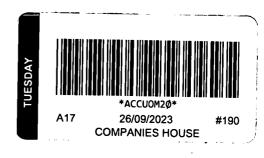
# VANGUARD ASSET SERVICES, LTD. REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Company Number: 07242969



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# Directors and other information

Directors	Sean Hagerty Blair Fanning Rebecca Bond
Registered office	4th Floor, The Walbrook Building 25 Walbrook London EC4N 8AF
Registered number	07242969
Independent Auditors	PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors 7 More London Riverside London SE1 2RT
Bankers	HSBC Bank plc Level 37 8 Canada Square London E14 5HQ  JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. London 25 Bank Street Canary Wharf London E14 5JP

### Strategic report

The Directors present their Strategic Report on Vanguard Asset Services, Ltd. (the "Company") for the year ended 31 December 2022.

### Principal activities

The Company is registered in England and was incorporated in the United Kingdom ("UK") on 4 May 2010 as a private limited company, limited by shares, to act as a holding company and to render services to its affiliates and subsidiaries, Vanguard Asset Management, Ltd. ("VAM"), Vanguard Investments UK, Limited ("VIUK"), Vanguard Investments Switzerland, GmbH ("VISG"), Vanguard UK Nominees Limited ("VUN") and Vanguard Pension Trustee UK Limited ("VPTUK"), together the "Group", in the ordinary course of the Company's activities.

VIUK acts as an Authorised Corporate Director or manager of UCITS funds domiciled in the UK. VAM is an FCA regulated UK MiFID investment firm. VAM has been appointed by Vanguard Group (Ireland), Limited ("VGIL") as a distributor of certain Irish domiciled funds and by VIUK as a distributor of certain UK domiciled funds. VAM provides investment services to certain investment accounts. VISG acts as a distributor of Irish domiciled funds in Switzerland. VPTUK and VUN act as nominee companies within the Group (VPTUK also acts as the corporate trustee to the Vanguard Self Invested Personal Pension (SIPP)).

### **Business strategy**

The Group's core purpose is to take a stand for all investors, to treat them fairly, and to give them the best chance for investment success. This mission translates to an offering of low-cost, high quality pooled investment products and services to retail investors, financial intermediaries, and institutional clients. The activities that differentiate the Group include its client focus, enduring and long-term investment philosophy, organisational discipline, and highly effective and engaged employees (crew).

The growth and development of the business model in Europe ("Vanguard Europe") is built upon its low-cost value orientation, strong and deeply held values of service excellence and protection of Vanguard's reputation through risk mitigation and internal controls.

The Vanguard Europe strategy is a focused one, with target clients across certain geographies. We target intermediary wholesale, intermediary retail, and retail direct clients. In terms of markets, we serve investors across Europe, but focus on four specific markets: the UK, Germany, Italy and Switzerland. Our intermediary business spans all four markets, while distribution to retail direct clients is through our UK Personal Investor (UKPI) business and, as of 2022, our Germany Personal Investor (DEPI) business.

In terms of key 2022 outcomes:

**Intermediary** – Vanguard's intermediary channels account for the majority of distribution in the UK, Germany, Italy and Switzerland. In 2022, Vanguard continued to commit to building long-term relationships with the adviser community by providing high-quality, low-cost product solutions and a varied programme of educational content and thought leadership.

**Retail direct** – In 2022, our UK Personal Investor execution-only platform continued to grow rapidly, as we invested in technology and operational enhancements to enhance client experience. We also served clients with a financial planning service and developed a managed ISA offer.

Vanguard continued to invest in our ESG offer throughout 2022 with the launch of a range of exclusionary ESG ETFs. Ongoing investment was made to comply with evolving UK and EU ESG regulations and strengthened our communication posture on our stewardship programme and voting practices. These outcomes were achieved through an enhanced cross-functional operating structure focused on mobilising ESG change efforts across product, regulation and communications.

### Strategic report (continued)

### **Business strategy (continued)**

In terms of strategic objectives, the Group has created more alignment in cross-regional business strategy for the coming years, specifically with the development of three overarching objectives, to: 1) Deliver superior client outcomes, 2) Earn a sufficient risk-adjusted return, and 3) Create an environment where all crew can thrive.

In 2023, the Group will continue to align efforts throughout the business to our three overarching objectives. Key efforts include:

- 1) To deliver superior client outcomes, we are focused on delivering top investment performance, building our brand, improving client experience and also managing our top risks through a first-class risk and controls environment.
- 2) To earn a risk-adjusted return, we are focused on key financial and efficiency measures. The Group's commitment to financial discipline has been designed to accelerate our flywheel and in turn lower costs for investors.
- 3) All of these business outcomes will not be achieved if our crew are not able to thrive. We will rely on key measures to assess this objective such as our internal engagement and inclusion scores. In addition, we will continue our work to cultivate a more diverse workplace.

### Key performance indicators ("KPIs")

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

### Development and performance of the business

The results of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2022 are set out on page 14. The year-end financial position of the Group is set out on page 15.

### **Disability Disclosure**

Vanguard is an equal opportunity employer and its employees (crew members) and applicants for employment shall not be disadvantaged by any policies or conditions of service which cannot be justified as necessary for operational purposes. The recruitment processes aim to ensure that no job applicant receives less favourable treatment because of any disability. Vanguard reviews regularly these processes to ensure that individuals are treated on the basis of their relevant merits and abilities and that diverse sectors of the community are reached. If an employee is disabled or becomes disabled in the course of their employment with Vanguard, Vanguard works with the individual to make adjustments to their working conditions, any particular duty of the job, and training, which can assist the individual in performance of their duties. The aim of Vanguard's policies are to ensure that all employees should be offered equal opportunities to achieve their full potential.

### Strategic report (continued)

### Risk management policies

The Group's operations expose it to a number of financial risks which are detailed in Note 3.

The Group's Directors monitor risks associated with the Group and work closely with the risk department to identify potential risks, establishing policies and procedures for effective control and risk management.

Operational risk exposures can give rise to losses from inadequate or failed internal processes and systems or from external events. Such risks are formally identified and assessed as part of the risk management framework. Appropriate management actions are implemented to reduce risk exposures and actions are tracked to completion.

The Group has entered into an intercompany services arrangement with the ultimate parent. This arrangement transfers many of the financial risks associated with operations of the business.

### Statement in respect of section 172(1) of the Companies Act 2006

The Board of Directors of the Company both individually and together, consider that they have acted in the way they consider, in good faith, would be most likely to promote the success of the Company (having regard to the matters set out in section 172(1) of the Companies Act 2006) during the year ended 31 December 2022, and in doing so have had regard to a range of matters including:

- the likely consequences of any decision in the long-term;
- the interests of the Company's employees;
- the need to foster the Company's business relationships with suppliers, customers and others;
- the impact of the Company's operations on the community and the environment;
- the desirability of the Company maintaining a reputation for high standards of business conduct; and
- the need to act fairly as between the Company's members.

### In particular:

- As referred to in this Strategic Report (see the 'Business strategy' section above), Vanguard's core purpose is: "To take a stand for all investors, to treat them fairly and to give them the best chance for investment success". The Board's long-term strategy planning and decision making is directly aligned to this purpose and designed to have a long-term beneficial impact for the Company and to deliver success for investors. In furtherance of this, the Board ensured that key strategic initiatives were delivered across the year, the Company operated in line with its financial control tolerances and took account of its applicable legal and regulatory requirements and obligations. As noted in the 'Business strategy' section, in 2023, the Board will continue to focus on growing the existing business, expanding services capabilities, launching additional products and focusing on risk management.
- The Board understands that Vanguard's crew are fundamental to its success and looks to take into account crew interests proactively and in a meaningful way please refer to the section below entitled 'How we engage with our employees' for further detail on this.
- Fostering relationships with service providers, investors and other stakeholders (such as industry bodies and regulators) is integral to the success of the Company, which is recognised by the Board please refer to the section below entitled 'How we engage with our stakeholders' for further detail in this regard.

