The Sunderland Association Football Club Limited Annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2010

Registered number 49116



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### Corporate directory

#### Registered number

49116

#### Registered office

The Sunderland Stadium of Light Sunderland

SR5 1SU

#### **Bankers**

Barclays Bank plc 71 Grey Street Newcastle upon Tyne

NE99 1JP

Anglo Irish Bank UK Corporation plc

10 Old Jewry

London

EC2R 8DN

#### **Solicitors**

Pinsent Masons

1 Park Row

Leeds

LS1 5AB

#### Independent auditors

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
89 Sandyford Road
Newcastle upon Tyne

NE18HW

#### Board of directors

The directors of the Company who served during the year and up to the date of signing the financial statements were

N J Quinn

(Chairman)

S Walton

(Chief executive)

L A Callaghan

(Marketing and commercial director)

M Byrne

(Legal director and company secretary)

C Woerts

(Resigned 23 February 2010)

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#### Registered number 49116

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### Directors' report for the year ended 31 July 2010

The directors present their report and the audited financial statements of The Sunderland Association Football Club Limited ("the Company") for the year ended 31 July 2010

#### Principal activities

The principal activity of the Company is that of a professional football club

#### Business review and future developments

The Company made a loss for the financial year of £26,179,000 (2009 £24,158,000) The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend (2009 £nil)

The review of the business and the future development of the Company are the same as those of the immediate parent company, and are described in the directors' report in the annual report and financial statements of Sunderland Limited

The Company is deemed to be a going concern due to the on-going support of the immediate parent company, Sunderland Limited

The Company has received additional funding in the year from Drumaville Limited, the immediate parent undertaking of Sunderland Limited, in the form of intercompany loans. The Group received £19m from 1 August 2009 to 13 November 2009. On 13 November 2009 these loans were capitalised in return for the issue of one ordinary share (see note 13).

Subsequent to the loan capitalisation on 13 November 2009, the Company received further funding from Drumaville Limited in the form of an intercompany loan of £22 4m. The loan is unsecured, has no set repayment date and is interest free (see note 13)

#### Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal business risks affecting the Company are the same as those of the immediate parent company, and are described in the directors' report in the annual report and financial statements of Sunderland Limited

#### Key performance indicators ("KPIs")

The KPIs of the Company are the same as those of the immediate parent company, and are described in the directors report in the annual report and financial statements of Sunderland Limited

#### Financial risk management

The financial risk management policies of the Company are the same as those of the immediate parent company, and are described in the directors report in the annual report and financial statements of Sunderland Limited

#### Dividends

The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend (2009 £nil)

#### Directors

The directors who served during the year and up to the date of signing the financial statements are shown on page 1

#### **Employees**

The Company is committed to employment policies, which follow best practice, based on equal opportunities for all employees, irrespective of sex, race, colour, disability or marital status and offers appropriate training and career development for disabled staff. If members of staff become disabled the group continues employment wherever possible and arranges retraining

The Company is also committed to providing employees with information on matters of concern to them on a regular basis, so that the views of employees can be taken into account when making decisions that are likely to affect their interests. In addition, the Company encourages the involvement of employees by listening to their concerns

Executive management are regularly updated on the performance of the Group via monthly management meetings. This information is then communicated to staff via departmental briefings and internal announcements.

#### Statement of directors' responsibilities

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

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the 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 Company and of the profit or loss of the Company 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,
- state whether applicable UK 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 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.

