Hills Minerals and Waste Limited

Directors' report and financial statements

30 April 2006



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Hills Minerals and Waste Limited Directors' report and financial statements Contents

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Hills Minerals and Waste Limited Directors' Report

The directors present their report and accounts for the year ended 30 April 2006.

Principal activities and review of the business

The company's principal activity during the year continued to be waste management, the sale of sand and gravel, and the haulage of aggregates and soil. Recycling constitutes a significant part of waste management activity.

Turnover has increased by 6% during the year to £43.5m. In terms of the major activities of the company, the turnover of aggregate products fell 12.9% as the company sought to reposition it's marketing in relation to ready mixed concrete and the development of the group's own plants operated by Hills Concrete Limited. Turnover in waste management increased by 14% as a result of increased activity from commercial sources and recycling arising from the domestic waste contract for Wiltshire County Council.

On 1st May 2005, the aggregate and waste management businesses of the group company Hitls West Midlands Limited was transferred into this company.

Results and dividends

The profit for the year, after taxation, amounted to £3,712,882 (2005: £4,683,922). The directors do not recommend a final dividend. After the interim dividend paid to The Hills Group Limited in the year of £150 per share, £3,000,000 in total, this leaves a profit of £712,882 to be retained

Future developments

The growth in number and activity of the group's own concrete plants are expected to lead to a recovery in volumes of the sand and gravel division. On the waste management front, the company has been appointed preferred bidder for two new disposal contracts which should lead to significant developments and expansion, although there may be a reduction in the market for hazardous waste in the year ahead.

Overall the next year should show a result broadly similar to the year being reported.

Events since the balance sheet date

No notifiable events

Directors

The directors who served during the year and their interests in the share capital of the company were as follows:

£1 Ordinary shares 30 Apr 2006 1 May 2005

| | • | • |
|--------------|---|---|
| AG Pardoe | - | - |
| AJ Mackenzie | - | - |
| MR Webster | - | - |
| MP Hill | - | _ |

Hills Minerals and Waste Limited Directors' Report

(continued)

The directors who held office at the end of the financial year had the following interests in the ordinary shares of the parent company, The Hills Group Limited:

| | £1 Ord | linary shares |
|------------|-------------|---------------|
| | 30 Apr 2006 | 1 May 2005 |
| MR Webster | 498 | 498 |
| MP Hill | 1,839 | 1,839 |

The interests of Mr AG Pardoe are disclosed in the directors' report of the parent company.

Political and charitable donations

During the year, the company made no political contributions (2005: nil) and various charitable contributions totalling £3,612 (2005: £2,480).

Disclosure of information to auditors

So far as each director at the date of approval of this report is aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and
- the directors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Employees

It is the company's intention to keep employees fully informed of the operational position of the business and its future plans, whenever possible

Employment of disabled persons

The company's policy in relation to disabled persons is:-

- a) In its employee recruitment practices, full consideration is given to job applications received from disabled persons. Candidates are selected and appointed on the basis of their ability to perform the duties of the job. Where disabled persons have the aptitudes and abilities necessary for the job, sympathetic consideration is given to their applications. Where necessary, and where possible, special training arrangements are made to facilitate the engagement and induction of selected disabled candidates.
- b) Where an employee becomes disabled whilst employed by the company, arrangements are made, where ever possible, either to transfer the person to suitable alternative employment or to retrain them in order to enable them to perform a job identified as appropriate to their aptitude and abilities.
- c) Encouragement is given in the training, career development and promotion of all employees according to the opportunities available, organisational requirements and individual aptitude and abilities. This policy includes disabled employees for whom any further necessary training is arranged taking into account their particular needs.

This report was approved by the board on 28 September 2006.

A.G. Pardoe

Director

Hills Minerals and Waste Limited Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Director's 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 which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss for that period. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards.

In preparing these 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 are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the company's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Independent auditors report to the shareholders of Hills Minerals and Waste Limited

We have audited the financial statements of Hills Minerals and Waste Limited for the year ended 30th April 2006 which comprise the Profit and Loss Account, the Balance Sheet, and the related notes. These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 235 of the Companies Act 1985. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985 and whether the information given in the Directors' Report is consistent with the financial statements. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the company has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding directors' remuneration and transactions with the company is not disclosed.

