## Company Registration No. 08215555

Marlin Senior Holdings Limited

**Annual Report and Financial Statements** 

**31 December 2014** 

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## Annual report and financial statements 2014

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## Annual report and financial statements 2014

## Officers and professional advisers

## **Directors**

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K Stannard

P Richardson

C Ross-Roberts

## Secretary

C Taggart

## **Registered Office**

Marlin House 16 – 22 Grafton Road Worthing West Sussex BN11 1QP

## **Bankers**

NatWest Plc City of London Office P O Box 12258 1 Princes Street London EC2R 8PA

## Independent auditor

BDO LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor London United Kingdom

## Strategic report

#### Business review and principle activity

The principal activity of the company is that of a holding company.

The company made a net loss before tax of £4,553 (2013: £11,836) during the year.

The directors are constantly looking for opportunities to continue to develop the business through their investment in group companies.

#### Principal risk and uncertainties

The directors consider the principal risks and uncertainties to the business include insufficient availability of funding, a lack of adequate quality portfolios being offered to the market, the reduction of collection rates on the debt portfolios owned by the company due to the economic environment and the potential for regulatory action being taken against the company. These risks are mitigated through oversight from management by regularly seeking new financing solutions at attractive rates and keeping abreast of opportunities to purchase new debt portfolios. Due to the recent successful financing and the purchase of new high performing debt portfolios this risk is currently low.

#### Financial risk management objectives and policies

The Company's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including cash flow risk, credit risk and liquidity risk.

#### Credit risk

Credit risk is primarily attributable to the amount due from group undertakings. The directors mitigate this risk through their oversight of fellow group companies.

#### Liquidity risk

The company is confident it can manage working capital requirements to mitigate any liquidity risks. The directors anticipate being able to draw on the cash resources of the group as necessary to meet liquidity requirements. Group cashflow forecasts are regularly reviewed to ensure that the need for funding is identified.

#### Future outlook

No material changes are expected in the activities of the company.

#### Dividends

The directors do not propose a final dividend for the period (2013 - £nil).

## Directors' indemnity insurance

The company has taken out third party indemnity insurance for the benefit of its directors,

#### Going concern

The parent group intends to continue its strategy of growth through the acquisition of portfolios and the directors have prepared budgets and forecasts, which include the Company, on this basis. During the year the group was purchased by Cabot Financial Holdings Group Limited who are ultimately owned by Encore Capital Group Incorporated. Cabot has indicated their intention to continue to support the groups continued growth and will provide the financial support to achieve this. On this basis the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Group and the Company have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going-concern basis in preparing the Annual Report and Financial Statements.

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

C Ross-Roberts

Director

19 March 2015

## Directors' report

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2013.

#### Directors

The directors who served throughout the year and up to the date of the approval of the financial statements, unless other stated, were as follows:

D J Page

K Stannard

P Richardson

C Ross-Roberts

(Appointed 10 February 2014)

#### Auditor

Deloitte LLP voluntarily resigned as statutory auditors with effect from 20 September 2014 and BDO LLP were appointed as auditors with effect from 18 December 2014.

BDO LLP have indicated their willingness to continue in office. A resolution to reappoint BDO LLP as auditors for the ensuing year will be proposed at the next board meeting in accordance with section 485 of the Companies Act 2006

#### Information provided to the auditor

Each of the persons who are a director at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- (1) so far as the director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditor is unaware; and
- (2) the director has taken all the steps that he ought to have taken as a director in order to make himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

This confirmation is given and should be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of s418 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

C Ross-Roberts Director

19 march 2015

## Directors' responsibilities statement

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

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

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

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

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF MARLIN SENIOR HOLDINGS LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements of Marlin Senior Holdings Limited for the year ended 31 December 2014 which comprise the profit and loss account, the balance sheet and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

#### Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

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

#### Scope of the audit of the financial statements

A description of the scope of an audit of financial statements is provided on the FRC's website at <a href="https://www.frc.org.uk/auditscopeukprivate">www.frc.org.uk/auditscopeukprivate</a>.

### Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2014 and of its loss for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

#### Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the strategic report and directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

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

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

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

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF MARLIN SENIOR HOLDINGS LIMITED

Brown

Dan Taylor (senior statutory auditor)
For and on behalf of BDO LLP, statutory auditor
London
United Kingdom

Date

19/3/15

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

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# Profit and loss account For the period ended 31 December 2014

	Notes	Year ended 31 December 2014 £	Year ended 31 December 2013
Turnover		-	-
Cost of sales			
Gross profit		-	-
Administrative expenses		(4,553)	(11,836)
Operating loss		(4,553)	(11,836)
Finance charges (net)	3		
Loss on ordinary activities before taxation	2	(4,553)	(11,836)
Tax charge on loss on ordinary activities	4	<u>-</u>	
Loss for the financial period	10	(4,553)	(11,836)

All of the above results are derived from continuing operations.

