Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended

31 December 2021

Company Number 10429491



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# Annual Report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

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## **Directors**

T S Dobmeyer J W S Jeffery M I Rese

## Registered office

Chesham House, Deansway, Chesham, England, HP5 2FW

## Company number

10429491

## **Auditors**

BDO LLP, 55 Baker Street, London, W1U 7EU

# Strategic report for the year ended 31 December 2021

The directors present their strategic report together with the audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021.

### **Principal activities**

The principal activity of the company in the year under audit was that of an ultimate holding company for the Phlexglobal Group of companies. The principal activity of the Phlexglobal Group in the year under was that of providing support services to the clinical research industry.

#### Review of the business and future developments

The Group continued to focus on both the product and services, with further expansion in Poland and India and enhancing its product offering to new and existing customers. The Group has seen growth in revenue from 2020, which shows the strength in the Groups offering to the marketplace and the sector in which we operate. The Group has benefitted from the acquisition of Cunesoft GmbH by increasing its product offering across the value chain, including, but not limited to PhlexRIM. The Group was acquired by the PharmaLex Group in January 2022. The directors of the company are confident that this will bring further synergies in terms of global footprint and coordinated efforts to expand and cross sell within the existing customer base.

### Financial and other key performance indicators

The Group uses a range of performance measures to monitor and manage its business and that of its subsidiaries effectively. These are both financial and non-financial, and the most significant of these are the key performance indicators (KPIs).

The key financial indicators are turnover, gross profit, operating loss, Adjusted EBITDA (EBITDA before one off costs, foreign exchange and board costs) and cash. These KPIs indicate the volume of business the Group has undertaken as well as the efficiency and profitability of this business. The key non-financial performance indicator is the number of employees.

KPIs for the year ended 31 December 2021 are set out below:

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Turnover	33,993	32,507
Gross profit	24,935	24,602
Operating loss	8,458	3,228
Cash	2,971	8,532
EBITDA (before exceptional expenses)	13,265	11,895
Number of employees	440	380
Gross profit (%)	73.4%	75.7%

# Strategic report for the year ended 31 December 2021 (continued)

## Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risks and uncertainties that the Group could encounter include risks from: the war in Ukraine, the continued impact of COVID-19, operational risk of losing key customer contracts, liquidity risk and foreign exchange exposures.

One of the group companies is located in Poland close to the border with Ukraine. The war in Ukraine has not had a direct impact on revenue or safety of its employees. Nevertheless the Group continues to actively monitor the situation with local management and support any local charities at the border

Our employees have all been working from home since Covid-19 in the countries we operate. We have seen no loss in productivity and have increased pro-active employee engagement over this time. This has also allowed the Group to review its office locations and make strategic cost savings. Many of our employees are informing us they prefer a more flexible working pattern, which we believe will result in continuation of working from home and therefore we expect productivity to remain at or near current levels.

The Group is also confident that clinical trial delays experienced as a result of Covid-19 are not expected to persist and clinical trials have returned to normal levels, with site increases of 10-15% representing normal levels.

The Group's business could be negatively affected by the loss of key customer contracts. We have not seen and do not expect the coming year to have an impact on our customers' viability.

The main financial risks arising from the Group's activities are liquidity risk and foreign exchange risk. These are monitored by the board of directors and the finance team.

The Group's policy in respect of liquidity risk is to maintain readily accessible bank deposit accounts to ensure the Group has sufficient funds for operations. The cash deposits are held in a mixture of short-term deposits and current accounts which earn interest at a floating rate.

The Group's policy in respect of foreign exchange risk is to match, where possible, the currency of revenue and costs, to closely monitor foreign exchange movements and to incorporate the ability, in contracts, to renegotiate rates if foreign exchange rates move by more than a certain percentage.

## Research and development

From the continued development of PhlexTMF and the other solutions offered by the Group, the average number of staff employed by the Group for research and development continues to increase. The main research and development projects involve improved functionality and further version enhancements or upgrades to the Group's core software offerings.

#### Section 172 Statement

From 1 January 2019 legislation was introduced requiring companies to include a statement pursuant to section 172 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Board recognises the importance of the Group's wider stakeholders when performing their duties under Section 172(1) of the Companies Act and their duties to act in the way they consider, in good faith, would be most likely to promote the success of the company for the benefit of its members as a whole, and in doing so have regard (amongst other matters) to:

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

# Strategic report for the year ended 31 December 2021 (continued)

## Section 172 Statement (continued)

The Board considers that all their decisions are taken with the long-term in mind, understanding that these decisions need to regard the interests of the company's employees, its relationships with suppliers, customers, the communities and the environment in which it operates.

For the purpose of this statement detailed descriptions of the decisions taken are limited to those of strategic importance. The Board believes that three decisions taken during the year fall into this category and were made with full consideration of both internal and external stakeholders.

