# WEST REGISTER (LAND) LIMITED DIRECTORS' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 30 SEPTEMBER 1998

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**DIRECTORS**: Robert Henry Beattie

David Edmund Cartledge Ernest Michael Sheavills Grahame Taylor Whitehead

SECRETARY: Shirley Margaret MacGillivray

**REGISTERED OFFICE**: 42 St Andrew Square

EDINBURGH EH2 2YE

**TELEPHONE**: 0131 556 8555

Registered in Scotland No 141822

## 1. Report of the Directors

The directors present their annual report and the audited accounts for the year ended 30 September 1998.

## 2. Business Review

The Company continues to acquire and develop property assets. On 30 September 1998, the business, assets and liabilities of West Register P.I.2 Limited and West Register Land (Ayr) Limited were transferred to the Company. The year end financial position is satisfactory and the directors expect that the level of activity will continue for the foreseeable future.

### 3. Dividends

The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend (1997: NIL). The loss for the year was £476,201 (1997: £563,742).

## 4. Directors

The names of the present directors are listed on page 1. On 23 October 1998, Robert Speirs resigned as a director of the Company.

## 5. Directors' Responsibilities

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which 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 those financial statements, the directors are required to:-

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

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The directors confirm that these financial statements comply with the aforementioned requirements.

## 6. **Directors' Interests**

No director had an interest in the shares of the Company.

The following directors were beneficially interested in the 25p ordinary shares of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc, the ultimate holding company.

	At 1 October 1997	
	(or date of appointment	<u>At 30</u>
	if later)	September 1998
R H Beattie	16,155	19,752
D E Cartledge	2,472	3,566
E M Sheavills	13,369	11,829
R Speirs	25,276	26,722
G T Whitehead	75,008	53,840

Options to subscribe for ordinary shares of 25p each in The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc granted to and exercised by directors during the year to 30 September 1998 are included in the table below:-

	<u>At 1</u> October 1997	Options Granted		Options Exercised		<u>At 30</u>
	(or date of appointment if later)	Number	Price £	Number	Price £	September 1998
R H Beattie	5,293	647	7.99	2,441	2.12	3,499
D E Cartledge	2,156	863	7.99	· •	-	3,019
E M Sheavills	91,986	6,400	10.065	23,000	4.29	
		-	_	26,000	3.99	49,386
R Speirs	121,000	_	-	-	2.12	121,000
G T Whitehead	132,796	15,600	10.065	813	-	
		215	7.99	<b>-</b>		147,798

No director had an interest in any of the preference shares of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc during the year to 30 September 1998. In addition, during that period, none of the directors held a beneficial interest in the loan capital of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc or in the share or loan capital of any of the other subsidiaries of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc, including the Company.

## 7. Secretary

On 13 March 1998, Alan Ewing Mills resigned as secretary of the Company and Shirley Margaret MacGillivray was appointed as secretary of the Company.

## 8. Supplier Payment Policy

The Company is committed to maintaining a sound commercial relationship with its suppliers. Consequently, it is the Company's policy to negotiate and agree terms and conditions with its suppliers, which includes the giving of an undertaking by the Company to pay suppliers within 30 days of receipt of a correctly prepared invoice submitted in accordance with the terms of the contract.

The proportion which the amount owed to trade creditors at 30 September 1998 bears to the amounts invoiced by suppliers during the year then ended equated to a 1 day proportion of 365 days.

## 9. Year 2000 Statement

The directors recognise the importance of the Year 2000 issue and the consequences it may have for the Company and its suppliers and customers.

The Company has a continuous programme of systems maintenance and development which includes addressing the problems posed by Year 2000. The costs of addressing the Year 2000 issue are therefore absorbed in the ongoing IT development expenditure of the Company.

### 10. Auditors

Messrs Coopers & Lybrand resigned as Auditors of the Company on 29 July 1998 and, were replaced by Messrs PricewaterhouseCoopers who have indicated their willingness to continue in office and resolutions to re-appoint them and to authorise the directors to fix their remuneration will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

By Order of the Board

D E Cartledge Director

19 November 1998

# REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF WEST REGISTER (LAND) LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements on pages 6 to 11 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on page 8.

## Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on page 2 the Company's directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

## Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

## **Opinion**

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs at 30 September 1998 and of its loss for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

PricewaterhouseCoopers

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

Price de chore Coper

London

19 November 1998

# WEST REGISTER (LAND) LIMITED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1998

	Note	1998	1997
		£	£
Turnover		5,697,315	18,620,629
Cost of Sales		(5,158,375)	(18,511,846)
Gross Profit		538,940	108,783
Administrative Expenses		(364,511)	(460,912)
Operating profit/(loss)		174,429	(352,129)
Interest Payable and Similar Charges Interest Receivable and Similar Income		(940,220) 75,645	(546,498) 69,595
LOSS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION	2	(690,146)	(829,032)
Tax Credit on Loss on Ordinary Activities	3	213,945	265,290
LOSS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER TAXATION		(476,201)	<u>(563,742)</u>

All items on the profit and loss account relate to continuing operations.