We read the Directors' Report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it.

Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) 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.

Independent auditors report to the shareholders of Hills Minerals and Waste Limited (continued)

Opinion

In our opinion:

- the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, of the state of the company's affairs as at 30th April 2006 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985; and
- the information given in the Directors' Report is consistent with the financial statements.

KPMG LLP

Registered auditors 28 September 2006

KPMG LLP

100 Temple Street Bristol

BS1 6AG

Hills Minerals and Waste Limited Profit and Loss Account for the year ended 30 April 2006

| | Notes | 2006 £ | 2005 £ |
|---|-------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Turnover | 2 | 43,509,048 | 41,015,678 |
| Cost of sales | | (28,458,460) | (25,749,313) |
| Gross profit | | 15,050,588 | 15,266,365 |
| Distribution costs Administrative expenses Other operating income | | (3,665,642) (5,617,706) 139,868 | (3,488,812) (5,029,030) 121,289 |
| Operating profit | 3 | 5,907,108 | 6,869,812 |
| Interest receivable Interest payable | 6 | 2,523 (255,581) | 15,176 (213,323) |
| Profit on ordinary activities before taxation | | 5,654,050 | 6,671,665 |
| Tax on profit on ordinary activities | 7 | (1,941,168) | (1,987,743) |
| Profit for the financial year | | 3,712,882 | 4,683,922 |

Continuing operations

None of the company's activities were acquired or discontinued during the above two financial years.

Statement of total recognised gains and losses

The company has no recognised gains or losses other than the profit for the above two financial years.

Hills Minerals and Waste Limited Balance Sheet as at 30 April 2006

| | Notes | | 2006 £ | | 2005 £ |
|--|-----------|--|---|--|---|
| Fixed assets Tangible assets | 8 | | 14,391,125 | | 14,883,497 |
| Current assets Stocks Debtors Cash at bank and in hand | 9 10 | 126,490 24,690,772 122,380 24,939,642 | | 107,763 23,855,728 142,811 24,106,302 | |
| Creditors: amounts falling du within one year | 11 | (11,321,356) | | (11,090,403) | |
| Net current assets | | | 13,618,286 | | 13,015,899 |
| Total assets less current liabilities | | | 28,009,411 | | 27,899,396 |
| Creditors: amounts falling du after more than one year | 12 | | (2,345,983) | | (2,680,643) |
| Provisions for liabilities Deferred taxation Other provisions | 14 15 | | (556,082) (2,680,792) (3,236,874) | | (594,371) (2,910,710) (3,505,081) |
| Net assets | | | 22,426,554 | | 21,713,672 |
| Capital and reserves Called up share capital Profit and loss account | 16 17 | | 10,000 22,416,554 | | 10,000 21,703,672 |
| Shareholders' funds | 19 | | 22,426,554 | - | 21,713,672 |

M.P.Hill Director

Approved by the board on 28 September 2006

1 Accounting policies

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the company's financial statements with the exception of the following new standards which have been adopted for the first time in these financial statements.

FRS 20 'Share-based payments'

FRS 21 ' Events after the balance sheet date'

FRS 28 'Corresponding amounts'

FRS 25 ' Financial instruments : presentation and disclosure '

These standards have had no material effect on the company's financial statements.

The recognition and measurement requirements of FRS 17 'Retirement benefits' have also been adopted, previously the transitional disclosures of that standard have been followed.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the historical cost accounting rules.

Under Financial Reporting Standard 1 the company is exempt from the requirement to prepare a cash flow statement on the grounds that a parent undertaking includes the company in its own published consolidated financial statements.

As the company is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Hills Group Limited, the company has taken advantage of ther exemption contained in FRS 8 and has therefore not disclosed transactions or balances with entities which form part of the group. The consolidated financial statements of The Hills Group Limited can be obtained from the address given in note 23.

Landfill tax

Landfill tax is included within both turnover and cost of sales.