# Strategic report (continued) Statement in respect of section 172(1) of the Companies Act 2006 (continued)

- The Board recognises the important role which Vanguard plays in the community. Vanguard, through its community stewardship programme, has consistently looked to give back to its communities over the course of the year, supporting non-profit organisations, and encouraging crew to support charitable activities with their personal time, talent and funds. The Board also recognises the role Vanguard has with respect to the environment and ensures that this is a consideration in decision-making and strategy.
- Conduct and culture is integral to Vanguard's business and is a key consideration in the actions and planning undertaken by the Board. Key cultural values are embedded within the business and reinforced at both management and Board level. In addition, Vanguard crew must adhere to a code of ethics which sets out the expectation and framework around Vanguard's strong conduct/culture ethos. Vanguard's policies on a wide range of business and ethics related practices are regularly reviewed and updated as necessary to ensure continued compliance with legal and regulatory requirements and good industry practice.
- The Board at all times, in alignment with Vanguard's core purpose, acts fairly and responsibly with respect to its investors. As referred to above, Board strategy and planning is aimed at ensuring long-term success for the Company and investors.
- The Board will continue to keep engagement methods under review to ensure they remain effective.

How we engaged with our crew in 2022

Vanguard is committed to creating a workplace where crew can thrive and do their best work for our investors.

Crew engagement is one of the ways the Company, both at Board and management level, ensures that this is the case by taking account of employee interests. Engagement (and ensuring crew are kept up-to-date) is conducted via a number of channels (for example, via weekly business updates, town halls and crew surveys) and across every aspect of the crew experience at Vanguard, including onboarding, day-to-day work, career development opportunities and annual assessments. In 2022, the Board remained highly engaged in relation to crew's well-being through regular updates on responses to annual surveys and more regular focussed "pulse" surveys and the oversight of return to office arrangements set by management.

In response to the crew engagement outlined above, meaningful action planning is formalised and implemented, so that crew experience positive and tangible improvements within the workplace.

How we engaged with our stakeholders in 2022

Vanguard relies on service providers and suppliers in the delivery and operation of its services. Establishing and maintaining good relationships ensures that services are delivered effectively and at efficient cost. Relationship teams manage and interact with key service providers across the business: providing service providers with confidence, trust and transparency in respect of the way Vanguard operates. The Board also maintains direct relationships with key service providers and continued to collaborate with them to drive the highest standards possible and drive good outcomes for investors.

Vanguard also ensures that it fosters and maintains its key relationships with regulators, other authorities and industry bodies. The Company looks to be proactive in this regard, seeking engagement with these stakeholders, as appropriate, and implementing change projects, as and when required. The Board ultimately oversees these relationships, ensuring that the Company meets all expectations and requirements in this regard.

Signed on behalf of the board of Directors:

Sam Hazity

Sean Hagerty Director 25 April 2023

### Report of the Directors

The Directors present, herewith, their annual report and the audited consolidated financial statements of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2022.

### Review of operations

The results of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2022 are set out on page 14. Both the level of business and the year-end financial position were satisfactory and the Directors expect an increased level of activity in the future.

### **Dividends**

The Directors of the Group recommended that no dividend be paid for the year ended 31 December 2022 (2021: nil).

### Significant changes in the state of affairs

The following Director appointments occurred in the year: Blair Fanning (appointed 30 April 2022), Rebecca Bond (appointed 30 April 2022).

The following Director resignations occurred in the year: Kathleen Bock (resigned 30 April 2022), Daniel Waters (resigned 30 April 2022), John Bendl (resigned 30 April 2022), Maureen Erasmus (resigned 30 April 2022).

Market disruptions associated with geopolitical events have had a global impact and uncertainty exists as to the long-term implications. Such disruptions can adversely affect revenues the Group receives for services provided where such revenues are based on the value of assets under management. The Group's total revenue is not expected to be adversely impacted by decreases in revenue from such services due to the broadly offsetting impact of intercompany services agreements.

In preparing the financial statements as at 31 December 2022, management considered the impact of subsequent events occurring through 24 April 2023 for potential recognition or disclosure in these financial statements.

Management has determined that there are no additional material events or transactions that have occurred subsequent to 31 December 2022 that would require recognition or disclosure in these financial statements.

### **Future developments**

The Company will continue to act as a holding company for the Group and to render services to its subsidiaries and affiliates.

### Indemnities and insurance premiums

### Indemnification

Under the Group's constitution, the Directors and officers were indemnified by the Group, with such indemnity obligation insured with a qualifying third party during the year and at the date of approval of the financial statements, out of the Group's assets for loss, damage, expense or other liability incurred by him or her in properly performing or exercising any of his or her powers, duties or rights in relation to the Group.

### Report of the Directors (continued)

### Insurance premiums

The Company paid the premium for an insurance policy for the benefit of the Directors and certain employees of the Group and related bodies. The liabilities that are insured are legal costs that might be incurred in defending civil or criminal proceedings that may be brought against the Directors and officers in their capacity as Directors and officers of the Group, and any other payments arising from liabilities incurred by the Directors and officers in connection with such proceedings.

### Engagement with crew

Please refer to the section entitled 'How we engaged with our crew in 2022' in the Strategic Report above. Disability policies have been disclosure on page 3 of the Strategic Report above.

### Engagement with suppliers, investors and others in a business relationship

Please refer to the section entitled 'How we engaged with our stakeholders in 2022' in the Strategic Report above.

### Risk management policies

The Group's risk management policies are disclosed in the Strategic Report on page 4.

### Streamlined Energy & Carbon Reporting

Vanguard cares deeply about the long-term impact of climate change because it represents a profound, fundamental risk to our long-term investors and the way companies, including Vanguard, will operate in the future.

Our approach to addressing climate change includes assessing how we operate as a company and an employer. With more than 18,000 mission-driven crew members working around the world, we are committed to reducing our global carbon footprint and managing climate-related risks to our operations.

In early 2020, Vanguard established new goals to curb emissions and reduce its carbon footprint throughout its global operations. These commitments include:

- Achieving 100% renewable energy in our global operations which was achieved in 2021.
- Reaching carbon neutrality throughout our global operations in 2025.

Vanguard uses guidance from the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol to calculate its carbon footprint. The protocol provides standards and tools to help businesses and other organisations measure and report greenhouse gas emissions. Under the protocol, a company's emissions are classified in three "scopes."

- Scope 1 is direct emissions from owned or controlled sources;
- Scope 2 is indirect emissions from the use of energy sources such as electricity, and;
- Scope 3 is indirect emissions that occur in a company's value chain.

Our plan to achieve carbon neutrality includes avoiding, reducing, and offsetting all Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions, as well as emissions from a number of Scope 3 categories:

Category 1 - Purchased goods and services

Category 3 – Fuel- and energy-related activities

Category 5 – Waste generated in operations

Category 6 - Business travel

Category 7 - Employee commuting

Category 8 – Upstream leased assets.

### Report of the Directors (continued)

### Streamlined Energy & Carbon Reporting (continued)

Using an operational control approach, Vanguard accounts for 100% of Scope 2 electricity emissions from properties in which it has control. Emissions from facilities outside of Vanguard's operational control are calculated and accounted for under Scope 3. Within the UK, building emissions are calculated within Scope 3.

The table below shows the Group's Scope 3 emissions for the year ended 31 December 2022 along with intensity ratios based on the Group's full-time employees ("FTE"). The Group did not have significant Scope 1 or 2 emissions for the years ended 31 December 2022 or 2021. The 2021 emissions metrics have been restated to include additional waste emissions, not reflected in the prior year.

	Year ended 31-Dec-2022 Kg '000	Year ended 31-Dec-2021 Kg '000
Global Green House Gas (GHG) emissions	CO <sub>2</sub> e	CO <sub>2</sub> e
Scope 3: Upstream Leased Assets	736	786
Scope 3: Business Travel Air	461	76
Scope 3: Business Travel Rail	1	1
Scope 3: Business Travel Mileage	14	4
Total	1,212	867

Intensity ratios	Year ended 31-Dec-2022	Year ended 31-Dec-2021
CO2e per FTE (kilograms)	1,403	1,113

In May 2022, Vanguard published its first Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosure ("TCFD") aligned report. From 1 January 2022, VAM, as an asset manager in relation to portfolio management services and as an asset owner in relation to operating a self-investment personal pension ("SIPP"), and VIUK, as an asset manager for UK UCITs funds are in scope for mandatory TCFD reporting under FCA PS 21/24. Vanguard will produce mandatory TCFD reporting by 30 June 2023.