The Company has no recognised gains and losses in the year ended 30 September 1998 other than the loss for the period. Therefore a separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been presented. There is no difference between the loss on ordinary activities before taxation and the retained loss for the year stated above and their historical cost equivalents.

# $\frac{\text{WEST REGISTER (LAND) LIMITED}}{\text{BALANCE SHEET}}$

## AT 30 SEPTEMBER 1998

AT 30 SET TEMBER 1996	Note	1998 £	1997 £
CURRENT ASSETS Due from Ultimate Parent Undertaking Other Debtors Development Properties	4 5	211,952 533,081 20,286,340	265,290 533,786 9,869,241
		21,031,373	10,668,317
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR			
Due to Ultimate Parent Undertaking Other Creditors	6	22,017,625 266,828	11,078,110 367,086
		22,284,453	11,445,196
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES		(1,253,080)	(776,879)
NET LIABILITIES		(1,253,080)	<u>(776,879)</u>
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Share Capital Profit and Loss Account	7	(1,253,082)	2 (776,881)
Equity shareholders' funds	8	(1,253,080)	<u>(776,879)</u>

The financial statements on pages 6 to 11 were approved by the Board of Directors on 19 November 1998 and signed on its behalf by:

Director:

Director:

# WEST REGISTER (LAND) LIMITED NOTES ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 1. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards in the United Kingdom. A summary of the more important accounting policies is set out below.

## (a) Basis of Accounting

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention and in compliance with the Companies Act 1985.

## (b) Taxation

Provision is made for taxation at the current rates on taxable profits.

## (c) Deferred Taxation

Deferred taxation is provided on timing differences, arising from the different treatment of items for accounting and taxation purposes, which are expected to reverse in the future, calculated at the rates at which it is expected that tax will arise.

## (d) Turnover

Turnover represents the total value of sales exclusive of value added tax. Profit on house sales is not taken until the substantial completion of each development phase.

## (e) Development properties

Development properties are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost comprises the purchase cost of land and building developments.

## (f) Cash Flow Statement

The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Royal Bank of Scotland plc and the cash flows of the Company are included in the consolidated group cash flow statement of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc, the Company's ultimate parent undertaking. Consequently the Company is exempt under the terms of Financial Reporting Standard No 1 from publishing a cash flow statement.

# WEST REGISTER (LAND) LIMITED NOTES ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 2. LOSS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION

Loss on ordinary activities before taxation is stated after charging the following:

	1998 £	1997 £
Auditors' Remuneration	<u>6,655</u>	<u>6,400</u>

The directors received no emoluments from the Company during the period.

The Company has no employees.

## 3. TAXATION

		1998 £	1997 <u>£</u>
	Taxation credit based on loss for the year of the Company: Group relief at 31% (1997: 32%)	<u>213,945</u>	<u>265,290</u>
4.	OTHER DEBTORS		
	Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	1998 £	1997 £
	Other Debtors comprise:		
	Trade Debtors	272,823	26,394
	VAT Receivable	10,438	96,973
	Sundry Debtors	249,820	410,419
		533,081	533,786

# WEST REGISTER (LAND) LIMITED NOTES ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 5. DEVELOPMENT PROPERTIES

	<u>1998</u> £	<u>1997</u> £
At 1 October Additions at cost Disposals at cost	9,869,241 15,575,474 (5,158,375)	18,091,056 10,290,031 (18,511,846)
At 30 September	20,286,340	9,869,241
6. OTHER CREDITORS		
	1998 £	$\frac{1997}{\mathfrak{t}}$
Trade Creditors	32,311	91,736
Sundry Creditors, Accruals & deferred income	234,517	275,350
	266,828	367,086
7. SHARE CAPITAL		

	Authorised	Share capital allotted, called up and fully paid
At 30 September 1998 and 1997 Ordinary Shares of £1 each	<u>1,000</u>	<u>2</u>

# WEST REGISTER (LAND) LIMITED NOTES ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 8. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

	1998 £	<u>1997</u>
Opening shareholders' funds	(776,879)	(213,137)
Retained Loss for the year	(476,201)	(563,742)
Closing shareholders' funds	(1,253,080)	(776,879)

## 9. IMMEDIATE PARENT UNDERTAKING

The Company's immediate parent undertaking is West Register (Property Investments) Limited a company registered in Scotland.

## 10. ULTIMATE PARENT UNDERTAKING

The Company's ultimate parent undertaking is The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc, a company incorporated in Great Britain and registered in Scotland. Copies of the ultimate parent's consolidated financial statements may be obtained from The Secretary, The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc, 36 St. Andrew Square Edinburgh.