September 2018 the company was made dormant. The value of the investment was fully impaired.
- On 30 July 2018, the Company acquired 100% of the share capital of Deep East Music Limited.
 On 18 December 2018, the Company subscribed for one Ordinary A share of £1 in Deep East Music Limited for £350,000. On 21 December 2018, music rights were licensed to BMG Production Music (UK) Limited and part of the investment was impaired.
- On 5 October 2018, the Company acquired 100% of the share capital of World Circuit Limited.
- On 9 October 2018, the Company acquired 100% of the share capital of Touch Tones Music Limited. On 29 November 2018, the Company subscribed for one Ordinary A share of £0.01 and one Ordinary B share of £0.01 in Touch Tones Music Limited for a total of £200,000. On 31 December 2018, Touch Tones Music Limited was made dormant. The value of the investment was fully impaired.

During the year the following legal entity re-structuring took place:

- On 30 January 2018, the value of investment in Union Square Music Publishing Limited was fully impaired.
- On 19 February 2018, Chrysalis Group Limited, in which the Company held 100% of the share capital, changed its name to BMG Rights Management Services (UK) Limited.
- On 31 May 2018, the value of the investment in Villeston Limited was fully impaired.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

10. Investments in subsidiaries (continued)

- On 29 June 2018, the value of the investment in Chrysalis Music Limited was fully impaired and the company was made dormant on 16 November 2018.
- On 31 October 2018, the value of the investment in Hornall Brothers Music Limited was fully impaired and on 15 January 2019, the company was made dormant.
- On 22 November 2018, the value of the investment in Cherry Westfield Limited was fully impaired and the company was made dormant.
- On 29 November 2018, the Company subscribed for one Ordinary share in USM Copyrights Limited for £200,000. On 30 November 2018, the value of the investment was fully impaired. On 1 February 2019, the company was made dormant.
- On 30 November 2018, the value of the investment in Chrysalis Copyrights Limited was impaired.
- On 14 December 2018, the value of the investment in Hewrate Limited was fully impaired and the company was made dormant.
- On 14 December 2018, the Company subscribed for one Ordinary share of £0.00001 in The Echo Label Limited for £9,100,000. On 31 December 2018, the investment was partially impaired.
- On 14 December 2018, the Company subscribed for one Ordinary share of £1 in Loaded Records Limited for £500,000.
- On 19 December 2018, the Company subscribed for one Ordinary share of £1 in Infectious Music Limited for £250,000.
- On 19 December 2018, the Company subscribed for one Ordinary share of £1 in BMG Production Music (UK) Limited for £600,000.

During the year, the following companies were dissolved:

- On 2 January 2018, Union Square Music Holdings Limited, in which the Company held 100% of the share capital, was dissolved. As a result, the investment was fully impaired.
- On 11 September 2018 Windswept Music (London) Limited, in which the Company held 100% of the share capital, was dissolved. As a result, the investment was fully impaired.
- On 18 September 2018 Union Square Music Songs Limited, in which the Company held 100% of the share capital, was dissolved. As a result, the investment was fully impaired.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

10. Investments in subsidiaries (continued)

Details of all the investments of the Company are as follows:

Subsidiary undertakings	Country of incorporation / operation United Kingdom	Principal activity Production Music	Description and proportion of ordinary shares held % 100%	Direct or indirect investment
BMG Production Music (UK) Ltd	•			
BMG Rights Management Services (UK) Ltd (formerly Chrysalis Group Limited)	United Kingdom	Service company	100%	Direct
Cavalcade Records Ltd	United Kingdom	Dormant	100%	Direct
Cherry Westfield Ltd	United Kingdom	Music Publishing*	100%	Direct
Chrysalis Copyrights Ltd	United Kingdom	Recorded Music	100%	Direct
Chrysalis Holdings Ltd	United Kingdom	Dormant	100%	Direct
Chrysalis Music Ltd	United Kingdom	Music Publishing*	100%	Direct
Deep East Music Ltd	United Kingdom	Production Music	100%	Direct
G W Mills Ltd	United Kingdom	Dormant	100%	Direct
Hewrate Ltd	United Kingdom	Music Publishing*	100%	Direct
Hornall Brothers Ltd	United Kingdom	Music Publishing*	100%	Direct
Infectious Music Ltd	United Kingdom	Recorded Music	100%	Direct
Loaded Records Ltd	United Kingdom	Recorded Music	100%	Direct
Minder Music Ltd	United Kingdom	Music Publishing*	100%	Direct
Plangent Visions Music Ltd	United Kingdom	Music Publishing*	100%	Direct
RAM Records Ltd	United Kingdom	Recorded Music	100%	Direct
Rock Music Company Ltd	United Kingdom	Music Publishing*	100%	Direct
Sanctuary Records Group Ltd	United Kingdom	Recorded Music	100%	Direct
Skint Records Ltd	United Kingdom	Dormant	100%	Direct
Stage Three Music Publishing Ltd	United Kingdom	Music publishing	100%	Direct
The Echo Label Ltd	United Kingdom	Recorded Music	100%	Direct
Tom Jones (Enterprises) Ltd	United Kingdom	Dormant	99%	Direct
Touch Tones Music Ltd	United Kingdom	Music Publishing*	100%	Direct
Union Square Music Ltd	United Kingdom	Recorded Music	100% .	Direct

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

10. Investments in subsidiaries (continued)

Country of incorporation /	Deinoinal activity	Description and proportion of ordinary shares	Direct or indirect investment
United Kingdom	Music publishing*	100%	Indirect
United Kingdom	Recorded Music	100%	Direct
United Kingdom	Dormant	100%	Direct
United Kingdom	Music Publishing*	100%	Direct
United Kingdom	Recorded Music	100%	Direct
United Kingdom	Dormant	100%	Indirect
United Kingdom	Music publishing	100%	Indirect
United Kingdom	Dormant	100%	Indirect
United Kingdom	Dormant	100%	Indirect
United Kingdom	Recorded Music	100%	Indirect
United Kingdom	Dormant	100%	Indirect
United Kingdom	Dormant	100%	Indirect
United Kingdom	Music publishing	100%	Indirect
United Kingdom	Dormant	100%	Indirect
	incorporation / operation United Kingdom	incorporation / operation United Kingdom	Country of incorporation / operation United Kingdom Principal activity Music publishing* United Kingdom Recorded Music 100% United Kingdom Dormant 100% United Kingdom Music Publishing* 100% United Kingdom Recorded Music 100% United Kingdom Music Publishing* 100% United Kingdom Dormant 100% United Kingdom Dormant 100% United Kingdom Music publishing 100% United Kingdom Dormant 100% United Kingdom Music publishing 100%

^{*} This company was made dormant during the year. The company's principal activity pre-dormancy has been shown in the table above.

The following changes in investments have occurred since 31 December 2018.

On 8 January 2019 Union Square Music Publishing Limited, in which the Company holds 100% of the share capital, was dissolved.

On 8 January 2019 Villeston Limited, in which the Company holds 100% of the share capital, was dissolved.

On 31 January 2019, the Company acquired 100% shareholding in BMG VM Music Limited at fair value from Stage Three Music (Catalogues) Limited. From that date, BMG VM Music Limited became a 100% subsidiary of the Company.

On 28 February 2019, the Company acquired 100% shareholding in Stage Three Music (Catalogues) Limited at fair value from Stage Three Music Publishing Limited. From that date, Stage Three Music (Catalogues) Limited became a 100% subsidiary of the Company.

On 13 March 2019, the Company subscribed for one Ordinary share of £1 in Ram Records Limited for £750,000.