There are no further recognised gains and losses for the current or preceding financial period other than as stated in the profit and loss account and as a result no statement of total recognised gains and losses is given.

The notes on pages 9 to 13 form part of these financial statements.

# Balance sheet 31 December 2014

	Note	31 Dece	As at ember 2014	31 Dec	As at tember 2013
Fixed assets Investments	5		77,833,551		41,915,384
Current assets Debtors: amounts falling due within one year Debtors: amounts falling due after more than one year Total debtors Cash at bank and in hand	6	10,130,093 - 10,130,093 - 1 - 10,130,094		4,400,047 31,769,392 36,169,439 1,655 36,171,094	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	(10,148,468)		(4,415,521)	
Net current assets			(18,374)		31,755,573
Total assets less current liabilities			77,815,177		73,670,957
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	r 8				(31,769,392)
Net assets			77,815,177		41,901,565
Capital and reserves Called up share capital Share premium Profit and loss account - deficit	9 10 10		250,709 41,664,675 35,899,793		250,709 41,664,675 (13,819)
Total shareholders' funds			77,815,177		41,901,565

The notes on pages 9 to 13 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements of Marlin Senior Holdings Limited, registered number 08215555, were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 19 March 2015.

They were signed on its behalf by:

C Ross-Roberts
Director

## Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2014

## 1. Accounting policies

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards. The particular principal accounting policies adopted are described below and have been applied consistently throughout the current financial period.

### Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

#### Going concern

The parent group intends to continue its strategy of growth through the acquisition of portfolios and the directors have prepared budgets and forecasts, which include the Company, on this basis. During the year the group has been purchased by Cabot Financial Holdings Group Limited who are ultimately supported by Encore Capital Group Incorporated. Cabot has indicated their intention to continue to support the groups continued growth and will provide the financial support to achieve this. On this basis the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Group and the Company have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going-concern basis in preparing the Annual Report and Financial Statements.

### **Group accounts**

The company is exempt from the preparation of group accounts under section 400 of the Companies Act 2006 as it is a wholly owned subsidiary of Cabot Financial Limited which prepares consolidated accounts in which this company is included.

#### Finance income

Finance income from financial assets is recognised in the profit and loss account over the term of such instruments at a constant rate on the carrying amount. In determining the internal rate of return of the financial assets expected contingent payments are included.

### **Taxation**

Current tax, including UK corporation tax, is provided at amounts expected to be paid (or recovered) using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

Deferred taxation is provided in full on timing differences which result in an obligation at the balance sheet date to pay more tax, or a right to pay less tax, at a future date, at rates expected to apply when they crystallise based on current tax rates and law. Timing differences arise from the inclusion of items of income and expenditure in taxation computations in periods different from those in which they are included in financial statements. Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is regarded as more likely than not that they will be recovered. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are not discounted.

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date.

#### **Investments**

Fixed asset investments are shown at cost less provision for impairment.

In the balance sheet, for investments in subsidiaries acquired for consideration including the issue of shares, cost is measured by reference to the nominal value only of the shares issue. Any premium is ignored.

#### Cash flow statement

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption given under FRS 1 (revised) not to produce a cash flow statement as the Company's intermediate parent undertaking, Cabot Financial Limited, publishes a consolidated cash flow statement.

## Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2014

## 2. Loss on ordinary activities before taxation

The auditor's remuneration of £1,000 (2013 - £3,501) was borne by another group company for the current and preceding year. Non-audit fees are disclosed in the consolidated accounts of Marlin Financial Group Limited and so are not disclosed here.

2014

2013

The director's remuneration was borne by another group company.

3.	Finance	charges	(net)

4.

		£	£
	est payable and similar charges est receivable and similar charges	3,798,230 (3,798,230)	3,718,225 (3,718,225)
		-	-
T4-		£	£
	est payable and similar charges · loans	3,798,230	3,178,225
		3,798,230	3,178,225
Tax	on loss on ordinary activities		
(a)	Tax on loss on ordinary activities		
		2014	2013
•		£	£
	Current tax United Kingdom corporation tax at 21.5% (2013 – 23%) based on the profit for the year	-	-

## (b) Factors affecting current tax charge for the period

Total tax on loss on ordinary activities

The tax assessed for the period is higher (2013 - higher) than that resulting from applying the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK 21.5% (2013 -23%). The differences are explained below:

	2014 £	2013 £
Loss on ordinary activities before taxation	(4,553)	(11,836)
Tax on loss on ordinary activities at standard rate	(979)	(2,722)
Effects of: Group relief surrendered Losses carried forward	979	2,722
	979	2,722
Total actual amount of current tax	-	-

## Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2014

## (c) Factors that may affect future tax charge

The Finance Act 2014, which reduced the main rate of UK corporation tax to 21% effective from 1 April 2014, was enacted on 17 July 2013. As this change in rate was substantively enacted prior to 31 December 2014 it has been reflected in the deferred tax assets and liabilities at 31 December 2014.

