

# 2020 LEGAL LIMITED ANNUAL REPORT AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017



# **COMPANY INFORMATION**

Directors C D Billing

J Humphreys

Company number 07629690

Registered office No1 Europa House

Conway Street Birkenhead Wirral Merseyside CH41 4FT

Auditor RSM UK Audit LLP

Chartered Accountants 3 Hardman Street Manchester

M3 3HF

Bankers Royal Bank of Scotland plc

1 Dale street Liverpool L2 2PP

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#### STRATEGIC REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

The directors present the strategic report for the year ended 30 November 2017.

#### **Business review**

The directors are satisfied with the group's performance and progress during a period of continuing upheaval in the personal injury legal services market. The business remains cash generative despite significant investment for future growth in the newer business areas, although short term profitability and the net liabilities position on the balance sheet are adversely impacted by the amortisation of goodwill arising from the original acquisition of the business from the previous partnership. Further changes are anticipated in the next few years linked to proposed changes in law and regulations in various areas of the personal injury legal services market. The business will need to adapt to these as the details are clarified.

Turnover has reduced by £2,457,884 from the prior year, mainly due to lower volumes of road traffic accident and other personal injury cases as the group has diverted its marketing focus to other case types with longer case durations over the last couple of years. Loss before tax has deteriorated by £782,573 but, stripping out the effect of goodwill amortisation in each year, has deteriorated by £2,035,108. This is due to increased marketing spend on case types with longer average durations and adjustment to accounting estimates for work in progress recognition and bad debt provisioning.

Net liabilities for the group has deteriorated by £2,785,774 due to the increase in loss before tax explained above and movement in the capital contribution reserve linked to the directors loan balances. Cash has increased by £614,476 as the underlying performance of the business is cash generative.

The company has performed a hive up of the trade and net assets of each of the four subsidiary Limited Liability Partnerships ("LLPs") on 30 November 2017.

The company has restated the prior year accounts via a prior year adjustment. Further detail is given in note 30.

#### Principal risks and uncertainties

Case outcomes - although the legacy case types have reasonably predictable average success rates, the profitability of the business may be affected by the success rates of the newer case types as well as the successes or failures in the larger group litigation cases it runs.

Regulatory risks - the future trading volumes and profitability of the business may be affected by adverse changes in its regulatory environment.

Financing risks - the business needs to maintain adequate levels of working capital to allow it to manage the impact on its net cash of variations in its trading performance, including in the timing of fees received.

#### **Going Concern**

The company and group have net liabilities and net current liabilities at 30 November 2017. The group remains cash generative despite significant investment in new product lines and there is no current expectation that the group will require any external funding. In any event the group can reduce or suspend marketing expenditure at any point to assist cashflow management, as turnover will continue to be generated from the existing caseload.

Included within net current liabilities is the current portion of the directors' loan of £2,400,000, with a further £2,036,166 due in greater than one year affecting the net liabilities position. The directors have signed a letter of support to confirm they will not require the company to make loan repayments unless it has the available cash to do so.

Post year end the company is trading profitably and anticipates it will do so going forward. At the time of approving the financial statements the directors have a reasonable expectation that the company and group have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and the directors continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

On behalf of the board

C D Billing Director

13 August 2018

#### **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

The directors present their annual report and consolidated financial statements for the year ended 30 November 2017.

#### Principal activities

The principal activity of the company and group continued to be that of the provision of legal services.

#### Directors

The directors who held office during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were as follows:

C D Billing

J Humphreys

#### Results and dividends

The results for the year are set out on page 7.

No ordinary dividends were paid. The directors do not recommend payment of a further dividend.

#### Financial instruments

The group uses conventional forms of working capital to finance its day to day activities and as such the figures appearing in the accounts reflect the absolute value of amounts recoverable and payable. The directors receive regular reports on these figures in order to manage the group's requirements.

#### **Auditor**

The company has appointed a new auditor for these financial statements, RSM UK Audit LLP. RSM UK Audit LLP have indicated their willingness to be reappointed for another term and appropriate arrangements have been put in place for them to be deemed reappointed as auditors in the absence of an Annual General Meeting.

#### Statement of directors' responsibilities

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

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the group and company, and of the profit or loss of the group for that period. 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;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the group and company will continue in business.

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

# **DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

#### Statement of disclosure to auditor

So far as each person who was a director at the date of approving this report is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the auditor of the company and group is unaware. Additionally, the directors individually have taken all the necessary steps that they ought to have taken as directors in order to make themselves aware of all relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor of the company and group is aware of that information.

## Strategic report

In accordance with section 414C(11) of the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 the group's strategic report information required by schedule 7 of the Large and Medium-sized Companies and Groups (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 is noted in the strategic report on page 1.

On behalf of the board

C D Billing

Director

13 August 2018

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF 2020 LEGAL LIMITED

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of 2020 Legal Limited (the 'parent company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 30 November 2017 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Consolidated and Company Statements of Financial Position, the Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity, the Company Statement 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 FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 30 November 2017 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.

#### **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 are independent of the group and 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. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

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

#### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information. 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.

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 such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in 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 in this regard.

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

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 has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

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

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report and 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 set out on page 3, 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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: http://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 company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Rom UK Avoit LLA

Ian Taylor (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of RSM UK Audit LLP, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
3 Hardman Street
Manchester
M3 3HF

13 August 2018

# **GROUP PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT**

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

		2017	2016 restated
	Notes	£	£
Turnover	3	13,950,669	16,408,553
Cost of sales		(14,418,939)	(15,091,350)
Gross (loss)/profit		(468,270)	1,317,203
Administrative expenses		(3,051,876)	(4,032,221)
Other operating income	3	443,957	572,451
Operating loss	4	(3,076,189)	(2,142,567)
Interest receivable and similar income	8	99,645	2,748
Interest payable and similar charges	9	(222,488)	(276,640)
Loss before taxation		(3,199,032)	(2,416,459)
Taxation	10	301,228	(19,319)
Loss for the financial year		(2,897,804)	(2,435,778)

Loss for the financial year is all attributable to the owners of the parent company.