#### Disclosure of information to auditors

Each director, as at the date of this report, has confirmed that insofar as they are aware there is no relevant audit information (that is, information needed by the Company's auditors in connection with preparing their report) of which the Company's auditors are unaware, and they have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditors are aware of that information

On behalf of the board

S Walton Chief executive

17 January 2011

## Independent auditors' report to the members of The Sunderland Association Football Club Limited

We have audited the financial statements of The Sunderland Association Football Club Limited for the year ended 31 July 2010 which comprise the Profit and Loss Account, the Balance Sheet, the Reconciliation of Movements in Shareholders' Deficit, the Statement of Accounting Policies and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice)

#### Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As explained more fully in the statement of directors' responsibilities 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. Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

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

#### Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed, the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors, and the overall presentation of the financial statements

#### Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 July 2010 and of its loss for the year then ended,
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006

#### Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements

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

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us, or
- · the 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

Richard Bunter

For and on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors Newcastle upon Tyne 18 January 2011

## Profit and loss account for the year ended 31 July 2010

	Note	2010	2009
		£'000	£'000
Turnover	1	65,284	64,480
Net operating expenses	22	(96,931)	(89,642)
Operating loss		(31,647)	(25,162)
Profit on disposal of players' contracts	3	5,682	1,184
Loss on ordinary activities before interest and taxation		(25,965)	(23,978)
Interest receivable and similar income	4	4	39
Interest payable and similar charges	5	(218)	(219)
Loss on ordinary activities before taxation	2	(26,179)	(24,158)
Tax on loss on ordinary activities	8	-	
Loss for the financial year	16	(26,179)	(24,158)

#### All operations are classed as continuing

The Company has no recognised gains or losses other than those included in the results above and therefore no separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has been presented

There is no material difference between the loss on ordinary activities before taxation and the loss for the financial year stated above and their historical cost equivalents

## Balance sheet as at 31 July 2010

	Note	2010	2010	2009	2009
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fixed assets		<del></del>			
Intangible assets	9	54,518		47,787	
Tangible assets	10	11,297		11,932	
			65,815		59,719
Current assets					
Stocks	11	449		359	
Debtors	12	23,945		16,655	
Cash at bank and in hand		2,146		2,098	
		26,540		19,112	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(77,567)		(46,605)	
Net current habilities		•	(51,027)		(27,493)
Total assets less current liabilities			14,788		32,226
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	14		(34,259)		(44,518)
Net liabilities			(19,471)		(12,292)
Capital and reserves					
Called up share capital	15		30		30
Share premium account	16		72,154		53,154
Revaluation reserve	16		82		82
Profit and loss account	16		(91,737)		(65,558)
Total shareholders' deficit			(19,471)	<del>_</del> -	(12,292)

The financial statements on pages 7 to 23 were approved by the board of directors on 17 January 2011 and were signed on its behalf by

N J Quinn MBE

Chairman

# Reconciliation of movements in shareholders' deficit for the year ended 31 July 2010

	2010	2009
	£'000	£'000
Opening shareholders' deficit	(12,292)	(36,588)
Loss for the financial year	(26,179)	(24,158)
Proceeds from share issue (note 16)	19,000	48,454
Closing shareholders' deficit	(19,471)	(12,292)

### Statement of accounting policies

#### Basis of accounting

These financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis, under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain fixed assets, and in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and applicable accounting standards in the United Kingdom The principal accounting policies, which have been applied consistently throughout the year, are set out below

#### Going concern

The immediate parent undertaking, Sunderland Limited, has indicated its willingness to continue to support the operations of the Company for the foreseeable future. It will not seek repayment of the amounts owing to it as shown in note 14 until such time as the Company is able to meet these liabilities and will continue to guarantee the Company's borrowings as shown in note 19. On this basis the financial statements have been prepared under the going concern assumption.

#### Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are held at historic purchase cost less accumulated depreciation. Cost includes the original purchase price of the asset and the costs attributable to bringing the asset to its working condition for its intended use. Depreciation has been calculated to write down the cost or valuation of tangible fixed assets over their expected useful lives at the following rates.