### Statement of Directors' responsibilities

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Strategic Report, Report of the Directors, and the 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 Group and the Company financial statements in accordance with UK-adopted international accounting standards.

Under company law, 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 the financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- state whether applicable UK-adopted international accounting standards 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

### Report of the Directors (continued)

### Statement of Directors' responsibilities (continued)

prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the group and company will continue in business.

The Directors are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the group and company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Directors are also responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the group's and company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the group and company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

The Directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

### **Directors' confirmations**

In the case of each Director in office at the date the Report of the Directors is approved:

- so far as the Director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the group's and 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 group's and company's auditors are aware of that information.

### **Directors**

The Directors serving during the year and up to the date of signing the financial statements were:

Sean Hagerty Kathleen Bock (resigned 30 April 2022) Daniel Waters (resigned 30 April 2022) John Bendl (resigned 30 April 2022) Maureen Erasmus (resigned 30 April 2022) Blair Fanning (appointed 30 April 2022) Rebecca Bond (appointed 30 April 2022)

Signed on behalf of the board of Directors:

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Sean Hagerty Director 25 April 2023



# Independent auditors' report to the members of Vanguard Asset Services, Ltd.

# Report on the audit of the financial statements

### **Opinion**

In our opinion, Vanguard Asset Services, Ltd.'s group financial statements and company financial statements (the "financial statements"):

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2022 and of the group's profit and the group's and company's cash flows for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with UK-adopted international accounting standards as applied in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements, included within the Report of the Directors and Consolidated Financial Statements (the "Annual Report"), which comprise: the Consolidated Group and Company Statements of Financial Position as at 31 December 2022; the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Consolidated Group and Company Cash Flow Statements, and the Consolidated Group and Company Statements 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 group 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

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

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

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this conclusion is not a guarantee as to the group's and the company's ability to continue as a going concern.

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

### 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 Report of the Directors, we also considered whether the disclosures required by the UK Companies Act 2006 have been included.

Based on our work undertaken in the course of the audit, the Companies Act 2006 requires us also to report certain opinions and matters as described below.

### Strategic report and Report of the Directors

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, the information given in the Strategic report and Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 December 2022 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 group and company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we did not identify any material misstatements in the Strategic report and Report of the Directors.

### 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, 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 group's and 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 group or 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.

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

Based on our understanding of the group and industry, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to breaches of UK regulatory principles, such as those governed by the Financial Conduct Authority, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006. We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to posting inappropriate journal entries to revenue or expenses, and management bias in accounting estimates. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Reviewing correspondence with the Financial Conduct Authority in relation to compliance with laws and regulations;
- Identifying and testing journal entries, where any such journal entries that met our specific risk based criteria were identified;
- Designing audit procedures to incorporate unpredictability around the nature, timing or extent of our testing over areas such as manual journal entries and cash reconciliations;
- Obtaining an understanding of management's internal control environment designed to prevent and detect irregularities;
- Discussions with management, and review of relevant meeting minutes, including consideration of known or suspected instances of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations; and
- · Testing the appropriateness of accounting estimates utilised and judgements made by Management.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in the financial statements. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

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.

### 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 obtained 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 company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns.

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

Thomas Nai

Thomas Norrie (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors

London

25 April 2023

### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note(s)	Year ended 31-Dec-22 £'000	Year ended 31-Dec-21 £'000
Revenue from continuing operations	4	319,667	295,510
Total revenue from continuing operations		319,667	295,510
Employee benefits expense	5,22	(139,479)	(132,873)
Administration and other costs	5	(49,158)	(37,980)
Rental expense	5	(1,126)	(1,032)
Fund expenses	5	(14,187)	(12,482)
Depreciation expense	5,7	(1,823)	(1,738)
Depreciation - right of use asset	5,21	(5,584)	(5,668)
IT and consultancy costs	5	(11,852)	(18,902)
Administrative service fee expense	5	(72,335)	(63,292)
Net foreign exchange gains		10	
Total expenses from continuing operations		(295,534)	(273,967)
Finance costs		(965)	(1,057)
Profit before income tax	14	23,168	20,486
Income tax expense	6	(3,420)	(3,005)
Profit for the year		19,748	17,481
Other comprehensive income/(loss):		·	
Currency translation differences .		465	(76)
Total comprehensive income for the year		20,213	17,405
Total comprehensive income is attributable to:			
Owner of Vanguard Asset Services, Ltd.		20,213	17,405

### **Continuing Operations**

All gains and losses recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income were generated from continuing activities.

There are no recognised gains or losses in the financial year or preceding financial year other than those dealt with in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income.

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

### STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 31 December 2022

		Consolida	ted Group	Comp	oany
		31-Dec-22	31-Dec-21	31-Dec-22	31-Dec-21
	Note(s)	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Assets					
Non-current assets					
Property and equipment	7	6,165	7,521	5,869	7,422
Long-term investment in subsidiaries		-		85,565	62,564
Trade and other receivables	8	271	167	127	
Prepayments		480	468	464	490
Right of use asset	21	32,688	36,547	31,753	35,529
Deferred tax asset	6	8,277	6,037	6,279	4,590
•		47,881	50,740	130,057	110,60
Current Assets		·	•		
Trade and other receivables	8	102,801	145,544	19,319	14,720
Prepayments		4,194	3,946	3,326	3,018
Cash and cash equivalents	15	224,933	211,778	56,472	88,618
4		331,928	361,268	79,117	106,356
Total assets		379,809	412,008	209,174	216,963
Equity and liabilities					
Owners' equity					
Share capital	12	-	· _	-	
Capital contribution	12	5,200	5,200	5,200	5,200
Share premium	12	60,533	60,533	59,618	59,61
Retained earnings	13	108,042	88,294	34,745	28,36
Other comprehensive income		832	367	-	,-
Total equity		174,607	154,394	99,563	93,18
Liabilities					
Non-current liability					
Trade and other payables	9	11,329	11,998	11,276	11,989
Provisions	11	2,785	2,779	2,727	2,72
Lease liability	21	32,605	36,758	31,876	35,919
·		46,719	51,535	45,879	50,633
Current liabilities		<del></del>			
Trade and other payables	9	127,951	161,800	58,083	66,92
Borrowings	10	25,098	37,842	-	,-
Income tax payable	10			463	
Lease liability	21	5,434	6,437	5,186	6,22
Douse Hubility	21	158,483	206,079	63,732	73,14
Total liabilities		205,202	257,614	109,611	123,782

Under section 408 of the Companies Act 2006, a parent company that has elected to take the exemption from presenting its own Statement of Comprehensive Income is required to disclose profit or loss for the year on its Statement of Financial Position. The Company made a retained profit of £6,382,000 (2021: £5,495,000) and this is further disclosed in Note 13 of the notes to the financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 13 through 39 were approved by the board of Directors on 24 April 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Sean Hagerty Director

25 April 2023

Company number: 07242969

### CASH FLOW STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	_	Consolidate	d Group	Company	y
		Year ended	Year ended	Year ended	Year ended
		31-Dec-22	31-Dec-21	31-Dec-22	31-Dec-21
	Note	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cash flows from					
operating activities Cash generated from		36,091	89,012	(308)	59,055
operations	14	30,091	09,012	(306)	39,033
Interest paid	• .	(965)	(1,057)	(832)	(799)
Taxation paid		(3,896)	(9,723)	(1,540)	(3,074)
Net cash generated from operating	- :				
activities	_	31,230	78,232	(2,680)	55,182
Cash flows from					
investing activities		(477)	(2.241)	(228)	(2.210)
Purchase of property and equipment		(477)	(2,341)	(228)	(2,310)
Investment in		_	_	(23,000)	(43,000)
subsidiaries				(20,000)	(15,000)
Interest received/(paid)	4	1,586	(6)	345	-
Net cash generated					_
/(used) in investing				/	
activities	-	1,109	(2,347)	(22,883)	(45,310)
Cash flows from				·	
financing activities				•	
Repayment of finance		(5,722)	(6,321)	(5,497)	(6,087)
lease liability	21		(-,)	(-, /	(-,,
(Repayment of)/					
proceeds from other		(12,744)	4,480	-	-
borrowings	10 _	(10.466)		(5.405)	(( 000)
Net cash used in financing activities	es -	(18,466)	(1,841)	(5,497)	(6,087)
Net increase/ (decrease)		13,873	74,044	(31,060)	3,785
in cash and cash		15,675	74,044	(51,000)	3,763
equivalents					
Other comprehensive		(717)	(363)	(1,086)	910
(expense)/income					
Opening cash and cash		211,777	138,097	88,618	83,923
equivalents  Closing cash and cash	_				
equivalents	15	224,933	211,778	56,472	88,618
-qui miono	1: =	22 T <sub>2</sub> 233	211,770	30,472	00,010

