# **Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements**

31 March 2021



### **Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements**

### Year Ended 31 March 2021

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### Officers and Professional Advisers

The Board of Directors C Solley

M T Smith A C Ritchie D F Gilmour J I Cavill K A McLellan R W Christie J S Gordon

Company Secretary Infrastructure Managers Limited

Registered Office 2nd Floor

11 Thistle Street Edinburgh EH2 1DF

Independent Auditors PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors

Level 4 Atria One

144 Morrison Street

Edinburgh EH3 8EX

Bankers Lloyds Bank Corporate Markets

New Uberior House

Edinburgh EH3 9BN

#### **Strategic Report**

#### Year Ended 31 March 2021

The directors present their strategic report on the Group for the year ended 31 March 2021.

#### **Principal Objectives and Strategies**

The Company's principal objective is to invest in special purpose vehicles which design, construct, refurbish and provide lifecycle management, facilities management, cleaning and catering to school within the Edinburgh area over a 30 year period with the concession ending in 2033. Included within the project are 10 primary, 5 secondary, 3 special needs schools and 1 community centre.

#### **Performance Review**

The profit for the financial year, after taxation, amounted to £2,364,864 (2020: £1,302,439).

The profit for the financial year will be transferred to reserves.

The directors are satisfied with the overall performance of the Group and do not foresee any significant change in the Group's activities in the coming financial year.

Covid-19 was declared a pandemic in March 2020 and since then there has been widespread disruption in the UK. The directors have considered the current and future financial impact to the Group of Covid-19, taking into account the sources of income and expenditure. Throughout the pandemic the underlying investment has continued to perform in line with modelled expectations. It is the directors' view that this performance is expected to continue. Although the likely full impact is unknown, and at this stage is not possible to quantify, it is not expected to materially impact on the operations or financial position of the Group.

#### **Going Concern**

Cash flow forecasts are prepared for the underlying investment looking over the expected life of the asset and so including the 12 month period from the date the financial statements are signed. In drawing up these forecasts, the directors have made assumptions based upon their view of the current and future economic conditions, including the impact of Covid-19, that will prevail over the forecast period.

The Company's cash flows are dependent on the performance of its investment. After reviewing the performance of the investment, which is done on a regular basis, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

In light of this, the directors continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the Company's annual financial statements.

#### **Key Performance Indicators**

The directors have reviewed forecasts of future cash flows. No breaches in covenants have occurred or are forecast. Based on the review performed by the directors they believe that there is a reasonable expectation that the Company has sufficient resources to continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future, therefore the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

### Strategic Report (continued)

#### Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### **Principal Risks and Uncertainties**

Due to the nature of the Group's business, the financial risks the directors consider relevant to this Group is credit, interest rate, cash flow and liquidity risk. The credit risk is not considered significant as the client is a quasi governmental organisation.

#### Interest rate risk

The financial risk management objectives of the Group are to ensure that financial risks are mitigated by the use of financial instruments. The Group uses interest rate swaps to reduce its exposure to interest rate movements. Financial instruments are not used for speculative purposes.

#### Cash Flow and Liquidity risk

Many of the Cash Flow risks are addressed by means of contractual provisions. The Group liquidity risk is principally managed through financing the Group by means of long term borrowings.

This report was approved by the board of directors on 29 July 2021 and signed on behalf of the board by:

R Christie Lang Church
Director

### **Directors' Report**

#### Year Ended 31 March 2021

The directors present their report and the audited Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements of ESP (Holdings) Limited ("the Company") for the year ended 31 March 2021.

#### **Directors**

The directors who served the Company during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

C Solley

M T Smith

A C Ritchie

D F Gilmour

J I Cavill

K A McLellan

R W Christie

J S Gordon

#### **Dividends**

The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend (2019: £nil).

#### **Future Developments**

The directors intend for the Group to continue to operate in line with the financial forecast model, contractual terms and do not expect any strategic changes.

#### **Qualifying Indemnity Provision**

During the year, and at the date of this report, the Company has in place qualifying third party indemnity provisions for the benefit of its directors.

