# **Akzo Nobel Finance Limited**

Annual Report and Financial Statements 31 December 2016 Registered number 8478849

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## Strategic Report

The directors present their Strategic Report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016.

#### **Principal Activities**

The Company's principal activity is to provide financing to fellow subsidiaries of Akzo Nobel N.V., the Company's immediate parent and ultimate parent company of the Group.

#### **Business Review**

The Company recorded  $\epsilon$ 43m (2015:  $\epsilon$ 63m) in net interest income and also a net exchange gain after loss on derivatives of  $\epsilon$ 5m (2015:  $\epsilon$ 47m) on the Company's non-euro denominated loan book which consisted of a gain of  $\epsilon$ 9m (2015:  $\epsilon$ 92m) offset by  $\epsilon$ 4m (2015:  $\epsilon$ 45m) of fair value losses on exchange hedging contracts. After an administration charge of  $\epsilon$ 1m (2015:  $\epsilon$ 1m), the Company recorded a profit before taxation of  $\epsilon$ 47m (2015:  $\epsilon$ 109m).

The results for the year ended 31 December 2016 are set out on page 6 of the financial statements.

The net assets of the Company as at 31 December 2016 were €1,832m (2015: €1,794m).

During the period, the Company entered into a variety of new loans and will continue to do so, based on the directors' careful consideration of the funding proposals presented to the Board and a set process of internal checks and controls.

At the period end, the principal value of the Company's Loan Book was €1,258m (2015: €2,140m).

On 25 November 2015, the Company incorporated Akzo Nobel Finance (2) Limited (in the United Kingdom), a wholly owned subsidiary and subscribed for, and was issued 1 fully paid Ordinary Share of \$1.00 equal to 100% of its share capital. On 7 January 2016, the Company subscribed for and was issued a further 863,583,000 ordinary shares of \$1.00 in Akzo Nobel Finance (2) Limited for a consideration of \$863,583,000 (€799,539,857.42). On the same date, the Company entered into an interest bearing loan arrangement with its wholly owned subsidiary to borrow \$863,583,000 (€799,539,857.42).

#### **Post Balance Sheet Event**

On 17 May 2017, Akzo Nobel Finance (2) Limited agreed to increase its loan facility with the Company by \$16,000,000 (€14,905,212). Therefore the principal loan amount between the parties was \$879,583,000 (€814,445,069) and the increased funds were drawn down on 21 April 2017.

#### Governance

The directors of the Company hold regular board meetings to analyse and discuss the financial results, performance of the Loan Book, new funding proposals and operations of the Company. There is also a set process in place for preparation, sign-off and delivery of funding proposals prior to submission to the Board, as well as a clear process for approving and signing loan facilities which meets the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and intra-group procedures.

#### Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risk for the Company is the exposure to adverse movements in the exchange rates of the Company's Loan Book. The Company manages this risk through the use of forward exchange contracts in line with the Company's policy on hedging. The Company's overall exchange exposure is reviewed on a daily basis and is hedged accordingly. The gain or loss resulting from exchange movements is reviewed by the Board of Directors of the Company on a regular basis.

#### **Key Performance Indicators**

The key performance indicators for the Company are listed below:

Indicator	2016	2015 (restated)	Delta
Interest income	£80m	£81m	(£1m)
Average interest rate on loans due after more than one year	2.58%	3.52%	(0.94%)

On behalf of the Board

The AkzoNobel Building
Wexham Road
Slough
United Kingdom
SL2,5DS

12 December 2017

## **Directors' Report**

The directors present their Directors' Report and the audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2016.

#### **Change of Registered Office**

On 1 October 2016, the Company changed its registered office address from 26th Floor, Portland House, Bressenden Place, London SW1E 5BG to The AkzoNobel Building, Wexham Road, Slough, United Kingdom, SL2 5DS.

#### Dividend

The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend for the year (2015: Nil).

#### Directors

The directors who held office during the year and up to the date of signing the financial statements were as follows:

J. Keane

R. Peppel

(resigned 13 December 2016)

S. Ray

M. Smalley

J. Timmerman

(appointed 31 December 2016)

F. O'Shea

#### **Political contributions**

Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries made any political donations or incurred any political expenditure during the current or prior financial year.

#### Financial Risk Management

Financial risk includes price risk, credit risk, liquidity risk and cash flow risk. These are addressed and managed at a group level as disclosed in the AkzoNobel Report 2016, pages 47 to 53 and may be obtained from Velperweg 76, PO Box 9300, 6800 SB Arnhem, The Netherlands.