Freehold property 25-50 years in equal annual instalments to an estimated residual value

Fixtures, fittings and equipment 3-10 years in equal annual instalments
Tractors 5-8 years in equal annual instalments

Motor vehicles 4 years in equal annual instalments

Freehold land and assets in the course of construction are not depreciated

Costs of ongoing capital projects are held as assets under construction in the balance sheet and are transferred to the appropriate fixed asset categories upon completion

#### Land and buildings

Prior to 2000, some freehold properties were revalued periodically. On adoption of FRS 15 "Tangible fixed assets" in 2000, the Company has followed the transitional rules to retain the book value of land and buildings. On disposal the profit or loss is calculated by reference to the net book value and any unamortised revaluation surplus is transferred from revaluation reserves to the profit and loss account.

#### Intangible assets

The costs associated with the acquisition of players' registrations are capitalised as intangible assets. Costs include transfer fees, levy fees, agents fees and other directly attributable costs. These costs are amortised from the month of purchase fully over the contract period.

Where a playing contract is extended, any costs associated with securing the extension are added to the unamortised balance (at the date of amendment) and the revised book value is amortised over the remaining revised contract life

Where a part of the consideration payable on acquiring a player's registration is contingent on a future event, this amount is recognised once it is probable, rather than possible, that the event will occur

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Players' registrations are written down for impairment when the carrying amount exceeds the amount recoverable through use or sale

#### Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value and consist of finished goods purchased for resale. Where necessary, provision is made for obsolete, defective and slow moving stocks

#### Lease rentals

Operating lease rentals are charged to the profit and loss account on a straight line basis over the lease term

#### Turnover

Turnover comprises gate receipts, television and media, sponsorship and royalties, conference banqueting and catering, retail and merchandising and invoiced sales, exclusive of value added tax. Television and media income is recognised in the period in which the relevant matches are televised and gate receipt income taken to the profit and loss account when the matches are played. Sponsorship income is recognised over the life of the agreements and retail income is recognised upon sale of the goods.

#### Signing on fees

Contractual amounts of fees payable to players are spread evenly over the contract term of amounts owed to players In accordance with guidance from an FA Premier League working party, unamortised signing on fees are disclosed net of amounts due to players in the balance sheet. The net balance of signing on fees relating to players sold is included within the calculation of the profit or loss on disposal of players' contracts.

#### Pensions

Previously employed staff of the Company are members of either the Football League Limited Players Retirement Income Scheme, a defined contribution scheme, or the Football League Pension and Life Assurance Scheme, a defined benefit scheme The Company also contributes to individuals private pension schemes

Pension costs relating to defined benefit schemes are charged to the profit and loss account as if they were defined contribution pension costs. This is due to the Company being unable to identify its share of the assets and liabilities of the schemes, which are held separately in administered funds.

Pension costs relating to defined contribution schemes are charged to the profit and loss account in the year to which they relate

#### Deferred taxation

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date, where transactions or events that result in an obligation to pay more tax in the future or a right to pay less tax in the future have occurred at the balance sheet date. A net deferred tax asset is recognised as recoverable and therefore recognised only when, on the basis of all available evidence, it can be regarded as more likely than not that there will be suitable taxable profits against which to recover carried forward tax losses and from which the future reversal of underlying timing differences can be deducted. Deferred tax is measured at the average tax rates that are expected to apply in the periods in which the timing differences are expected to reverse, based on tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date. Deferred tax is measured on an undiscounted basis.

#### Grants receivable

Grants received as a contribution towards specific expenditure on fixed assets are held in a deferred income account and recognised in the profit and loss account over the expected useful lives of the related assets. Other

grants received are held in a deferred income account and recognised in the profit and loss account so as to match them with the expenditure to which they are intended to contribute

#### Cash flow statements

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 1 "Cash flow statements (revised 1996)" for companies whose parent prepares and files consolidated financial statements incorporating a consolidated cash flow statement and consequently, no cash flow statement is presented in these financial statements

#### Foreign currency

Monetary assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated to sterling at rates of exchange ruling at the date of the balance sheet or at agreed contracted rates

Transactions in foreign currency are translated to sterling at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction

All differences on exchange are taken to the profit and loss account

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2010

#### 1 Turnover

Turnover, which is all derived from the Company's principal activity, is analysed as follows

