WPP Group (UK) Limited

Annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2002

Registered number: 2670617

LO2 *LHQUFLR#* 0287

Directors' report

For the year ended 31 December 2002

The directors present their annual report together with the audited financial statements and auditors' report, for the year ended 31 December 2002.

Principal activities and review of the business

The company acts as an intermediate holding company. The directors do not expect any changes in the company's activities in the foreseeable future.

The subsidiary undertakings held by the company are listed in note 7 to the financial statements. Consolidated financial statements are not presented as the company takes advantage of the exemption afforded by Section 228 of the Companies Act 1985.

Details of significant events since the balance sheet date are contained in note 15 to the financial statements.

Results and dividends

The audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2002 are set out on pages 5 to 14. The company made a loss on ordinary activities after taxation for the year of £20,439,000 (2001 - £20,102,000).

No ordinary dividends were declared or paid throughout the year (2001 - £nil). The retained loss for the year transferred to reserves was £20,439,000 (2001 - £20,102,000).

Directors and their interests

The directors who served throughout the year were as follows:

Sir M.S. Sorrell

P.W.G. Richardson

L. Mellman

A. Scott

C. Sweetland

None of the directors had any interest in the shares of the company. The interests of Sir M.S. Sorrell and P.W.G. Richardson in the shares of the company's ultimate holding company, WPP Group plc, and details of share options granted are shown in that company's financial statements.

Directors' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2002

Directors and their interests (continued)

L. Mellman, A. Scott and C. Sweetland held the following options over shares in WPP Group plc at 31 December 2002:

	At 1 Jan	Granted	Exercised	At 31 Dec			Exercise
	2002	2002	2002	2002	0	F -:-	price
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Commencement	Expiry	per share
A. Scott	5,614	_	-	5,614	Sept. 2002	Sept. 2009	£5.700
	(ADRs) 1,265 ¹	-	-	1,265	Sept. 2003	Sept. 2010	\$63.265
	(ADRs) 4,240 ¹	-	-	4,240	Sept. 2004	Sept. 2011	\$35.380
	-	22,994	-	22,994	Sept. 2005	Sept. 2011	£4.21
C. Sweetland	23,750	-	-	23,750	June 1999	June 2006	£2.140
	6,861	-	-	6,861	Sept. 1999	Sept. 2006	£2.335
	5,422	-	-	5,422	Sept. 2000	Sept. 2007	£2.835
	5,012	-	-	5,012	Sept. 2001	Sept. 2008	£2.930
	2,689	-	-	2,689	Sept. 2002	Sept. 2009	£5.700
	12,070	-	-	12,070	Sept. 2003	Sept. 2010	£9.010
	23,143	-	-	23,143	Sept. 2004	Sept. 2011	£4.865
	-	25,293	-	25,293	Sept. 2005	Sept. 2012	£4.210
L. Mellman	6,631	-	2,900	3,731	Sept. 2000	Sept. 2007	£2.835
	7,235	-	-	7,235	Sept. 2001	Sept. 2008	£2.930
	1,965	-	-	1,965	Sept. 2002	Sept. 2009	£5.700
	2,807	-	-	2,807	Sept. 2002	Sept. 2009	£5.700
	3,552	-	-	3,552	Sept. 2003	Sept. 2010	£9.010
	14,026	-	-	14,026	Sept. 2004	Sept. 2011	£4.865
	_	22,994	-	22,994	Sept. 2005	Sept. 2012	£4.210

¹ Each ADR (American Depository Receipt) represents 5 ordinary shares.

In addition, C. Sweetland had a beneficial interest in 42,883 (2001 - 39,799) shares in WPP Group plc and L. Mellman had a beneficial interest in 1,380 (2001 – 1,380) shares in WPP Group plc at 31 December 2002.

The directors have no other interests in any other group company.