An overall risk management program seeks to identify, assess and if necessary, mitigate these financial risks in order to minimise potential adverse effects on financial performance.

#### **Future developments**

The directors feel that the Company is well placed to continue progress during 2017.

## Statement of directors' responsibilities in respect of the financial statements

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulation.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have prepared the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 101 "Reduced Disclosure Framework", 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 the financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- state whether applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 101, have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- · make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business.

## **Directors' Report (continued)**

#### Statement of directors' responsibilities in respect of the financial statements (continued)

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.

The directors 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.

In the case of each director in office at the date the Directors' Report is approved:

- so far as the director is aware, there is no relevant audit information 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.

#### **Independent Auditors**

On 3rd April 2017, KPMG LLP resigned as the Company's auditor, in line with the Group's planned rotation of audit firms. Pursuant to Section 485(3)(c) of the Companies Act 2006, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP was appointed as the Company's auditor until the next period for appointing auditors.

#### Disclosure of information to auditors

The directors who held office at the date of approval of this Directors' Report confirm that, so far as they are each aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditors are unaware; and each director has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a director to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditors are aware of that information.

By order of the Board

L. Carter Secretary The AkzoNobel Building
Wexham Road
Slough
United Kingdom
SL2 5DS

12 December 2017

# Independent auditors' report to the members of Akzo Nobel Finance Limited

# Report on the financial statements

## Our opinion

In our opinion, Akzo Nobel Finance Limited's financial statements (the "financial statements"):

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2016 and of its profit 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.

## What we have audited

The financial statements, included within the Annual Report and Financial Statements (the "Annual Report"), comprise:

- the Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2016;
- the Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year then ended;
- the Statement of Changes in Equity for the year then ended; and
- the notes to the financial statements, which include a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in the preparation of the financial statements is United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 101 "Reduced Disclosure Framework", and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In applying the financial reporting framework, the directors have made a number of subjective judgements, for example in respect of significant accounting estimates. In making such estimates, they have made assumptions and considered future events.

# Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

In addition, in light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we are required to report if we have identified any material misstatements in the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report. We have nothing to report in this respect.

## Other matters on which we are required to report by exception

## Adequacy of accounting records and information and explanations received

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- 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.

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

## Directors' remuneration

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion, certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made. We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

## Responsibilities for the financial statements and the audit

## Our responsibilities and those of the directors

As explained more fully in the Statement of directors' responsibilities in respect of the financial statements set out on page 2-3, 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 and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) ("ISAs (UK & 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.

## What an audit of financial statements involves

We conducted our audit in accordance with ISAs (UK & Ireland). 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.

We primarily focus our work in these areas by assessing the directors' judgements against available evidence, forming our own judgements, and evaluating the disclosures in the financial statements.

We test and examine information, using sampling and other auditing techniques, to the extent we consider necessary to provide a reasonable basis for us to draw conclusions. We obtain audit evidence through testing the effectiveness of controls, substantive procedures or a combination of both.

In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Annual Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report. With respect to the Strategic Report and Directors' Report, we consider whether those reports include the disclosures required by applicable legal requirements.



Miles Saunders (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors Reading

December 2017

# Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 31 December 2016

for the year enaea 31 December 2016	Note	2016 €m	2015 Em
Administrative expenses		(1)	(1)
Interest receivable and similar income	. 7	89	173
Interest payable and similar expenses	8	(41)	(63)
Profit before taxation		47	109
Tax on profit	9	(9)	(22)
Profit for the financial year		38	87
Total comprehensive income for the year		38	87
		<del></del>	

There are no items of other comprehensive income in either year.

Balance Sheet at 31 December 2016	Note	2016 €m	Restated 2015
Fixed assets Fixed Asset Investments	10	1,856	1,024
Current assets Debtors (including €1,166m (2015: €886m) due after more than one year) Cash at bank and in hand	11	1,316 1	1,240 1
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(70)	(45)
Net current assets		1,247	1,196
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	13	(1,271)	(426)
Net assets		1,832	1,794
Capital and reserves Called up share capital Share premium account Retained earnings	15	2 1,620 210	1,620 172
Total shareholders' funds		1,832	1,794

The restatement is detailed in Note 13.