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

### STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the year ended 31 December 2022

Consolidated Group	Share capital £'000	Capital contribution £'000	Share premium £'000	Retained earnings £'000	Other comprehensive income £'000	Total equity £'000
Balance at 1 January 2021		5,200	60,533	70,813	443	136,989
Comprehensive income			- <del></del>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	
Profit for the year	-	-	-	17,481	-	17,481
Other comprehensive expense	-	-	-		(76)	(76)
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	<del>-</del>	-	17,481.	(76)	17,405
Balance at 31 December 2021		5,200	60,533	88,294	367	154,394
Comprehensive income/(expense) Profit for the year				19,748		19,748
Other comprehensive expense	<u>-</u>	_	_	19,740	465	465
Total comprehensive income for the year		_		19,748	465	20,213
Balance at 31 December 2022	_	5,200	60,533	108,042	832	174,607
	Share	Capital contribution	Share	Retained	Other comprehensive	Total
Company	Capital	£'000	Premium	Earnings	income	Equity
	£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Balance at 1 January 2021		5,200	59,618	22,868	-	87,686
Comprehensive income Profit for the year	-	-	-	5,495	-	5,495
Total comprehensive income for the year		-	-	5,495	-	5,495
Balance at 31 December 2021	<u>·</u>	5,200	59,618	28,363		93,181
Comprehensive income						
Profit for the year	-	-	-	6,382	-	6,382
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	-	_	6,382	-	6,382
Balance at 31 December 2022	-	5,200	59,618	34,745	-	99,563

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 1. Principal accounting policies

The principal accounting policies and estimation techniques applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have remained unchanged and been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

### (a) Basis of preparation

The Group's financial statements have been prepared and approved by the Directors in accordance with UK-adopted international accounting standards and the legal requirements of the Companies Act 2006. The Group's financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with UK-adopted International Accounting Standards requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Group's accounting policies.

After making enquiries, the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Group has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

### (b) Basis of measurement

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis and under the historical cost convention.

### (c) Use of estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with UK adopted international accounting standards requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses.

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial impact on the entity and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The Group makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the year in which the estimates are revised and in any future years affected.

Management exercise a degree of judgement in the estimate of the useful lives of fixed assets. The charge in respect of periodic depreciation is derived after determining an estimate of an asset's expected useful life and the expected residual value at the end of its life. The useful lives and residual values of the Group's assets are determined by management at the time the asset is acquired and reviewed annually for appropriateness. The lives are based on historical experience with similar assets as well as anticipation of future events which may impact their life such as changes in technology.

The Group is required to restore the leased premises of its office to its original condition at the end of the lease term. A provision has been recognised for the present value of the estimated expenditure required to remove any leasehold improvements.

In accordance with its depreciation policy, the Group reviews the estimated useful lives of its fixed assets on an ongoing basis.

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 1. Principal accounting policies (continued)

### (d) Foreign currencies

Functional and presentational currency

The financial statements are presented in Pounds Sterling, which is the Group's functional and presentational currency.

Transaction and balances

Income and expenditure expressed in foreign currencies is translated into Pounds Sterling at the daily exchange rate in which the transactions are recorded. Differences arising on translation are included in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Assets and liabilities expressed in foreign currencies are translated into Pounds Sterling at rates of exchange ruling at the Statement of Financial Position date. Differences arising on translation are included in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

The results and financial position of all the group entities (none of which has the currency of a hyper-inflationary economy) that have a functional currency different from the presentation currency are translated into the presentation currency as follows:

- (a) assets and liabilities for each Statement of Financial Position presented are translated at the closing rate at the date of that Statement of Financial Position;
- (b) income and expenses for each income statement are translated at average daily exchange rates (unless this average is not a reasonable approximation of the cumulative effect of the rates prevailing on the transaction dates, in which case income and expenses are translated at the rate on the dates of the transactions); and
- (c) all resulting exchange differences are recognised in other comprehensive income.

### (e) Cash, cash equivalents and borrowings

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash in hand that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

The borrowings represent an interest-bearing overdraft at HSBC Bank plc utilised to cover delayed settlement from clients.

### (f) Revenue

The Group earns administrative service fee, management fee, and platform fee revenue for services provided to customers. Each distinct service promised in the Group's agreements is considered a performance obligation and is the basis for determining the timing of revenue recognition. Fees are allocated to each distinct performance obligation in a contract and revenue is recognised when, or as, the Group satisfies its promises to customers. The timing of client billings varies in accordance with agreed-upon contractual terms. For the majority of agreements, billing occurs after the Group has recognised revenue, which results in accounts receivable and accrued revenue.

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 1. Principal accounting policies (continued)

### (g) Current and deferred tax

Current income taxes are calculated on the basis of the tax laws enacted or substantively enacted at the Statement of Financial Position date in the United Kingdom and Switzerland where the Group operates and generates taxable income. Management periodically evaluates positions taken in tax returns with respect to situations in which applicable tax regulations are subject to interpretation and establishes provisions where appropriate on the basis of amounts expected to be paid to the tax authorities.

In the Spring Budget 2021, the UK Government announced that from 1 April 2023 the corporation tax rate would increase to 25% (rather than remaining at 19%, as previously enacted). This new law was substantively enacted on 24 May 2021. Deferred taxes at the balance sheet date have been measured using these enacted tax rates and reflected in these financial statements.

Deferred tax is provided in full, using the liability method, on temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements. However, the deferred tax is not accounted for if it arises from initial recognition of an asset or liability in the translation other than a business combination that at the time of the transaction affects neither accounting nor taxable profit or loss. Deferred income tax is determined using tax rates (and laws) that have been enacted or substantially enacted by the Statement of Financial Position date and are expected to apply when the related deferred income tax asset is realised or deferred income tax liability is settled.

Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be available against which the temporary differences can be utilised.

### (h) Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries. A subsidiary is defined as an entity controlled by the company. Control is achieved where the Company has the power to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

Intra-group balances and transactions, and any unrealised income and expenses arising from intra-group transactions, are eliminated in preparing the consolidated financial statements.

### (i) Financial instruments

The Group's financial instruments are comprised of cash in interest bearing and non-interest bearing accounts, an interest bearing overdraft and receivables and payables balances that arise from its daily operations. These balances are classified as receivables or financial liabilities under IFRS 9. The Group's risk exposure is discussed in Note 3.

The Group does not use derivative financial instruments for risk management purposes. The Group does not trade financial instruments for its own account.

All the Group's financial liabilities are accounted for at amortised cost. Therefore, no analysis of the categories of financial instruments been prepared.

### (i) Cash and overdraft

All cash and overdraft accounts are recognised initially at their fair market value and subsequently measured at amortised cost.

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 1. Principal accounting policies (continued)

### (i) Financial instruments (continued)

### (i) Trade receivables

Trade receivables are amounts due from customers for services performed in the ordinary course of business. If collection is expected in one year or less (or in the normal operating cycle of the business if longer) they are classified as current assets. If not, they are presented as non-current assets. Trade receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment.

### (ii) Trade and other payables

Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year (or in the normal operating cycle of the business if longer). If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade payables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

### (j) Property, plant and equipment

On initial recognition, property and equipment are recognised at cost. Historical acquisition or production cost includes any costs directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management as well as directly attributable costs. After initial recognition, property and equipment are carried at cost less any accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation on assets is calculated using the straight-line method to allocate their cost, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

Computer equipment & telephone equipment 3 - 5 years Software 3-5 years

Leasehold improvements shorter of 8 years or remaining lease life

Furniture & fittings 7 years

The fair value of property and equipment recognised as a result of transfers between business combinations is the carrying value of the assets at the point of transfer between the group entities.