Auditors

Deloitte & Touche have expressed their willingness to continue in office as auditors and a resolution to re-appoint them will be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

27 Farm Street London W1J 5RJ By order of the Board

C. Sweetland

23 May 2003

Director

Directors' responsibilities

United Kingdom 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 as at the end of the financial year and of the profit or loss of the company for that year. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed; and
- 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 enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for the system of internal control, 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 WPP Group (UK) Limited:

We have audited the financial statements of WPP Group (UK) Limited for the year ended 31 December 2002 which comprise the profit and loss account, statement of total recognised gains and losses, balance sheet and the related notes 1 to 16. 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 auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

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 United Kingdom law and accounting standards. Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant United Kingdom legal and regulatory requirements and auditing standards.

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. We also report if, in our opinion, the directors' report is not consistent with the financial statements, if 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 for the above year and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements.

Basis of opinion

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

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

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company at 31 December 2002 and of the company's loss for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

1) Cloite & Tance

Deloitte & Touche

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors London

23 May 2003

Profit and loss account

For the year ended 31 December 2002

	Notes	2002 £'000	2001 £'000
Turnover		-	2000
Other operating expenses		(1,005)	(586)
Other operating income		38	38
Operating loss		(967)	(548)
Income from shares in group undertakings		2,625	2,301
Profit on sale of fixed asset investments		-	1,389
Loss on sale of fixed asset investments		-	(717)
Amounts written off investments		(18,868)	(26,737)
Interest receivable and similar income	3	130	6,115
Interest payable and similar charges	4	(3,285)	(1,794)
Foreign exchange loss		(8)	(95)
Loss on ordinary activities before taxation	2	(20,373)	(20,086)
Tax on loss on ordinary activities	5	(66)	(16)
Loss on ordinary activities after taxation and for the financial year		(20,439)	(20,102)
Retained loss for the year transferred to reserves	12	(20,439)	(20,102)

All results are derived from continuing activities.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this profit and loss account.

Statement of total recognised gains and losses

For the year ended 31 December 2002

	Notes	2002 £'000	2001 £'000
Loss for the financial year		(20,439)	(20,102)
Gain on foreign currency translation of investment		-	15,195
Loss on foreign currency borrowings translation		-	(15,195)
Total recognised gains and losses relating to the year	13	(20,439)	(20,102)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement of total recognised gains and losses.

Balance sheet

At 31 December 2002

	Notes	2002 £'000	2001 £'000
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	6	970	991
Investments	7	2,746,727	2,732,448
		2,747,697	2,733,439
Current assets			
Debtors:			
- due within one year	8	713,116	720,194
- due after one year	8	132,824	133,207
Cash at bank and in hand		29	3
		845,969	853,404
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(699,196)	(687,430)
Net current assets		146,773	165,974
Total assets less current liabilities		2,894,470	2,899,413
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	10	(24,420)	(12,204)
Net assets		2,870,050	2,887,209
Capital and reserves			
Called-up equity share capital	11	109,817	106,537
Share premium account	12	2,720,647	2,720,647
Capital reserve	12	44,840	44,840
Profit and loss account	12	(5,254)	15,185
Equity shareholders' funds	13	2,870,050	2,887,209

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this balance sheet.

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors on 23 May 2003 and signed on its behalf by:

C. Sweetland

Director

Notes to financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2002

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. They have all been applied consistently throughout the year and the preceding year.

a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards.

The company has taken advantage of the exemption from preparing consolidated financial statements afforded by Section 228 of the Companies Act 1985 because it is a wholly owned subsidiary of WPP Group plc which prepares consolidated financial statements which are publicly available. The company is also, on this basis, exempt from the requirement of FRS 1 to present a cash flow statement.

b) Investments

Fixed asset investments are shown at cost less provision for impairment.

Future anticipated payments to vendors in respect of earnouts are based on the directors' best estimates of future obligations, which are dependent on the future performance of the interests acquired and assume the operating companies improve profits in line with directors' estimates. When earnouts are to be settled by cash consideration, the fair value of the consideration is obtained by discounting to present value the amounts expected to be payable in the future.

c) Taxation

Current tax is provided at amounts expected to be paid (or recovered) using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantially enacted by the balance sheet date.