The notes on pages 9 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

These financial statements on pages 6 to 18 were authorised for issue by the board of directors on 12 December 2017 and were signed on its behalf by:

Director

# Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 31 December 2016

	Called up share capital Em	Share Premium account Em	Retained earnings €m	Total shareholders' funds Em
Balance at 1 January 2015	2	1,620	85	1,707
Profit for the financial year			87	87
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	•	87	87
Balance at 31 December 2015	2	1,620	172	1,794
•	Called up share capital	Share Premium account	Retained earnings	Total shareholders' funds
	€m	€m	€m	€m
Balance at 1 January 2016	2	1,620	172	1,794
Profit for the financial year	-	•	38	38
Total comprehensive income for the year		-	38	38
Balance at 31 December 2016	2	1,620	210	1,832

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

#### 1 General information

Akzo Nobel Finance Limited (the "Company") is a private Company limited by shares and is incorporated and domiciled in the UK. The Company registration number is 8478849 and the registered office address is The AkzoNobel Building, Wexham Road, Slough, United Kingdom, SL2 5DS.

#### 2 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below and have, unless otherwise stated, been applied consistently to all years presented in these financial statements.

#### 2.1 Basis of preparation

These financial statements were prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and Financial Reporting Standard 101 Reduced Disclosure Framework ("FRS 101") under historical cost convention in Euro. The amendments to FRS 101 (2013/14 Cycle) issued in July 2014 and effective immediately have been applied.

In preparing these financial statements, the Company applies the recognition, measurement and disclosure requirements of International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU ("Adopted IFRSs"), but makes amendments where necessary in order to comply with Companies Act 2006 and has set out below where advantage of the FRS 101 disclosure exemptions has been taken.

The financial statements are prepared on the historical cost basis and derivative financial assets and financial liabilities measured at fair value through profit and loss.

The Company's ultimate parent undertaking, Akzo Nobel N.V. includes the Company in its consolidated financial statements. The consolidated financial statements of Akzo Nobel N.V. are prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and are available to the public and may be obtained from Velperweg 76, PO Box 9300, 6800 SB Arnhem, The Netherlands.

The Company is exempt by virtue of Section 400 of the Companies Act 2006 from the requirement to prepare group financial statements. These financial statements present information about the Company as an individual undertaking and not about its group.

In these financial statements, the Company has applied the exemptions available under FRS 101 in respect of the following disclosures:

- Statement of Compliance with IFRS
- Cash Flow Statement and related notes;
- · Comparative period reconciliations for share capital;
- Disclosures in respect of transactions entered in to between two or more members of a group;
- Disclosures in respect of capital management;
- The effects of new but not yet effective IFRSs;
- Disclosures in respect of the compensation of Key Management Personnel.

As the consolidated financial statements of Akzo Nobel N.V. include the equivalent disclosures, the Company has also taken the exemptions under FRS 101 available in respect of the following disclosures:

Certain disclosures required by IFRS 13 Fair Value Measurement and the disclosures required by IFRS 7
Financial Instrument Disclosures.

#### 2 Accounting policies (continued)

#### 2.2 New standards, amendments and IFRIC interpretations

No new accounting standards, or amendments to accounting standards, or IFRIC interpretations that are effective for the year ended 31 December 2016, have had a material impact on the Company.

#### 2.3 Going concern

The directors have made the necessary enquiries and assessed the Company's financial position and have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue operating for the foreseeable future. The directors therefore, continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual financial statements.

## 2.4 Interest receivable/ (payable) and similar income/ (expense)

Interest receivable/ (payable) and similar income/ (expense) comprises interest on amounts owed by / (owed to) group undertakings is recognised using the effective interest method. When a loan and receivable is impaired, the company reduces the carrying amount to its recoverable amount, being the estimated future cash flow discounted at the original effective interest rate of the instrument, and continues unwinding the discount as interest income. Interest income on impaired loan and receivables is recognised using the original effective interest rate, net exchange movements on amounts owed by/ (owed to) group undertakings and movements in fair value of related derivative financial instruments.

#### 2.5 Foreign currency translation

#### (a) Functional and presentation currency

Items included in the financial statements of the Company are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Company operates ('the functional currency'). The financial statements are presented in 'Euro' (E), which is also the Company's functional currency.

#### (b) Transactions and balances

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated to the Company's functional currency at the foreign exchange rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are retranslated to the functional currency at the foreign exchange rate ruling at that date. Non-monetary assets and liabilities that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction. Non-monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies that are stated at fair value are retranslated to the functional currency at foreign exchange rates ruling at the dates the fair value was determined.

Foreign exchange differences arising on translation are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income.

#### 2.6 Derivative financial instruments

Derivative financial instruments are recognised at fair value. The gain or loss on remeasurement to fair value is recognised immediately in the statement of comprehensive income.