#### **Independent Auditors**

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

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

The auditors, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, are deemed to have been re-appointed in accordance with section 487 of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the board of directors on 29 July 2021 and signed by order of the board by:

Infrastructure Managers Limited

Company Secretary

### **Directors' Responsibilities Statement**

#### Year Ended 31 March 2021

The directors are responsible for preparing the Strategic Report, Directors' Report and the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have prepared the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102"), and applicable law).

Under company law the directors must not approve the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the group and the Company and the profit or loss of the group for that period.

In preparing the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements; and
- prepare the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business.

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

#### Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of ESP (Holdings) Limited

#### Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### Opinion

In our opinion, ESP (Holdings) Limited's Group financial statements and Company financial statements (the "financial statements"):

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the Company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of the group's profit and the group's cash flows 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", 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 and Consolidated Financial Statements (the "Annual Report"), which comprise: the Consolidated and Company Statements of Financial Position as at 31 March 2021; the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows, and the Consolidated and Company Statements of Changes in Equity for the year then ended; and the notes to the financial statements, which include a description of the 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 group 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 Group's and 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 directors' 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 Group's and the Company's ability to continue as a going concern.

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

# Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of ESP (Holdings) Limited (continued)

#### Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### **Reporting on Other Information**

The other information comprises all of the information 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, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, any form of assurance 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 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 Strategic Report and Directors' 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.

### Strategic Report and Directors' Report

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, the information given in the Strategic Report and Directors' Report for the year ended 31 March 2021 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 Group and Company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we did not identify any material misstatements in the Strategic Report and Directors' Report.

#### Responsibilities for the Financial Statements and the Audit

#### Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Statements

As explained more fully in the Directors' responsibilities statement, the directors are 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 directors are 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 directors are responsible for assessing the Group's and 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 directors either intend to liquidate the Group or the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

# Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of ESP (Holdings) Limited (continued)

#### Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 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 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.

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.

Based on our understanding of the group and industry, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to UK tax legislation and Health and Safety laws and regulations, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance 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 posting inappropriate journal entries and the risk of management bias in accounting estimates. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Enquiries of management around known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations, claims and litigation, and instances of fraud;
- Understanding of management's controls designed to prevent and deter irregularities;
- Review of board minutes;
- Challenging management on assumptions and judgements made in their significant accounting estimates, in particular in relation to the fair value of derivative financial instruments;
- Identifying and testing journal entries to assess whether any of the journals appeared unusual, impacting revenue and distributable reserves.

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.

#### Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of ESP (Holdings) Limited (continued)

#### Year Ended 31 March 2021

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the FRC'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 Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 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 Company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns.

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

Mark Hoskyns-Abrahall (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors

Edinburgh

29 July 2021

### **Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income**

### Year Ended 31 March 2021

Turnover	Note 4	2021 £ 11,342,790	2020 £ 10,682,384
Cost of sales	٠	(8,940,652)	(8,585,001)
Gross profit		2,402,138	2,097,383
Administrative expenses		(787,395)	(622,693)
Operating profit	5	1,614,743	1,474,690
Interest receivable and similar income Interest payable and similar expenses	7 8	4,262,259 (2,784,362)	4,494,570 (3,359,350)
Profit before taxation		3,092,640	2,609,910
Tax on profit	9	(727,776)	(1,307,471)
Profit for the financial year		2,364,864	1,302,439
Fair value movements on cash flow hedging instruments, net of tax		1,257,219	199,386
Total comprehensive income for the year		3,622,083	1,501,825

All the activities of the group are from continuing operations.