Fixed assets and depreciation

Land and buildings includes freehold land, aggregate bearing land, landfill sites, and freehold buildings thereon.

Freehold land is not depreciated.

Depreciation is provided on the cost less residual value of freehold aggregate bearing land on the basis of extraction of aggregates.

The cost less residual value of landfill sites is depreciated over the estimated life of the site on the basis of the usage of the void space.

The cost of aggregate bearing land and landfill sites includes acquisition and commissioning costs, engineering works, and the discounted cost of the final site restoration and post-closure aftercare costs.

Freehold buildings on aggregate or landfill sites are depreciated over the life of that site.

Depreciation is provided by the company to write off the cost less estimated residual value of other tangible fixed assets by equal installments over their estimated useful economic lives as follows:

Plant and machinery Fixtures and fittings Motor vehicles

over 5 to 10 years over 3 to 5 years over 4 to 5 years

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost, being net invoice prices charged by suppliers, and net realisable value. No account is taken of extracted stocks of sand and gravel at pits.

Taxation

The charge for taxation is based on the profit for the year and takes into account taxation deferred because of timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes.

Deferred tax is recognised, without discounting, in respect of all timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes which have arisen but not reversed by the balance sheet date, except as otherwise required by FRS19.

Leasing and hire purchase commitments

Assets held under finance leases and hire purchase contracts, which are those where substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the asset have passed to the company, are capitalised in the balance sheet and depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and their useful economic lives. The corresponding lease or hire purchase obligation is treated in the balance sheet as a liability.

The interest element of the rental obligations is charged to the profit and loss account over the period of the lease and represents a constant proportion of the balance of capital repayments outstanding.

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the profit and loss account on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Pensions

The company is a member of the Hills Group Limited's defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the group and company in an independently administered fund. The amount charged to the profit and loss account represents the contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the accounting period.

The company also participates in a group wide pension scheme providing benefits based on final pensionable pay. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company. The company is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis and therefore, as required by FRS 17 'Retirement benefits', accounts for the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. As a result, the amount charged to the profit and loss account represents the contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the accounting period.

Further details of the specific accounting treatment adopted are set out in note 22.

Provisions for restoration and aftercare costs

The expected costs of the restoration and aftercare of aggregate and landfill sites are recognised as provisions when the obligations arise.

Where the time value of money is material, the amount of the provision is discounted to present value. The unwinding of the discount is included within interest payable.

Tangible fixed assets are created for an amount equal to the capital element of the provision with the remainder being expensed through the profit and loss account. The capital elements are recognised as additions to the original assets in land and buildings. The fixed assets are charged to the profit and loss account on the basis described above in "Fixed assets and depreciation" for aggregate bearing land and landfill sites. Costs are then charged to the provisions as incurred.

2 Turnover

Turnover represents the amounts (excluding value added tax) derived from the sale of sand and gravel, haulage, and waste management services. Turnover is recognised on despatch of sand and gravel, and on provision of haulage and waste management services.

The whole of the turnover and profit on ordinary activities before taxation derives from operations within the United Kingdom

| Analysis by activity: | 2006 | 2005 |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Aggregates | 10,960,304 | 12,569,521 |
| Waste management | 31,520,544 | 27,649,860 |
| Haulage | 1,028,200 | 796,297 |
| | 43,509,048 | 41,015,678 |

| 3 | Operating profit | 2006 £ | 2005 £ |
|---|--|--|--|
| | This is stated after charging: | ~ | _ |
| | Depreciation of owned fixed assets Depreciation of assets held under finance leases and hire purchase contracts | 1,684,268 | 1,781,740 |
| | Operating lease rentals - plant and machinery Operating lease rentals - other assets Auditors' remuneration Profit on sale of fixed assets | 1,644,702 316,099 237,223 39,149 (139,868) | 1,566,795 210,311 138,432 26,750 (121,289) |
| 4 | Directors' emoluments | 2006 £ | 2005 £ |
| | Emoluments | 256,217 | 481,587 |
| | Highest paid director: Emoluments | 108,355 | 186,047 |
| | Highest paid director: Accrued retirement benefits from defined benefit pension schemes | 18,919 | 40,273 |
| | Number of directors accruing benefits in company pension schemes: | 2006 Number | 2005 Number |
| | Defined benefit schemes | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | Staff costs | 2006 £ | 2005 £ |
| | Wages and salaries Social security costs Other pension costs | 6,038,171 549,928 892,551 | 5,554,961 477,968 831,764 |
| | | 7,480,650 | 6,864,693 |
| | Average number of employees during the year | Number | Number |
| | Company average including directors | 267 | 249 |
| 6 | Interest payable | 2006 £ | 2005 £ |
| | Bank loans and overdrafts Finance charges payable under finance leases and hire purchase | 813 | - |
| | contracts | 254,768 | 213,323 |
| | | 255,581 | 213,323 |

