GRIFFITHS & ARMOUR (HOLDINGS) LIMITED (CONSOLIDATED) ANNUAL REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014



DIRECTORS AND ADVISERS

Directors S H Bamforth

R M H Griffiths (non-executive)

N A Brace
D J Whalley
C Evans
M Donnelly
D J Haram
R H Trotter
C J Edwards
P Berg
D J Darke

Secretary D J Darke

Company number 02839315

Registered office Drury House

19 Water Street Liverpool L2 0RL

Registered auditors Lonsdale & Marsh

Orleans House Edmund Street Liverpool L3 9NG

Business address Drury House,

19 Water Street Liverpool L2 0RL

Bankers HSBC Bank plc

99-101 Lord Street

Liverpool L2 6PG

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STRATEGIC REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

The directors present the strategic report and financial statements for the year ended 30 November 2014.

Review of the business

The business has performed well in relation to the current phase of the market cycle, with all areas exceeding expectations.

The principal risks and uncertainties facing the business continue to be those presented by the effects of the wider economic environment upon its client base, client merger and acquisition activity, and the different phases of the insurance market cycle.

The directors are of the opinion that the financial position of both the group and the company is strong as at the year end.

The company's directors are of the opinion that analysis of key performance indicators is not necessary for an understanding of the development, performance or position of the business.

On behalf of the board

D J Whalley Director

27 March 2015

DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

The directors present their report and financial statements for the year ended 30 November 2014.

Results and dividends

The consolidated profit and loss account for the year is set out on page 6.

Interim ordinary dividends were paid amounting to £1,464,344.

Future developments

The directors expect continued growth in the long term.

Directors

The following directors have held office since 1 December 2013:

S H Bamforth

R M H Griffiths (non-executive)

N A Brace

D J Whalley

C Evans

M Donnelly

D J Haram

R H Trotter

C J Edwards

P Berg

D J Darke

D K Wright

(Retired 31 March 2014)

Auditors

Lonsdale & Marsh are deemed to be re-appointed in accordance with an elective resolution made under section 386 of the Companies Act 1985 which continues in force under the Companies Act 2006.

Statement of directors' responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Strategic Report, Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards 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 group and of the profit or loss of the group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

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

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 the group and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

Statement of disclosure to auditors

So far as the directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the group's auditors are unaware. Additionally, the directors have taken all the necessary steps that they ought to have taken as directors in order to make themselves aware of all relevant audit information and to establish that the group's auditors are aware of that information.

On behalf of the board

D J Whalley

Director

27 March 2015

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF GRIFFITHS & ARMOUR (HOLDINGS) LIMITED (CONSOLIDATED)

We have audited the group and parent company financial statements (the "financial statements") of Griffiths & Armour (Holdings) Limited (Consolidated) for the year ended 30 November 2014 set out on pages 6 to 28. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement set out on pages 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). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

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 group's and 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. 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.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and parent company's affairs as at 30 November 2014 and of the group's 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.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Strategic Report and Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF GRIFFITHS & ARMOUR (HOLDINGS) LIMITED (CONSOLIDATED)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Elaine Frances McElroy (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of Lonsdale & Marsh

27 March 2015

Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor

Orleans House Edmund Street Liverpool L3 9NG

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

		2014	2013
	Notes	£	£
Turnover	2	4,354,183	4,195,201
Administrative expenses		(826,862)	(1,077,562)
Operating profit	3	3,527,321	3,117,639
Other interest receivable and similar in	ncome	14,457	18,273
Interest payable and similar charges	4	(1,410)	(863)
Other finance costs	15	2,000	3,000
Profit on ordinary activities before			
taxation		3,542,368	3,138,049
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	5	(739,129)	(746,359)
Profit on ordinary activities after tax	cation	2,803,239	2,391,690

The profit and loss account has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations.

