Registration number: 13368399

ViacomCBS International Studios Productions Limited

Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022



06/12/2023 COMPANIES HOUSE

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Company Information

Director

J. E. Tatam

Registered office

17-29 Hawley Crescent Riverbank House

2 Swan Lane London United Kingdom NW1 8TT

Independent auditors PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

1 Embankment Place

London United Kingdom WC2N 6RH

Director's Report for the year ended 31 December 2022

The director presents their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Principal activities and future developments

The principal activity of the company is to act as a service company to manage local productions and the subsequent transfer of completed productions to fellow Paramount Global group companies. The director expects this activity to continue for the foreseeable future.

Director of the Company

The director who held office during the year was as follows:

J. E. Tatam

Results and Dividends

The loss for the year ended 31 December 2022 was £9,221 (period ended 31 December 2021: £nil). Net liabilities as at 31 December 2022 total £9,220 (2021: net assets £1).

The Company declared dividends of £nil (period ended 31 December 2021: £nil) during the year ended 31 December 2022.

Key performance indicators (KPIs)

The Company's director is of the opinion that analysis using KPIs is not necessary for an understanding of the development, performance or position of the business.

COVID-19 and other pandemics

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to negatively impact the global macroeconomic environment. Other pandemics or widespread health emergencies may have similar effects. A resurgence of COVID-19, an increase in infection rates or the effect of new variants could trigger a renewal of government restrictions and other precautionary actions that could again negatively impact our businesses. Due to the evolving and uncertain nature of the COVID-19 pandemic and the risk of new variants, we are not able to estimate the full extent of the impact that COVID-19 will have on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Management currently believes that, as a result of the assurances it has received from the senior management of the wider Paramount Global Group, that the Group has adequate liquidity and business plans to continue to operate the business and mitigate the risks associated with COVID-19 for the next 12 months from the date of this report.

Economic and political conditions

The global financial markets have experienced significant recent volatility, marked by declining economic growth, diminished liquidity and availability of credit, declines in consumer confidence, significant concerns for increasing and persistently high inflation and uncertainty about economic stability. The global financial markets have also been adversely affected by current geopolitical events, including Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the sanctions imposed against Russia.

These political and economic risks could create instability in any of the markets where our businesses derive revenues, which could result in a reduction of revenue or loss of investment that adversely affects our businesses, financial condition or results of operations.

Change in organisation name

Effective February 16, 2022, ViacomCBS, the parent of the Company changed its name to Paramount Global.

Director's Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

Director's liabilities

The Company has granted a qualifying third party indemnity in favour of its director and officers against the financial exposure that they may incur in the course of their professional duties as director and officers of the Company. This was in force during the financial year and at the date of approval of the financial statements.

Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS 102 'The Financial Statement Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' Section 1A.

Approved and authorised by the director on 30 November 2023

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J. E. Tatam Director

Statement of Director's Responsibilities

The director is responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulation.

Company law requires the director to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the director has prepared the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" Section 1A, and applicable law).

Under company law the director must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the director is required to:

- · select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 102, have been followed, subject to any
 material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- · make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business.

The director is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The director is 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.

Director's confirmations

In the case of each director in office at the date the Director's Report is approved:

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

Approved by the director on 30 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

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Director

Independent Auditors' Report to the members of ViacomCBS International Studios Productions Limited

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

In our opinion, ViacomCBS International Studios Productions Limited's financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31 December 2022 and of its loss for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" Section 1A, and applicable law); and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements, included within the Annual Report, which comprise: the Income Statement, Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2022, Statement of Changes in Equity for the year then ended; and the notes to the financial statements, which include a description of significant accounting policies.

Basis for opinion

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

Independence

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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 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 director's 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 company's ability to continue as a going concern.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the director 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 director is 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.

Independent Auditors' Report to the members of ViacomCBS International Studios Productions Limited (continued)

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 Director's report, 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.

Director's report

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, the information given in the Director's report 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 company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we did not identify any material misstatements in the Director's report.

Responsibilities for the financial statements and the audit

Responsibilities of the the director for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Director's responsibilities statement in respect of the Financial Statements, the director is 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 director is 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 director is responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the director either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has 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.

Independent Auditors' Report to the members of ViacomCBS International Studios Productions Limited (continued)

Based on our understanding of the company and industry, we identified that the principal risks of non-comphance with laws and regulations related to non-compliance with the Companies Act 2006, and UK tax, and we considered the extent to which non-comphance 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 fraudulent financial reporting, specifically the posting of inappropriate journal entries to manipulate financial results. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Discussion with management, including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;
- Identifying and testing journal entries to address the risk of inappropriate journals;
- Addressing the risk of management override of internal controls, including testing of journal entries (in particular, journal entries posted with an unusual account combination);
- Evaluating and, where appropriate, challenging assumptions and judgments made by management in determining significant accounting estimates; and
- · Reviewing the financial statement disclosures and agreeing to underlying supporting documentation.