The profit and loss account has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations.

# **GROUP STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

# AS AT 30 NOVEMBER 2017

		20:	17	20 res	16 stated
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Goodwill	11		-		1,252,532
Tangible assets	12		53,648		122,375
			53,648		1,374,907
Current assets					
Work in progress	15	1,249,000		2,258,052	
Debtors: due after more than one year	16	3,907,000		4,768,000	
Debtors: due within one year	17	7,279,355		8,272,891	
Cash at bank and in hand		2,149,066		1,534,590	
		14,584,421		16,833,533	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one	18				
year		(18,376,143)		(18,390,016)	
Net current liabilities			(3,791,722)		(1,556,483)
Total assets less current liabilities			(3,738,074)		(181,576)
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	19		(2,036,166)		(2,806,890)
Net liabilities			(5,774,240)		(2,988,466)
Capital and reserves					
Called up share capital	23		10,000		10,000
Capital contribution reserve	24		553,886		650,121
Profit and loss reserves	24		(6,338,126)		(3,648,587)
Total equity			(5,774,240)		(2,988,466)

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 13 August 2018 and are signed on its behalf by:

C D Billing

Director

J Humphreys **Director** 

## **COMPANY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

## AS AT 30 NOVEMBER 2017

		20	)17		016 estated
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Goodwill	11		_		1,252,532
Tangible assets	12		53,648		122,375
Investments	13		-		-
			53,648		1,374,907
Current assets					
Work in progress	15	1,249,000		2,117,444	
Debtors: due after more than one year	16	3,907,000		4,768,000	
Debtors: due within one year	17	<b>7,</b> 279,355		10,865,061	
Cash at bank and in hand		2,149,066		1,151,045	
		14,584,421		18,901,550	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one	18				
year		(18,376,143)		(16,849,308)	
Net current liabilities			(3,791,722)		2,052,242
Total assets less current liabilities			(3,738,074)		3,427,149
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	19		(2.026.466)		(2.006.000)
than one year			(2,036,166)		(2,806,890)
Net (liabilities)/assets			(5,774,240)		620,259
Capital and reserves					
Called up share capital	23		10.000		10.000
Capital contribution reserve	24		10,000		10,000
Profit and loss reserves	24		553,886 (6.339,136)		650,121
110 m and 1033 16361 VC3	£7		(6,338,126)		(39,862)
Total equity			(5,774,240)		620,259

As permitted by s408 Companies Act 2006, the company has not presented its own profit and loss account and related notes. The company's loss for the year was £6,506,529 (2016 (restated): £1,911,686 loss).

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 13 August 2018 and are signed on its behalf by:

Thurston

 $\mathsf{C} \; \mathsf{D} \; \mathsf{Billing}$ 

Director

J Humphreys Director

Company Registration No. 07629690

# **GROUP STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**

	Share capital	Capital I contribution reserve	Profit and loss reserves	Total
	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1 December 2015 as previously stated	10,000	720,291	(1,190,553)	(460,262)
Adjustments in respect of prior years (note 30)			(253,000)	_(253,000)
Balance at 1 December 2015 restated	10,000	720,291	(1,443,553)	(713,262)
Year ended 30 November 2016:				
Loss and total comprehensive income for the year	-	-	(2,435,778)	(2,435,778)
Transfer relating to amortised cost interest	-	(230,744)	230,744	-
Movement due to directors' loan account repayments in				
the year	-	160,574		160,574 
Balance at 30 November 2016	10,000	650,121	(3,648,587)	(2,988,466)
Year ended 30 November 2017:				
Loss and total comprehensive income for the year	-	-	(2,897,804)	(2,897,804)
Transfer relating to amortised cost interest	-	(208,265)	208,265	-
Movement due to directors' loan account repayments in				
the year		112,030		112,030
Balance at 30 November 2017	10,000	553,886	(6,338,126)	(5,774,240)

# **COMPANY STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**

	Share capital	Capital contribution reserve	Profit and loss reserves	Total
	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1 December 2015 as previously stated	10,000	720,291	671,080	1,401,371
Adjustments in respect of prior years (note 30)			970,000	970,000
Balance at 1 December 2015 restated	10,000	720,291	1,641,080	2,371,371
Year ended 30 November 2016:				
Loss and total comprehensive income for the year (restated)	-	-	(1,911,686)	(1,911,686)
Transfer relating to amortised cost interest	-	(230,744)	230,744	-
Movement due to directors' loan account repayments in the year	_	160,574		160,574
Balance at 30 November 2016	10,000	650,121	(39,862)	620,259
Year ended 30 November 2017:				
Loss and total comprehensive income for the year	-	-	(6,506,529)	(6,506,529)
Transfer relating to amortised cost interest	~	(208,265)	208,265	-
Movement due to directors' loan account repayments in the year		112,030		112,030
Balance at 30 November 2017	10,000	553,886	(6,338,126)	(5,774,240)

# **GROUP STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

		201	.7	201	6
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	29		1,446,650		593,556
Income taxes (paid)/refunded			(80,771)		138,025
Net cash inflow from operating activities			1,365,879		731,581
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(14,324)		(7,207)	
Interest received		47,868		2,748	
Net cash used in investing activities			33,544		(4,459)
Financing activities					
Repayment of borrowings		(770,724)		(632,142)	
Interest paid		(14,223)		(13,896)	
Net cash used in financing activities			(784,947)		(646,038)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash eq	uivalents		614,476		81,084
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of ye	ar		1,534,590		1,453,506
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			2,149,066		1,534,590
					-

#### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

#### 1 Accounting policies

#### Company information

2020 Legal Limited and subsidiaries ("the company") is a private limited company limited by shares domiciled and incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is No 1 Europa House, Conway Street, Birkenhead, Liverpool, Merseyside. CH41 4FT.