### **Consolidated Statement of Financial Position**

#### As at 31 March 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Current assets			
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	11	4,602,721	5,325,846
Debtors: amounts falling due after more than one year	11	53,058,708	56,849,675
Cash at bank and in hand		11,815,673	9,534,777
		69,477,102	71,710,298
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(9,038,753)	(9,299,291)
Net current assets		60,438,349	62,411,007
Total assets less current liabilities		60,438,349	62,411,007
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	13	(44,210,900)	(49,286,094)
Provisions for liabilities			
Taxation including deferred taxation	14	(5,492,807)	(6,012,354)
Net assets		10,734,642	7,112,559
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	17	83,395	83,395
Hedging reserve	18	(4,760,677)	(6,017,896)
Retained earnings	18	15,411,924	13,047,060
Total shareholders' funds		10,734,642	7,112,559

The Financial Statements were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 29 July 2021, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

R Christie Director

Company registration number: SC206929

### **Company Statement of Financial Position**

#### As at 31 March 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets Investments	10	83,395	83,395
Current assets		•	
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	11	3,027,881	2,813,441
Debtors: amounts falling due after more than one year	11	1,202,044	1,202,044
		4,229,925	4,015,485
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	. 12	(3,027,881)	(2,813,441)
Net current assets		1,202,044	1,202,044
Total assets less current liabilities		1,285,439	1,285,439
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	r 13	(1,202,044)	(1,202,044)
Net assets		83,395	83,395
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	17	83,395	83,395
Retained earnings At beginning of year	18	_	_
result for the year		_	_
At end of year		<del>-</del>	_
Total shareholders' funds		83,395	83,395

The profit for the financial year of the parent company was £Nil (2020: £Nil).

The Financial Statements were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 29 July 2021, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

R Christie Director

Company registration number: SC206929

### **Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity**

### Year Ended 31 March 2021

At 1 April 2019	Called up share capital £ 83,395	Hedging reserve £ (6,217,282)	Retained earnings £ 11,744,621	Total £ 5,610,734
Profit for the financial year Other comprehensive income for the year: Fair value movements on cash flow hedging instruments, net of tax		199,386	1,302,439	1,302,439 199,386
Total comprehensive income for the year		199,386	1,302,439	1,501,825
At 31 March 2020	83,395	(6,017,896)	13,047,060	7,112,559
Profit for the financial year Other comprehensive income for the year: Fair value movements on cash flow hedging			2,364,864	2,364,864
instruments, net of tax		1,257,219		1,257,219
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	1,257,219	2,364,864	3,622,083
At 31 March 2021	83,395	(4,760,677)	15,411,924	10,734,642

Included in the fair value movement on cash flow hedging instruments is £1,402,256 (2020: £1,345,886) that was recycled through Interest Payable in the statement of comprehensive income.

### **Company Statement of Changes in Equity**

### Year Ended 31 March 2021

At 1 April 2019	Called up share capital £ 83,395	Retained earnings £	Total £ 83,395
Result for the financial year		_	_
At 31 March 2020	83,395	_	83,395
Result for the financial year		· <u>-</u>	_
At 31 March 2021	83,395		83,395

### **Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows**

### Year Ended 31 March 2021

Cash generated from operations	Note 19	2021 £ 4,956,068	2020 £ 381,615
Interest paid Interest received Tax paid		(2,512,814) 4,105,154 (989,184)	(2,701,687) 4,494,249 (125,086)
Net cash from operating activities  Cash flows from financing activities  Repayments of borrowings		5,559,224	2,049,091 (2,836,661)
Proceeds from loans from group undertakings Repayments of loans from group undertakings Net cash used in financing activities		- - (3,278,328)	3,327,156 (5,500,000) (5,009,505)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		2,280,896 9,534,777	(2,960,414) 12,495,191
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year		11,815,673	9,534,777

#### Notes to the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements

#### Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 1. General Information

ESP (Holdings) Limited ("the Company") is a private company limited by shares and is incorporated and domiciled in Scotland. The address of its registered office is 2nd Floor, 11 Thistle Street, Edinburgh, EH2 1DF.

The Company was formed to hold the equity in The Edinburgh Schools Partnership Limited.

The Company and Group's functional and presentation currency is the pound sterling.

#### 2. Statement of Compliance

The individual and consolidated financial statements of ESP (Holdings) Limited have been prepared in compliance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102, "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Companies Act 2006.

