Directors' report and financial statements

31 December 2001

Registered number 3232308

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COMPANIES HOUSE 3007/02

Directors' report and financial statements

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Directors' report

The Directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2001.

Principal activities

The principal activity of the Company during the year was the provision of support services primarily within facilities management in the healthcare sector.

Business review

Overview of 2001

Turnover and costs include the income and costs associated with the team currently working jointly with the construction team on procurement and detailed design issues in relation to the construction of the South Tees Acute Hospital, the Company's first major contract award. This contract will cover the provision of eleven non-clinical services at the hospital for up to thirty years, with the market testing of hotel services at five-year intervals.

Outlook for 2002

During 2002 the Company will continue to work closely with the construction team at South Tees as the new build project progresses towards its 2003 completion date. The facilities management contract will commence upon completion of the construction phase.

Proposed dividend and transfer to reserves

The Directors recommend the payment of an ordinary dividend of £7,245.

Directors

The Directors who held office during the year were as follows:

SJ Day J McGrory

Directors' interests

The interests of J McGrory and SJ Day are disclosed in the Directors' report of the immediate parent company, Aqumen Group plc.

Political & Charitable donations

No donations were made during the year for political or charitable purposes.

Supplier payment policy

Where contracts with clients specify terms of payment to suppliers it is Company policy to pay in accordance with those terms. Where no such contractual requirement exists it is Company policy to comply with suppliers' agreed terms and conditions.

All trade creditors in the year were paid by Aqumen Services Limited and recharged through intercompany accounts. Disclosure of creditor days has been made within the accounts of that company.

Impact of the Euro

The Directors do not consider that the introduction of the Euro will have a significant impact on the business.

Directors' report (continued)

Employment of disabled persons

The Company's policy on the employment of disabled persons is to give full and fair consideration to applications for employment made by disabled persons having regard to their particular aptitudes and abilities, as well as safety and environmental circumstances and, where practicable, to continue the employment of, and arrange appropriate training for employees of the Company who become disabled during their employment. It is also policy to encourage the training and career development of all personnel employed by the Company, including disabled persons.

Employee involvement

Appropriate employment policies are developed to comply with the requirements of the law and to suit local conditions.

The Company recognises the importance of good communications and relations with employees and encourages the development of employee participation practices.

Risk management

Aon Risk Services have continued to act as insurance brokers and risk managers and are assisting in a continuous programme to reduce progressively the direct and indirect costs in respect of those matters for which it is usual to carry insurance.

Auditors

In accordance with Section 385 of the Companies Act 1985, a resolution for the re-appointment of KPMG Audit Plc as auditors of the Company is to be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

By order of the Board

SJ Day Director

12 March 2002

White Lion Court Swan Street Isleworth Middlesex TW7 6RN

Statement of Directors' responsibilities

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the profit or loss of the Company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Directors are required to:

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

The Directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Independent auditors' report

To the members of Sovereign Hospital Services Limited

We have audited the financial statements on pages 5 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of directors and Auditors

The directors are responsible for preparing the directors' Report and, as described on page 3, the Financial Statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and accounting standards. Our responsibilities, as independent auditors, are established in the United Kingdom by statute, the Auditing Practices Board and by our profession's ethical guidance.

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 to you 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.

Basis of audit opinion

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

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

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2001 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

KMG Brait- Rec

KPMG Audit Plc Chartered Accountants Registered Auditor 1 The Embankment Neville Street Leeds LS1 4DW

12 March 2002

Profit and Loss Account For the year ended 31 December 2001

	Note	2001	2000
		£	£
Turnover Other external charges Staff costs Other operating charges	2 5	341,953 (135,977) (185,278)	315,828 (149,441) (162,730)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	2-3	20,698	3,657
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	6	(6,209)	(2,508)
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation		14,489	1,149
Dividends paid and proposed	7	(7,245)	(550)
Retained profit for the financial year		7,244	599
Retained profit brought forward		5,651 	5,052
Retained profit carried forward		12,895	5,651

All the above relate to continuing activities.

There is no difference between the profit as disclosed in the profit and loss account and the profit on an unmodified historical cost basis.

There are no recognised gains or losses other than the profit for the year.

A reconciliation of movement in shareholders' funds is given in note 11 to the financial statements.

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2001

	Note	2001	2000
Current assets		£	£
Cash at bank and in hand Debtors	8	1,941 63,519	2,000 119,455
Total assets	_	65,460	121,455
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(52,563)	(115,802)
Net assets		12,897	5,653
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital Profit and loss account	10	12,895	5,651
Equity shareholders' funds	11	12,897	5,653

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 12 March 2002 and were signed on its behalf by:

SJ Day
Director

Notes (continued)

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.

Basis of preparation

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

Operating leases

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

Turnover

Turnover is recognised according to the percentage of the estimated total contract value completed including a prudent proportion of profit as the contract progresses. Accrued and deferred income are shown separately in the balance sheet. Turnover is shown exclusive of value added tax and includes the settlement of monetary claims on contracts completed in previous years. All losses are recognised in full as soon as they are foreseen.

Pension costs

The anticipated costs to the Company of pensions in respect of the defined benefit pension schemes are charged to the profit and loss account so as to spread the cost of pensions over the expected service life of employees in the schemes.

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. Provision is made for deferred tax only to the extent that it is probable that an actual liability will crystallise.

Cash flow statement

The Company is exempt from the requirement under Financial Reporting Standard 1 (Revised) to prepare a cash flow statement on the grounds that it is a subsidiary undertaking of John Mowlem & Company PLC and its cash flows are included within the consolidated cash flow statement of that company.