### (k) Right-of-use assets

New arrangements are reviewed at inception to evaluate whether the Company substantially obtains all the economic benefits of and has the right to control the use of an asset. If an arrangement is determined to qualify as a lease, a lease liability and a corresponding asset is recognised upon the lease's commencement date. The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the future minimum lease payments over the lease term using the rate implicit in the arrangement or, if not available, the Company's incremental borrowing rate. The lease right-of-use asset ("ROU") is measured initially at the value of the lease liability less any lease incentives plus any initial direct costs incurred.

Amortisation of the lease ROU asset and interest expense associated with the lease liability is recognised each year in the income statement. The amortisation expense is recognised on a straight-line basis, while interest expense is calculated based on the balance of the lease liability and the discount rate. The lease liability is reduced using the effective interest method for finance leases.

### (l) Pension costs accounting policy

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.

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 1. Principal accounting policies (continued)

### (m) Capital management

The Group's objectives when managing capital are to safeguard the Group's ability to continue as a going concern in order to provide returns for shareholders and benefits for other stakeholders and to maintain an optimal capital structure to reduce the cost of capital. The Group considers its total equity, as shown on the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position, to be Common Equity Tier 1 capital.

The Group's Internal Capital Adequacy and Risk Assessment ("ICARA"), assesses the amount of capital required to mitigate the risks to which the Group is exposed over a 36 month time horizon. The Group considers the impacts of future business plans as well as potential adverse scenarios (such as market downturns or significant operational errors) on the capital resources of the Group, so that regulatory capital requirements are met at all times.

In January 2022, the UK transitioned from the European CRD IV to the UK Investment Firm Prudential Regime ("IFPR"). Under IFPR, VAM has been designated as a MIFIDPRU investment firm that is not a small and non-interconnected MIFID investment firm. The Group is subject to the own funds requirement set out in MIFIDPRU 4.3.2R and must produce a reasonable estimate of the own funds and liquidity required to meet the overall financial adequacy rule.

The Group maintains sufficient capital<sup>1</sup> to meet UK regulatory requirements. On a quarterly basis the Group files the required regulatory capital requirement reports with the FCA. The adequacy of the capital held by the Group is assessed, at least annually as part of the ICARA, and is subject to formal sign off by the VAM Board of Directors.

### (n) Interest in funds managed by the Group

IFRS 12, Disclosure of Interest in Other Entities, includes the requirement for all forms of interests in other entities including joint arrangements, associates, and structured entities.

The Group has determined that investment funds that it manages are unconsolidated structured entities as a result of the Group's power conveyed through its investment management and other agreements with the funds which permit the Group to participate in their investing and operating decisions. The Group's interests in these funds include the management fees that it earns from them.

Structured entities include entities that are designed so that voting or similar rights are not the dominant factor in deciding who controls the entity, such as when the relevant activities are directed by means of a contractual relationship. As the Group directs the investing activities of the funds through its investment management and other agreements with them, it considers them to be structured entities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As defined under the UK FCA MIFIDPRU Sourcebook

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 2. New standards and amendments

The Group has adopted the following amendments to standards which became effective for annual reporting periods beginning on 1 January 2022. The amendments have been issued and endorsed by the UK and do not have an impact on the Group's financial statements.

- (i) Amendments to IFRS 16 Leases: COVID-19 related rent concessions beyond 30 June 2021 Published by the IASB in March 2021.
- (ii) Amendments to IAS 16 Property, Plant and Equipment: Proceeds before Intended Use. Published by the IASB in May 2020.
- (iii) Amendments to IAS 37 Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets: Onerous Contracts
   Costs of Fulfilling a Contract.
   Published by the IASB in May 2020.
- (iv) Annual Improvements to IFRSs 2018-2020 Cycle.

Published by the IASB in May 2020, these improvements consist of amendments to IFRS 1 First-time Adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards, IFRS 9 Financial Instruments, IFRS 16 Leases and IAS 41 Agriculture. These amendments are effective for annual reporting beginning on or after 1 January 2022 and have been endorsed by the UK.

The following new standards and amendments to existing standards have been issued, are not yet effective and are not expected to have an impact on the Group's financial statements:

- (i) Amendments to IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements: Disclosure of Accounting Policies. Published by the IASB in January 2020. The amendments are effective for annual reporting beginning on or after 1 January 2023 and have yet to be endorsed by the UK.
- (ii) Amendments to IAS 8 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors: Definition of Accounting Estimates.

Published by the IASB in February 2021. The amendments are effective for annual reporting beginning on or after 1 January 2023 and have yet to be endorsed by the UK.

(iii) Amendments to IAS 12 Income Taxes: Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction.

Published by the IASB in in May 2021. The amendments are effective for annual reporting beginning on or after 1 January 2023 and have yet to be endorsed by the UK.

(iv) Amendments to IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements: Classification of Liabilities as Current or Noncurrent.

Published by the IASB in February 2021. The amendments are effective for annual reporting beginning on or after 1 January 2024 and have yet to be endorsed by the UK.

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 3. Financial risk management

The financial instruments held by the Group expose it to a variety of financial risks: market risk, credit risk and liquidity risk. In addition, the Group is indirectly exposed to market risk through management fee income which is determined by the assets under management. The Group uses different methods to measure different types of risk to which it is exposed. These methods include sensitivity analysis in the case of interest rate, foreign exchange, and ageing analysis for credit risk.

### a. Market risk

### (i) Foreign exchange risk

The Group is exposed to minimal foreign exchange risk arising from various currency exposures, primarily with the US Dollar, Euro and Swiss Franc. Foreign exchange risk arises from future commercial transactions and recognised assets and liabilities that are denominated in a currency that is not the entity's functional currency. The Company and Group's boards of Directors (the "Boards") have assessed that foreign exchange risk does not represent a significant risk to the Group.

### (ii) Interest rate risk

The Group's exposure to interest rate risk is limited to the cash and cash equivalent accounts. The risk is managed by the Group maintaining the cash and cash equivalent accounts in on demand deposits and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to minimal changes in value. The Board has assessed that the interest rate risk does not represent a significant risk to the Group.

The Group's exposure to interest rate risk on liabilities is limited to borrowings. The risk is managed due to the short-term nature of borrowings, which arise from settlement delays by clients. In addition, if settlement of purchase monies is not made within a reasonable period, then the Group reserves the right to make an administration charge and/or cancel the application for units and recover any shortfall. The Board has assessed that the interest rate risk does not represent a significant risk to the Group.

### b. Credit risk

Credit risk arises from cash and cash equivalents, deposits with banks and custodians as well as credit exposure to wholesale and retail customers, including outstanding receivables and committed transactions. Credit risk is considered to be minimal, given the nature of the transactions, customer assets held by the Vanguard funds and significant receivables being due from the Group.

The primary source of credit risk arises from placing funds at banks. It is the Group's policy to place funds with high quality financial institutions. The table below represents the Group's on-balance sheet credit risk exposure at 31 December.

	31-Dec-22	31-Dec-21
	£'000	£'000
Cash and cash equivalents	224,933	211,778
Trade and other receivables	103,072	145,711
	328,005	357,489

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 3. Financial risk management (continued)

### c. Liquidity risk

Prudent liquidity risk management implies maintaining sufficient cash and marketable securities, to meet the obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Group manages liquidity risk by continuously monitoring forecasts and actual cash flows. The Group maintains significant liquid financial assets which are sufficient to meet projected liabilities, cash flow obligations and regulated capital. All non-taxation current assets and current liabilities are due within one month. Taxation liabilities are due within 3 to 12 months.

### d. Impact of geopolitical events

The impact of geopolitical events has been discussed in the Report of the Directors on page 6.

### 4. Revenue from continuing operations

The Group derives revenue from the transfer of services over time in the following major product lines:

### Administrative Service Fees

The Group earns fees pursuant to an intercompany services agreement for the rendering of services in the ordinary course of the Group's activities. Per the terms of the agreement, the Group provides services for local Vanguard investment products and to personal investors. In exchange for providing these services the Group receives arm's length compensation, which represents variable compensation.