| 7 | Taxation | | | | 2006 £ | 2005 £ |
|---|--|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| | Analysis of charge in period | | | | | |
| | Current tax: | | | | 4 0 40 070 | 0.457.004 |
| | UK corporation tax on profits of the | | | | 1,942,673 | 2,157,984 |
| | Adjustments in respect of previou | s periods | | | (39,309) 1,903,364 | 2,002,206 |
| | | | | | 1,000,004 | 2,002,200 |
| | Deferred tax: | | | | | |
| | Origination and reversal of timing | | | | (136,910) | (108,791) |
| | Adjustments in respect of previous | s periods | | | 174,714 | 94,328 |
| | | | | | 37,804 | (14,463) |
| | Tay an arafit an audinary activities | | | | 1 044 460 | 1 007 742 |
| | Tax on profit on ordinary activities | • | | | 1,941,168 | 1,987,743 |
| | Factors affecting tax charge for The differences between the tax follows: | | e period and the | standard rate o | f corporation tax | x are explained as |
| | | | | | 2006 £ | 2005 £ |
| | Profit on ordinary activities before | tax | | | 5,654,050 | 6,671,665 |
| | Standard rate of corporation tax is | n the UK | | | 30% | 30% |
| | | | | | £ | £ |
| | Profit on ordinary activities multip | lied by the stand: | ard rate of corpo | ration tax | | |
| | | | | | 1,696,215 | 2,001,500 |
| | Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax p Capital allowances for period less Increase in other timing difference Adjustments to tax charge in resp | than depreciations | | | 3,634 207,230 35,594 (39,309) | 410 155,280 794 (155,778) |
| | Current tax charge for period | | | | 1,903,364 | 2,002,206 |
| 8 | Tangible fixed assets | | | | | |
| | | Motor vehicles | Land and buildings | Fixtures and fittings £ | Plant and machinery £ | Total £ |
| | Cost | | | | 40 40 40 | |
| | At 1 May 2005 | 4,951,609 | 17,810,155 | 780,112 | 13,104,787 | 36,646,663 |
| | Additions Transfers | 1,037,363 220,824 | 512,888 3,699,892 | 70,633 114,075 | 1,176,045 820,114 | 2,796,929 4,854,905 |
| | Disposals | (896,348) | (641,979) | (546) | (513,009) | (2,051,882) |
| | At 30 April 2006 | 5,313,448 | 21,380,956 | 964,274 | 14,587,937 | 42,246,615 |
| | Depreciation | | | | | |
| | At 1 May 2005 | 3,140,798 | 8,173,595 | 732,728 | 9,716,045 | 21,763,166 |
| | Charge for the year | 850,989 | 1,165,426 | 34,278 | 1,278,277 | 3,328,970 |
| | Depreciation on transfers | 167,313 | 3,124,940 | 113,237 | 745,270 | 4,150,760 |
| | On disposals | (838,979) | (84,319) | (546) | (463,562) | (1,387,406) |
| | At 30 April 2006 | 3,320,121 | 12,379,642 | 879,697 | 11,276,030 | 27,855,490 |
| | Net book value | | | | | |
| | At 30 April 2006 | 1,993,327 | 9,001,314 | 84,577 | 3,311,907 | 14,391,125 |
| | At 30 April 2005 | 1,810,811 | 9,636,560 | 47,384 | 3,388,742 | 14,883,497 |