The Company uses derivatives financial instruments to hedge its exposure to currency translations arising from financing activities unless where repayment of a loan is not currently intended in the foreseeable future. The entity does not use hedge accounting.

#### 2 Accounting policies (continued)

#### 2.7 Current and deferred tax

The tax expense for the period comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognized in the income statement, except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in shareholders' funds. In this case, the tax is also recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in shareholders' funds, respectively.

The current tax charge is calculated on the basis of the tax laws enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date in the countries where the company operates and generates taxable income. Management periodically evaluates positions taken in tax returns with respect to situations in which applicable tax regulation is subject to interpretation. It establishes provisions where appropriate on the basis of amounts expected to be paid to the tax authorities.

Deferred tax is recognised on temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements. However, deferred tax liabilities are not recognised if they arise from the initial recognition of goodwill; or arise from initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction other than a business combination that at the time of the transaction affects neither accounting nor taxable profit or loss. Deferred tax is determined using tax rates (and laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date and are expected to apply when the related deferred tax asset is realised or the deferred income tax liability is settled.

Deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be available against which the temporary differences can be utilised.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to offset current tax assets against current tax liabilities and when the deferred income taxes assets and liabilities relate to income taxes levied by the same taxation authority on either the same taxable entity or different taxable entities where there is an intention to settle the balances on a net basis.

#### 2.8 Debtors

Amounts receivable are amounts due from group companies for services performed in the ordinary course of business. If collection is expected in one year or less (or in the normal operating cycle of the business if longer), they are classified as current assets. If not, they are presented as non-current assets.

Amounts receivable are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment.

#### 2.9 Creditors

Amounts payable are amounts due to group companies for services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business

Amounts payable are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### 2.10 Borrowings

Borrowings are recognised initially at fair value, net of transaction costs incurred. Borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost; any difference between the proceeds (net of transaction costs) and the redemption value is recognised in the income statement over the period of the borrowings using the effective interest method.

#### 2.11 Investments in subsidiaries and associated undertakings

Investments in subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures are held at cost less accumulated impairment losses. Investments are annually reviewed and considered for impairment if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable.

#### 2.12 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments consist of loans advanced to fellow group companies where repayment is not currently intended in the foreseeable future.

#### 2 Accounting policies (continued)

#### 2.13 Employee benefits

#### Defined contribution plans

A defined contribution plan is a post-employment benefit plan under which the Company pays fixed contributions into a separate entity and will have no legal or constructive obligation to pay further amounts. Obligations for contributions to defined contribution pension plans are recognised as an expense in the statement of comprehensive income in the periods during which services are rendered by employees.

#### 2.14 Impairment of non-financial assets

Non-financial assets not ready to use are not subject to amortisation and are tested annually for impairment. Assets that are subject to amortisation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value in use. For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are largely independent cash inflows (cash-generating units). Prior impairments of non-financial assets (other than goodwill) are reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

#### 2.15 Accounting for restatements

The Directors update the Financial Statements in line with IAS 8 where there is a material prior period error or where it is deemed that a voluntary change in accounting policies will result in the financial statements providing reliable and more relevant information about the effects of transactions, other events or conditions on the entity's financial position, financial performance or cash flows. Refer to note 13 and 14 for further details of the restatement.

#### 3 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

## 3.1 Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

The company makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are addressed below.

#### (a) Impairment of debtors

The company makes an estimate of the recoverable value of trade and other debtors. When assessing impairment of trade and other receivables, management considers factors including the credit rating of the receivable, the ageing profile of receivables and historical experience.

## (b) Impairment of non-financial assets

When assessing impairment of non-financial assets, management considers factors including the net asset value, nature of the entity, historical experience (such as political environment) and future cash flows. Future cash flows are estimated and inherently uncertain.

#### 4 Auditors' remuneration

Audit fees payable to the Company's auditors 15 2		2016 €000	2015 €000
	Audit fees payable to the Company's auditors	15	27

The auditors' remuneration of €15,000 in 2016 was borne by another group company and not recharged.

## Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

#### **Directors**

Directors of a Company also provide qualifying services to other Group companies. Director's time is not apportioned and their costs are not allocated between Group companies.