All investments have the registered address of 8th Floor, 5 Merchant Square London, W2 1AS.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

11. Trade and other receivables

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Trade receivables	11,711	9,015
Other receivables	120,949	105,645
Trade and other receivables from group companies	29,001	20,947
Deferred tax asset	675	-
Group relief trade receivables	1,059	1,249
Prepayments and accrued income	7,092	10,951
	170,487	147,807

Trade and other receivables to group companies include the group cash pooling facility balance with the parent company and other related parties. Cash pooling facility is unsecured and interest-bearing at the Bank of England rate less a margin of 0.125%.

12. Cash and cash equivalents

		2018 £'000	2017 £'000
	Cash at bank	7,028	74
13.	Trade and other payables		
		2018 £'000	2017 £'000
	Due within one year		
	Trade payables Trade and other payables to group companies Group relief trade payables Bank overdraft Other payables	53,073 515,661 1,067 123 9,007	72,359 507,929 844 - 17,276
		578,931	598,408

Trade and other payables to group companies include the group cash pooling facility balance with the parent company and other related parties. Cash pooling facility is unsecured and interest-bearing at the Bank of England rate plus a margin of 1.25%.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

14. Other non-current payables

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Non-current payables:		
Deferred consideration	15,915	16,355

Non-current payables represent other amounts due after one year. As at 31 December 2018 non-current payables include future liabilities of £331,000 which are due after 5 years (2017: £439,000). Finance expense on non-current payables recognised in the financial statements was £45,000 (2017: £100,000)

15. Long-term loans

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Loans from group companies Loans to group companies	(3,982)	(6,826) 8,290
	(3,908)	1,464

Long term loans are interest-bearing at the Bank of England rate less 0.25%. They have no fixed repayment terms.

16. Employee benefits

The Company operated a defined contribution pension scheme. On 1 April 2018 administration of the pension scheme was transferred to BMG Rights Management Services (UK) Limited. The pension costs charge for the year represents three months' contributions incurred by the Company and amounted to £160,000 (2017: £602,000).

As at 31 December 2018 there were no outstanding monies payable to the fund (2017: £nil).

17. Share capital

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Authorised, issued and fully paid:		
5 (2017: 5) ordinary shares of £1 each	=	-

The holders of ordinary shares are entitled to receive dividends as declared from time to time and are entitled to one vote per share at meetings of the Company.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

18. Financial instruments

Exposure to credit, liquidity, interest rate and currency risks arises in the normal course of the business.

(a) Fair values of financial instruments

Trade and other receivables

The fair value of trade and other receivables is estimated as the present value of future cash flows, discounted at the market rate of interest at the Statement of financial position date if the effect is material.

Trade and other payables

The fair value of trade and other payables is estimated as the present value of future cash flows, discounted at the market rate of interest at the Statement of financial position date if the effect is material.

Cash and cash equivalents

The fair value of cash and cash equivalents is estimated as its carrying amount where the cash is repayable on demand. Where it is not repayable on demand then the fair value is estimated at the present value of future cash flows, discounted at the market rate of interest at the Statement of financial position date.

Interest-bearing borrowings

Fair value, which after initial recognition is determined for disclosure purposes only, is calculated based on the present value of future principal and interest cash flows, discounted at the market rate of interest at the Statement of financial position date.

The fair values for each class of financial assets and financial liabilities together with their carrying amounts shown in the Statement of financial position are as follows:

	2018		2017	
	Carrying amount £'000	Fair value £'000	Carrying amount £'000	Fair value £'000
Trade receivables Other receivables	11,711 120,949	11,711 120,949	9,015 105,645	9,015 105,645
Loans to group companies	74	74	8,290	8,290
Trade and other receivables from group companies	29,001	29,001	20,947	20,947
Deferred tax asset Prepayments and accrued income	675 7,092	675 7,092	10,951	10,951
Group relief receivable Trade payables	1,059 (53,073)	1,059 (53,073)	1,249 (72,359)	1,249 (72,359)
Trade and other payables to group companies Loans from group companies	(515,661) (3,982)	(515,661) (3,982)	(507,929) (6,826)	(507,929) (6,826)
Other non-current payables Other payables	(15,915) (9,007)	(15,915) (9,007)	(16,355) (17,276)	(16,355) (17,276)
Group relief payable	(1,067)	(1,067) ———	(844)	(844)
	(428,144)	(428,144)	(465,492)	(465,492) ————
Unrecognised gains/losses				-

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

18. Financial instruments (continued)

(b) Credit risk

Financial risk management

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the Company if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations, and arises principally from the Company's receivables from customers. This risk is mitigated as balances are spread across multiple parties.