- The integration of the Group with PharmaLex was key in 2022 as it significantly complemented and broadened the software and services that the Group can offer to existing and potential customers as they manage the clinical trial lifecycle from filing clinical trial applications through to the recording of clinical trial data within the trial master file and then to the filing of new drug or marketing authorisation application. The integration of the Group and PharmaLex Group with AmerisourceBergen will be important in 2023 to enhance the wider Groups global portfolio of solutions to support biopharmaceutical manufacturer partners across the pharmaceutical development and commercialisation journey. These acquisitions will also enable employees to become part of a more diversified group thereby offering more opportunities for career development.
- Following the decision to move all employees to working from home since Covid -19, we expect to maintain and develop a flexible working approach through 2022 and 2023, which will enable the company to continue to operate optimally whilst allowing for a healthy work life balance for our employees. This aligns with the wider views of PharmaLex and AmerisourceBergen.
- The decision to launch a broader range of eTMF solutions to enable sales of eTMF to a larger market. The multi-tenant version of the eTMF has required significant investment in the short term and we have as a result been able to rapidly implement solution to support customers with their Covid clinical trials.

## **Approval**

This strategic report was approved on behalf of the Board on 28 February 2023.

Monika Rese

M I Rese

Director

# Directors' report for the year ended 31 December 2021

The directors present their report together with the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021.

#### Results and dividends

The consolidated income statement is set out on page 10 and shows a turnover of £33,993,000 (2020: £32,507,000) and gross profit of £24,935,000 (2020: £24,602,000). The Group made a loss before tax of £21,330,000 (2020: £11,453,000) for the year to 31 December 2021.

The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend (2020 - £Nil).

#### **Directors**

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

J McNeill (resigned on 11 February 2022)

K J Roy (resigned on 11 February 2022)

R J Riegel (resigned on 24 January 2022)

S W J Kent (resigned on 24 January 2022)

Vitruvian Directors | Limited (resigned on 24 January 2022)

Vitruvian Directors II Limited (resigned on 24 January 2022)

T S Dobmeyer (appointed on 24 January 2022)

A D Johnson (appointed on 24 January 2022, resigned on 15 July 2022)

J W S Jeffery (appointed on 24 January 2022)

M I Rese (appointed on 24 January 2022)

#### **Auditors**

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

This report was approved by the board and signed on its behalf on 28 February 2023.

Monika Rese

M I Rese Director

# Directors' responsibilities statement for the year ended 31 December 2021

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

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

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

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

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Group 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. They are also 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.

Independent auditor's report for the year ended 31 December 2021

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF OVERTURE TOPCO LIMITED

#### Opinion on the financial statements

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's and of the Parent Company's affairs as at 31 December 2021 and of the Group's loss for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements of Overture Topco Limited ("the Parent Company") and its subsidiaries ("the Group") for the year ended 31 December 2021 which comprise the consolidated income statement, the consolidated statement of comprehensive income, the consolidated and company balance sheets, the consolidated and company statements of changes in equity, the consolidated statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

## **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's 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 are independent of the Group and the Parent Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

## Conclusions relating to going concern

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.

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 or Parent 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.

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

#### Other information

The Directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

# Independent auditor's report for the year ended 31 December 2021 (continued)

## Other information (continued)

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 course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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 in this regard.

#### Other Companies Act 2006 reporting

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Strategic report and the Directors' report for the financial year for which the
  financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Strategic report and the Directors' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements,

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Group and the Parent Company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Strategic report or the Directors' report.

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

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

## **Responsibilities of Directors**

As explained more fully in the Directors' responsibilities statement, the Directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Directors 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 Parent 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 Parent Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

## Auditor's 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 auditor's 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.

# Independent auditor's report for the year ended 31 December 2021 (continued)

Extent to which the audit was capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

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:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the Group and Parent Company and determined that the most significant frameworks which are directly relevant to specific assertions in the financial statements are those that relate to the reporting framework, the Companies Act 2006 and relevant tax compliance regulations;
- We understood how the Group and Parent Company is complying with those frameworks by making enquiries of management and those responsible for legal and compliance procedures;
- We assessed the susceptibility of the Group's and the Parent Company's financial statements to material
  misstatement, including how fraud might occur, by meeting with management to understand where they
  considered there was a susceptibility to fraud;
- Our audit planning identified fraud risks in relation to management override and inappropriate or incorrect recognition of revenue. We obtained an understanding of the processes and controls that the Group has established to address risks identified, or that otherwise prevent, deter and detect fraud; and how management monitors those processes and controls;
- With regards to the fraud risk in management override, our procedures included journal transaction testing, with a focus on large or unusual transactions based on our knowledge of the business. We also performed an assessment of the appropriateness of key judgements and estimates, which are subject to managements' judgement and estimation, and could be subject to potential bias; and
- We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

Our audit procedures were designed to respond to risks of material misstatement in the financial statements, recognising that 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, misrepresentations or through collusion. There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures performed and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we are to become aware of it.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

## Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Parent 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 Parent 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 Parent Company and the Parent Company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

-DocuSigned by:

Julian frost

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Julian Frost (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of BDO LLP, Statutory Auditor
London, UK