The agreement has a single performance obligation as the promised services are not separately identifiable from other promises in the agreement and, therefore, are not distinct. Performance obligations for providing services are satisfied over time and revenue is recognised as services are performed. Service fee amounts due to and from VGI are settled on a monthly basis.

### Management Fees

The Group earns fees from the management and administration of exchange traded funds, pooled funds and unit trusts. These fees represent variable consideration as such fees are based on assets under management, which changes based on fluctuations in financial markets, investor subscriptions, and investor redemptions. Fees are shown net of rebates, which represent monies paid back to certain investors. These rebates are paid in the form of reinvestments or cash based on individual fee agreements. The Group's management agreements have a single performance obligation as the promised services are not separately identifiable from other promises in the agreements and, therefore, are not distinct. Performance obligations for providing management services are satisfied over time and revenue is recognised as services are performed. Payments for management fee amounts owed to the Group for services performed are due from customers on a quarterly basis.

### Platform Fees

The Group earns platform fees for personal investor services. These fees represent variable consideration as such fees are based on assets under management, which changes based on fluctuations in financial markets, investor subscriptions, and investor redemptions. The Group's platform fee agreements have a single performance obligation as the promised services are not separately identifiable from other promises in the agreements and, therefore, are not distinct. Performance obligations for providing management services are satisfied over time and revenue is recognised as services are performed. Payments for platform fee amounts owed to the Group are due from customers on a quarterly basis.

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 4. Revenue from continuing operations (continued)

	Year ended	Year ended
	31-Dec-22	31-Dec-21
	£'000	£'000
Administrative service fee	208,652	204,951
Management fees		
Pooled funds	83,600	72,076
Unit trusts	8,600	8,110
Interest income	1,586	6
Platform fees	17,229	10,367
	319,667	295,510

Fund investor rebates charged during the year amounted to £1,460,404 (2021: £2,094,326).

The following table reflects changes in the balances of receivables from contracts with customers for the years ended 31 December 2022 and 2021:

		Year	Year
		ended	ended
		31-Dec-22	31-Dec-21
		£'000	£'000
	Beginning balance	145,711	145,631
	Decrease/ (increase) in contract receivables	(42,639)	80
	Ending balance	103,072	145,711
5.	Operating expenses		
	t to many and to the	Year	Year
	·	ended	ended
	·	31-Dec-22	31-Dec-21
		£'000	£'000
	Depreciation		
	Property and equipment	1,823	1,738
	Right of Use asset	5,584	5,668
	Form large large fitte annual a	7,407	7,406
	Employee benefits expense	131,727	126,621
	Compensation and benefits	7,752	6,252
	Defined contribution scheme	139,479	132,873
	Administration and other costs	49,158	37,980
	Fund expenses	14,187	12,482
	Rental expense	1,126	1,032
	IT and consultancy costs	11,852	18,902
	Administrative service fee expense	72,335	63,292
	Net foreign exchange gains	(10)	·
	Total expenses from continuing operations	295,534	273,967
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	<del></del>	

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 5. Operating expenses (continued)

The fees payable to the Group's auditors for the audit of the consolidated financial statements are £44,546 (2021: £37,253). The fees payable to the Group's auditors for the audit of the subsidiaries financial statements are £75,452 (2021: £74,901). Fees payable to the Group's auditors and its associates for other services include audit-related assurance services, £179,300 (2021: £120,000) and tax compliance services, £51,704 (2021: £128,648).

### 6. Income tax expense

Group	Year ended 31-Dec-22 £'000	Year ended 31-Dec-21 £'000
(a) Current tax charge		
Current year	4,714	4,713
Prior Year	946_	(651)
Total	5,660	4,062
Deferred tax credit		
Current year	(1,223)	(1,796)
Prior Year	(1,017)	739
Total	(2,240)	(1,057)
Total tax expense	3,420	3,005
Group	Year ended 31-Dec-22 £'000	Year ended 31-Dec-21 £'000
(b) Factors affecting current year tax expense		
Profit before income tax	23,168	20,486
Income tax expense at the UK corporation tax rate * Effects of:	4,402	3,892
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	21	135
Adjustments in respect of prior periods	(71)	88
Effect of (increase)/decrease in planned UK Corporation Tax rate	(937)	(1,123)
Tax rate differences in foreign jurisdictions	5	13
Total tax expense	3,420	3,005

<sup>\*</sup> The Company's profits for this accounting year are taxed at the standard rate of Corporation Tax in the U.K. of 19% (2021: 19%).

The tax expenses reflect the total taxes accrued by the Company and its subsidiaries: VIUK, VAM, and VISG for the accounting years ended 31 December 2022 and 2021.

Deferred taxes at the balance sheet date have been measured using the enacted tax rates at which the balances are expected to unwind and reflected in these financial statements.

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 6. Income tax expense (continued)

### Group

The analysis of deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities is as follows:

	Year Ended 31-Dec-22 £'000	Year Ended 31-Dec-21 £'000
Deferred tax assets:  - To be recovered after more than 12 months	8,277	6,037_
Net deferred tax assets	8,277	6,037

There were no deferred tax liabilities for the accounting years ended 31 December 2022 and 2021.

The gross movement on the deferred income tax account is as follows:

	2022	2021
	£'000	£'000
At 1 January	6,037	4,980
Income statement credit	2,240	1,057
At 31 December	8,277	6,037

The movement in deferred income tax assets and liabilities during the year, without taking in to consideration the offsetting of balances within the same tax jurisdiction, is as follows:

	Accelerated tax		
Deferred tax assets	depreciation	Other	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 January 2021	2,332	2,648	4,980
Credited to the deferred tax accounts	<u>374</u>	<u>683</u>	<u>1,057</u>
At 31 December 2021	2,706	3,331	6,037
At 1 January 2022	2,706	3,331	6,037
Credited to the deferred tax accounts	1,657	583	2,240
	4,363	3,914	8,277
At 31 December 2022			

At 31 December 2022, deferred tax assets of £8,277,000 (2021: £6,037,000) were recognised arising from differences in accounting and tax depreciation, and the recognition of deferred compensations.

### Company

The analysis of deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities is as follows:

	31-Dec-22 £'000	31-Dec-21 £'000
Deferred tax assets:  - To be recovered after more than 12 months	6,279	4,596
Net deferred tax assets	6,279	4,596

There were no deferred tax liabilities for the accounting years ended 31 December 2022 and 2021.

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 6. Income tax expense (continued)

The gross movement on the deferred income tax account is as follows:

	2022	2021
	£'000	£'000
At 1 January	4,596	3,393
Income statement credit	1,683_	1,203
At 31 December	6,279	4,596

2022

2021

The movement in deferred income tax assets and liabilities during the year, without taking into consideration the offsetting of balances within the same tax jurisdiction, is as follows:

	Accelerated		
	tax		
Deferred tax assets	depreciation	Other	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 January 2021	1,364	2,029	3,393
Credited to the deferred tax accounts	521	682	1,203
At 31 December 2021	1,885	2,711	4,596
At 1 January 2022	1,885	2,711	4,596
Credited to the deferred tax accounts	1,100	583_	1,683
At 31 December 2022	2,985	3,294	6,279

At 31 December 2022, deferred tax assets of £6,279,000 (2021: £4,596,000) were recognised arising from differences in accounting and tax depreciation, and the recognition of deferred compensations.