The group consists of 2020 Legal Limited and all of its subsidiaries.

#### 1.1 Accounting convention

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

The company is a qualifying entity for the purposes of FRS 102, being a member of a group where the parent of that group prepares publicly available consolidated financial statements, including this company, which are intended to give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the group. The company has therefore taken advantage of exemptions from the following disclosure requirements for parent company information presented within the consolidated financial statements:

- Section 4 'Statement of Financial Position' Reconciliation of the opening and closing number of shares;
- Section 7 'Statement of Cash Flows' Presentation of a statement of cash flow and related notes and disclosures;
- Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instrument Issues' Carrying
  amounts, interest income/expense and net gains/losses for each category of financial instrument; basis of
  determining fair values; details of collateral, loan defaults or breaches, details of hedges, hedging fair value
  changes recognised in profit or loss and in other comprehensive income;
- Section 26 'Share based Payment' Share-based payment expense charged to profit or loss, reconciliation of
  opening and closing number and weighted average exercise price of share options, how the fair value of
  options granted was measured, measurement and carrying amount of liabilities for cash-settled share-based
  payments, explanation of modifications to arrangements;
- Section 33 'Related Party Disclosures' Compensation for key management personnel.

#### 1.2 Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate those of 2020 Legal Limited and subsidiaries and all of its subsidiaries (i.e. entities that the group controls through its power to govern the financial and operating policies so as to obtain economic benefits).

All financial statements are made up to 30 November 2017. Where necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring the accounting policies used into line with those used by other members of the group.

All intra-group transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between group companies are eliminated on consolidation.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

#### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

#### 1.3 Company statement of comprehensive income

As permitted by Section 408 Companies Act 2006, the company has not presented its own statement of comprehensive income as it prepares group accounts and the company's individual statement of financial position shows the company's profit or loss for the financial year.

#### 1.4 Going concern

The company and group have net liabilities and net current liabilities at 30 November 2017. The group remains cash generative despite significant investment in new product lines and there is no current expectation that the group will require any external funding. In any event the group can reduce or suspend marketing expenditure at any point to assist cashflow management, as turnover will continue to be generated from the existing caseload.

Included within net current liabilities is the current portion of the directors' loan of £2,400,000, with a further £2,036,166 due in greater than one year affecting the net liabilities position. The directors have signed a letter of support to confirm they will not require the company to make loan repayments unless it has the available cash to do so.

Post year end the company is trading profitably and anticipates it will do so going forward. At the time of approving the financial statements the directors have a reasonable expectation that the company and group have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and the directors continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

#### 1.5 Turnover

The majority of turnover represents professional fees which comprise amounts invoiced or billable to clients for professional services provided, excluding value added tax. The vast majority of income is contingent on the occurrence of a specified future event, generally the agreement of fees with the defendant or defendant's representatives, and turnover is only recognised where that contingency has been resolved at the year end.

In addition, but only for road traffic accident and employer or public liability claims where the case has been accepted, has been submitted onto and has not exited the Claims Portal for whatever reason, an estimate is made of the likely recoverable amount and included within turnover.

#### 1.6 Intangible fixed assets - goodwill

Goodwill represents the premium paid over and above the net assets acquired on 1 July 2011.

Amortisation is calculated so as to write off the cost of the asset less its estimated residual value over the useful economic life of that asset which is currently estimated to be 6 years. The directors have calculated the pay back time of the goodwill as 6 years.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

#### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

#### 1.7 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Property improvements 10% straight line
Fixtures & fittings 15% straight line
Computer equipment 33% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the profit and loss account.

#### 1.8 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting period end date, the group reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any). Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the company estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

The carrying amount of the investments accounted for using the equity method is tested for impairment as a single asset. Any goodwill included in the carrying amount of the investment is not tested separately for impairment.

Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset for which the estimates of future cash flows have not been adjusted.

If the recoverable amount of an asset (or cash-generating unit) is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset (or cash-generating unit) is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss, unless the relevant asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease.

Recognised impairment losses are reversed if, and only if, the reasons for the impairment loss have ceased to apply. Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset (or cash-generating unit) is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but so that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset (or cash-generating unit) in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss, unless the relevant asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the reversal of the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation increase.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

#### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

#### 1.9 Work in progress

Work in progress represents the difference between amounts recognised as turnover in line with the turnover policy (see note 1.5) and amounts already billed to clients.

#### 1.10 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are basic financial assets and include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts.

#### 1.11 Financial instruments

The group has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the group's statement of financial position when the group becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and 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 debtors, amounts due from group undertakings and related parties 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.

#### Other financial assets

Other financial assets are initially measured at fair value, which is normally the transaction price. Such assets are subsequently carried at fair value and the changes in fair value are recognised in profit or loss, except that investments in equity instruments that are not publicly traded and whose fair values cannot be measured reliably are measured at cost less impairment.

## Impairment of financial assets

Financial assets 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.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

#### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

#### 1.11 Financial instruments (continued)

#### 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 group 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 group after deducting all of its liabilities.