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

02 March 2023

# Consolidated income statement for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Turnover	2	33,993	32,507
Cost of sales		(9,058)	(7,905)
Gross profit		24,935	24,602
Administrative expenses Other income		(33,552) 159	(27,830)
Operating loss	3	(8,458)	(3,228)
Other income Interest payable and similar charges Interest receivable and similar income	6 7 8	(13,312) 440	6,260 (14,485) -
Loss on ordinary activities before taxation		(21,330)	(11,453)
Taxation	9	(1,728)	(1,304)
Loss for the financial year		(23,058)	(12,757)

All amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 17 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

# Consolidated statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 31 December 2021

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Loss for the financial year	(23,058)	(12,757)
Other comprehensive income/(loss) for the year Exchange difference on the retranslation of subsidiary undertakings	423	(985)
Total comprehensive loss for the year	(22,635)	(13,742)

The notes on pages 17 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

# Consolidated balance sheet at 31 December 2021

Company Registration number: 1	10423431				
	Note		2021 £'000		2020 £'000
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets Tangible assets	10 11		75,749 265		88,564 270
			76,014		88,834
Current assets					
Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	13	11,888 2,971		9,397 8,532	
		14,859		17,929	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(9,188)		(6,910)	
Net current assets			5,671		11,019
Total assets less current liabilities			81,685		99,853
			<del></del>		
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15	(166,132)		(162,510)	
Provisions for liabilities	17	(5,578)		(4,733)	
Total non-current liabilities			(171,710)	<del></del>	(167,243)
Net liabilities			(90,025)		(67,390)
Capital and reserves					
Called up share capital	19	1 99		1 99	
Share premium account Profit and loss account		(90,125)		(67,490)	
Shareholders' deficit		-	(90,025)		(67,390)

The notes on pages 17 to 33 form part of these financial statements

The financial statements on pages 10 to 33 were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 28 February 2023.

Monika Rese

M I Rese

Director

# Consolidated statement of changes in equity for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Called up share capital £'000	Share premium £'000	Profit and loss account £'000	Total £'000
1 January 2020:	1	99	(53,748)	(53,648)
Comprehensive loss for the year:				
Loss for the year	-	-	(12,757)	(12,757)
Exchange difference on the retranslation of subsidiary undertakings	-	-	(985)	(985)
Total comprehensive loss for the year	-		(13,742)	(13,742)
Contributions by owners:	<u>.</u>	-		-
Total contributions by owners	<u>-</u>			
31 December 2020:	1	99	(67,490)	(67,390)
Comprehensive loss for the year:				
Loss for the year	-	-	(23,058)	(23,058)
Exchange difference on the retranslation of subsidiary undertakings		-	423	423
Total comprehensive loss for the year			(22,635)	(22,635)
Contributions by owners:			-	
Total contributions by owners	-	•	<u>-</u>	-
31 December 2021	1	99	(90,125)	(90,025)

The notes on pages 17 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

# Consolidated statement of cash flows for the year ended 31 December 2021

Note	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
	(21,330)	(11,453)
11 10 10 7&8	179 13,531 3,208 12,872	180 13,577 2,416 14,485
13 6 14	3,105 450	(625) (6,260) (2,685) (1,208)
	9,524	8,427
6	- (1,270)	6,260 (217)
	8,254	14,470
11 10	(185) (4,410)	(13) (3,714)
	(4,595)	(3,727)
	31,189	6,950 (11,960)
7	(38,662) (1,747)	(2,748)
	(9,220)	(7,758)
	(5,561)	2,985
	8,532	5,547
	2,971	8,532
	11 10 10 7&8 13 6 14	Note £'000  (21,330)  11 179 10 13,531 10 3,208 7&8 12,872 13 (2,491) 6 - 14 3,105 450  9,524  6 (1,270)  8,254  11 (185) 10 (4,410)  (4,595)

The notes on pages 17 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

# Company balance sheet at 31 December 2021

Company Registration number	: 10429491				
	Note		2021 £'000		2020 £'000
Fixed assets Fixed asset investments	12		83,409		83,409
<b>Current assets</b> Debtors	13	159		515	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(498)		(66)	
Net current (liabilities)/assets			(339)		449
Total assets less current liabilities			83,070		83,858
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	15		(95,760)		(122,857)
Net liabilities			(12,690)		(38,999
Capital and reserves Called up share capital Share premium Profit and loss account	19		1 99 (12,790)		1 99 (39,099)
Shareholders' deficit			(12,690)		(38,999

The company has taken advantage of the exemption allowed under section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 and has not presented its own income statement in these financial statements. The Group loss for the year includes a profit after tax in relation to the company of £26,309,000 (2020: £11,004,000 loss).

The notes on pages 17 to 33 form part of these financial statements

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 28 February 2023.