	2010	2009
	£,000	£'000
Gate receipts	12,603	13,882
Television and media	38,836	34,931
Sponsorship and royalties	7,866	8,174
Conference, banqueting and catering	3,809	4,912
Retail and merchandising	1,921	2,289
Other	249	292
	65,284	64,480

All sales are within the United Kingdom

### 2 Net operating expenses

	2010	2010	2009	2009
Staff costs (note 6)	£'000	£'000 (53,687)	£'000	£'000 (49,525)
Depreciation	(1,129)	(00,00.)	(996)	(17,000)
Amortisation and impairment of players' contracts	(26,211)		(21,645)	
Depreciation, amortisation and other amounts written off tangible and intangible assets		(27,340)		(22,641)
Other operating charges  Net operating expenses		(15,904) (96,931)		(89,642)
Loss on ordinary activities before taxation is stated after charging/(crediting)				
Auditors' remuneration				
Fees payable for the audit of the Company's financial statements		16		14
Loss/(profit) on sale of fixed assets		1		(7)
Operating lease - plant and machinery		305		337
Deferred grant income		(3)		(3)

## 3 Accounting for players' contracts

	2010	2010	2009
	£'000	£'000	
Amortisation of players' contracts	26,211	21,645	
Profit on disposal of players' contracts	(5,682)	(1,184)	
	20,529	20,461	

### 4 Interest receivable and similar income

	2010	2009
	£,000	£'000
Bank deposits	4	39

## 5 Interest payable and similar charges

	2010	2009
	£'000	£'000
Bank loans and other borrowings	218	219

### 6 Employees

The average monthly number of persons employed by the Company including directors during the year was as follows

	2010 Number	2009 Number
Administration	239	222
Football	65	68
Match day staff	294	240
	598	530
Staff costs including directors' remuneration during the year amounted to	2010 £'000	2009 £'000
Wages and salaries	46,632	44,122
Social security costs	5,467	5,154
Other pension costs (note 18)	1,588	249
	53,687	49,525

#### 7 Directors' emoluments

Aggregate directors' emoluments during the year, for services to The Sunderland Association Football Club Limited totalled £1,122,953 (2009 £1,939,373), including pension contributions of £152,654 (2009 £55,162) accruing to 5 directors (2009 5) These are the company contributions to money purchase pension schemes that are the directors' personal pension plans, they are not company schemes The emoluments of the highest paid director amounted to £325,678 (2009 £888,142) including pension contributions of £111,200 (2009 £nil)

### 8 Tax on loss on ordinary activities

#### (a) Analysis of tax charge on ordinary activities

	2010	2009
	£,000	£'000
Current tax	-	-
Deferred tax	<b>-</b>	-
Tax on loss on ordinary activities	•	-

#### (b) Factors affecting tax charge for the year

The tax assessed for the year differs from the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK. The differences are explained below

	2010	2009
	£'000	£'000
Loss on ordinary activities before taxation	(26,179)	(24,158)
Loss on ordinary activities multiplied by standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 28% (2009 28%)	(7,330)	(6,764)
Effects of		
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	102	216
Increase in tax losses not recognised	6,678	6,423
Accelerated capital allowances and other timing differences	264	88
Other short term timing differences	286	37
Group relief surrendered not paid	-	-
Current tax charge for the year		_

#### (c) Factors that may affect future tax charges

The Company has unprovided trading losses of approximately £76 6 million (2009 £52 6 million) which are available for offset against future trading profits. A deferred tax asset has not been recognised in respect of these losses on the basis that they may only be offset against future taxable profits generated by the Company There is currently insufficient evidence that any asset would be recoverable