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, bank loans and loans from related parties 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 payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

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. Amounts 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 creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

## Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the group's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

#### 1.12 Equity instruments

Equity instruments issued by the group are recorded at the proceeds received, net of direct issue costs. Dividends payable on equity instruments are recognised as liabilities once they are no longer at the discretion of the group.

#### 1.13 Taxation

The tax expense represents the sum of the tax currently payable and deferred tax.

#### Current tax

The tax currently payable is based on taxable profit for the year. Taxable profit differs from net profit as reported in the profit and loss account because it excludes items of income or expense that are taxable or deductible in other years and it further excludes items that are never taxable or deductible. The group's liability for current tax is calculated using tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting end date.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

#### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

#### 1.13 Taxation (continued)

#### Deferred tax

Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognised for all timing differences and deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that they will be recovered against the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future taxable profits. Such assets and liabilities are not recognised if the timing difference arises from goodwill or from the initial recognition of other assets and liabilities in a transaction that affects neither the tax profit nor the accounting profit.

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at each reporting end date and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available to allow all or part of the asset to be recovered. Deferred tax is calculated at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the period when the liability is settled or the asset is realised. Deferred tax is charged or credited in the profit and loss account, except when it relates to items charged or credited directly to equity, in which case the deferred tax is also dealt with in equity. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset if, and only if, there is a legally enforceable right to offset current tax assets and liabilities and the deferred tax assets and liabilities relate to taxes levied by the same tax authority.

#### 1.14 Employee benefits

The costs of short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense.

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.

## 1.15 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

#### 1.16 Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, including any lease incentives received, are charged to income on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease except where another more systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which economic benefits from the lease asset are consumed.

#### 1.17 Investments

Investments are recognised initially at fair value which is normally the transaction price (but excludes any transaction costs, where the investment is subsequently measured at fair value through profit and loss). Subsequently, they are measured at fair value through profit or loss except for those equity investments that are not publicly traded and whose fair value cannot otherwise be measured reliably, which are recognised at cost less impairment until a reliable measure of fair value becomes available.

If a reliable measure of fair value is no longer available, the equity instrument's fair value on the last date the instrument was reliably measurable is treated as the cost of the instrument.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

#### 2 Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the group's accounting policies, the directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The key estimates for the business are work in progress recognition and debtor provisioning. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

#### 3 Turnover and other operating income

		2017	2016 restated
		£	£
	Turnover		
	Total turnover	13,950,669	16,408,553
			<del></del>
	Other operating income		
	Fee share arrangements	25,957	25,942
	Management charges receivable	418,000	546,509
	Total other operating income	443,957	572,451
4	Operating loss		
•		2017	2016
		£	£
	Operating loss for the year is stated after charging/(crediting):		
	Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	83,051	150,147
	Amortisation of intangible assets	1,252,532	2,505,067
	Operating lease charges	310,013	369,451

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

Auditor's remuneration		
	2017	2016
Fees payable to the company's auditor and associates:	£	£
For audit services		
Audit of the financial statements of the group and company	20,000	14,750
Audit of the financial statements of the company's subsidiaries	<u>-</u>	4,750
	20,000	19,500
For other services		
Audit-related assurance services	13,000	14,000
Taxation compliance services	5,050	2,000
Other taxation services	250	7,500
All other non-audit services	10,000	13,500
	28,300	37,000
	Fees payable to the company's auditor and associates:  For audit services Audit of the financial statements of the group and company Audit of the financial statements of the company's subsidiaries  For other services Audit-related assurance services Taxation compliance services Other taxation services	For audit services Audit of the financial statements of the group and company Audit of the financial statements of the company's subsidiaries  For other services Audit-related assurance services Audit-related assurance services Other taxation services All other non-audit services 10,000

# 6 Employees

The average monthly number of persons (including directors) employed by the group and company during the year was:

	Group		Company	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
	Number	Number	Number	Number
Fee earners	182	196	182	196
Administration	53 	56 	53	56
	235	252	235	252
Their aggregate remuneration comprised:				
	Group		Company	
	2017	2016	2017	2016
	£	£	£	£
Wages and salaries	5,984,627	6,343,762	5,984,627	6,343,762
Social security costs	542,563	607,104	542,563	607,104
Pension costs	30,188	29,100	30,188	29,100
	6,557,378	6,979,966	6,557,378	6,979,966

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

7	Directors' remuneration		
•	Directors remaineration	2017	2016
		£	£
	Remuneration for qualifying services	32,633	31,253
	Company pension contributions to defined contribution schemes	162	148
		32,795	31,401
	Retirement benefits are accruing under defined contribution schemes for 2 (2016)	5: 2) directors.	
8	Interest receivable and similar income		
		2017	2016
		£	£
	Interest on bank deposits	1,342	2,748
	Interest on cost settlements	46,303	-
	Discounting of financial assets (note 16)	52,000	-
		99,645	2,748
9	Interest payable and similar charges		
		2017	2016 restated
		£	£
	Bank charges and interest	14,223	13,896
	Other interest on financial liabilities	208,265	230,744
	Discounting of financial assets (note 16)	- -	32,000
		222,488	276,640