Monika Rese

M I Rese Director

# Company statement of changes in equity for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Called up share capital £'000	Share premium £'000	Profit and loss Account £'000	Total £'000
Balance as at 1 January 2020	1	99	(28,095)	(27,995)
Comprehensive loss for the year: Loss for the year	-	-	(11,004)	(11,004)
Total comprehensive loss for the year		-	(11,004)	(11,004)
Contributions by owners:	•	<u> </u>	-	
Total contributions by owners	<del></del>	<u>-</u>	-	-
Balance as at 31 December 2020	1	99	(39,099)	(38,999)
Comprehensive profit for the year: Profit for the year	-	•	26,309	26,309
Total comprehensive profit for the year	-		26,309	26,309
Contributions by owners:	-			-
Total contributions by owners	<u> </u>	•	•	<u>-</u>
Balance as at 31 December 2021	1	99	(12,790)	(12,690)

The notes on pages 17 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

# Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

## 1 Accounting policies

Overture Topco Limited is a private company limited by shares incorporated in England & Wales under the Companies Act. The address of the registered office is given on the contents page and the nature of the Group's operations and its principal activities are set out in the strategic report. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard ('FRS 102') the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland.

The preparation of financial statements in compliance with FRS 102 requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires the Group management to exercise judgement in applying the Group's accounting policies. These critical accounting estimates and judgements are discussed in more detail below.

The following principal accounting policies have been applied:

### Parent company disclosure exemptions

In preparing the separate financial statements of the parent company, advantage has been taken of the following disclosure exemptions available in FRS 102:

- only one reconciliation of the number of shares outstanding at the beginning and end of the period has been presented as the reconciliations for the Group and the parent company would be identical;
- no cash flow statement has been presented for the parent company;
- disclosures in respect of the parent company's financial instruments have not been presented as equivalent disclosures have been provided in respect of the Group as a whole; and
- no disclosure has been given for the aggregate remuneration of the key management personnel of the parent company as their remuneration is included in the totals for the Group as a whole.

### Audit of individual subsidiary financial statements

Under section 479a the listed subsidiaries are exempt from the requirements relating to the audit of individual accounts for a financial year - Overture Midco Limited, Overture Midco II Limited, Emerald Topco Limited, Emerald Midco 2 Limited, Emerald Midco 1 Limited and Emerald Bidco Limited.

#### Basis of consolidation

The consolidated income statement and balance sheet include the financial statements of the company and its subsidiary undertakings made up to 31 December 2021 on the acquisition accounting basis. The results of subsidiaries sold or acquired are included in the income statement up to, or from the date control passes. Intra-Group sales and profits are eliminated fully on consolidation.

## Going concern

The directors consider that the Group has access to sufficient funding to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The Group also has a sufficient cash holding position at year end, and at the time of signing these financial statements. In addition, the Group is expected to continue to generate positive cash flows on its own account for the foreseeable future based upon a detailed budget prepared for 2023 and a forecast for 2024. As a result, the directors continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

#### Turnover and revenue recognition

Turnover represents revenue (excluding VAT) earned under a wide variety of contracts to provide a range of different professional services. Revenue is generally recognised as contract activity progresses so that for incomplete contracts it reflects the partial performance of the contractual obligations. For such contracts the amount of revenue reflects the accrual of the right to consideration by reference to the value of work performed. Revenue not billed to clients is included in debtors as accrued revenue and invoices on account in excess of the relevant amount of revenue are included in creditors as deferred revenue.

# Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 (continued)

## 1 Accounting policies (continued)

#### Software development

Software development costs are recognised as an intangible asset when the Group can demonstrate the technical feasibility of completing the intangible asset so that it will be available for use or sale, its intention to complete and its ability to use or sell the asset, how the asset will generate future economic benefits, the availability of resources to complete the asset and the ability to measure reliably the expenditure during development. Following initial recognition of the development expenditure as an asset, the cost model is applied requiring the asset to be carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses. Amortisation of the asset begins when development is complete and the asset is available for use. It is amortised evenly over the period of expected future benefit. During the period of development the asset is tested for impairment annually.

All costs that the directors consider relate to the ongoing maintenance of the underlying platform are expensed directly to the income statement.

Intangible assets acquired in a business combination - Customer relationships and Brand Intangible assets acquired in a business combination and recognised separately from goodwill are initially recognised at their fair value at the acquisition date.

Subsequent to initial recognition, intangible assets acquired in a business combination are reported at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses. Amortisation is recognised on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives at the following rates:

Customer relationships - over 10 years
Technology - over 5 to 10 years
Trade Name - over 10 years
Trademarks and licences - over 10 years
Capitalised software development - over 3 years

## Goodwill

Goodwill arising on the acquisition of subsidiary undertakings, representing the excess of the fair value of the consideration over the fair value of the identifiable assets and liabilities acquired is capitalised and amortised through the income statement over its economic life which is considered to be 10 years. Impairment tests on the carrying value of goodwill are undertaken:

- at the end of the first full financial period following acquisition; and
- in other periods if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not recoverable.

#### Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Leasehold land and buildings

life of the lease

Computer equipment Fixtures, fittings and equipment

33% on the straight line basis25% on the straight line basis

#### Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the income statement on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

# Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 (continued)

## 1 Accounting policies (continued)

#### Current and deferred taxation

The tax expense for the year comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in profit or loss, except that a charge attributable to an item of income or expense recognised as other comprehensive income or to an item recognised directly in equity is also recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity respectively.