The Company's principal financial assets are bank balances and trade receivables which represent the Company's maximum exposure to credit risk in relation to financial assets. The Company bears the bad debt risk on all debtors. The Company's management make assessments on new customers before work is earned out, based on their knowledge of the industry and the customer's acceptance of imposed credit terms.

The amounts presented in the Statement of financial position are net of allowances for doubtful receivables after taking into consideration the amount of balances covered by the Company's credit insurance policy. These have been estimated by the Company's management based on prior experience and their assessment of the current economic environment.

Exposure to credit risk

The carrying amount of financial assets represents the maximum credit exposure. Therefore, the maximum exposure to credit risk at the Statement of financial position date was £132,660,000 (2017: £114,660,000) being the total of the carrying amount of trade and other receivables, shown in the table above.

Financial assets and impairment losses

The ageing of trade receivables at the Statement of financial position date was:

	Gross trade	2018 Doubtful debt	Net trade	Gross trade	2017 Doubtful debt	Net trade
•	receivables £'000	provision £'000	receivables £'000	receivables £'000	provision £'000	receivables £'000
Not past due	11,856	(145)	11,711	9,019	(4)	9,015

Impairment of financial assets

The Company has trade receivables for royalty licensing that are subject to the expected credit loss model:

While cash and cash equivalents are also subject to the impairment requirements of IFRS 9, the identified impairment loss was immaterial.

Trade receivables and contact assets

The Company applies the IFRS 9 simplified approach to measuring expected credit losses which uses a lifetime expected loss allowance for all trade receivables and contract assets.

(c) Liquidity risk

Financial risk management

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Company will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due.

Liquidity is managed by group via the cash pooling facility.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

18. Financial instruments (continued)

(d) Market risk

Financial risk management

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices, such as foreign exchange rates and interest rates will affect the Company's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments.

Market risk - foreign currency risk

A proportion of sales and purchases are invoiced in foreign currency and the Company bears the foreign currency risk on these debtors and creditors. These exposures are not hedged.

Sensitivity analysis — foreign currency risk

A sensitivity analysis was not performed because the Company converts foreign currency bank balances into pounds sterling regularly and therefore exposure to foreign currency risk is minimal.

Market risk - interest rate risk

The Company utilises a group cash pooling facility, on which interest is charged at variable rates, based on the Bank of England base rate plus a margin of 1.25%. The Company's exposure to interest rate risk arises from the fluctuations in the rate of interest charged on cash and cash equivalent balances payable as impacted on by the changes in the Bank of England base rate.

Sensitivity analysis - interest rate risk

A change of one percent in interest rates at the Statement of financial position date would have increased the profit by the amounts shown below. This calculation assumes that the change occurred at the Statement of financial position date and had been applied to risk exposures existing at that date.

This analysis assumes that all other variables, in particular foreign currency rates, remains constant and considers the effect of financial instruments with variable interest rates.

At the year-end it is estimated that an increase of one percentage rise in the 3 month LIBOR market rate would increase the Company's profit before taxation by approximately £4,784,000 (2017: £4,482,000).

19. Financial commitments

The Company leased the premises which it occupies under a non-cancellable operating lease. On 23 November 2018, title to the lease was registered in the name of BMG Rights Management Services (UK) Ltd. As from that date, the future minimum lease payments are borne by BMG Rights Management Services (UK) Ltd.

	Land and	Land and bunding		
	2018	2017		
	£'000	£'000		
Within one year	-	1,346		
Within 2 to 5 years	-	5,310		
More than 5 years	-	2,976		
		9,632		

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Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

20. Related parties

Identity of related parties

The Company's ultimate parent company and group is the international media company Bertelsmann SE & Co. KGaA.