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 is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's 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 of the Companies (Revision of Defective Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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 financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns.

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

Independent Auditors' Report to the members of ViacomCBS International Studios Productions Limited (continued)

Entitlement to exemptions

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion, the director was not entitled to: prepare financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime; and take advantage of the small companies exemption from preparing a strategic report. We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

Philip Stokes (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors

London

30 November 2023

Income statement for the year ended 31 December 2022

	· Note	Year ended 31 December 2022 £	Period from 30 April 2021 to 31 December 2021 £
Turnover		-	-
Administrative expenses		(9,210)	
Operating loss Interest payable and similar expenses	3	(9,210) (11)	<u> </u>
Loss before tax		(9,221)	-
Tax (charge) / credit			
Loss for the financial year		(9,221)	<u>-</u> _

The above results were derived from continuing operations.

The Company has no recognised gains or losses for the year other than the results above.

Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Year ended 31 December 2022	Period from 30 April 2021 to 31 December 2021
	£	£
Loss for the financial year	(9,221)	
Total comprehensive expense for the financial year	(9,221)	

Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2022

		As at 31 December 2022	As at 31 December 2021
	Note	£	£
Fixed assets			
Investments	6	564,697	-
Current assets			
Debtors		111,470,174	5,220,450
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	8	(112,044,091)	(5,220,449)
Net current (liabilities)/assets		(573,917)	1
Net (liabilities)/assets		(9,220)	1
Capital and reserves			
Share capital	. 9	1	1
Accumulated losses		(9,221)	
Total shareholders' (deficit)/ funds		(9,220)	1

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS 102 'The Financial Statement Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' Section 1A.

Approved and authorised by the director on 30 November 2023.

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J. E. Tatam

Director

Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Share capital £	Accumulated losses	Total shareholders' deficit £
At 1 January 2022	1	-	1
Loss for the financial period		(9,221)	(9,221)
Total comprehensive expense for the financial period		(9,221)	(9,221)
At 31 December 2022	1	(9,221)	(9,220)
	Share capital	Retained earnings £	Total shareholders' funds £
At 30 April 2021	<u> </u>		1
At 31 December 2021	<u> </u>	<u>.</u>	1

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

1 General information

The Company is a private company limited by share capital, incorporated in the United Kingdom.

The address of its registered office is:

17-29 Hawley Crescent Riverbank House 2 Swan Lane London NW1 8TT United Kingdom

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

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

Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 Section 1A - The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

These financial statements have been prepared using the historical cost convention except that as disclosed in the accounting policies certain items are shown at fair value.

Going concern

The director believes that the Company is well placed to manage its business risks successfully. The director made enquiries of and considered the Company's performance against its plans and objectives and satisfied themselves that the Company is performing as expected.

The director has a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the report and financial statements.

The Company has a letter of support in place from its ultimate parent company, Paramount Global, which states that, should it be required, Paramount Global will provide financial support to the Company for additional funding or to enable it to discharge its liabilities as they fall due for the foreseeable future. The Directors have assessed the ability of Paramount Global to provide that support and, on that basis, have concluded that the application of the going concern basis of preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Consolidated Financial Statements

The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of a company incorporated in the United States of America and therefore has taken advantage of the exemption under Section 401 Companies Act 2006 not to produce consolidated financial statements. It is included in the consolidated financial statements of Paramount Global which are publicly available.

Accordingly, these financial statements present information about the Company as an individual undertaking and not as a group.

Exemptions for qualifying entities under FRS 102

FRS 102 allows a qualifying entity certain disclosure exemptions, subject to certain conditions, which have been complied with. A qualifying entity is defined as a member of a group that prepares publicly available financial statements, which give a true and fair view, in which that member is consolidated. The Company is a qualifying entity as its results are consolidated into the consolidated financial statements of Paramount Global which are publicly available.

As a qualifying entity, the Company has taken advantage of the following exemptions:

- i) from the requirement to prepare a statement of cash flows as required by paragraph 3.17(d) of FRS 102;
- ii) from the requirement to disclose the key management personnel compensation in total as required by FRS 102 paragraph 33.7

Foreign currency transactions and balances

Functional and presentational currency

The Company's functional and presentational currency is pound sterling.

Transactions and balances

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the spot exchange rates at the dates of the transactions or the contracted rate if the transaction is covered by a forward exchange contract.