The current income tax charge is calculated on the basis of tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date in the countries where the company's subsidiaries operate and generate taxable income.

Deferred balances are recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed by the balance sheet date, except:

- the recognition of deferred tax assets is limited to the extent that it is probable that they will be recovered
  against the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future taxable profits;
- any deferred tax balances are reversed if and when all conditions for retaining associated tax allowances have been met; and
- where timing differences relate to interests in subsidiaries, associates, branches and joint ventures and the group can control their reversal and such reversal is not considered probable in the foreseeable future.

Deferred tax balances are not recognised in respect of permanent differences except in respect of business combinations, when deferred tax is recognised on the differences between the fair values of assets acquired and the future tax deductions available for them and the differences between the fair values of liabilities acquired and the amount that will be assessed for tax.

Deferred income tax is determined using tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date.

#### Investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at cost less provision for diminution in value.

#### Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. Contributions payable are charged to the income statement in the year they are payable.

## Foreign currency translation

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. All differences are taken to the income statement.

The results of overseas operations are translated at the average rate of exchange during the year and the balance sheet translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling on the balance sheet date.

Exchange differences which arise from transactions of the opening net assets and results of foreign subsidiary undertakings are taken to reserves.

# Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 (continued)

## 1 Accounting policies (continued)

#### Financial instruments

Financial instruments are recognised in the company's balance sheet when the company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

#### Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include trade and other debtors, accrued income, interest rate swap and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Financial assets, other than those held at fair value through profit and loss, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting end date.

Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset, the estimated future cash flows have been affected. If an asset is impaired, the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the estimated cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. The impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

If there is a decrease in the impairment loss arising from an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the impairment is reversed. The reversal is such that the current carrying amount does not exceed what the carrying amount would have been, had the impairment not previously been recognised. The impairment reversal is recognised in profit or loss.

#### Derecognition of financial assets

Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the company transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another entity, or if some significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained but control of the asset has transferred to another party that is able to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party.

#### Classification of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the company after deducting all of its liabilities.

## Employee benefits

The costs of short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense, unless those costs are required to be recognised as part of the cost of stock or fixed assets.

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 (continued)

#### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

#### Judgements in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to exercise judgement in applying the Group's accounting policies. Estimates and assumptions used in the preparation of the financial statements are continually reviewed and revised as necessary.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors have made the following judgements:

- Determine whether there are indicators of impairment of the Group's tangible and intangible assets, including goodwill. Factors taken into consideration in reaching such a decision include the economic viability and expected tuture tinancial performance of the asset.
- Determine whether there are indicators of impairment of the company's investments in subsidiaries.
   Factors taken into consideration in reaching such a decision include the financial position and expected future financial performance of the investment.

Other key sources of estimation uncertainty

Intangible fixed assets (note 10)

Intangible fixed assets, including goodwill are amortised over their estimated useful lives, with no residual value. The actual lives of the assets are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors.

Tangible fixed assets (see note 11)

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their estimated useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the assets and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors.

Deferred tax liability (note 18)

A deferred tax liability has been recognised in relation to the separately identifiable intangible assets. This deferred tax liability has been recognised with reference to tax rates enacted as at 31 December 2021, at which the liability is expected to unwind.

Development expenditure (note 10)

Development expenditure is capitalised in accordance with the accounting policy in note 1. Initial capitalisation of costs is based on management's judgement that technical and economic feasibility is confirmed. In determining the amounts to be capitalised management makes assumptions regarding the expected future cash generation of the assets, discount rates to be applied and the expected period of benefits.

### 2 Rendering of services

The Group has one class of business and in the year to 31 December 2021 96% (2020: 96%) of the group's services were rendered to markets outside the United Kingdom.

# Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 (continued)

3	Operating loss		
		2021 £'000	2020 £'000
	This is arrived at after charging/(crediting):	2.000	2000
	Hire of other assets - operating leases	932	801
	Amortisation of goodwill and other acquired intangible fixed assets	13,531	13,577
	Amortisation of capitalised software development	3,208	2,416
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	179	180
	Defined contribution pension cost	573	530
	Loss/(gain) on foreign exchange transactions	1,862	(1,889)
	Auditor's remuneration for statutory audit services – company	2	2
	Auditor's remuneration for statutory audit services – Group companies	115	90
	Auditor's remuneration for taxation services		<u> </u>
4	Employees		
		2021	2020
	Oberff and to the should be allowed and a second of	£'000	£'000
	Staff costs (including directors) consist of:		
	Wages and salaries	15,556	15,067
	Social security costs	1,748	1,252
	Other post retirement benefit costs (note 23)	573	530
		17,877	16,849
	The average number of employees (including directors) during the year	M	M
	was as follows:	Number	Number
	Clinical services staff	286	238
	Administration	154	142
		440	380
		-	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

# Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 (continued)

## 5 Key management personnel

The directors are considered to be the key management personnel and their remuneration is set out below:

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Directors' emoluments Company contributions to pension schemes	840 17	746 9
	857	755

The total amount payable to the highest paid director during the year was £240,000 (2020 - £240,000). Company contributions to the defined contribution scheme for the highest paid director amounted to £7,826 (2020 - £6,700).

