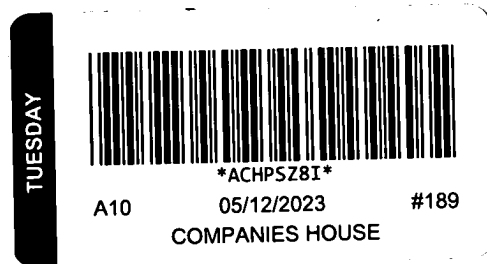


**BBC Free to View (Satellite) Limited**

Registered number 06250237

**Annual Report and Financial Statements**

for the year ended 31 March 2023



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## **Director's Report**

### **Principal activities**

BBC Free to View (Satellite) Limited ('the Company') is a holding company which previously held the BBC's 50% share of Freesat (UK) Limited.

### **Director**

The Director who held office during the year and at the date of this report, unless otherwise stated, was:

Paul Thornton-Jones

The Company Secretary is Peter Ranyard.

### **Results and dividends**

The Company made neither a profit nor a loss in the year (2022: loss of £23,066,760 related to the impairment of its investment). The Director does not recommend the payment of a dividend (2022: £nil).

### **Financial instruments**

The Company's financial risk management operations are managed by a BBC Group Treasury function, within parameters defined formally within the policies and procedures manual agreed by the BBC Board.

### **Directors interest and indemnities**

No Director had any interest in the share capital of the Company throughout the financial year. No rights to subscribe for shares in or debentures of the Company were granted to any of the Directors or their immediate families, or exercised by them, during the financial year. Directors' and Officers' liability insurance cover was in place throughout the financial year as appropriate.

### **Corporate Governance**

The 2018 UK Corporate Governance Code, issued by the Financial Reporting Council and setting out principles of good corporate governance is not applicable to BBC Free to View (Satellite) Limited as a private limited company but the BBC Group voluntarily complies where appropriate. Disclosure of how the BBC complies may be obtained from [www.bbc.co.uk/annualreport](http://www.bbc.co.uk/annualreport).

### **Political and charitable contributions**

The Company did not make any political donations or donations to charity during the period (2022: £nil).

### **Going concern**

The Director has a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate support to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus he continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the statement of accounting policies in the financial statements.

### **Post Balance Sheet events**

There have been no significant events affecting the Company since the year end.

### **Small companies provision statement**

These accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006. The Company is exempt by virtue of its size from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

**Director's Report (continued)**

By order of the Board.

*Peter Ranyard*

**Peter Ranyard**  
Company Secretary

24 November 2023

Wogan House  
1st Floor  
99 Great Portland Street  
London  
W1W 7NY

## **Statement of Director's Responsibilities**

The Director is responsible for preparing the Director's Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Director to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law he has elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 101 Reduced Disclosure Framework (FRS 101).

Under company law the Director must not approve the financial statements unless he is 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 Director is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business.

The Director is 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. The Director has responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to him to safeguard the assets of the Company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

## Income Statement

for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Interest receivable and similar income	4	-	58,155
<b>Profit on ordinary activities before taxation</b>		-	58,155
Exceptional item: Impairment of investment	6	-	(23,113,866)
<b>(Loss)/Profit before taxation</b>		-	(23,055,711)
Taxation on loss on ordinary activities	5	-	(11,049)
<b>(Loss)/Profit for the financial year</b>		-	(23,066,760)

All amounts above are derived from continuing activities.

There are no recognised gains or losses other than those shown above and therefore no separate statement of other comprehensive income is presented.

The notes on pages 8 to 11 form part of the financial statements.

## Balance Sheet

as at 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Investment in joint venture	6	-	-
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors due within one year	7	2,805,612	2,805,612
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>2,805,612</b>	<b>2,805,612</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(22,315,784)	(22,315,784)
<b>Net current (liabilities)/assets</b>		<b>(19,510,172)</b>	<b>(19,510,172)</b>
<b>Net (liabilities)/assets</b>		<b>(19,510,172)</b>	<b>(19,510,172)</b>
<b>Capital and reserves</b>			
Called up share capital	9	1	1
Retained earnings		(19,510,173)	(19,510,173)
<b>Shareholders' funds</b>		<b>(19,510,172)</b>	<b>(19,510,172)</b>

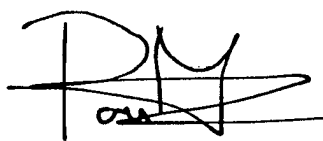
The report and financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

For the year ended 31 March 2023 the Company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

### Director's responsibilities:

- The member has not required the Company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the period in question in accordance with section 476.
- The Director acknowledges his responsibilities for complying with the requirement of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements of BBC Free to View (Satellite) Limited, registered number 06250237, were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 24 November 2023, and signed on their behalf by:



**Paul Thornton-Jones**

Director

**Statement of Changes in Equity**  
for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Share capital	Retained earnings	Total
	£	£	£
<b>At 1 April 2021</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3,556,587</b>	<b>3,556,588</b>
Loss for the year	-	(23,066,760)	(23,066,760)
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(23,066,760)</b>	<b>(23,066,760)</b>
<b>At 31 March 2022</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>(19,510,173)</b>	<b>(19,510,172)</b>
Loss for the year	-	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive expenditure for the year</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>At 31 March 2023</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>(19,510,173)</b>	<b>(19,510,172)</b>



## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

for the year ended 31 March 2023

### **1 Authorisation of financial statements and statement of compliance with FRS 101**

These financial statements were prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 101 Reduced Disclosure Framework (FRS 101).

The Company's financial statements are presented in Sterling and all values are rounded to the nearest pound except where otherwise indicated.