The other interest on financial liabilities relates to the amortised cost of the directors' loan accounts which is released annually through the profit and loss account until the loans are fully repaid.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Taxation	2017	2016
	_	restated
C	£	£
Current tax		
UK corporation tax on profits for the current period	-	62,550
Adjustments in respect of prior periods	(44,194)	(33,231
Total current tax	(44,194)	29,319
Deferred tax		<u></u>
Origination and reversal of timing differences	(291,851)	(14,227
Deferred tax adjustment in respect of prior periods	34,817	4,22
Total deferred tax (note 21)	(257,034)	(10,000
Total tax charge/(credit)	(301,228)	19,319
The actual charge for the year can be reconciled to the expected charge based o rate of tax as follows:	n the profit or loss and	the standard
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	2017	2016
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	·	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	2017	2016
rate of tax as follows:  Loss before taxation  Expected tax credit based on the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of	2017 £ (3,199,032)	2016 £ (2,416,459)
rate of tax as follows:  Loss before taxation  Expected tax credit based on the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19.33% (2016: 20.00%)	2017 £ (3,199,032) (618,424)	2016 £ (2,416,459) (482,892)
Loss before taxation  Expected tax credit based on the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19.33% (2016: 20.00%)  Tax effect of expenses that are not deductible in determining taxable profit	2017 £ (3,199,032) (618,424) 272,793	(2,416,459) (482,892) 553,888
Loss before taxation  Expected tax credit based on the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19.33% (2016: 20.00%)  Tax effect of expenses that are not deductible in determining taxable profit Adjustments in respect of prior years	2017 f (3,199,032) (618,424) 272,793 (44,194)	(2,416,459) (482,892) 553,888 (33,231)
rate of tax as follows:  Loss before taxation  Expected tax credit based on the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19.33% (2016: 20.00%)  Tax effect of expenses that are not deductible in determining taxable profit Adjustments in respect of prior years  Research and development tax credit	2017 £ (3,199,032) (618,424) 272,793 (44,194) (6,680)	(2,416,459) (482,892) 553,888
Loss before taxation  Expected tax credit based on the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19.33% (2016: 20.00%)  Tax effect of expenses that are not deductible in determining taxable profit Adjustments in respect of prior years  Research and development tax credit  Loss carried back	(3,199,032) (618,424) 272,793 (44,194) (6,680) 60,460	2016 £ (2,416,459) (482,892) 553,888 (33,231) (22,673)
rate of tax as follows:  Loss before taxation  Expected tax credit based on the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19.33% (2016: 20.00%)  Tax effect of expenses that are not deductible in determining taxable profit Adjustments in respect of prior years  Research and development tax credit	2017 £ (3,199,032) (618,424) 272,793 (44,194) (6,680)	2016 £ (2,416,459) (482,892) 553,888 (33,231)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

11	Intangible fixed assets	
	Group	Goodwill
		£
	Cost	
	At 1 December 2016 and 30 November 2017	15,030,400
	Amortisation and impairment	
	At 1 December 2016	13,777,868
	Amortisation charged for the year	1,252,532
	At 30 November 2017	15,030,400
	Carrying amount	
	At 30 November 2017	-
	At 30 November 2016	1,252,532
	Company	Goodwill
	Cost	£
	At 1 December 2016 and 30 November 2017	15,030,400
	Amortisation and impairment	
	At 1 December 2016	13,777,868
	Amortisation charged for the year	1,252,532
	At 30 November 2017	15,030,400
	Carrying amount	
	At 30 November 2017	_
	At 30 November 2016	1,252,532

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Tangible fixed assets				
Group	Property improvements	Fixtures & fittings	Computer equipment	Tot
	£	£	£	
Cost				
At 1 December 2016	23,033	475,975	1,175,302	1,674,31
Additions		6,425	7,899	14,32
At 30 November 2017	23,033	482,400	1,183,201	1,688,63
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 December 2016	23,033	424,174	1,104,728	1,551,93
Depreciation charged in the year	-	26,743	56,308	83,05
At 30 November 2017	23,033	450,917	1,161,036	1,634,98
Carrying amount				
At 30 November 2017		31,483	22,165	53,64
At 30 November 2016	-	51,801	70,574	122,37
Company	Property improvements	Fixtures & fittings	Computer equipment	Tot
	£	£	£	
Cost				
At 1 December 2016	23,033	475,399	1,175,302	1,673,73
Additions	-	6,425	7,899	14,32
Assets received on hive up of subsidiaries	<del>-</del>	576		57
At 30 November 2017	23,033	482,400	1,183,201	1,688,63
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 December 2016	23,033	423,598	1,104,728	1,551,35
Depreciation charged in the year	-	26,743	56,308	83,05
Assets received on hive up of subsidiaries		576		57
At 30 November 2017	23,033	450,917	1,161,036	1,634,98
Carrying amount				
At 20 November 2017	-	31,483	22,165	53,64
At 30 November 2017		,		

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

#### 13 Investments

Company	Total
	£
Cost	
At 1 December 2016	-
Additions	3,331,153
At 30 November 2017	3,331,153
The colours and	
Impairment	
At 1 December 2016	-
Impairment charged in the year	3,331,153
At 30 November 2017	3,331,153
At 30 November 2017	-
At 30 November 2016	-

As part of the hive up of the subsidiary Limited Liability Partnerships ("LLPs") loan balances due from the LLPs to the company were forgiven by means of an increase to the investment the company holds.

As the trade and net assets of the LLPs have been transferred to the company an impairment charge was booked to write down this investment to nil as the LLPs have no value at 30 November 2017.

#### 14 Financial instruments

14	Financial instruments				
		Group	Group	Company	Company
		2017	2016	2017	2016
			restated		restated
		£	£	£	£
	Carrying amount of financial assets				
	Debt instruments measured at amortised cost	10,535,800	12,917,335	10,535,800	15,514,316
	Carrying amount of financial liabilities				
	Measured at amortised cost	17,771,054	17,868,110	17,771,054	16,480,269
15	Work in progress				
		Group	Group	Company	Company
		2017	2016	2017	2016
		£	£	£	£
	Work in progress	1,249,000	2,258,052	1,249,000	2,117,444

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

#### 16 Debtors: due after more than one year

	2017	2016 restated
Group and Company	£	£
Undiscounted trade debtors falling due after one year	4,140,000	5,053,000
Discounting under effective interest rate method	(233,000)	(285,000)
Discounted trade debtors falling due after one year	3,907,000	4,768,000
	Group an	d company
	2017	2016
		restated
Movements in discounting during the year:	£	£
Discounting at 1 December	285,000	253,000
(Credit)/debit to profit or loss	(52,000)	32,000

233,000

285,000

Discounting has been applied using the effective interest method and a discount rate of 4% (2016: 4%).