There were 2 (2020 – 2) directors in the company's defined contribution scheme during the year.

### 6 Other income

Other income in the year of £nil (2020: £6,260,000).

During 2020 other income related to settlement of a legal claim.

## 7 Interest payable and similar charges

,	interest payable and similar charges	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
	Bank loans and overdrafts  Movement on fair value of interest rate swap	1,747	2,748 763
	Preference share interest	11,565	10,974
		13,312	14,485
8	Interest receivable and similar income	2021	2020
		£'000	£,000
	Movement on fair value of interest rate swap	(440)	-
		(440)	-
			-

# Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 (continued)

Taxation		
	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
UK corporation tax	572	1 104
Current tax for the year		1,124
Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous periods	(55)	(209
Double tax relief	(572)	(42 <del>6</del> 601
Foreign taxation	809 129	25
Prior year adjustment on foreign taxation		
Total current tax	883	1,115
Deferred tax		
Origination and reversal of timing differences	(339)	(650
Adjustments to previous periods	(46)	392
Effect of change in tax rate for opening balances	1,230	447
Taxation on ordinary activities	1,728	1,304
The tax assessed for the year differs to the standard rate of corpor	ration tax in the UK appli	ed to the resu
before tax. The differences are explained below:	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
Loss on ordinary activities before tax	(21,330)	(11,453
Loss on ordinary activities at the standard rate		
of corporation tax in the UK of 19% (2020 - 19%)	(4,053)	(2,176
Effects of:		
Fixed asset differences	19	7
Additional foreign tax suffered	20 <del>9</del>	169
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	4,105	2,576
Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous periods	26	303
Differences in tax rates	1,295	448
Deferred tax not recognised	127	(23
Total tax for the year	1,728	1,304
·		<del></del> -
The deferred tax balances comprise:		Grou
		deferred ta
		liabilit
		£'00
		£.00
At 1 January 2020		4,67
Credited to the income statement in the year		(33
Prior year adjustment		(4
Differences in tax rates		1,23
		5,52
At 31 December 2021		-,

Overture Topco Limited

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 (continued)

10

Intangible fixed assets Group	Goodwill £'000	Technology £'000	Customer relationships £'000	Trade name £'000	Trademarks and licences	Capitalised software development	Total £'000
Cost At 31 December 2020 Foreign exchange Additions	96,215 (576) 30	16,022	17,656	4,060	1,898	11,303 90 4,380	147,154 (486) 4,410
At 31 December 2021	95,669	16,022	17,656	4,060	1,898	15,773	151,078
<i>Amortisation</i> At 31 December 2020 Charge for the year	36,230 9,567	6,120	7,170	1,648	771	6,651	58,590 16,739
31 December 2021	45,797	7,722	8,936	2,054	961	9,859	75,329
Net book value At 31 December 2021	49,872	8,300	8,720	2,006	937	5,914	75,749
At 31 December 2020	59,985	9,902	10,486	2,412	1,127	4,652	88,564

There were no intangible fixed assets held by the company.

The acquisition of technology intangible assets relates to artificial intelligence technology which the Group has determined as separable from goodwill based upon contractual and legal rights.

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 (continued)

11	Tangible assets				
	Group	Leasehold land and buildings £'000	Computer equipment £'000	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £'000	Total £'000
	Cost At 1 January 2020 Foreign exchange Additions	632 (15)	2,597 (11) 185	599 15 -	3,828 (11) 185
	At 31 December 2021	617	2,771	614	4,002
	Depreciation At 1 January 2020 Charge for the year	530 39	2,473 115	555 25	3,558 179
	At 31 December 2021	569	2,588	580	3,737
	Net book value At 31 December 2021	48	183	34	265
	At 31 December 2020	102	124	44	270
	The company has no tangible fixed assets	·			
12	Fixed asset investments				Subsidiary

12	Fixed	asset	investments	

undertakings £'000 Company Cost 83,409 At 31 December 2020 and at 31 December 2021