### **2 Accounting policies**

This section explains the Company's main accounting policies, which have been applied consistently throughout the year and in the preceding year.

#### **Basis of accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

#### **Basis of preparation**

The Company meets the definition of a qualifying entity under FRS 100 (Financial Reporting Standard 100) issued by the Financial Reporting Council. These financial statements were prepared in accordance with FRS 101 (Financial Reporting Standard 101) 'Reduced Disclosure Framework' as issued by the Financial Reporting Council, for all periods presented.

As permitted by FRS 101, the Company has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions under FRS101:

- IFRS 7 Financial instruments
- IAS 1 Presentation of financial statements
- IAS 7 Statement of cashflows
- IAS 8 Accounting policies, changes in accounting estimates and errors
- IAS 24 Related party disclosures
- IAS 36 Impairment of assets

#### **Going concern**

Although the Company is not immune from the effects of the current economic environment, the Director believes the business is well placed to manage the risks effectively, and has adequate support to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. As a result, the going concern basis has been adopted in the preparation of the financial statements.

## Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

for the year ended 31 March 2023

### 2 Accounting policies (continued)

#### Financial instruments

Financial assets and liabilities are recognised on the balance sheet when the Company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Financial assets are derecognised from the balance sheet when the Company's contractual rights to the cash flows expire or there has been a substantial transfer of the risks and rewards of the financial asset. Financial liabilities are derecognised from the Company's balance sheet when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires. At each balance sheet date, the Company assesses whether there is any objective evidence that any financial asset is impaired.

Interest income is recognised when it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Company and the amount of revenue can be measured reliably. Interest income is accrued on a time basis, by reference to the principal outstanding and at the effective interest rate applicable, which is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset to that asset's net carrying amount on initial recognition.

#### Taxation

Current tax assets and liabilities are measured at the amount expected to be recovered from or paid to the taxation authorities, based on tax rates and laws that are enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date. The tax currently payable is based on taxable profits for the year.

### 3 Employees and Director's remuneration

The Company did not have any employees during the year (2022: nil) nor did it make any payments in respect of wages and salaries (2022: nil).

The Directors received no remuneration from the Company during the year (2022: nil).

### 4 Interest receivable and similar income

	2023	2022
	£	£
Interest Receivable and similar income	-	58,155

The Company's contributions to Freesat (UK) Limited were funded by loans from its parent company, the BBC.

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**

for the year ended 31 March 2023

**5 Taxation on ordinary activities****5a Analysis of charges for the period**

The charge for the year, based on a rate of corporation tax of 19% (2022: 19%) comprises:

	2023	2022
	£	£
<b>Current tax</b>		
UK Corporation tax - current tax charge for the year	-	(11,049)
<b>Total charge for the year</b>	-	(11,049)

Corporation tax is calculated at 19% (2022: 19%) of the estimated assessable UK profit for the year. Taxation for other jurisdictions is calculated at the rates prevailing in the respective jurisdictions.

**5b Reconciliation of the total tax charge**

The effective rate of tax for the year ended 31 March 2023 was the same as the standard rate of tax in the UK of 19% (2022: 19%) as a result of the following:

	2023	2022
	£	£
<b>Profit on ordinary activities before tax</b>	-	58,155
Tax on profit on ordinary activities at standard UK corporation tax rate of 19% (2022: 19%)	-	(11,049)
<b>Total tax charge for the year</b>	-	(11,049)

There were no amounts relating to tax recognised in other comprehensive income.

**6 Investments in joint ventures**

	2023	2022
	£	£
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April	-	50
Addition	-	23,113,816
Disposal	-	(23,113,866)
At 31 March	-	-
<b>Provision for impairment</b>		
At 1 April	-	-
Addition	-	(23,113,866)
Disposal	-	23,113,866
At 31 March	-	-
<b>Net Book Value</b>	-	-

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)**  
for the year ended 31 March 2023

**6 Investments in joint ventures (continued)**

The Company's investment in joint ventures at 31 March 2021 accounted for a 50% share in the capital of the following company incorporated in England and Wales:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Principle Activity</b>	<b>Partners</b>
Freesat (UK) Limited	Managing satellite broadcasting	ITV Broadcasting Limited

On 8 July 2021 £23,113,816 of the loan owed by Freesat (UK) Limited to the Company was capitalised. Subsequently the net book value of the investment in Freesat (UK) Limited was written down to £nil. Immediately following this, the investment in Freesat (UK) Limited was acquired by Digital UK Trading Ltd.

**7 Debtors due within one year**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Other debtors	<b>2,681,612</b>	2,681,612
Amounts owed by parent undertaking	<b>124,000</b>	124,000
<b>Total debtors</b>	<b>2,805,612</b>	2,805,612

**8 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Amounts owed to parent undertaking	<b>22,239,457</b>	22,304,735
Corporation tax	<b>76,327</b>	11,049
<b>Total creditors</b>	<b>22,315,784</b>	22,315,784

The Company's contributions to the joint venture were funded by loans from its parent company, the BBC. The loan from the parent is interest free.

**9 Share capital**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Allotted, called up and fully paid:		
1 ordinary share of £1 each	<b>1</b>	1

**10 Ultimate controlling party**

The Company's ultimate parent undertaking is the British Broadcasting Corporation which is incorporated in the United Kingdom by Royal Charter. The largest and only group in which the results of the Company are consolidated is that headed by the British Broadcasting Corporation. Copies of the financial statements of the BBC may be obtained from [www.bbc.co.uk/annualreport](http://www.bbc.co.uk/annualreport).