#### 3. Accounting Policies

#### (a) Basis of preparation

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with FRS 102 requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgment in the process of applying the Groups accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgment or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are disclosed further in the accounting policies.

The accounting policies stated below have been consistently applied to the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

#### (b) Going concern

Cash flow forecasts are prepared for the underlying investment looking over the expected life of the asset and so including the 12 month period from the date the financial statements are signed. In drawing up these forecasts, the directors have made assumptions based upon their view of the current and future economic conditions, including the impact of Covid-19, that will prevail over the forecast period.

The Company's cash flows are dependent on the performance of its investment. After reviewing the performance of the investment, which is done on a regular basis, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

In light of this, the directors continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the Group's annual financial statements.

#### Notes to the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

#### Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 3. Accounting Policies (continued)

#### (c) Disclosure exemptions

The Company satisfies the criteria of being a qualifying entity as defined in FRS 102. As such, advantage has been taken of the following reduced disclosures available under FRS 102:

- (a) Disclosures in respect of each class of share capital have not been presented.
- (b) Disclosures in respect of financial instruments have not been presented.
- (c) Disclosures in respect of share-based payments have not been presented.
- (d) No disclosure has been given for the aggregate remuneration of key management personnel.

#### (d) Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the Company and all its subsidiary undertakings. Where subsidiary undertakings are acquired during the period their results are included in the consolidated financial statements from the date of acquisition up to the date of the financial period end.

The Company has applied the exemption contained in section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 and has not included its individual statement of comprehensive income. Of the result for the financial year, a Company result of £nil (2020: £nil) is dealt with by the parent financial statements of ESP (Holdings) Limited.

#### (e) Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgments are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Accounting estimates and assumptions are made concerning the future and, by their nature, will rarely equal the related actual outcome. The key assumptions and other sources of estimation uncertainty are as follows:

#### i) Impairment of assets

The carrying value of those assets recorded in the Company's Statement of Financial Position, at amortised cost, could be materially reduced where circumstances exist which might indicate that an asset has been impaired and an impairment review is performed. Impairment reviews consider the fair value and/or value in use of the potentially impaired asset or assets and compare that with the carrying value of the asset or assets in the Statement of Financial Position. Any reduction in value arising from such a review would be recorded in the Statement of Comprehensive Income. Impairment reviews involve the significant use of assumptions. Consideration has to be given as to the price that could be obtained for the asset or assets, or in relation to a consideration of value in use, estimates of the future cash flows that could be generated by the potentially impaired asset or assets, together with a consideration of an appropriate discount rate to apply to those cash flows.

#### Notes to the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

#### Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 3. Accounting Policies (continued)

#### (f) Revenue recognition

Turnover represents the services' share of the management services income received by the Group for the provision of a PFI asset to the customer. This income is received over the life of the concession period. Management service income is allocated between turnover, finance debtor interest and reimbursement of finance debtor so as to generate a constant rate of return in respect of the finance debtor over the life of the contract.

#### (g) Finance debtor

The Company has taken the transition exemption in FRS 102 Section 35.10(i) that allows the Company to continue the service concession arrangement accounting policies from previous UK GAAP.

The Company is accounting for the concession asset based on the ability to substantially transfer all the risks and rewards of ownership to the customer, with this arrangement the costs incurred by the Company on the design and construction of the assets have been treated as a finance debtor within these financial statements.

#### (h) Income tax

Taxation expense for the period comprises current and deferred tax recognised in the reporting period. Tax is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity. In this case tax is also recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity respectively.

Current or deferred taxation assets and liabilities are not discounted.

#### i) 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. The directors periodically evaluate 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 Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

#### Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 3. Accounting Policies (continued)

#### ii) Deferred tax

Deferred tax arises from timing differences that are differences between taxable profits and total comprehensive income as stated in the financial statements. These timing differences arise from the inclusion of income and expenses in tax assessments in periods different from those in which they are recognised in the financial statements.