STATEMENT OF RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

	2014 £	2013 £
Profit for the financial year	2,803,239	2,391,690
Effect of unrealised losses on actuarial valuation of pension scheme liability held in Griffiths & Armour partnership	(836,000)	(923,000)
Tax relief on pension scheme contributions in excess of amounts charged to the profit and loss account	868	933
Actuarial gain/(loss) on pension scheme	4,000	(27,000)
Movement on deferred tax relating to pension asset	(2,666)	4,666
Total recognised gains and losses relating to the year	1,969,441	1,447,289

BALANCE SHEETS AS AT 30 NOVEMBER 2014

		Group 2014	Group 2013	Company 2014	Company 2013
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets	8	500	61,069	500	500
Tangible assets	9	47,258	72,395	-	-
Investments	10	31,669	30,322	3,077,849	3,998,086
		79,427	163,786	3,078,349	3,998,586
Current assets				 	
Debtors	11	9,480,675	11,542,841	95,636	94,158
Cash at bank and in hand	••	3,222,534	3,091,825	1,740,511	1,909,464
Non-statutory Trust client bank	12	2,812,982	3,236,509	-	-
		15,516,191	17,871,175	1,836,147	2,003,622
Creditors: amounts falling due within					
one year	13	(3,917,801)	(6,855,195)	(39,157)	(318,994)
Net current assets		11,598,390	11,015,980	1,796,990	1,684,628
Total assets less current liabilities		11,677,817	11,179,766	4,875,339	5,683,214
Provisions for liabilities	14	(4,154)	(3,866)	-	-
		44 672 662	44 475 000	4.075.330	E 692 214
Potizament honofit obligations	45	11,673,663	11,175,900	4,875,339	5,683,214
Retirement benefit obligations	15	(8,000)	(15,334)	-	-
		11,665,663	11,160,566	4,875,339	5,683,214
					<u> </u>
Capital and reserves					
Called up share capital	16	3,141,266	3,141,266	3,141,266	3,141,266
Share premium account	17	-	1,996,695	-	1,996,695
Other reserves	17	66,550	66,550	51,550	51,550
Profit and loss account	17	8,457,847	5,956,055	1,682,523	493,703
Shareholders' funds	18	11,665,663	11,160,566	4,875,339	5,683,214

Approved by the Board and authorised for issue on 27 March 2015

S H Bamforth **Director**

Company Registration No. 02839315

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

	£	2014 £	£	2013 £
Net cash inflow from operating activities		1,708,799		1,795,346
Returns on investments and servicing of finance				
Interest received	14,457		18,273	
Interest paid	(1,410)		(863)	
Net cash inflow for returns on investments and servicing of finance		13,047		17,410
Taxation .		(813,971)		(635,977)
Capital expenditure				
Payments to acquire tangible assets	(7,189)		(75,046)	
Receipts from sales of tangible assets	21,840		8,502	
Receipts from sales of investments	249,000		-	
Net cash inflow/(outflow) for capital expenditure	•	263,651		(66,544)
Equity dividends paid		(1,464,344)		(1,415,383)
Net cash inflow before management of liquid resources and financing		(292,818)		(305,148)
Financing Issue of ordinary share capital	-		1,196,680	
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from financing		-		1,196,680
(Decrease)/increase in cash in the year		(292,818)		891,532

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

1	Reconciliation of operating profit to net activities	cash inflow from o	perating	2014	2013
				£	£
	Operating profit			3,527,321	3,117,639
	Depreciation of tangible assets			10,486	3,573
	Amortisation of intangible assets			-	40,383
	Loss on disposal of tangible assets			-	2,484
	Profit on disposal of investment			(188,431)	-
	Decrease/(increase) in debtors			2,062,166	(2,094,434)
	(Decrease)/Increase in creditors within one	year		(2,861,396)	1,652,019
	Net effect of foreign exchange differences			(1,347)	682
	Non-cash effect of movement in FRS17 de	ficit with Griffiths & A	rmour		
	partnership			(836,000)	(923,000)
	Defined benefit pension scheme contribution	ons		(4,000)	(4,000)
	Net cash inflow from operating activities	.		1,708,799	1,795,346
2	Analysis of net funds	1 December 2013	Cash flow	Other non- 3	0 November 2014
		2013 £	£	asii changes £	2014 £
	Net cash:	~	~	-	~
	Cash at bank and in hand	6,328,334	(292,818)	_	6,035,516
	Oddin at bank and in hand		(232,010)		
	Net funds	6,328,334	(292,818)	<u> </u>	6,035,516
					
3	Reconciliation of net cash flow to move	ment in net funds		2014 £	2013 £
	(Decrease)/increase in cash in the year			(292,818)	891,532
	Movement in net funds in the year			(292,818)	891,532
	Opening net funds			6,328,334	5,436,802
	Closing net funds			6,035,516	6,328,334

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

1.2 Compliance with accounting standards

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), which have been applied consistently (except as otherwise stated).