The remuneration of directors paid by the Company is as follows:

	2016 €000	2015 €000
Aggregate directors' emoluments in respect of qualifying services	212	293
Amounts receivable under long term incentive schemes	11	44
Company contributions to money purchase pension schemes	20	27

The remuneration of directors paid by other Group companies and not recharged, for services to the Group as a whole including this Company, is as follows:

	€000	€000
Aggregate directors' emoluments paid by other Group Companies Amounts receivable under long term incentive schemes	292	163
Contributions to defined benefit schemes	63	51

The following includes all Directors:

	Number of employees	
	2016	2015
Retirement benefits are accruing to the following number of directors under:		
Money purchase schemes	1	2
The number of directors in respect of whose services, shares in the ultimate parent		
company were received or are receivable under long term incentive schemes	2	2

Post-employment benefits are accruing for two (2015: two) under a defined benefit scheme.

## Highest paid director

The highest paid director's emoluments were as follows:

	€000	€000
Total amount of emoluments and amounts (excluding shares) receivable under Long-term incentive schemes	223	278
Money purchase schemes	20	22

#### 6 Staff numbers and costs

The average monthly number of persons employed by the Company (including directors) during the period was as follows:

	Number of em	
D 4. 4	2016	2015
By activity Corporate	2	3
The aggregate payroll costs of these persons were as follows:		
The aggregate payton cools of these persons were as follows:	€000	€000
Wassand salada	463	415
Wages and salaries Social security costs	403 66	65
Other pension costs	54	62
Outer pension costs	54	
	583	542
	·	
7 Interest receivable and similar income		
	2016	2015
	€m	€m
Interest receivable from group undertakings	80	81
Net exchange gains	9	92
•	89	173
8 Interest payable and similar expenses		
	2016	2015
	€m	€m
Interest payable to group undertakings	(37)	(18)
Fair value losses on derivative financial instruments	(4)	(45)
	(41)	(63)

The Company uses derivative financial instruments to hedge its exposure to currency translations arising from financing activities unless where repayment of a loan is not currently intended in the foreseeable future.

#### 9 Tax on profit

Recognised in the statement of comprehensive income Analysis of charge in year	2016 €m	2015 €m
UK corporation tax Current tax charge for the year	(9)	(22)
Deferred tax Deferred tax movement for the year	-	-
Tax charge on profit before taxation	(9)	(22)
Reconciliation of standard tax rate	2016 €m	2015 €m
Profit before taxation	47	109
Tax using UK corporation tax rate 20% (2015: 20.25%)	(9)	(22)
Total tax expense	(9)	(22)

#### Factors that may affect future current and total tax charges

In the Autumn 2012 Budget Statement a corporation tax rate change was announced reducing the rate from 23% to 21% effective 1 April 2014 and in the Budget of March 2013 this 21% rate was further reduced to 20% effective from 1 April 2015. These changes were substantively enacted on 2 July 2013 and therefore the effective current tax rate applicable during 2015 was 20.25% and the rate applicable during 2016 was 20%.

In the Summer 2015 Budget Statement a corporation tax rate change was announced reducing the rate from 20% to 19% effective 1 April 2017, with a further reduction to 18% effective 1 April 2020. Both of these changes were substantively enacted on 26 October 2015.

In the March 2016 Budget Statement a corporation tax rate change was announced reducing the rate from 18% to 17% effective 1 April 2020. This change was substantively enacted at the balance sheet date and is applied to any deferred tax balances of the Company.

#### 10 Fixed Asset Investments

	Loans to group undertakings	Shares in group undertakings	Total
·	€т	€m	€m
Cost			
At beginning of year	1,024	-	1,024
Additions	34	800	834
Reclassify to Debtors	(44)	-	(44)
Net exchange gains	42	-	42
At end of year	1,056	800	1,856
		<del></del>	
Provisions			
At beginning and end of year	-	-	-
Net book value			
As at 31 December 2016	1,056	800	1,856
At 31 December 2015	1,024	-	1,024

On 25 November 2015, the Company incorporated Akzo Nobel Finance (2) Limited (in the United Kingdom), a wholly owned subsidiary and subscribed for, and was issued 1 fully paid Ordinary Share of \$1.00 equal to 100% of its share capital. On 7 January 2016, the Company subscribed for and was issued a further 863,583,000 ordinary shares of USD 1.00 in Akzo Nobel Finance (2) Limited for a consideration of \$863,583,000 (€799,539,857.42). On the same date, the Company entered into an interest bearing loan arrangement with its wholly owned subsidiary to borrow \$863,583,000 (€799,539,857.42).

On 17 May 2017, Akzo Nobel Finance (2) Limited agreed to increase its loan facility with the Company by \$16,000,000 (€14,905,212). Therefore the principal loan amount between the parties was \$879,583,000 (€814,445,069) and the increased funds were drawn down on 21 April 2017.