## 9 Intangible assets

Transfer fees paid for players' contracts

	£'000
Cost	
At 1 August 2009	70,706
Additions	39,295
Disposals	(14,135)
At 31 July 2010	95,866
Accumulated amortisation	
At 1 August 2009	22,919
Charged in the year – amortisation	24,643
Charged in the year – impairment	1,568
Released on disposal	(7,782)
At 31 July 2010	41,348
Net book amount	
At 31 July 2010	54,518
At 31 July 2009	47,787

### 10 Tangible assets

	Freehold land and buildings	land and equipment	
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost or valuation			
At 1 August 2009	11,117	12,817	23,934
Additions	-	495	495
Dısposals		(687)	(687)
At 31 July 2010	11,117	12,625	23,742
Comprising			
Cost	11,035	12,625	23,660
Valuation 1996	82	<u>.</u>	82
	11,117	12,625	23,742
Accumulated depreciation			
At 1 August 2009	1,346	10,656	12,002
Amount provided	199	930	1,129
Disposals	-	(686)	(686)
At 31 July 2010	1,545	10,900	12,445
Net book amount			
At 31 July 2010	9,572	1,725	11,297
At 31 July 2009	9,771	2,161	11,932

The Company's freehold properties were valued by G L Hearn & Partners, Chartered Surveyors, as at 31 August 1996 on an existing use basis The valuation was also in accordance with RICS appraisal and valuation method

On an historical cost basis, freehold land and buildings would have been included at a net book amount of £9,490,000 (2009 £9,689,000)

### 11 Stocks

	2010	2009
	£'000	£,000
Goods for resale	449	359
12 Debtors		
	2010	2009
	£'000	£'000
Trade debtors	12,753	8,786
Other debtors	5,369	4,533
Prepayments and accrued income	5,823	3,336
	23,945	16,655

Trade debtors include transfer fees receivable from other football clubs of £10,646,000 (2009 £7,128,000) of which £2,473,000 (2009 £800,000) is receivable after more than one year

#### 13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2010	2009
	£'000	£'000
Bank overdraft	10,447	6,325
Trade creditors	11,204	14,348
Amounts owed to group undertaking	22,350	-
Other creditors	109	80
Taxation and social security	4,985	3,888
Accruals and deferred income	28,472	21,964
	77,567	46,605

Trade creditors include transfer fees and other associated costs in relation to the acquisition of players' registrations of £10,340,000 (2009 £13,181,000) The bank overdraft is secured by a charge over certain fixed assets of the Company and has been guaranteed by Sunderland Limited See note 19

Amounts owed to group undertaking include unsecured, interest free loans repayable to Drumaville Limited, the immediate parent undertaking of Sunderland Limited

On 13 November 2009 the Company received a written notice of assignment from Drumaville Limited, assigning all right, title, benefit and interest in and to the loans to the immediate parent undertaking, Sunderland Limited. At the same time the Directors of the Company agreed to issue one ordinary share of £1 to Sunderland Limited in consideration and in full satisfaction of the Company's obligation to repay these loans and Sunderland Limited agreed to waive all or any claims to repayment of these loans. The issue of one ordinary share has been credited as fully paid up at par with a premium equal to £19,000,000 recognised in the share premium account, see note 16

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

	2010	2009
	£,000	£'000
Trade creditors	5,167	6,817
Amounts owed to immediate parent company	26,631	33,229
Accruals and deferred income	2,461	4,472
	34,259	44,518

Trade creditors include transfer fees and other associated costs in relation to the acquisition of players' registrations of £5,167,000 (2009 £6,817,000) The amount owed to the immediate parent company is unsecured, has no set repayment date and is interest free

### 15 Called up share capital

	2010		2009	
	Number	£'000	Number	£,000
Authorised				
Ordinary shares of £1 each	30,502	30	30,501	30
Allotted and fully paid				
Ordinary shares of £1 each	30,502	30	30,501	30

The Company issued one ordinary share of £1 to Sunderland Limited in consideration and in full satisfaction of the Company's obligation to repay intercompany loans and Sunderland Limited agreed to waive all or any claims to repayment of these loans. The issue of one ordinary share has been credited as fully paid up at par with a premium equal to £19,000,000 recognised in the share premium account, see note 16