### 7. Property and Equipment

Group	Leasehold improvements	Computer & telephone equipment	Software	Furniture & fittings	Total
Cost	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 January 2022	13,574	6,750	. 69	3,984	24,377
Additions	207	65	17	143	432
Disposals	-	(842)	-	-	(842)
Effect of movements in	11	10	-	28	49
exchange rates					
At 31 December 2022	13,792	5,983	86	4,155	24,016
Accumulated depreciation At 1 January 2022 Charge for the year Disposals Effect of movements in exchange rates At 31 December 2022	9,577 766 - 1	3,938 847 (838) 9	68 1 - -	3,273 209 - 0	16,856 1,823 (838) 10
Net book value At 31 December 2021 At 31 December 2022	3,997 3,448	2,812 2,027	<u>1</u> 17	711 673	7,521 6,165

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

# 7. Property and Equipment (continued)

Company	Leasehold improvements	Computer & telephone equipment	Software	Furniture & fittings	Total
Cost	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 January 2022	13,527	6,651	69	3,796	24,043
Additions	86	64 .	17	60	227
Disposals	=	(836)	-	-	(836)
Effect of movements in exchange rates	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	13,613	5,879	86	3,856	23,434
Accumulated depreciation At 1 January 2022 Charge for the year Disposals Effect of movements in exchange rates At 31 December 2022	9,577 748  - 10,325	3,863 838 (836) -	68 1 - -	3,113 193 - - - 3,306	16,621 1,780 (836) -
At 31 December 2022	10,323	3,803	09	3,300	17,303
Net book value At 31 December 2021	3,950	2,788	1	683	7,422
At 31 December 2022	3,288	2,014	17	550	5,869

Group	Leasehold improvements	Computer & telephone equipment	Software	Furniture & fittings	Total
Cost	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 January 2021	13,514	4,770	-	3,943	22,227
Additions	60	2,242	69	41	2,412
Disposals		(262)		-	(262)
At 31 December 2021	13,574	6,750	69	3,984	24,377
Accumulated depreciation At 1 January 2021 Charge for the year Disposals	8,819 758 	3,566 634 (262)	- 68 -	2,995 278 -	15,380 1,738 (262)
At 31 December 2021	9,577	3,938	68	3,273	16,856
Net book value					
At 31 December 2020	4,695	1,204	-	948	6,847
At 31 December 2021	3,997	2,812	11	711	7,521

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

# 7. Property and Equipment (continued)

Company	Leasehold improvements	Computer & telephone equipment	Software	Furniture & fittings	Total
Cost	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 January 2021	13,514	4,684	-	3,796	21,994
Additions	13	2,229	69	-	2,311
Disposals	-	(262)	-	-	(262)
At 31 December 2021	13,527	6,651	69	3,796	24,043
Accumulated depreciation					
At 1 January 2021	8,819	3,499	-	2,847	15,165
Charge for the year	758	626	68	266	1,718
Disposals		(262)	-	-	(262)
At 31 December 2021	9,577	3,863	68	3,113	16,621
Net book value					
At 31 December 2020	4,695	1,185	-	949	6,829
At 31 December 2021	3,950	2,788	1	683	7,422

### 8. Trade and other receivables

	Group		Company	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fund sales/cancellations	54,454	88,443	-	-
Inter-company receivable	25,718	28,390	18,236	12,441
Other receivables	14,701	21,078	1,071	2,196
Lease deposits	283	250	12	83
Trade receivables	7,916	7,550	127	
	103,072	145,711	19,446	14,720
Non-current	271	167	127	-
Current	102,801	145,544	19,319	14,720
	103,072	145,711	19,446	14,720

The carrying amount of the financial assets listed above approximates their fair value.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 9. Trade and other payables

	Group		Compan	<b>y</b>	
	2022	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Fund repurchases/creations	26,722	51,548	-	-	
Accruals	54,130	59,161	47,402	51,766	
Other payables*	45,476	47,951	18,248	18,951	
Trade payables	4,441	4,814	3,251	3,174	
Intercompany payables	8,511	10,324	458	5,021	
	139,280	173,798	69,359	78,912	

	Group		Compa	ny
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Non-current	11,329	11,998	11,276	11,989
Current	127,951	161,800	58,083	66,923
	139,280	173,798	69,359	78,912

The carrying amount of the financial liabilities listed above approximates their fair value.

Related party payables/receivables from the entity are non-interest bearing and are not secured. No guarantees were made by the entity in respect of any payables. The payables will be settled in accordance with normal credit terms.

### 10. Borrowings

	Gro	ир	Company	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Bank overdraft	25,098	37,842	-	-

At the year-end, the Group utilised an interest-bearing overdraft at HSBC Bank plc to cover the delayed settlement of fund creations from clients. The movement in borrowings is presented directly in the cash flow statement and the Group does not consider any other items as part of its net debt, hence a separate net debt reconciliation has not been presented. The fair value of the borrowings equal their carrying amount. They are unsecured and payable on demand.

<sup>\*</sup>Includes amounts in respect of a prepayment of administrative service fee from VGI.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 11. Provisions

	Group		Compan	<u>y</u>
	Dilapidation provision £'000	Total	Dilapidation provision £'000	Total
At 1 January 2022	2,779	2,779.	2,727	2,727
Effects of movement in exchange rates	6	6 .	-	
At 31 December 2022	2,785	2,785	2,727	2,727
	Group		Compar	ıy
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Non-current	2,785	2,779	2,727	2,727
	2,785	2,779	2,727	2,727

The carrying amount of the financial liabilities listed above approximates their fair value.

### 12. Ordinary shares

Allotted and fully paid - ordinary shares of £1 each	Number of shares	Share capital £'000	Capital contribution £'000	Share premium £'000	Total £'000
Balance at 1 January 2021	9	-	5,200	60,533	65,733
Issued during the year	-		-	-	-
Balance at 31 December 2021	9	-	5,200	60,533	65,733
Issued during the year	-	-	-	-	-
Balance at 31 December 2022	9	-	5,200	60;533	65,733

The table above represents the consolidated position of ordinary shares as at 31 December 2022.

All shares rank equally with regard to the Company's residual assets. The holders of ordinary shares are entitled to receive dividends which the Company may declare by ordinary resolution.

### 13. Retained earnings

	Grou	Group		ıny
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Balance at 1 January	88,294	70,813	28,363	22,868
Retained profit for the year	19,748	17,481	6,382	5,495
Balance at 31 December	108,042	88,294	34,745	28,363

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 14. Cash generated from operations

	Group		Compar	ıy
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Profit before tax	23,168	20,486	7,086	6,642
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation	. 7,407	7,406	7,135	7,208
Finance costs	965	1,057	832	-
Interest received	(1,586)	-	(345)	-
Foreign currency translation		(42)	-	-
Decrease/(increase) in trade and other receivables	40,910	1,721	(5,187)	10,701
(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	(260)	292	(276)	443
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other payables	(34,518)	58,093	(9,553)	34,061
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	5	(1)		-
Cash generated from operations	36,091	89,012	(308)	59,055

### 15. Cash and cash equivalents

•	Grou	Group		oany
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cash at bank	224,933	211,778	56,472	88,618
Cash and cash equivalents	224,933	211,778	56,472	88,618

The carrying amount of the cash listed above approximates their fair value.

### 16. Holding company

The immediate parent undertaking is Zealous Inc., incorporated in the United States of America.

The ultimate parent undertaking and controlling party is VGI, a company incorporated in the United States of America.

VGI is the parent undertaking of the largest group of undertakings to consolidate these financial statements at 31 December 2022.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 17. Long-term investment in subsidiaries

	Country of	Ownership interest	
	incorporation	2022	2021
		%	%
Vanguard Asset Management, Ltd.*	UK	100	100
Vanguard Investments Switzerland GmbH**	Switzerland	100	100
Vanguard Investments UK, Limited*	· UK	100	100
Vanguard UK Nominees Limited*	UK	100	100
Vanguard Pension Trustee UK Limited*	UK	100	100

<sup>\*</sup> The registered address for these entities is: 4th Floor, The Walbrook Building, 25 Walbrook, London, England, EC4N 8AF.

### 18. Related party transactions

The Group has entered into intercompany services agreements with a party which allows the Group to be compensated at an arm's length rate.

The Company receives compensation ("Holding Company Service Fees"), from VAM and VIUK for certain overhead and administrative expenses incurred by the Company in providing services to each of these subsidiaries. These expenses generally consist of salaries and related benefits paid to corporate personnel, administrative, record keeping, accounting, information management, legal and other services. Allocation of costs are based primarily on actual usage and on the number of corporate personnel dedicated to the entity's activities. Holding Company Service Fees of £4,079,956 (2021: £6,585,434) and £107,174,535 (2021: £99,309,417) were charged to VIUK and VAM respectively during the year.