Deferred taxation is provided in full on timing differences that result in an obligation at the balance sheet date to pay more tax, or a right to pay less tax, at a future date, at rates expected to apply when they crystallise based on current tax rates and law. Timing differences arise from the inclusion of items of income and expenditure in taxation computations in periods different from those in which they are included in financial statements. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are not discounted.

d) Translation of foreign currency

Foreign currency transactions arising from operating activities are translated from local currency to sterling at the exchange rates prevailing at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the year end are translated at the year end exchange rate.

Exchange differences arising on translation of the opening net assets and on foreign currency borrowings, to the extent that they hedge the group's investments in such operations, are reported in the statement of total recognised gains and losses. All other exchange differences are reported in the profit and loss account.

For the year ended 31 December 2002

1 Accounting policies (continued)

e) Tangible fixed assets

The cost of tangible fixed assets is their purchase cost, together with any incidental costs of acquisition. Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets (other than freehold land), less their estimated residual values, on a straight-line basis over the expected useful economic lives of the assets concerned. The annual rate used for this purpose is:

Freehold buildings

2%

2 Loss on ordinary activities before taxation

The directors received no remuneration during the year (2001 - £nil) for services to the company. The company had no other employees during the current or preceding year. Administrative expenses, including the auditors remuneration, are borne by the ultimate parent company, WPP Group plc.

3 Interest receivable and similar income

	2002 £'000	2001 £'000
Interest receivable from group companies	-	5,786
Other interest receivable and similar income	130	329
	130	6,115
4 Interest payable and similar charges	2002	2001
	£'000	£'000
Bank loans and other borrowings	3,285	1,791
Interest payable to group undertakings	<u> </u>	3
	3,285	1,794

Included within interest on bank loans and other borrowings is £425,000 of interest in relation to the discounting of deferred cash consideration in respect of future earnout payments.

For the year ended 31 December 2002

5 Taxation

The corporation tax charge of £66,000 (2001 - £16,000) comprises:

	2002 £'000	2001 £'000
Corporation tax at 30% (2001: 30%)	1,201	(1,103)
Adjustment in respect of group relief	(1,201)	1,103
Adjustment in respect of prior periods	(66)	(16)
	(66)	(16)

The tax assessed for the period is higher than that resulting from applying the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 30% (2001: 30%). The differences are explained below:

	2002 £'000	2001 £'000
Loss on ordinary activities before tax	(20,373)	(20,086)
Tax at 30% thereon	6,112	6,026
Factors affecting tax charge for the period:		
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	(5,661)	(8,021)
UK dividend income	788	690
Gain on transfer of investments within UK group	-	202
Adjustment in respect of group relief	(1,239)	1,103
Adjustment in respect of prior periods	(66)	(16)
Current tax charge for the year	(66)	(16)

For the year ended 31 December 2002

6 Tangible fixed assets					
				Freeho and bu	iildings
					£,000
Cost At 1 January 2002 and 31 December 2002					1,141
At 1 validary 2002 and 51 December 2002					
Depreciation					4=4
At 1 January 2002 Charge for the year					150 21
At 31 December 2002					171
					
Net book value At 31 December 2002					970
At 31 December 2001					991
7 Fixed asset investments	Cubaidian.	Cubaidian.	Accesiated		
	Subsidiary undertakings	Subsidiary undertakings	Associated undertakings	<u>Other</u>	
	Share	_	Share	Share	
	capital £'000	Loans £'000	capital £'000	capital £'000	Total £'000
Cost					
At 1 January 2002	2,740,274	11,228	7,683		2,759,185
Additions	36,465	-	4	20,352	56,821
Reclassification	14,059	(11,228)	(2,831)	-	-
Disposals	(23,674)				(23,674)
At 31 December 2002	2,767,124	_	4,856	20,352	2,792,332
Provision for impairment					
At 1 January 2002	25,241	-	1,496	-	26,737
Reclassification	1,496	-	(1,496)	-	-
Written off	18,868				18,868
At 31 December 2002	45,605		-		45,605
Net book value at 31 December 2002	2,721,519	_	4,856	20,352	2,746,727
Net book value at 31 December 2001	2,715,033	11,228	6,187		2,732,448
					