#### 16 Reserves

	Share premium account £'000	Revaluation reserve £'000	Profit and loss account £'000
At 1 August 2009	53,154	82	(65,558)
Issue of share capital in the financial year	19,000	-	-
Loss for the financial year	-	-	(26,179)
At 31 July 2010	72,154	82	(91,737)

#### 17 Lease commitments

#### Operating leases on plant and machinery

Annual commitments on non-cancellable operating leases which expire in

	2010	2009
	£'000	£'000
Under one year	69	37
Between one and two years	113	83
Between two and five years	64	114
After more than five years	9	26
	255	260

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#### 18 Pension commitments

Previously employed staff of the Company are members of either the Football League Limited Players Retirement Income Scheme, a defined contribution scheme, or the Football League Pension and Life Assurance Scheme, a defined benefit scheme As the Company is one of a number of participating employers in the Football League Limited Pension and Life Assurance Scheme, it is not possible to allocate any actuarial surplus or deficit and consequently contributions are expensed in the profit and loss account as they become payable The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the Company, being invested with insurance companies. The amount paid into the defined benefit scheme during the year amounted to £19,000 (2009 £13,000)

Contributions are also paid into individuals' private pension schemes. Total contributions charged during the year amounted to £286,000 (2009 £249,000)

During the year the Group and Marlborough Trust Company Limited, a company registered in Guernsey, established the Sunderland AFC Group International Plan (GIP), a retirement benefit scheme for the past and present employees of the Company. The purpose of the GIP is to provide superannuation benefits for the beneficiaries. Contributions are made by the Company and are held on irrevocable trusts for the provision of retirement benefits in accordance with the GIP deed and rules, and in a manner which ensures that the GIP is treated as an employer financed retirement benefit scheme under the current UK legislation. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Company. The amount paid into the GIP during the year amounted to £1,303,000 (2009 nil). The GIP was set up following advice from Thomas Eggar LLP, who continue to act as the GIP's advisors and who notified HMRC of the creation of the GIP.

### 19 Contingent liabilities

#### (a) Transfer fees payable

Under the terms of certain contracts for the purchase of players' registrations future payments may be due to third parties, dependent on the success of the team and/or individual players. At the balance sheet date, the maximum contingent liability was £6,438,986 (2009 £4,192,067), some of which is considered to be remote

Any additional fees which may become payable or receivable under these agreements will be accounted for in the year that it becomes probable that the event will occur

#### (b) Bank borrowings guarantee

The Company's borrowings have been guaranteed by Sunderland Limited, the immediate parent company As at 31 July 2010, this amounted to £10,447,000 (2009 £6,325,000)

#### 20 Post balance sheet events

Since the balance sheet date the following player trading has occurred

On 5 August 2010 Marton Fulop was sold to Ipswich Town

On 11 August 2010 Kenwyne Jones was sold to Stoke City

On 31 August 2010 Martyn Waghorn was sold to Leicester City

On 31 August 2010 Asamoah Gyan was signed from Stade Rennais

### 20 Post balance sheet events (continued)

After the balance sheet date, and up to 21 September 2010, the Company received a further £6 million in the form of an intercompany loan from the group undertaking Drumaville Limited The loan is unsecured, has no set repayment date and is interest free

### 21 Related party transactions

Transactions with other companies within the Group are not disclosed as the Company has taken advantage of the exemption available under FRS 8 "Related party disclosures" as the Company is a wholly owned subsidiary. The consolidated financial statements of Sunderland Limited, in which the Company is included, are publicly available at the address noted on page 1 of the report.

#### 22 Ultimate and immediate controlling party

The immediate parent undertaking is Sunderland Limited, a company incorporated in England Sunderland Limited is the smallest and largest company to consolidate the results of the Company The directors consider the ultimate controlling party of the Company to be Mr E Short