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 *(continued)* 

## 12 Fixed asset investments (continued)

The company has the fol	lowing subsidiary undertakings:	D	
Name	Address and country of incorporation or registration	Proportion of voting rights and ordinary share capital held	Nature of business
Subsidiary undertakings			
Overture Midco Limited	Chesham House, Deansway, Chesham, England, HP5 2FW	Ordinary, 100%	Holding company
Overture Midco II Limited *	Chesham House, Deansway, Chesham, England, HP5 2FW	Ordinary, 100%	Holding company
Overture Bidco Limited *	Chesham House, Deansway, Chesham, England, HP5 2FW	Ordinary, 100%	Holding company
Emerald Topco Limited *	Chesham House, Deansway, Chesham, England, HP5 2FW	Ordinary, 100%	Holding company
Emerald Midco 1 Limited *	Chesham House, Deansway, Chesham, England, HP5 2FW	Ordinary, 100%	Holding company
Emerald Midco 2 Limited *	Chesham House, Deansway, Chesham, England, HP5 2FW	Ordinary, 100%	Holding company
Emerald Bidco Limited *	Chesham House, Deansway, Chesham, England, HP5 2FW	Ordinary, 100%	Holding company
Phlexglobal Limited *	Chesham House, Deansway, Chesham, England, HP5 2FW	Ordinary, 100%	The provision of clinical research services
Phlexglobal Poland SP Zoo *	4th Floor, Building A, 6 Szeligowskiego St., Lublin, Poland	Ordinary, 100%	The provision of clinical research services
Phlexglobal inc *	200 Lindenwood Drive Malvern, PA 19355, USA	Ordinary, 100%	The provision of clinical research services
Net Solutions Europe Ltd *	Chesham House, Deansway, Chesham, England, HP5 2FW	Ordinary, 100%	The provision of clinical research services
Phlexglobal GmbH*	Luise-Ullrich-Strasse 20 80636 Munich, Germany	Ordinary, 100%	Holding company
Cunesoft GmbH*	Luise-Ullrich-Strasse 20 80636 Munich, Germany	Ordinary, 100%	The provision of clinical regulatory operations platforms
Cunesoft Inc*	200 Lindenwood Drive Malvern, PA 19355, USA	Ordinary, 100%	The provision of clinical regulatory operations platforms
Cunesoft PvT. Limited*	Unit 104/105/106/107, A Wing, Mittal Towers, M.G. Road, 560 001, Bangalore, India	Ordinary, 100%	The provision of clinical regulatory operations platforms

<sup>\*</sup> held indirectly

All subsidiaries will be preparing individual financial statements.

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 (continued)

13	Debtors	Group 2021 £'000	Group 2020 £'000	Company 2021 £'000	Company 2020 £'000
	Trade debtors	9,002	7,755	1	-
	Other debtors	142	142	-	-
	Amounts due from group companies	-	_	-	515
	Prepayments and accrued income	867	847	-	-
	Taxation and social security	1,877	653	158	-
		11,888	9,397	159	515
		11,000	9,351	109	313

All amounts fall due in less than one year.

During 2020 and 2021 the Group purchased interest rate swaps to manage interest rate risk volatility. These assets and liabilities are held at fair value through the profit and loss (refer to note 16).

## 14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

2021 £'000	2020 £'000	Company 2021 £'000	Company 2020 £'000
742	223	-	-
137	265	-	-
748	1,135	-	-
	-	498	63
219	229	-	3
5,480	4,119	-	-
1,862	939	-	-
9,188	6,910	498	66
	£'000 742 137 748 - 219 5,480 1,862	£'000 £'000  742 223 137 265 748 1,135  219 229 5,480 4,119 1,862 939	2021     2020     2021       £'000     £'000     £'000       742     223     -       137     265     -       748     1,135     -       -     498       219     229     -       5,480     4,119     -       1,862     939     -

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 (continued)

## 15 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Group 2021 £'000	Group 2020 £'000	Company 2021 £'000	Company 2020 £'000
Bank loans falling due after more than one year Fair value of interest rate	70,372	39,183	-	-
swap	-	470	-	-
Preference share capital	45,420	84,082	45,420	84,082
Accrued interest	50,340	38,775	50,340	38,775
		<del></del>		
	166,132	162,510	95,760	122,857

The preference shares carry a coupon of 10% and are repayable upon an exit.

In October 2021 the Group cancelled preference share premium of £80m by way of a capital reduction in accordance with sections 644 of the Companies Act 2006. The articles of Overture Topco Limited were amended and adopted by special resolution. This provided a legal surplus to return £38.7m to the preference shareholders during the year (2020: £nil). The return of capital was taken to preference share capital.

#### Maturity of debt:

	Preference share capital and accrued interest 2021 £'000	Bank Loans 2021 £'000
In more than two years but not more than five years	95,760	70,372
	95,760	70,372
	Preference share capital	
	and accrued	Bank
	interest	Loans
	2020	2020
	£'000	£'000
In more than two years but not more than five years	122,857	39,183
	122,857	39,183

The group also refinanced its bank loans falling due after more than one year by replacing 2 facilities during October 2021. The company's bank loan is repayable on 15 December 2026 and is denominated in US dollars. Interest is compounded annually at a rate of 4% above the Bank of England base rate.

# Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 (continued)

#### 16 Financial instruments

The Group financial instruments may be analysed as follows:

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Financial assets Financial assets measured at cost less any impairment Financial assets measured at fair value through the profit & loss	12,982 440	16,429 -
	13,422	16,429
	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Financial liabilities Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost Financial liabilities measured at fair value through the profit & loss	173,458 -	171,976 764
	173,458	172,740

The company had no financial instruments.

Group Financial assets comprise cash, trade debtors, other debtors, interest rate swaps and amounts owed by Group companies.