Deferred tax is recognised on all timing differences at the reporting date except for certain exceptions. Unrelieved tax losses and other deferred tax assets are only recognised when it is probable that they will be recovered against the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future taxable profits. Deferred tax is also recognised on the revaluations of derivative financial instruments, with the movements going through the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Deferred tax is measured using tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the period end and that are expected to apply to the reversal of the deferred tax asset or liability.

#### (i) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of six months or less and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

#### (j) Borrowings

Borrowings are recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. Under the effective interest rate method, any transaction fees, costs, discounts and premiums directly related to the borrowings are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income over the life of the borrowings. Borrowings with maturities greater than twelve months after the reporting date are classified as non-current liabilities.

#### (k) Investments

Fixed asset investments are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated impairment losses.

#### (I) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the entity has an obligation at the reporting date as a result of a past event, it is probable that the entity will be required to transfer economic benefits in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be estimated reliably. Provisions are recognised as a liability in the statement of financial position and the amount of the provision as an expense. Provisions are initially measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date and subsequently reviewed at each reporting date and adjusted to reflect the current best estimate of the amount that would be required to settle the obligation. Any adjustments to the amounts previously recognised are recognised in profit or loss unless the provision was originally recognised as part of the cost of an asset.

#### Notes to the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

#### Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 3. Accounting Policies (continued)

#### (m) Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the transaction price and subsequently at amortised cost, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income immediately.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised. 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 entity after deducting all of its financial liabilities.

Where the contractual obligations of financial instruments (including share capital) are equivalent to a similar debt instrument, those financial instruments are classed as financial liabilities. Financial liabilities are presented as such in the Statement of Financial Position. Finance costs and gains or losses relating to financial liabilities are included in the Statement of Comprehensive Income. Finance costs are calculated so as to produce a constant rate of return on the outstanding liability.

Where the contractual terms of share capital do not have any terms meeting the definition of a financial liability then this is classed as an equity instrument. Dividends and distributions relating to equity instruments are debited direct to equity.

#### Notes to the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

#### Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 3. Accounting Policies (continued)

#### (n) Hedge accounting

The Group has entered into an arrangement with third parties that is designed to hedge future cash flows arising on variable rate interest loan arrangements, with the net effect of exchanging the cash flows arising under those arrangements for a stream of fixed interest cash flows ("interest rate swaps").

To qualify for hedge accounting, documentation is prepared specifying the hedging strategy, the component transactions and methodology used for effectiveness measurement. Changes in the carrying value of financial instruments that are designated and effective as hedges of future cash flows ("cash flow hedges") are recognised directly in a hedging reserve in equity and any ineffective portion is recognised immediately in the statement of comprehensive income. Amounts deferred in equity in respect of cash flow hedges are subsequently recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income in the same period in which the hedged item affects net profit or loss or the hedging relationship is terminated and the underlying position being hedged has been extinguished.

#### 4. Turnover

Turnover arises from:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Rendering of services	11,342,790	10,682,384

The whole of the turnover is attributable to the principal activity of the group wholly undertaken in the United Kingdom.

#### 5. Operating Profit

Operating profit or loss is stated after charging:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Fees payable for the audit of the annual report and consolidated		
financial statements	11,988	11,010

Included in the fee above is £2,688 (2020: £2,532) for the audit of the Company ESP (Holdings) Limited. In addition to the above audit services the Company also paid £1,669 (2020: £1,620) for non-audit services.

#### 6. Particulars of Employees and Directors

The average number of persons employed by the Company during the financial year, including the directors, amounted to nil (2020: nil). The directors did not receive any remuneration from the Company during the year (2020: £nil).