#### 17 Debtors: due within one year

Discounting at 30 November

Group 2017	Group 2016 restated	Company 2017	Company 2016 restated
£	£	£	£
6,627,700	8,064,501	6,627,700	5,820,741
160,750	35,786	160,750	35,786
-	-	-	4,840,741
1,100	84,834	1,100	84,834
-	212	-	212
197,770	52,558	197,770	47,747
292,035	35,000	292,035	35,000
7,279,355	8,272,891	7,279,355	10,865,061
	£ 6,627,700 160,750 - 1,100 - 197,770 292,035	2017 2016 restated  £ £  6,627,700 8,064,501 160,750 35,786 1,100 84,834 - 212 197,770 52,558 292,035 35,000  7,279,355 8,272,891	2017 2016 restated  £ £ £ £  6,627,700 8,064,501 6,627,700 160,750 35,786 160,750 1,100 84,834 1,100 - 212 - 197,770 52,558 197,770 292,035 35,000 292,035

Trade debtors and debtors due after more than one year are stated net of a provision of £2,760,000 (2016: £2,159,000).

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

18	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year				
		Group	Group	Company	Company
		2017	2016	2017	2016
			restated		restated
		£	£	£	£
	Trade creditors	6,123,468	6,734,765	6,123,468	5,373,474
	Amounts due to related parties	7,570,674	7,486,810	7,570,674	7,486,810
	Other taxation and social security	605,089	521,906	605,089	369,039
	Other creditors	2,422,773	2,424,234	2,422,773	2,423,984
	Accruals and deferred income	1,654,139	1,222,301	1,654,139	1,196,001
		18,376,143	18,390,016	18,376,143	16,849,308

The bank facilities are secured by way of a mortgage debenture incorporating a fixed and floating charge over all current and future assets of the group.

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

			Group and Company	
			2017	2016
		Note	£	£
	Other borrowings	20	2,036,166	2,806,890
20	Loans and overdrafts			
			Group a	nd Company
			2017	2016
			£	£
	Other loans		4,436,166	5,206,890

Each director's loan account is repayable at £100,000 per month, subject to variations agreed by the directors from time to time. The unpaid balances attract a rate of interest at 4% above the Bank of England's base rate.

The current portion of the loan of £2,400,000 (2016: £2,400,000) is disclosed within note 18 as other creditors. The amount falling due after more than one year of £2,036,166 (2016: £2,806,890) is disclosed as other borrowings within note 19. The undiscounted balance of the loan at 30 November 2017 is £4,990,052 (2016: £5,857,011).

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

#### 21 Deferred taxation

The following are the major deferred tax liabilities and assets recognised by the group and company, and movements thereon:

Assets	Assets
2017	2016
£	£
36,953	35,000
255,081	-
292,034	35,000
	d company
£	£
35,000	25,000
257,034	10,000
292,034	35,000
	2017 £ 36,953 255,081 292,034  Group an 2017 £ 35,000 257,034

The company has recognised the deferred tax asset of £255,081 (2016: £nil) as it is expecting to make sufficient profits to utilise this asset in the next 12 months.

#### 22 Retirement benefit schemes

	Grou	p and Company
	2017	2016
Defined contribution schemes	£	£
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	30,188	29,100
	***************************************	

A defined contribution pension scheme is operated for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the group in an independently administered fund.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

#### 23 Share capital

	Group and company	
	2017	2016
Ordinary share capital	£	£
Issued and fully paid		
10,000 ordinary shares of £1 each	10,000	10,000

#### 24 Reserves

#### Capital contribution reserve

This reserve holds the cumulative effect of the discounting of the directors loan, recorded as a capital contribution to the company. This reserve will unwind as the directors loan is paid off.

## **Profit and loss reserves**

This reserve has the cumulative profits and losses of the company/group.

#### 25 Operating lease commitments

#### Lessee

At the reporting end date the group had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	Group	and Company
	2017	2016
	£	£
Within one year	181,861	146,628
Between two and five years	372,399	264,204
In over five years	186,103	209,638
	740,363	620,470

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

#### 26 Related party transactions

#### (i) Companies related to key management personnel

C D Billing and J Humphreys, directors of this company, are also directors of several other companies which therefore meet the definition of related parties associated with key management personnel as defined by FRS 102. The following aggregated transactions occurred with related parties of this nature:

	2017	2016
	£	£
Brought forward net creditor	(7,401,976)	(7,676,744)
Invoices received from related party (gross of VAT)	(4,454,197)	(6,777,257)
Payments made to related party (gross of VAT)	4,340,313	6,385,272
Monies loaned to/(received from) related parties	(454,900)	10,942
Management charges (accrued net of VAT)	418,000	546,509
VAT on management charges (credited)/invoiced in the year	(14,000)	109,302
Hived up balances from subsidiaries	(2,814)	-
Carried forward net creditor	(7,569,574)	(7,401,976)

#### (ii) Limited Liability Partnerships under the control of 2020 Legal Limited

The company has interests in four Limited Liability Partnerships, which are consolidated into these accounts. These Limited Liability Partnerships meet the definition of a related party as defined by FRS 102 due to the company exerting control over them. The following aggregated transactions occurred with related parties of this nature:

	2017	2016
	£	£
Brought forward debtor	4,840,741	5,052,551
Monies received from related parties	(2,674,377)	(1,947,355)
Management charges (accrued net of VAT)	1,164,789	1,735,545
Balances netted during hive up transaction	(3,331,153)	<del></del>
		<del></del>
Carried forward debtor	-	4,840,741
	<del></del>	

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

#### 27 Ultimate controlling party

The company is under the control of C D Billing and J Humphreys, who are the directors and shareholders of the company.