For the year ended 31 December 2002

7 Fixed asset investments (continued)

Investments at 31 December 2002 represent interests in the ordinary share capital of the following companies:

Company	Country of incorporation	Activity	<u>Holding</u>
Banner McBride Limited	Great Britain	Corporate identity	100%
Clockwork Capital Limited	Great Britain	Lease finance for audio visual	
		products	50%
Cockpit Two Limited	Great Britain	Intermediate Holding Company	100%
Dialogue Marketing Partnership	Great Britain	Marketing Consultants	
Limited			100%
Digireels Limited	Great Britain	Advertising library	100%
Enduring Organisation Two	Great Britain	Intermediate Holding Company	7.2%
EWA Limited	Great Britain	Database marketing	100%
Flamingo Perspectives Limited	Great Britain	Intermediate holding company	100%
Goldfarb Focus Limited	Great Britain	Market research	100%
Headlight Vision Limited	Great Britain	Advertising	100%
Hill & Knowlton CIS Limited	Great Britain	Public relations consulting services	70%
Information Design Unit Limited	Great Britain	Specialist Communications	100%
International Presentations Limited	Great Britain	Investor Relations	100%
JWT Specialist Communications	Great Britain	Employment / Marketing	
UK Limited		Communications	100%
Mathew Poppy Advertising Limited	Great Britain	Healthcare advertising	100%
Media Insight Limited	Great Britain	Dormant	100%
Millward Brown Precis Limited	Great Britain	Media evaluation	100%
Mindshare Media UK Limited	Great Britain	Media-buying	100%
Mindshare Media Worldwide Limited	Great Britain	Dormant	100%
Newcrosse Limited	Great Britain	Intermediate holding company	100%
No Ho Digital Limited	Great Britain	New media	100%
P-Four Consultancy Limited	Great Britain	Management consulting	100%
POA (Holdings) Limited	Great Britain	Outdoor advertising	65%
Principals Group Limited	Great Britain	Corporate identity and design	100%

For the year ended 31 December 2002

7 Fixed asset investments (continued)

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Company	Country of registration	Activity	<u>Holding</u>
Prism Limited	Great Britain	PR & Sports Marketing	100%
ROCQM Limited	Great Britain	Dormant	100%
Shine M Limited	Great Britain	Media Buying	50%
Spafax Airline Network Limited	Great Britain	Media & Technology Services	80%
Syzygy AG	Germany	Interactive	40.5%
Tempest Online Marketing	Great Britain	Media Planning	100%
The Brand Union Limited	Great Britain	Branding & Identity	100%
The Farm Post Production Limited	Great Britain	Post production	49%
The Marketing Consultancy	Great Britain	Sales promotion & marketing	100%
Thistleclub Limited	Great Britain	Intermediate holding company	100%
Ultimate Square	Great Britain	Intermediate holding company	99%
Warwicks UK Limited	Great Britain	Branding & Identity	100%
WPP Consulting Limited	Great Britain	Intermediate Holding Company	100%
WPP (Isle of Man) 2 LLC	Great Britain	Intermediate holding company	100%
WPP Group (Nominees) Limited	Great Britain	Intermediate holding company	100%
WPP Group Nominees One Limited	Great Britain	Dormant	100%
WPP Group Nominees Two Limited	Great Britain	Dormant	100%
WPP Group Nominees Three Limited	Great Britain	Dormant	100%
WPP Group Nominees Four Limited	Great Britain	Dormant	100%
WPP Group Nominees Five Limited	Great Britain	Dormant	100%
WPP Group Nominees Six Limited	Great Britain	Dormant	100%
WPP India Limited	Great Britain	Intermediate holding company	100%
WPP Investments Limited	Great Britain	Intermediate holding company	100%

During the year the company made additional investments in existing undertakings and new investments in Cockpit Two Limited, Enduring Organisation Two, Shine M Limited, WPP Consulting Limited and Headlight Vision Limited. In addition, the company transferred its investment in WPP North Atlantic Limited to another group company for cash at cost and disposed of part of its investment in WPP (Isle of Man) 2 LLC by way of a return of capital. Disposals also includes a decrease of £5,766,000 as a result of a change in estimates of future anticipated payments to vendors, based on the directors' best estimates of future obligations, which are dependent on future performances of the interests acquired.