### Notes to the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

### Year Ended 31 March 2021

7.	Interest Receivable and Similar Income		
		2021	2020
	Interest on cash and cash equivalents Interest from Group undertakings	£ 11,923 –	£ 99,496 321
	Finance Debtor Interest Gain on financial instruments	4,093,231 157,105	4,394,753 -
		4,262,259	4,494,570
8.	Interest Payable and Similar Expenses		
		2021 £	2020 £
	Interest on bank loans and overdrafts	2,512,814	2,686,821 552,343
	Interest due to Group undertakings Loss on financial instruments	214,440 —	57,326
	Other interest payable and similar expenses	57,108	62,860
		2,784,362	3,359,350
9.	Tax on Profit		
	Major components of tax income		
		2021 £	2020 £
	Current tax: UK current tax income Adjustments in respect of prior periods	1,213,55 <u>7</u> –	649,185 (901)
	Total current tax	1,213,557	648,284
	Deferred tax: Origination and reversal of timing differences	(485,781)	659,187
	Tax on profit	727,776	1,307,471
	Reconciliation of tax expense		
	The tax assessed on the profit for the year is higher than (2020: higher corporation tax in the UK of 19% (2020: 19%).	r than) the sta	ndard rate of
		2021 £	2020 £
	Profit before taxation	3,092,640	2,609,910
	Profit before taxation by rate of tax	587,602	495,883
	Adjustment to tax charge in respect of prior periods	· -	(901)
		140,174 727,776	

### Notes to the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

#### Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 9. Tax on Profit (continued)

#### Factors that may affect future tax expense

A change to the future UK corporation tax rate was announced in the March 2021 Budget. The rate will increase from 19% to 25% with effect from 1 April 2023. This change had not been substantively enacted at the balance sheet date and therefore is not recognised in these financial statements. The effect of this change, if it applied to the deferred tax balance at 31 March 2021, would be to increase the deferred tax liability by £1,734,571 and the deferred tax asset by £399,794.

#### 10. Investments

The group has no investments.

Company	Shares in participating interests £
Cost	_
At 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021	83,395
Impairment	
At 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021	-
Carrying amount	
At 1 April 2020 and 31 March 2021	83,395
At 31 March 2020	83,395

The Company owns 100% of the issued share capital of The Edinburgh Schools Partnership Limited, whose registered office is 11 Thistle Street, Edinburgh, EH2 1DF.

	2021	2020
	£	£
Aggregate capital and reserves	10,734,641	7,112,559
Profit/(Loss) for the year	2,364,863	1,302,439

The directors have reviewed the investments forecasts and projections and have reasonable expectation that no impairment indicators exist and the investment will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

### Notes to the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

### Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 11. Debtors

Debtors				
Debtors amounts falling due within one	ear are as folk	ows:		
	Gro	up	Comp	any
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	3	£	3	£
Trade debtors	129,281	99,658	_	_
Amounts owed by Group undertakings	_	-	3,027,881	2,813,441
Prepayments and accrued income	508,549	472,729	_	_
Finance Debtor	3,937,401	4,691,104	_	-
Other debtors	<u>27,490</u>	<u>62,355</u>		
	4,602,721	5,325,846	3,027,881	2,813,441
Debtors amounts falling due after more	than one year a	are as follows:		
	Gro	up	Comp	any
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Amounts owed by Group undertakings	_	<b>-</b>	1,202,044	1,202,044
Deferred tax asset	1,266,016	1,594,684	-	_
Finance Debtor	51,792,692	55,254,991 		
	53,058,708	56,849,675	1,202,044	1,202,044
The movement in the finance debtor is a	ınalysed as foll	ows:		
		2021		2020
	•	3		£
At beginning of year		59,946,095		64,263,483
Repayments		(4,216,002)		(4,317,388)
At end of year		55,730,093		59,946,095

The amounts owed by Group undertakings relates to Subordinated Loan Notes. The loan notes bear interest of 13.07% per annum and payment of capital falls due in the year 2033.

#### 12. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group		Company	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts	3,365,967	3,221,220	_	_
Trade creditors	1,064,033	2,272,310	· _	_
Amounts owed to Group undertakings	3,027,881	2,813,441	3,027,881	2,813,441
Accruals and deferred income	641,747	327,284	_	_
Corporation tax	337,816	113,443		_
Taxation and social security	601,309	551,593	_	_
	9,038,753	9,299,291	3,027,881	2,813,441

#### Notes to the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

#### Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 12. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (continued)

Amounts owed to group undertakings relate to accrued interest on the subordinated loan notes. The accrued interest is unsecured, repayable on demand and incurs interest at LIBOR plus 2%.