Group Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost comprise trade creditors, interest rate swap, other creditors, accruals and provisions, bank loans and amounts due to Group companies.

The Group holds or issues financial instruments to finance its operations.

The Group and company do not trade financial instruments other than the interest rate swap as noted. Long term loans are at fixed rates and are used in order to secure funding for the future developments of the Group as a whole.

In 2020 the Group replaced an existing interest rate swap with a new swap to manage interest rate volatility risk. These assets and liabilities are held at fair value through the profit and loss. At 31 December a liability was recognised for the fair value amount (note 14 & 15).

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 (continued)

## 17 Provisions for liabilities

Group	Property provisions £'000	Deferred tax liability £'000	Total £'000
At 1 January 2021 Charged to the income statement in the year	55 -	4,678 (385)	4,733 (385)
Other timing differences		1,230	1,230
At 31 December 2021	55	5,523	5,578

Property provisions relate to the directors' estimate of dilapidations payable on expiry of property leases held by the Group.

Deferred tax is detailed in note 18.

The company has no provisions.

### 18 Deferred taxation

	2021	2020
Group	£'000	£'000
At beginning of the period	4,678	4,490
Differences in tax rates	1,230	446
Credited to the income statement	(385)	(258)
At 31 December	5,523	4,678
		<del></del>

The deferred tax liability relates to short term timing differences on separately identifiable intangible assets, temporary differences on fixed assets book value over tax values and to assessed losses expected to be used in future years.

The following are the major deferred tax (liabilities)/assets recognised by the Group and movements thereon:

	(Liability)/Asset 2021 £'000	(Liability)/Asset 2020 £'000
Fixed asset differences Separately identifiable intangible assets Other timing differences Losses and other deductions	(648) (4,991) 15 101	(142) (4,547) 11 -
	(5,523)	(4,678)

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 (continued)

19	Called up share capital	Allotted, called up and fully paid	
		2021 £'000	2020 £'000
	71,545 (2020: 71,545) - Ordinary A shares of £0.01 each	1	1
	8,555 (2020: 8,555) - Ordinary B shares of £0.01 each	-	-
	19,796 (2020: 19,796) - Ordinary C shares of £0.01 each	•	-
	716 (2020: 716) - Ordinary D shares of £1 each	-	-
	6,666 (2020: 6,149) - Ordinary E shares of £0.01 each	-	-
		1	1

A shares have a right to vote. B, C and E shares are non-voting shares. D shares have 25 votes per share.

## 20 Reserves

The Company's reserves are as follows:

- Called up share capital reserve represents the nominal value of the shares issued.
- Share premium reserve represents the amount paid above the nominal value of the shares issued less amounts cancelled and transferred to distributable reserves.
- Profit and loss account represents cumulative profits or losses.

## 21 Commitments under operating leases

The fair value of minimum lease payments payable on the Group's operating leases are as follows:

	Land and Buildings 2021 £'000	Land and buildings 2020 £'000
Within one year	355	851
In two to five years	210	879
In more than five years	29	265
	594	1,995

The company had no commitments (2020: none).

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 (continued)

#### 22 Related party transactions and ultimate controlling party

The company has taken advantage of the exemption not to disclose transactions with wholly owned subsidiaries within the Group.

The ultimate controlling party of the Group and Company at the balance sheet date was certain funds advised by Vitruvian Partners. Since the year end, the Group and Company were acquired by PharmaLex GmbH, which was the ultimate controlling party from 24 January 2022 to 31 December 2022. On 1 January 2023 the PharmaLex Group were acquired by AmerisourceBergen Corporation, which is now the ultimate controlling party (refer to note 24).

### 23 Post retirement benefit costs

The Group operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the Group to the fund and amounted to £572,875 (2020: £529,749). Contributions totalling £162,497 (2020: £50,403) were payable to the fund at the year end and are included in creditors.

#### 24 Post balance sheet events

On 24 January 2022, Overture Topco Limited and its subsidiaries were acquired by PharmaLex UK Bidco Limited. PharmaLex Group are a leading provider of specialized services for the pharma, biotech and medtech industries worldwide.

As part of the acquisition, the external bank loans which were refinanced during October 2021 were settled in full and replaced with an intercompany loan payable to PharmaLex UK Bidco Limited. The interest is compounded annually at a rate of 6% and is repayable on 31 December 2026.

As part of the acquisition by the PharmaLex group of the Overture Topco Group, the rights attached to preference shares were varied. In particular, the holders of preference shares are no longer entitled to any future preferential dividends and rank pari-passu with other share classes. The redemption feature related to these shares has been cancelled.

On 12 September 2022, the PharmaLex Group announced that AmerisourceBergen Corporation has signed a definitive agreement to acquire the Group. The transaction will advance AmerisourceBergen's role as partner of choice for biopharmaceutical manufacturers by enhancing AmerisourceBergen's global portfolio of solutions to support manufacturer partners across the pharmaceutical development and commercialisation journey. The transaction was closed on 1 January 2023.