| | Tangible fixed assets - continued Land and buildings: | Cost or valuation 2006 £ | Net book value 2006 £ | Cost or valuation 2005 | Net book value 2005 £ |
|----|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Freehold land & buildings | 15,750,640 | 7,142,316 | 14,239,566 | 8,805,525 |
| | Short leasehold land & buildings | 5,630,316 21,380,956 | 1,858,998 9,001,314 | 3,570,589 17,810,155 | 831,035 9,636,560 |
| | | | | 2006 | 2005 |
| | | | | £ | £ |
| | Net book value of fixed assets included above held hire purchase contracts | l under finance le | eases and | | |
| | The purchase contracts | | | 3,461,878 | 4,207,078 |
| | The depreciation charge for the year for the fixed £1,644,702 (2005: £1,566,795). | assets held und | er finance lease | s and hire purcha | ase contracts was |
| 9 | Stocks | | | 2006 | 2005 |
| | | | | £ | £ |
| | Consumables | | | 126,490 | 107,763 |
| 10 | Debtors | | | 2006 | 2005 |
| | | | | £ | £ |
| | Trade debtors Amounts owed by group undertakings and undertakings | ıkings in which th | e company | 5,668,789 | 5,763,083 |
| | has a participating interest | | | 17,198,932 | 17,050,927 |
| | Other debtors | | | 17,994 | 15,000 |
| | Prepayments and accrued income Amounts recoverable on long term contracts | | | 1,805 , 057 - | 922,368 104,350 |
| | Through the state of the state | | | 24,690,772 | 23,855,728 |
| | All the debtors are due within one year. | | | | |
| | · | | | | |
| 11 | Creditors: amounts falling due within one year | | | 2006 | 2005 £ |
| | | | | £ | £ |
| | Obligations under finance lease and hire purchase | contracts | | 1,416,339 | 1,624,527 |
| | Trade creditors | | | 1,315,585 | 1,247,543 |
| | Amounts owed to group undertakings and undertak | kings in which th | e company | 2.2.2.2.2 | |
| | has a participating interest Corporation tax | | | 2,306,359 844,460 | 2,220,000 1,106,395 |
| | Other taxes and social security costs | | | 2,961,535 | 2,878,635 |
| | Accruals and deferred income | | | 2,477,078 | 2,013,303 |
| | | | | 11,321,356 | 11,090,403 |
| 12 | Creditors: amounts falling due after more than | one year | | 2006 | 2005 |
| | - | • | | £ | £ |
| | Obligations under finance lease and hire purchase | contracts | | 2,345,983 | 2,680,643 |
| 13 | Obligations under finance leases and hire purc | hase | | 2006 | 2005 |
| | contracts - amounts due after more than one ye | | | £ | £ |
| | Amounts payable: | | | 1 070 100 | 1 400 056 |
| | Within one to two years Within two to five years | | | 1,076,123 1,269,860 | 1,492,056 1,188,587 |
| | That the temperature | | | 2,345,983 | 2,680,643 |
| | | | | <u> </u> | 2,000,040 |

| 14 | Deferred taxation | | | 2006 £ | 2005 £ |
|----|---|----------------------|---------------|--|--|
| | Accelerated capital allowances Other timing differences | | | 562,515 (6,433) | 552,348 42,023 |
| | Undiscounted provision for deferred tax | | | 556,082 | 594,371 |
| | | | | 2006 £ | 2005 £ |
| | At 1 May Deferred tax charge in profit and loss account Transfers | | | 594,371 37,804 (76,093) | 608,834 (14,463) |
| | At 30 April | | | 556,082 | 594,371 |
| 15 | Provisions for liabilities | | | | Restoration and |
| | At 1 May 2005 Additional provisions made during the period Amounts used Transfers in Changes in the discounted amount | | | | £ 2,910,710 312,411 (108,892) 208,540 (641,977) |
| | At 30 April 2006 | | | | 2,680,792 |
| 16 | The Change in the discounted amount resulted frevising them to bring them into line with the latest Share capital | t estimates of the u | seful economi | c lives of key site 2006 £ | 2005 £ |
| | Authorised: Ordinary shares of 50p each | | | 40,000 | 40,000 |
| | | 2006 No | 2005 No | 2006 £ | 2005 £ |
| | Allotted, called up and fully paid: Ordinary shares of 50p each | 20,000 | 20,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| 17 | Profit and loss account | | | 2006 £ | 2005 £ |
| | At 1 May Profit for the financial year Dividends | | | 21,703,672 3,712,882 (3,000,000) | 17,019,750 4,683,922 - |
| | At 30 April | | | 22,416,554 | 21,703,672 |
| 18 | Dividends | | | 2006 £ | 2005 £ |
| | Dividends for which the company became liable d | uring the year: | | | |