#### 13. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Group		Company	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	3	£	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts	36,428,048	39,794,015	• _	_
Amounts owed to Group undertakings	1,202,044	1,202,044	1,202,044	1,202,044
Derivative financial liability	6,580,808	8,290,035	<u> </u>	
	44,210,900	49,286,094	1,202,044	1,202,044

Included within creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year is an amount of £22,842,396 (2020: £27,195,062) for the group and £1,202,044 (2020: £1,202,044) for the company in respect of liabilities payable or repayable by instalments which fall due for payment after more than five years from the reporting date.

#### Group

The bank loan is secured by a bond and floating charge over all the assets, rights and undertakings of the Company. The loan is repayable under an instalment scheme whereby small repayments are made in the first few years of the loan, the final repayment is due on 30 September 2030. Two loan tranches bear interest at LIBOR plus 0.90% and 0.95% with one fixed rate loan at 5.290% however the Company has an interest rate swap arrangement receiving LIBOR and paying interest fixed at 5.155% and 5.360% for the full amount of the loan drawn, hence fixing the total interest payable on the bank loan at 6.055% and 6.310%. The full amount of loan drawdowns at 31 March 2021 is £40,059,412 (2020: £43,337,741).

#### Company

Amounts owed to Group undertakings - In November 2001 the Company issued £9,742,310 subordinated loan notes to its immediate parent companies, with a further £1,035,373 issued in April 2004 and £5,500,000 issued in December 2016 and repaid in September 2019. The loan notes bear interest of 13.07% per annum and payment of capital falls due in the year 2033. The Coupon on the principal amount accrues daily and is payable in cash on 30 September and 31 March each year. The investment sum was advanced under a subordinated loan agreement and is therefore unsecured, and would rank alongside ordinary creditors in the event of a winding up.

#### 14. Provisions for Liabilities

Group	Deferred tax
·	(note 15)
	3
At 1 April 2020	6,012,354
Deferred tax	(519,547)
At 31 March 2021	5,492,807

The Company does not have any provisions.

### Notes to the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

#### Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 15. Deferred Tax

The deferred tax included in the Statement of Financial Position is as follows:

	Group		Company	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Included in debtors (note 11) Included in provisions for liabilities	1,266,016	1,594,684	-	_
(note 14)	(5,492,807)	(6,012,354)		_
	(4,226,791)	(4,417,670)	_	
			<b>—</b> .	

The deferred tax account consists of the tax effect of timing differences in respect of:

	Group		Company	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Accelerated capital allowances	5,492,807	6,012,354	_	_
Other short term timing differences	(15,662)	(19,577)	_	_
Derivative Financial Instruments	(1,250,354)	(1,575,107)	_	_
	4 000 704	4 417 670		
	4,226,791	4,417,670	_	

	2021
Opening balance	4,417,670
Movement through the profit or loss	(485,781)
Movement through other comprehensive income	294,902
Closing balance	4,226,791

The net deferred tax liability expected to reverse in 2022 is £468,215 (2020: £605,668). This primarily relates to the reversal of timing differences on capital allowances offset by expected utilisation of tax losses and short term timing differences.

#### 16. Financial Instruments

The carrying amount for each category of financial instrument is as follows:

#### Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost

			Group	
			2021	2020
			£	£
Financial assets that are debt instrumer	nts measured at	amortised		
cost			55,730,093	59,945,723
Financial liabilities measured at fair v	alue through p	profit or loss		
	Grou	qı	Comp	any
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Financial liabilities measured at fair				
value through profit or loss	(6,580,808)	(8,290,035)	_	_

#### Notes to the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

#### Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 16. Financial Instruments (continued)

#### Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost

Group
2021 2020
£ £
(41,261,456) (44,539,785)

Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost

The fair values of the interest rate swap have been calculated by discounting the fixed cash flows at forecasted forward interest rates over the term of the financial instrument, the discount rate applied equals the spot rate for each valuation date. The bank borrowing and finance debtor are both held at amortised cost.