At each year end foreign currency monetary items are translated using the closing rate. Non-monetary items measured at historical cost are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction.

Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of transactions and from the translation at year end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the income statement.

Foreign exchange gains and losses that relate to borrowings and cash and cash equivalents are presented in the income statement.

Investments in Subsidiaries

Investments in subsidiaries are recorded at cost, adjusted for any permanent diminution in value. Any diminution in value is reflected in the income statement when the diminution is identified.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Financial Instruments

The Company has chosen to adopt the Sections 11 and 12 of FRS 102 in respect of financial instruments.

Financial assets

Basic financial assets, including debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially recognised at transaction price, 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. Such assets are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

At the end of each reporting period financial assets measured at amortised cost are assessed for objective evidence of impairment. 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 the income statement immediately.

Financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including trade creditors, are initially recognised at transaction price, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors 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 less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade payables are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the liability is extinguished, that is when the contractual obligation is discharged, cancelled or expires.

Offsetting

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amounts presented in the financial statements when there is an 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.

Tax

Current tax

Current tax is the amount of income tax payable in respect of the taxable profit for the year or prior years. Tax is calculated on the basis of tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the period end.

Management periodically evaluates positions taken in tax returns with respect to situations in which applicable tax regulation is subject to interpretation. It establishes provisions where appropriate on the basis of amounts expected to be paid to the tax authorities.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

2 Accounting policies (continued)

Critical judgements and estimates in applying the accounting policy

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of the accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Estimates and underlying assumptions are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are reasonable under the circumstances. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the year in which the estimates are revised and in any future years affected.

There are no judgements or estimates made by the Company that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year (2021: none)..

3 Operating (loss)/profit

Audit fees of £16,000 (2021: £10,000) for the Company have been borne by Viacom International Media Networks U.K. Limited, a fellow group company, and not recharged.

4 Director's remuneration

The remuneration of the director is paid by Viacom International Media Networks U.K. Limited and Viacom International Services Inc, which makes no recharge to the Company. The director is also a director of a number of fellow subsidiaries and it is not possible to make an accurate apportionment of their remuneration in respect of each of the subsidiaries. Accordingly, no director's remuneration has been recognised in respect of the Company.

5 Staff costs

The Company had no employees during the financial year (2021: nil).

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

6 Investments in subsidiaries, joint ventures and associates

	As at 31 December 2022 £	As at 31 December 2021 £
Investments in subsidiaries	564,697	
Subsidiaries		£
Cost or valuation At 1 January 2022 Additions		- 564,697
At 31 December 2022		564,697
Provision At I January 2022		
At 31 December 2022		
Carrying amount		
At 31 December 2022		564,697
At 31 December 2021		-

On 16 December 2022, the Company acquired 100% shareholding in Sexy Beast Productions Limited at fair value of £564,697 from Chapter One Pictures Limited. The registered office of Sexy Beast Productions Limited is Fieldfisher Riverbank House, 2 Swan Lane, London, United Kingdom, EC4R 3TT.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

7 Debtors

	As at 31 December 2022 £	As at 31 December 2021 £
Amounts owed by group undertakings	48,314,199	1
Prepaid original content	52,881,701	5,220,449
Income tax asset	10,274,274	
	111,470,174	5,220,450

Amounts owed by group undertakings are unsecured, interest free and repayable on demand.

During the current year, one production was completed and transferred to a fellow Paramount Global group company to the value of £12,786,156 from which no commission was earned.

8 Creditors: amounts falling due within a year

	Note	As at 31 December 2022	As at 31 December 2021 £
Amounts owed to group undertakings	10	107,394,781	5,133,694
Accruals		4,649,310	86,755
		112,044,091	5,220,449

Amounts owed to group undertakings are unsecured, interest free and repayable on demand.

9 Share capital

	As at 31 December 2022		As at 31 December 2021	
	No.	£	No.	£
Ordinary shares of £1 each	1	1	1	1

10 Related party transactions

The Company is exempt under Section 33.1A of FRS 102 from disclosing related party transactions with entities that are wholly owned by the Paramount Global group.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

11 Parent and ultimate parent undertaking

The Company's immediate and ultimate parent companies are Viacom International Inc. (a US company) and Paramount Global (a US company) respectively. The controlling stockholder of Paramount Global is National Amusements, Inc., the owner of the majority of Paramount Global's voting stock. Paramount Global's voting and non-voting stock are listed and traded on The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC.

The only group in which the results of the Company are consolidated is that of Paramount Global. The consolidated financial statements for this group are available to the public and may be obtained from 1515 Broadway, New York, N.Y., 10036 5794, USA.