A number of loans to group undertakings with a cumulative value of €747m matured during the year and were refinanced.

Subsidiary undertakings	Country of Incorporation	Class of shares held	Ownership	
	incorporation		2016	2015
Akzo Nobel Finance (2) Limited	England and Wales	Ordinary	100%	100%
Subsidiary undertakings	Registered Office Address	Limited by shares or guarantee	Registration number	Public or private
Akzo Nobel Finance (2) Limited	The AkzoNobel Building, Wexham Road Slough United Kingdom SL2 5DS	Shares	9889324	Private

11 Debtors		
	2016	2015
	€m	€m
Amounts owed by group undertakings	1,309	1,237
Derivative financial instruments	7	3
	1,316	1,240
Due within one year	150	354
Due after more than one year	1,166	886
	1,316	1,240

Amounts owed by group undertakings include a balance of €40,085,482 (2015: €90,373,242) that is repayable on demand. Interest is charged monthly based on 1 month LIBOR plus a spread of -10 basis points.

Amounts owed by group undertakings due within one year include intercompany loans totalling €91,789,041 (2015: €226,952,037) maturing during 2017. Average interest is fixed at 2.01% (2015: 4.12%).

Amounts owed by group undertakings due after more than one year include intercompany loans totalling €1,166,427,390 (2015: €885,643,817) maturing between 15 January 2018 and 12 December 2021. Average interest is fixed at 2.58% (2015: 3.52%).

## 12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2016	Restated 2015
	€m	€m
Amounts owed to group undertakings	(23)	(3)
Derivative financial instruments	(4)	(4)
Group relief payable	(43)	(38)
	(70)	(45)

Amounts owed to group undertakings includes unpaid interest of €23,156,405 (2015: €2,731,068) on intercompany loans.

Equivalent consideration will be paid to fellow group companies to settle group relief balances.

Remaining amounts owed to group undertakings are unsecured, interest free, have no fixed date of repayment and are repayable on demand.

Refer to note 14 for the restatement of 2015 creditor balances to amounts falling due after one year.

#### 13 Creditors: amounts falling after more than one year

	2016 €m	Restated 2015 Em
Amounts owed to group undertakings	(1,271)	(426)

Amounts owed to group undertakings includes intercompany loans totalling €1,270,740,354 (2015: €426,000,000) maturing between 7 January 2020 and 24 May 2023. Average interest is fixed at 2.66% (2015: 3%).

Upon further review of this loan during 2016 it was noted there was an error with the classification in the 2015 financial statement as it has been included in creditors falling due within one year. This has been reclassified as due after more than one year and the 2015 disclosure has been restated.

## 14 Derivative financial instruments

The company has financial assets and liabilities measured at fair value through profit or loss. These have been disclosed as derivative financial instruments in Debtors and Creditors: amounts falling due within one year, in notes 12 and 13 respectively.

The Company enters into forward foreign currency contracts to mitigate the exchange rate risk for foreign currency receivables. At 31 December 2016, the outstanding contracts all mature within 12 months (2015: 12 months) of the year end. The Company is committed to buy or sell in 21 foreign currencies for a fixed Euro amount.

The forward currency contracts are measured at fair value, which is determined using valuation techniques that utilise observable outputs. The key assumptions used in valuing the derivatives are the exchange rates for Euro to 21 foreign currencies.

## 15 Called up share capital

	2016	2015
	€m	€m
Authorised, allotted, issued and fully paid		
1,621,335 (2015: 1,621,335) ordinary shares of €1 each	2	2

All share capital is classified as shareholders' funds. There has been no movement in the number of shares in the current period. The holders of ordinary shares are entitled to receive dividends as declared from time to time and are entitled to one vote per share at meetings of the Company.

#### 16 Immediate and ultimate parent company

The immediate and ultimate parent company of the Company is Akzo Nobel N.V., a company incorporated in the Netherlands.

The only group in which the results of the Company are consolidated is that headed by the ultimate parent company, Akzo Nobel N.V..

Copies of the Akzo Nobel N.V. Annual Report and Financial Statements are available to the public and may be obtained from 76 Velperweg, PO Box 9300, 6800 SB Arnhem, The Netherlands.

#### 17 Post Balance Sheet Event

On 17 May 2017, Akzo Nobel Finance (2) Limited agreed to increase its loan facility with the Company by USD 16,000,000. Therefore the principal loan amount between the parties was USD 879,583,000 and the increased funds were drawn down on 21 April 2017.