#### Hedge accounting

Derivatives are financial instruments that derive their value from the price of an underlying item, such as interest rates or other indices. The Company's use of derivative financial instruments is described below.

#### Interest rate swaps

The Group has entered into two interest rate swaps with third parties for the same notional amount as all of the Groups variable rate borrowings with banks which has the commercial effect of swapping the variable rate interest coupon on those loans for a fixed rate coupon. The bank loans and related interest rate swaps amortise at the same rate over the life of the loan/swap arrangements. The two interest rate swaps were entered into on 15 November 2001 and 6 April 2004 and both expire on 31 March 2031.

The Directors believe that the hedging relationship between the interest rate swaps and related variable rate bank loans is highly effective and as a consequence have concluded that these derivatives meet the definition of a cash flow hedge and have formally designated them as such.

Carrying value of all derivative financial instruments

All of the Groups derivative financial instruments are carried at fair value. The net carrying value of all derivative financial instruments at 31 March 2021 amounted to net liabilities of £6,580,808 (2020: £8,290,035). The effective portion of the movements in the fair value of these derivative financial instruments have been recorded in the cash flow hedge reserve amounting to a credit of £1,552,122 (2020: credit of £41,846). The ineffective portion of the movements in the fair value have been recorded in the profit and loss amounting to a credit of £157,150 (2020: debit of £57,326).

#### 17. Called Up Share Capital

#### Issued, called up and fully paid

	2021		2020	
	No.	£	No.	£
Ordinary shares of £1 each	83,395	83,395	83,395	83,395

### Notes to the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

### Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 18. Reserves

Hedging reserve - This reserve records fair value movements on cash flow hedging instruments.

Retained earnings - This reserve records retained earnings and accumulated losses.

### 19. Cash Generated from Operations

	2021 £	2020 £
Profit for the financial year	2,364,864	1,302,439
Adjustments for:		
Interest receivable and similar income	(4,262,259)	(4,494,570)
Interest payable and similar expenses	2,784,362	3,359,350
Tax on profit	727,776	1,307,471
Accrued expenses	· <b>-</b>	14,147
Changes in:		
Trade and other debtors	4,185,423	4,327,261
Trade and other creditors	(844,098)	(5,434,483)
	4,956,068	381,615

### 20. Analysis of Changes in Net Debt

S = 1 (1	
asn flows	31 Mar 2021
£	£
2,280,896	11,815,673
(359,187)	(6,393,848)
3,365,967	(37,630,092)
5,287,676	(32,208,267)
	£ 2,280,896 (359,187) 3,365,967

#### Notes to the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

#### Year Ended 31 March 2021

#### 21. Related Party Transactions

#### Company

The following disclosures are with entities in the Group that are not wholly owned:

The Group paid £193,182 (2020: £246,957) to PFI Infrastructure Finance Limited and its related entities for the provision of 2 directors, the provision of management services, dividends and subordinated debt interest. The total outstanding balance at 31 March 2021 was £725,088 (2020: £688,329).

The Group paid £87,530 (2020: £198,031) to Semperian PPP Investment Partners No.2 Limited for the provision of 2 directors, dividends and subordinated debt interest. The total outstanding balance at 31 March 2021 was £1,389,847 (2020: £1,319,387).

The Group paid £53,279 (2020: £120,540) to Palio (No. 19) Limited for the provision of 2 directors, dividends and subordinated debt interest. The total outstanding balance at 31 March 2021 was £851,183 (2020: £812,403).

The Group paid £15,586 (2020: £15,203) to Aberdeen Infrastructure (No. 3) Limited and its related entities for the provision of 2 directors and dividends. The Group paid £64,333 (2020: £165,610) for amounts relating to interest on subordinated Loan notes to Aberdeen Infrastructure Limited. The total outstanding balance at 31 March 2021 was £1,269,001 (2020: £1,204,668).

#### 22. Controlling Party

The directors consider there to be no ultimate controlling party.