The Company had a related party relationship in the year with subsidiaries of Bertelsmann SE & Co. KGaA, and with its directors and executive officers.

Related party transactions

During the year the Company entered into the following transactions with related parties. The transactions were priced on an arm's length basis.

	Sales / (purchases) of goods		Trade balances receivable)		Loan balances receivable / (payable)	
	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
8ball Music B.V.	(10)	-	<i>:</i>	-	-	-
Arvato IT Support GmbH	-	(39)	-	-	-	-
Arvato Ltd	-	(28)	, -	(34)	-	-
Arvato Systems GmbH Arvato systems S4M	(41)	(57)	-	(10)	· -	-
GmbH Bertelsmann Corporate	(12)	(29)	-	(1)	-	-
Services Ltd Bertelsmann SE & Co.	(82)	-	-	-	-	-
KGaA	(72)	(402)	(14)	(105)	-	-
Bertelsmann UK Ltd BMG (Beijing) Music &	(9,569)	(7,444)	(486,224)	(450,275)	-	-
Culture Co. Ltd	6,141	173	936	549	-	-
BMG AM Pty Ltd BMG Production Music		(8)	-	6	-	
(UK) Ltd BMG Rights Management (Australia) Pty Ltd BMG Rights Management (Benelux) B.V BMG Rights Management	488	741	134	1,78	-	-
	1,280	495	(71)	(108)	-	
	1,102	261	(22)	(9)	-	-
(Canada) Inc. BMG Rights Management	. 1,613	1,242	231	247	-	-
(Distribution) GmbH BMG Rights Management	6,780	4,671	-	847	-	-
(France) SARL BMG Rights Management	3,149	1,913	(293)	(313)	-	-
(Hong Kong) Ltd BMG Rights Management	(30)	(10)	(39)	(10)	-	-
(Italy) S.R.L BMG Rights Management	1,379	488	(82)	(297)	-	-
(Scandinavia) AB	423	546	(19)	(26)	-	-

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

20. Related parties (continued)
Related party transactions (continued)

	Sales / (purchases) of goods		Trade balances receivable / (payable)		Loan balances receivable / (payable)	
	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
BMG Rights Management (US) LLC BMG Rights Management and Administration (Spain) S.L	(5,453)	(7,658) 510	(1,218)	(3,533)	-	-
BMG Rights Management Brasil Ltda BMG Rights Management	655	-	-	-	, -	-
GmbH BMG Rights Management	(9,065)	(7,061)	(1,989)	(394)	-	-
Services (UK) Ltd	(6,293)	-	(175)	-	-	-
BMG VM Music Ltd Boman (Beijing) Cultural	272	943	2,230	1,523	(3,945)	(3,867)
Development Co. Ltd	169	339	172	337	-	-
Cherry Westfield Ltd	213	93	-	(404)	-	383
Chrysalis Copyrights Ltd	51	191	-	(1,148)	-	-
Chrysalis Music Ltd	(1,355)	(8,151)	-	(1,621)	-	-
Countdown Media GmbH	(156)	-	(157)	-	-	-
Creole Records Ltd	-	-	(37)	(37)	-	-
Deep East Music Ltd Francis Dreyfus Music	55	-	170	-	· -	-
SARL	. (340)	(155)	(71)	(19)	-	_
FremantleMedia Ltd Gruner + Jahr GmbH &	(233)	-	-	-	-	-
Co KG	-	-	-	(6)	-	-
Hewrate Ltd	175	188	-	17	-	-
Hornall Brothers Music Ltd	(271)	31	-	(1,903)	-	-
Infectious Music Ltd	218	1,275	(108)	906	-	-