Notes (continued)

2 Analysis of turnover and profit on ordinary activities before taxation

		2001			2000	
		Turnover	Attributable Pre-tax profit	Turnover	Attributable Pre-tax profit	
	By activity	£	£	£	£	
	Support services	341,953	20,698	315,828	3,657	
	By geographical market					
	United Kingdom	341,953		315,828		
3	Profit on ordinary activities before	taxation				
				2001	2000	
				£	£	
	Profit on ordinary activities before taxation is stated after charging :					
	Auditor's remuneration: Audit			1,000	1,000	

4 Remuneration of Directors

All the Directors were remunerated by Aqumen Services Limited and disclosure of Directors' emoluments has been made in the accounts of that company.

5 Staff numbers and costs

The average number of persons employed by the Company (including Directors) during the year, analysed by category, was as follows:

	2001 Number	2000 Number
Managerial and administrative staff	6	5

Notes (continued)

5 Staff Numbers and costs (continued)

	The aggregate payroll costs of these persons were as follows:		
		2001 £	2000 £
	Wages and salaries Social security costs Other pension costs (note 12)	159,310 12,488 13,480	139,922 10,968 11,840
		185,278	162,730
6	Taxation on profit on ordinary activities		
		2001	2000
		£	£
	UK corporation tax at 30% (2000: 30%) - current year	6,209	2,508
7	Dividends		
		2001	2000
		£	£
	Ordinary shares: Final proposed	7,245 ——	550
8	Debtors		
		2001 £	2000 £
	Amounts owed by group undertakings Prepayments and Accrued Income	61,019 2,500	109,455 10,000
		63,519	119,455

Notes (continued)

9	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
		2001 £	2000 £
	Other creditors including taxation and social security: Corporation tax	8,718	2,508
	Accruals and deferred income Dividend proposed	36,600 7,245	112,744 550
		52,563	115,802
10	Called up share capital		
	Equity share capital:	2001 £	2000 £
	Authorised: Ordinary shares of £1 each	1,000	1,000
	Allotted, called up and fully paid: Ordinary shares of £1 each	£ 2	£ 2
11	Reconciliation of movement in shareholders' funds:		
		2001 £	2000 £
	Profit for the financial year Dividend	14,489 (7,245)	1,149 (550)
	Net addition to shareholders' funds	7,244	599
	Opening shareholders' funds	5,653	5,054
	Closing shareholders' funds	12,897	5,653

Notes (continued)

12 Pension schemes

The company contributes to the following pension schemes:

Mowlem Staff Pension and Life Assurance Scheme.

This is a contributory, defined benefit scheme operated by the ultimate parent company. Particulars of this Group scheme are contained within the financial statements of John Mowlem & Company PLC.

The scheme provides benefits based on final pensionable pay. It is not possible to identify Sovereign Hospital Services share of the scheme's assets and liabilities on a consistent and reasonable basis. As permitted by FRS 17 Retirement Benefits, the scheme will be accounted for by Sovereign Hospital Services when the accounting standard is fully adopted by the company as if the scheme was a defined contributions scheme.

The latest full actuarial valuation was carried out at 31 December 2000 and was updated for FRS 17 purposes to 31 December 2001 by a qualified independent actuary. The effect of adopting FRS 17 in full, based on 31 December 2001 market values, would reflect a net deficit of £9,668,000.

Mowlem (1993) Scheme

This is a contributory, funded, defined benefit scheme with a section which provides benefits equivalent to those under the Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme (the "PCSPS"), available only to those employees who were members of the PCSPS on 30 September 1993 and whose employment was transferred to Sovereign Hospital Services. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Company.

Contributions to the scheme are charged to the profit and loss account so as to spread the cost of pensions over the employees' working lives with the company.

A full actuarial valuation was carried out at 31 December 2000 using the projected unit method. The main actuarial assumptions were investment returns before and after retirement of 6.5% p.a. and 5% p.a. respectively, general annual earnings increase of 4% p.a. and pension increases of 2.5% p.a. The valuation showed the market value of the scheme's assets to be £24,756,000 and the market value of the assets represents 116% of the benefits that had accrued to members after allowing for expected future increases in earnings. The employer and employees have contributed at a rate of 19% and 1.5% of pensionable pay respectively since 1 October 2001. Previously, employer contributions were at a rate of 18.4% of pensionable pay.

FRS 17 transitional disclosures

The scheme provides benefits based on final pensionable pay. It is not possible to identify Sovereign Hospital Services share of the scheme's assets and liabilities on a consistent and reasonable basis. As permitted by FRS 17 Retirement Benefits, the scheme will be accounted for by Sovereign Hospital Services when the accounting standard is fully adopted by the company as if the scheme was a defined contributions scheme.

The latest full actuarial valuation was carried out at 31 December 2000 and was updated for FRS 17 purposes to 31 December 2001 by a qualified independent actuary. The effect of adopting FRS 17 in full, based on 31 December 2001 market values, would reflect a net deficit of £3,230,000.

Notes (continued)

The pension charge for the year is disclosed in note 5 to the financial statements.

13 Ultimate parent company

The Company is a subsidiary undertaking of John Mowlem & Company PLC registered in England and Wales.

The smallest group into which the results of the Company are consolidated is that headed by AQUMEN Group Plc registered in England and Wales, and the largest is John Mowlem & Company PLC.

The consolidated accounts of these groups are available to the public and may be obtained from:

The Company Secretary
John Mowlem & Company PLC
White Lion Court
Swan Street
Isleworth
Middlesex
TW7 6RN