## 5. Fixed asset investments

Company	Shares in group undertakings £
Cost and net book value As At 1 January 2014 Additions	41,915,384 35,918,167
As At 31 December 2014	77,833,551

## **Principal investments**

Subsidiary undertakings	Country of incorporation and operation	Principal activity	Aggregate Capital and reserves	Profit/(loss) for the year	Holding % Ordinary shares
Cabot Financial (Marlin) Limited	England and Wales	Debt Recovery	(2,276,068)	694,648	100
Marlin Europe I Limited *	England and Wales	Management of debt portfolios	10,600,514	1,440,486	100
Marlin Capital Europe Limited *	England and Wales	Management of debt portfolios	406,013	(898,483)	100
Marlin Europe II Limited *	England and Wales	Management of debt portfolios	8,249,014	(1,345,722)	100
MCE Portfolio Limited *	England and Wales	Management of debt portfolios	13,091,729	2,236,391	100
Marlin Legal Services Limited	England and Wales	Provision of legal services	(820,517)	126,684	100
MFS Portfolio Limited *	England and Wales	Management of debt portfolios	5,891,442	(915,002)	100
Marlin Europe IV Limited *	England and Wales	Management of debt portfolios	5,257,477	(1,496,741)	100
Marlin Portfolio Holdings Limited	England and Wales	Holding company	74,943,658	(543,919)	100
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<sup>\*</sup> denotes held indirectly

## Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2014

## 6. Debtors

	Company 2014	Company 2013
Amounts falling due within one year:	~	œ
Amounts due from group undertakings Other debtors	10,070,093 60,000	4,400,047 -
Amounts falling due after more than one year:	10,130,093	4,400,047
Amounts due from group undertakings	-	31,769,392
Total debtors	10,130,093	36,169,439
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
	Company 2014 £	Company 2013
Amounts owed to group undertakings	10,148,468	4,415,521
	10,148,468	4,415,521
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		
	Company 2014 £	Company 2013 £
Amounts owed to group undertaking	-	31,769,392
	_	31,769,392
Called up share capital		
	2014 £	2013 £
250,709 'A' ordinary shares of £1 each	250,709	250,709
	Amounts due from group undertakings  Cher debtors  Amounts falling due after more than one year:  Amounts due from group undertakings  Total debtors  Creditors: amounts falling due within one year  Amounts owed to group undertakings  Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year  Amounts owed to group undertaking  Called up share capital  Called up, allotted and fully paid:	Amounts falling due within one year:  Amounts due from group undertakings Other debtors  Amounts falling due after more than one year:  Amounts falling due after more than one year:  Amounts due from group undertakings  Creditors: amounts falling due within one year  Company 2014 £  Amounts owed to group undertakings  Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year  Company 2014 £  Amounts owed to group undertakings  Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year  Company 2014 £  Called up share capital  Called up, allotted and fully paid:

## Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2014

### 10. Statement of movements on reserves

	Share premium £	Profit and loss account	Total £
At 1 January 2014 Capital Contributions	41,664,675	(13,819) 35,918,165	41,650,856 35,918,165
Loss for the financial period		(4,553)	(4,553)
Balance at 31 December 20134	41,664,675	35,899,793	77,564,468

#### 11. Control and ultimate parent company

The company's ultimate parent company and controlling party is Encore Capital Group Inc ("Encore"), a company incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware.

Up until 9 February 2014 the ultimate controlling party was Duke Street General Partner Limited.

On 10 February 2014 Duke Street General Partner Limited sold its stake in the company to Cabot Financial Holdings Group Limited.

The smallest group in which the results of the company are consolidated is that headed by Cabot Financial Limited. Copies of the financial statements can be obtained from Companies House, Crown Way, Cardiff, CF14 3UZ. The largest group in which the results of the company are consolidated are Encore Capital Group Inc. Copies of the financial statements can be obtained from their website (<a href="www.encorecapital.com">www.encorecapital.com</a>).

The immediate parent company is Black Tip Capital Holdings Limited.

## 12. Related party transactions

The company has taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard Number 8 from the requirement to disclose transactions with other wholly owned group companies.