In accordance with the company's accounting policy, the company annually tests the carrying value of investments for impairment. The 2002 impairment review was undertaken as at 31 December 2002. The review assessed whether the carrying value of investments was supported by the net present value of future cash flows derived from assets using the cash flow projections of up to five years for each subsidiary entity. Post the forecast period, growth rates of nominal GDP have been assumed for each subsidiary entity. The discount rate used was based on the Group's pretax weighted average cost of capital, which was 11.9%.

For the year ended 31 December 2002

8 Debtors		
	2002	2001
Amounts falling due within one year:	£.000	£'000
Amounts owed by other group undertakings	712,916	718,277
Amounts owed by associated undertakings	200	1,917
		
Annual of the second of the se	713,116	720,194
Amounts falling due after more than one year:	120.460	492 207
Amounts owed by other group undertakings	130,468 2,356	133,207
Amounts owed by associate undertakings		
	132,824	133,207
	845,940	853,401
9 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year		
	2002 £'000	2001 £'000
	1,000	
Bank overdraft	-	25,509
Amounts owed to other group undertakings	696,044	649,105
Payments due to vendors	3,152	12,816
	699,196	687,430
10 Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year		
To Oceanors. Amounts faming due after more than one year	2002	2001
	£'000	£'000
Payments due to vendors	24,420	12,204
11 Called-up equity share capital		
	2002 £	2001 £
Authorised	Z.	Z.
2,000,000,000 (2001 - 2,000,000,000) ordinary shares of £1 each	2,000,000,000	2,000,000,000
Allotted, called-up and fully-paid		
109,816,709 (2001 – 106,536,771) ordinary shares of £1 each	109,816,709	106,536,771
		

During the year the company issued 3,279,938 ordinary shares of £1 each at par to purchase fixed asset investments.

For the year ended 31 December 2002

12 Reserves

12 Reserves	Share premium account £'000	Capital reserve £'000	Profit and loss account £'000	Total £'000
At 1 January 2002	2,720,647	44,840	15,185	2,780,672
Retained loss for the year	<u>-</u>		(20,439)	(20,439)
At 31 December 2002	2,720,647	44,840	(5,254)	2,760,233
13 Reconciliation of movements in equity shall Loss for the financial year	enoiders: funds		2002 £'000 (20,439)	2001 £'000 (20,102)
Loss for the financial year Issue of ordinary shares			(20,439) 3,280	(20,102) 2,071,096
·				
Net (reduction)/addition to equity shareholders' fu	inas		(17,159)	2,050,994
Opening equity shareholders' funds			2,887,209	836,215
Closing equity shareholders' funds			2,870,050	2,887,209

14 Guarantees and other financial commitments

The company participates in group banking arrangements with its parent, WPP Group plc, and has access to a group cash management facility. The company guarantees the facility to the extent of its cash deposited in the UK with its clearing bank.

The company has provided unsecured guarantees to third parties in respect of the lease commitments of other group undertakings. At 31 December 2002 guarantees outstanding amounted to £62,691,000 (2001: £65,887,000)

15 Subsequent events

Subsequent to the year end the company increased its investment in Enduring Organisation Two and acquired new investments in WPP Magic Limited, Enduring Organisation, HHCL Limited and Permanent Organisation for a total cash consideration of £1,096,824,000.

16 Ultimate controlling party

The directors regard WPP Group plc, a company incorporated in Great Britain, as the ultimate parent company and the ultimate controlling party.

The only group in which the results of WPP Group (UK) Limited are consolidated is that headed by WPP Group plc. Copies of the consolidated financial statements of WPP Group plc can be obtained from WPP Group plc, 27 Farm Street, London W1J 5RJ.

As a subsidiary of WPP Group plc, the company has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 8 "Related Party Disclosures" from disclosing transactions with other members of the group headed by WPP Group plc.