| 19 | Reconciliation of movement in shareholders' funds | 2006 £ | 2005 £ |
|----|---|--|-------------------------|
| | At 1 May Profit for the financial year Dividends | 21,713,672 3,712,882 (3,000,000) | 17,029,750 4,683,922 |
| | At 30 April | 22,426,554 | 21,713,672 |
| 20 | Capital commitments | 2006 £ | 2005 £ |
| | Amounts contracted for but not provided in the accounts | 654,420 | 1,094,754 |

21 Other financial commitments

At the year end the company had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as set out below:

| | Land and buildings 2006 £ | Land and buildings 2005 £ | Other 2006 £ | Other 2005 £ |
|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Operating leases which expire: within one year | | | 6,797 | 7,207 |
| within two to five years | 69,100 | 69,100 | 73,089 | 62,278 |
| | 69,100 | 69,100 | 79,886 | 69,485 |

22 Pensions

Defined contribution scheme

Employees are eligible to be members of the group's defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the group and the company in an independently administered fund. The amount charged against profits represents the contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the accounting period.

Defined benefit pension scheme

Other employees and three directors are members of the parent company (The Hills Group Limited's) defined benefit pension scheme (2005: four directors). The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company and group. Under FRS17 'Retirement benefits' the current service cost and net finance charge is charged to the group consolidated profit and loss account, with the actuarial gain or loss on the schemes investments being shown in the statement of total recognised gains and losses.

The most recent valuation of the scheme at 1st July 2005 has been updated by the actuary on an FRS17 basis on 30th April 2006 and the 1st July 2003 valuation was updated by the actuary on an FRS17 basis on 30th April 2005.

Because the company is unable to identify its share of the scheme assets and liabilities on a consistent and reasonable basis, as permitted by FRS17, the scheme is accounted for by this company as if the scheme was a defined contribution scheme with the full requirements of FRS17 being adopted in the consolidated financial statements of the parent company, The Hills Group Limited, which can be obtained from the address given in note 23.

The total profit and loss charge for the above schemes is £892,551 (2005: £831,764)

23 Ultimate parent undertaking

The company is a subsidiary undertaking of, and is controlled by. The Hills Group Limited which is registered in England and Wales. The largest and smallest group in which these results are included is that headed by The Hills Group Limited. The consolidated financial statements are available to the public and may be obtained from:

Ailesbury Court High Street Marlborough Wiltshire SN8 1AA

24 Related party disclosures

During the year transactions have been made with Cotswold Aggregates Limited, which is a company jointly controlled by The Hills Group Limited and Aggregate Industries UK limited.

Transactions

Included within cost of sales for the year are purchases of aggregate material totalling £967,695 (2005: £1,068,259).

In addition, recharges totalling £211,925 (2005: £239,191) were made, being management fees of £7,500 (2005: £7,500), payroll costs of £185,441 (2005: £168,009) relating to employees of Hills Minerals and Waste Limited subcontracted to Cotswold Aggregates Limited and £18,984 (2005: £117,572) in respect of other profit and loss items.

At the year end Cotswold Aggregates Limited owed £17,736 (2005: £16,073) to Hills Minerals and Waste Limited.

25 Contingent liabilities

The company has an unlimited composite guarantee over the borrowing facilities of The Hills Group Limited, Hills Property Limited, Kingshill Developments Limited, County Homes (Wessex) Limited and Hills (West Midlands) Limited.