The Group has entered into management agreements with Vanguard Investments Funds ICVC and Vanguard LifeStrategy Funds ICVC (for which VIUK is the Authorised Corporate Director), and is the Manager of Vanguard FTSE U.K All Share Index Unit Trust and Vanguard FTSE 100 Index Unit Trust (established by trust deeds). Under these arrangements, the Group incurs the following expenses on behalf of the Funds: Fund Investment Management Fees, Fund Transaction Fees, Fund Marketing Fees, Fund Audit Fees, Fund Accounting Fees, Fund Trustee Fees, Fund Legal Fees, Fund Platform Fees and Fund professional fees. The Group's fund expenses are disclosed in Note 5.

VIUK acts as principal in respect of all transactions of units in the trust and of shares in the open-ended investment companies (OEICs). Amounts receivable in respect of management charges from the related funds were £7,916,699 (2021: £7,550,000).

<sup>\*\*</sup> The registered address for this entity is: Bleicherweg 30, CH—8002 Zurich, Switzerland.

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 18. Related party transactions (continued)

During the year the below transactions took place between the consolidated group and other entities within the Vanguard Group.

	2022	2021
Administrative services received:	£'000	£'000
The Vanguard Group, Inc	(78,747)	(55,881)
Vanguard Group Ireland	(50)	-
Vanguard Group Ireland, Italy	-	(107)
Vanguard Asset Management, Ltd.	(2,202)	(5,780)
Vanguard Investments UK, Limited	(12)	(945)
Vanguard Asset Services, Ltd.	(13,844)	(41,566)
Vanguard Investments Canada Inc.	(50)	
Total	(94,905)	(104,279)
	2022	2021
Administrative services provided:	£'000	£'000
The Vanguard Group, Inc	173,366	208,440
Vanguard Group Ireland	725	290
Vanguard Group Ireland, Italy	-	-
Vanguard Group Ireland, Germany	=	8
Vanguard Group Europe, GmbH	12	9,331
Vanguard Asset Management, Ltd.	22,545	34,202
Vanguard Investments UK, Limited	492	2,039
Vanguard Asset Services, Ltd.	2,254	18,303
Vanguard Investments Canada Inc.		180
Total	199,394	272,793

The Company had the following intercompany transactions and balances as at and for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, in accordance with the intercompany services agreement with VGI:

	2022	2021
Balances outstanding at the year-end:	£'000	£'000
The Vanguard Group, Inc	17,167	13,925
Vanguard Group (Ireland) Limited, Germany	-	8
Vanguard Group Ireland, Italy	-	-
Vanguard Group Europe, GmbH	-	4,038
Vanguard Investments Canada Inc.	-	41
Vanguard Group (Ireland) Limited	40	54
Total	17,207	18,066

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 19. Sponsored structured entities

The Group establishes, markets and manages investment funds, under its brand as VIUK, which it considers to be sponsored structured entities. During the year, the Group received the following management fees from these entities:

		2022	2021
	*	£,000	£'000
Mutual funds		56,302	49,913
Fund of funds	,	36,754	32,421
	·	93,056	82,334

The aggregate net asset values of the funds managed by the Group were as follows at 31 December:

	2022	2021
	£'000	£'000
Mutual funds	64.011.464	68,394,107

The AUM figure above includes AUM from both mutual funds and fund of funds. These funds of funds also contain some elements of UK and Irish mutual funds. Therefore, the figure above includes £17,043,287k (2021: £17,637,948k) of AUM invested in fund of funds.

The Group did not transfer any assets to these entities during the year ended 31 December 2022.

Each of these funds is a mutual fund trust that has been legally established and conducts its trading activities in the United Kingdom, which might include the trading of foreign securities. The funds invest for the purpose of long-term capital growth and do not employ leverage.

None of the funds are quoted in active markets and they finance their operations by issuing units to qualified investors.

The Group does not invest in the funds that it manages and therefore its maximum exposure to losses is represented by amounts due from funds (see Note 18).

### 20. Directors' emoluments

Emoluments of the Directors of the Company were as follows:

	2022	2021
	£'000	£'000
Directors' emoluments	1,643	1,390
Long-term incentive schemes	168	-
Pension contributions	49	37
	1,860	1,427

The emoluments of the highest paid Director were £746,000 (2021: £940,000), which included pension contributions of nil (2021: nil). As at 31 December 2022 retirement benefits are accruing under defined contribution schemes for 2 Directors (2021: 1 Director).

The Directors of the Group recommended that no dividend be paid for the year ended 31 December 2022 (2021: nil).

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 21. Leases

The Company primarily leases property with lease terms of 10 to 20 years. Leases may contain renewal options, early termination options, and future rent escalations. Lease terms include periods covered by options to extend when it is reasonably certain that such options will be exercised. Lease terms may also include periods covered by options to terminate when it is reasonably certain that such options will not be exercised.

Lease ROU assets and lease liabilities are recognised at commencement date based on the present value of lease payments over the lease term. The lease liability may include payments that depend on a rate or index, measured using the rate or index at the commencement date. Payments that vary because of changes in facts or circumstances occurring after the commencement date are considered variable. These payments are not recognised as part of the lease liability and are expensed in the period incurred. The Company's lease agreements do not contain any material residual value guarantees or material restrictive covenants. For property leases, the Company has elected not to separate lease and non-lease components of contracts.

When available, the Company uses the rate implicit in the lease to discount lease payments to present value; however, most leases do not provide a readily determinable implicit rate. Therefore, an estimated incremental borrowing rate is used to discount the lease payments based on information available at lease commencement.

The Company leases assets including property. Information about these leases for which the Company is a lessee is presented below.

### Group

	2022	2021
Right-of-use Assets (£'000)	Property	Property
Balance at January 1	36,547	39,574
Additions	1,659	4,273
Depreciation charge for the year	(5,584)	(5,668)
Retirements	(31)	(1,595)
Translation	97	(37)
Balance at December 31	32,688	36,547

### Company

	2022	2021
Right-of-use Assets (£'000)	Property	Property
Balance at January 1	35,529	38,359
Additions	1,610	4,256
Depreciation charge for the year	(5,355)	(5,490)
Retirements	(31)	(1,596)
Balance at December 31	31,753	35,529

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 21. Leases (continued)

The following table presents certain information related to the lease costs during 2022.

(£'000)	Group	Company
Finance lease cost		
Depreciation of leased assets	(5,584)	(5,355)
Interest of lease liabilities	(831)	(831)
Expenses relating to short-term leases	(328)	(329)
Total lease cost	(6,743)	(6,515)

The table below presents supplemental cash flow information related to leases during 2022:

(£'000)	Group	Company
Cash paid for amounts included in the measurement of		
lease liabilities:		
Operating cash flows for financing leases	4,891	4,666
Financing cash flows for financing leases	831	831

The table below reconciles the undiscounted cash flows for each of the next five years and total of the remaining years to the operating and finance lease liabilities recorded on the balance sheet.

(£'000)	Group	Company
2023	6,139	5,892
2024	5,725	5,468
2025	5,018	4,752
2026	4,839	4,632
2027	4,634	4,634
Thereafter	14,116	14,116
Total minimum lease payments	40,471	39,494
Less: amount of lease payments representing interest	2,432	2,432
Present value of future minimum lease payments	38,039	37,062
Current	5,434	5,186
Non-Current	32,605	31,876

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022

### 22. Employee benefits expense

The average monthly number of employees (including executive Directors) during the year was 834 (2021: 700). For 2022 and 2021, this is broken down as follows:

	2022 Number	2021 Number
Sales	44	. 45
Investment management	286	231
Operations & client services	263	206
Marketing	38	. 41
Portfolio review	31	26
Legal and compliance	39	36
Other shared services	118	99
Management	15	17
	834	701

As at 31 December the employee category breakdown is as follows:

	2022 Number	2021 Number
Sales	43	45
Investment management	313	262
Operations and client services	265	260
Marketing	39	36
Portfolio review	33	28
Legal and compliance	40	38
Other shared services	129	107
Management	15	15
	877	791

	2022	2021
	£'000	£'000
Wages and salaries	110,270	107,107
Social security costs	14,216	10,663
Pension costs	7,752	6,252
Other payroll taxes	(186)	844
Benefits	3,200	3,118
Other employee and personnel costs	4,227	4,889
	139,479	132,873