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

20. Related parties (continued)
Related party transactions (continued)

	Sales / (purchases) of goods		Trade balances receivable / (payable)		Loan balances receivable / (payable)	
	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Loaded Records Ltd	(434)	(266)	(1,824)	(1,399)	-	-
Men From The North Ltd	-	-	(8)	(8)	-	· -
Minder Music Ltd	-	(14)	-	-	-	-
Mute Records Ltd	(1,923)	(1,340)	(1,754)	(2,190)	-	-
Ram Records Ltd	87	74	422	359	-	-
Rise Records Inc	(4,897)	(5,825)	(106)	(388)	-	-
Rock Music Company Ltd RTL Group (Support	-	20	-	-	7	-
Services) Ltd Sanctuary Records Group	-	(116)	-	(61)	-	-
Ltd	(8,660)	(4,107)	(2,329)	647	-	-
Sonopress GmbH Stage Three Music	(587)	· -	(10)	9	-	-
(Catalogues) Ltd Stage Three Music	900	1,011	(5,212)	(2,135)	-	-
Publishing Ltd	(60)	(566)	(2,993)	(1,541)	35	34
The Echo Label Ltd	(198)	(47)	10,681	3,332	39	7,046
This is Hit Inc	6	-	15	6	-	• -
Trojan Recordings Ltd Union Square Music	-	-	(10)	(10)	-	
Holdings Ltd	-	(4)	-	-	=	-
Union Square Music Ltd Union Square Music	(1,848)	(352)	5,543	5,276	(37)	(1,717)
Publishing Ltd Union Square Music	-	(31)	-	(897)	-	(15)
Copyrights Ltd Union Square Music	48	211	-	73	-	504
Songs Ltd	-	(227)	-	(617)	-	(1,209)
Villeston Ltd Windswept Music	107	27		(278)	-	305
(London) Ltd	-	(427)	-	(31,299)	-	-
World Circuit Ltd	27		(2,427)		-	<u> </u>
	(25,161)	(28,921)	(486,668)	(486,771)	(3,908)	1,464

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

21. Net cash (used in)/generated from operating activities Cash flows from operating activities

	Year ended 31 December 2018 £'000	Year ended 31 December 2017 £'000
Profit before taxation	26,490	10,908
Adjustment for:		0.040
Amortisation of intangible assets	13,861	9,616
Impairment of investments	146,261	18,699
Depreciation	279	376
Dividend income	(166,677)	(31,676)
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	(007)	(22)
Gain on disposal of intangible assets	(927)	(23)
Finance income	(388)	(1,334)
Finance expenses	10,055	7,709
Change in provisions	294 	3,511
Operating profit before movements in working capital	29,248	17,790
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(22,004)	17,498
(Decrease)/increase in trade and other payables	(20,358)	37,849
Cash (used in)/generated from operations	(42,362)	55,347
Tax (paid)/refunded	(1,733)	146
Net cash (used in)/generated from operating activities	(14,847)	73,283

22. Ultimate parent company and controlling party

The immediate parent company is Bertelsmann UK Limited, a company incorporated in the United Kingdom. The ultimate parent company is Bertelsmann SE & Co. KGaA. The results of the Company are included in the consolidated financial statements of Bertelsmann SE & Co. KGaA which is registered at Carl-Bertelsmann-Strasse 270, 33311 Gütersloh, Germany. These consolidated financial statements are publicly available.

No other group financial statements include the results of the Company.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 December 2018

23. First time adoption of IFRS 9

On 1 January 2018 the Company adopted IFRS 9 'Financial Instruments' which addresses the classification, measurement and recognition of financial liabilities. IFRS 9 was adopted by including a transition adjustment in opening retained earnings. The adjustments arising from the new impairment rules are recognised in the opening balance sheet on 1 January 2018.

The following table shows the adjustments recognised for each individual line item. Line items that were not affected by the changes have not been included. As a result, the subtotals and totals disclosed cannot be recalculated from the numbers provided.

	31 December 2017 as originally presented £'000	IFRS 9 £'000	1 January 2018 Restated £'000
Trade receivables	9,015	(298)	8,717
Deferred tax	<u> </u>	• 51	51
Retained earnings	53,603	(247)	53,356