#### 28 Minority interest

The company has the following interests in four Limited Liability Partnerships:

AACH Legal Services LLP, incorporated in England and Wales, company number OC378654 - 80%\*
Accidentally Injured Legal Services LLP, incorporated in England and Wales, company number OC382131 - 80%\*
M&R Legal Services LLP, incorporated in England and Wales, company number OC378655 - 80%\*
Perfect North Legal Services LLP, incorporated in England and Wales, company number OC380149 - 80%\*

The accounts of each of the Limited Liability Partnerships have been consolidated as group undertakings recognising all of the results of those entities. Each was entitled to exemption from audit under section 479A of the Companies Act 2006 - Audit Exemption of a Subsidiary Undertaking.

The LLP agreement limits the liability of each member to that of the capital provided. The profit or loss for the year from each of the Limited Liability Partnerships has therefore been allocated as to 100% to 2020 Legal Limited. A member of each Limited Liability Partnership is only liable for the amount of subscribed capital and therefore a debtor for the minority interest is not included.

\*As part of the restructure of the group around the year end the minority stakeholder in each case has resigned or been removed as a member on the dates given below, increasing the interest the company has to 100%:

AACH Legal Services LLP
Accidentally Injured Legal Services LLP
M&R Legal Services LLP
Perfect North Legal Services LLP

4 May 2018 24 November 2017 24 November 2017 22 June 2018

#### 29 Cash generated from group operations

	2017	2016 restated
	£	£
Loss for the year after tax	(2,897,804)	(2,435,778)
Adjustments for:		
Taxation (credited)/charged	(301,228)	19,319
Finance costs	222,488	276,640
Investment income	(47,868)	(2,748)
Amortisation and impairment of intangible assets	1,252,532	2,505,067
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	83,051	150,147
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(Increase) in work in progress	1,009,052	(146,458)
Decrease in debtors	2,236,534	3,453,176
Decrease in creditors	(110,107)	(3,225,809)
Cash generated from operations	1,446,650	593,556

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

#### 30 Prior year restatement

The company has included a number of prior year adjustments in the accounts as follows:

# Prior year restatement due to error: Group and company

- A. In the prior year, the company omitted an accrual for a payroll expense incurred after 30 November 2016 but for which the company had the benefit of the employees' services during the year ended 30 November 2016. This represented a material error and as such the comparative figures have been amended, including the effect on taxation for the prior year. The equivalent amount was correctly accrued at 30 November 2015 so there is no adjustment to the brought forward position ("PYA A").
- B. The company has adjusted prior year trade debtors and trade creditors to remove balances relating to insurance policies taken out on behalf of our clients. These were not assets and liabilities of the company but were mistakenly included as such. ("PYA B").
- C. The company has corrected an error where there was no FRS 102 transitional adjustment to separately disclose and discount debtors falling due in more than one year. The equivalent adjustment has been applied to November 2016 and November 2015 ("PYA C").

#### Company

D. The company's accounting policy for recharging costs to the four subsidiary Limited Liability Partnerships ("LLPs") takes the central costs of the group that are incurred by the company and applies an appropriate mechanism (via live case numbers) for allocating these costs to each subsidiary, In prior years this calculation was performed incorrectly, as instead of following this policy, a simplified calculation was performed which involved allocating certain staff members to each subsidiary, with an arbitrary 50% mark-up percentage to cover central overheads applied to their salary cost. This was not in line with the policy and did not evaluate the true magnitude of a fair, arm's length recharge. As these subsidiaries are 100% consolidated into the group accounts, adjusting for this only affects the company accounts, but, given the magnitude of the error, the company and each of the LLPs' results were materially misstated. During the current year the calculation has been corrected and recalculations made for the previous years ("PYA D").

# Prior year adjustment due to change in accounting policy: Group

E. The company has reviewed the categorisation of costs within the group profit and loss account in the current year. The new classification more closely reflects the true substance and nature of the transactions. This constitutes a change in accounting policy, so the comparative profit and loss account has been restated accordingly ("PYA E").

The effects of the prior year adjustments on the primary statements are set out on the following pages. There is no effect on the group statement of cash flows in addition to the adjustments to the group profit and loss account disclosed.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

30	Prior yea	r restatement	(continued)
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# Group profit and loss account:

2016 as previously stated £	PYA A	PYA C	PYA E €	2016 Restated £
	-	<u>-</u>		16,408,553
(12,914,592)	(491,000)	-	(1,685,758)	(15,091,350)
3,347,703	(491,000)	-	(1,539,500)	1,317,203
(5,585,617)	-	-	1,553,396	(4,032,221)
572,451	-	-	-	572,451
(1,665,463)	(491,000)	-	13,896	(2,142,567)
2,748	-		-	2,748
(230,744)	-	(32,000)	(13,896)	(276,640)
(1,893,459)	(491,000)	(32,000)	-	(2,416,459)
(117,519)	98,200	-	-	(19,319)
(2,010,978)	(392,800)	(32,000)	-	(2,435,778)
	previously stated £ 16,262,295 (12,914,592) 3,347,703 (5,585,617) 572,451 (1,665,463) 2,748 (230,744) (1,893,459) (117,519)	previously stated £ £ 16,262,295 - (12,914,592) (491,000) (491,000) (5,585,617) - 572,451 - (1,665,463) (491,000) 2,748 - (230,744) - (1,893,459) (491,000) (117,519) 98,200	previously stated         PYA A         PYA C         £         2         2         2         2 <td>previously stated         PYA A         PYA C         PYA E         £         2         2         2</td>	previously stated         PYA A         PYA C         PYA E         £         2         2         2

# Group statement of changes in equity:

	Share capital	Capital contribution reserve	Profit and loss reserves	Total
	£	£	£	£
Delay on at 1 Decomber 2015 on manifolish stated	40.000	700 204	(4.400.553)	(460, 262)
Balance at 1 December 2015 as previously stated	10,000	720,291	(1,190,553)	(460,262)
PYA C	-	-	(253,000)	(253,000)
Balance at 1 December 2015 restated	10,000	720,291	(1,443,553)	(713,262)
Year ended 30 November 2016:				
Loss and total comprehensive income for the year (restated)	-	-	(2,435,778)	(2,435,778)
Transfer relating to amortised cost interest	-	(230,744)	230,744	-
Movement due to directors' loan account repayments in the year	-	160,574	~	160,574
Balance at 30 November 2016	10,000	650,121	(3,648,587)	(2,988,466)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

# 30 Prior year restatement (continued)

#### Group statement of financial position:

	2016 as previously stated £	PYA A £	PYA B £	PYA C £	2016 Restated £
Goodwill	1,252,532	_	-	_	1,252,532
Tangible assets	122,375	-	-	÷	122,375
	1,374,907	-	-		1,374,907
Work in progress	2,258,052	-	-	-	2,258,052
Debtors: due after more than one year	-	-	-	4,768,000	4,768,000
Debtors: due within one year	19,675,105	35,786	(6,385,000)	(5,053,000)	8,272,891
Cash at bank and in hand	1,534,590	-	-	-	1,534,590
	23,467,747	35,786	(6,385,000)	(285,000)	16,833,533
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(24,346,430)	(428,586)	6,385,000	-	(18,390,016)
Net current liabilities	(878,683)	(392,800)		(285,000)	(1,556,483)
Total assets less current liabilities	496,224	(392,800)	-	(285,000)	(181,576)
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	(2,806,890)	-	-	-	(2,806,890)
Net liabilities	(2,310,666)	(392,800)	-	(285,000)	(2,988,466)
Capital and reserves					
Called up share capital	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Capital contribution reserve	650,121	-	-	-	650,121
Profit and loss reserve	(2,970,787)	(392,800)		(285,000)	(3,648,587)
	(2,310,666)	(392,800)	-	(285,000)	(2,988,466)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

#### 30 Prior year restatement (continued)

#### Company profit and loss account:

As permitted by s408 Companies Act 2006, the company has elected not to present a company only profit and loss account. The effect of the prior year adjustments on the disclosed loss on ordinary activities after taxation is as follows:

	2016 as				
	previously				
	stated	PYA A	PYA C	PYA D	Restated
	£	£	£	£	£
Loss on ordinary activities after taxation	(2,980,886)	(392,800)	(32,000)	1,494,000	(1,911,686)

#### Company statement of changes in equity:

	Share capital	Capital contribution reserve	Profit and loss reserves	Total
	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1 December 2015 as previously stated	10,000	720,291	671,080	1,401,371
PYA C	-	-	(253,000)	(253,000)
PYA D	-	-	1,223,000	1,223,000
Balance at 1 December 2015 restated	10,000	720,291	1,641,080	2,371,371
Year ended 30 November 2016:				
Loss and total comprehensive income for the year (restated)	-	-	(1,911,686)	(1,911,686)
Transfer relating to amortised cost interest	-	(230,744)	230,744	-
Movement due to directors' loan account repayments in the year		160,574	-	160,574
Balance at 30 November 2016	10,000	650,121	(39,862)	620,259

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2017

## 30 Prior year restatement (continued)

# Company statement of financial position:

	2016 as previously stated	PYA A	PYA B	РУА С	PYA D	2016 Restated
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Goodwill	1,252,532	-	-	-	-	1,252,532
Tangible assets	122,375	-	-	-	-	122,375
Investments				-	-	<u> </u>
	1,374,907	-	-	-	-	1,374,907
Work in progress Debtors: due after more	2,117,444	-	<del>.</del>	-	-	2,117,444
than one year Debtors: due within one	-	-	-	4,768,000	-	4,768,000
year	19,550,275	35,786	(6,385,000)	(5,053,000)	2,717,000	10,865,061
Cash at bank and in hand	1,151,045	-	-	-	-	1,151,045
	22,818,764	35,786	(6,385,000)	(285,000)	2,717,000	18,901,550
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(22,805,722)	(428,586)	6,385,000	-	-	(16,849,308)
Net current assets	13,042	(392,800)		(285,000)	2,717,000	2,052,242
Total assets less current liabilities	1,387,949	(392,800)	-	(285,000)	2,717,000	3,427,149
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	(2,806,890)	<del>-</del>	-	-		(2,806,890)
Net assets/( liabilities)	(1,418,941)	(392,800)	-	(285,000)	2,717,000	620,259
Capital and reserves						
Called up share capital	10,000	-	<del>-</del>	_	-	10,000
Capital contribution reserve	650,121	-	-	-	_	650,121
Profit and loss reserve	(2,079,062)	(392,800)		(285,000)	2,717,000	(39,862)
	(1,418,941)	(392,800)	_	(285,000)	2,717,000	620,259
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