1.3 Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements comprise the accounts of Griffiths & Armour (Holdings) Limited and its subsidiaries. In accordance with the exemption allowed under section 408 of the Companies Act 2006, the company's profit and loss account is not separately presented.

The subsidiary companies have been consolidated using both merger and acquistion accounting, dependent on the circumstances arising at the date of acquisition. Those companies which were acquired as a result of business reorganisation and mergers have been consolidated using merger accounting. Acquisitions at fair value for cash consideration have been consolidated using acquisition accounting.

1.4 Turnover

Group turnover comprises brokerage commission and fees, and a subsidiary company's equity participation in Griffiths & Armour, an insurance broking partnership.

Brokerage income is recognised at the date of the inception of the risk. Where there is an expectation of future servicing requirements an element of income relating to the policy is deferred to cover the associated contractual obligation.

1.5 Goodwill

The excess cost of acquistion over the fair value of the underlying net assets is written off against reserves in the year in which it arises where merger accounting is followed, and over a period of 20 years where acquisition accounting is adopted.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Land and buildings Leasehold

20% straight line

Plant and machinery

33 1/3% straight line

Computer equipment

20% - 33 1/3% straight line

Fixtures, fittings & equipment

20% straight line

Motor vehicles

25% straight line

1.7 Leasing

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged against income on a straight line basis over the lease term.

1.8 Investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at cost less provision for diminution in value.

1.9 Pensions

The pension costs have been charged in the financial statements in accordance with FRS 17.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.10 Deferred taxation

Deferred taxation is provided at appropriate rates on all timing differences using the liability method only to the extent that, in the opinion of the directors, there is a reasonable probability that a liability or an asset will crystallise in the future. The deferred tax balance has not been discounted.

1.11 Foreign currency translation

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. All differences are taken to profit and loss account.

2 Turnover

Segmental analysis by geographical area

Other than as shown below, the turnover for the group for the year has been derived from its principal activity undertaken in the United Kingdom.

	2014	2013
	Sales by	Sales by
	origin	origin
	£	£
Geographical segment		
Channel Islands	27,500	17,500

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

3	Operating profit	2014	2013
		£	£
	Operating profit is stated after charging:		
	Amortisation of intangible assets	-	40,383
	Depreciation of tangible assets	10,486	3,573
	Loss on disposal of tangible assets	-	2,484
	Loss on foreign exchange transactions	7,052	2,341
	Operating lease rentals	67,231	50,024
	and after crediting:		
	Profit on disposal of investment	(188,431)	-
	During the year a subsidiary company sold the goodwill in a branch operation	n which resulted in	a profit of
	£188,431.		
	£188,431 Auditors' remuneration		
	Auditors' remuneration Fees payable to the group's auditor for the audit of the group's annual		
	Auditors' remuneration Fees payable to the group's auditor for the audit of the group's annual accounts (company 2014 £12,600 and 2013 £11,400)	20,800	19,600
	Auditors' remuneration Fees payable to the group's auditor for the audit of the group's annual	20,800 3,000	19,600 3,000
	Auditors' remuneration Fees payable to the group's auditor for the audit of the group's annual accounts (company 2014 £12,600 and 2013 £11,400)	· ·	•
	Auditors' remuneration Fees payable to the group's auditor for the audit of the group's annual accounts (company 2014 £12,600 and 2013 £11,400)	3,000	3,000
	Auditors' remuneration Fees payable to the group's auditor for the audit of the group's annual accounts (company 2014 £12,600 and 2013 £11,400) Other assurance services	3,000	3,000
	Auditors' remuneration Fees payable to the group's auditor for the audit of the group's annual accounts (company 2014 £12,600 and 2013 £11,400)	3,000 23,800	22,600
	Auditors' remuneration Fees payable to the group's auditor for the audit of the group's annual accounts (company 2014 £12,600 and 2013 £11,400) Other assurance services	3,000 23,800 =	22,600 2013
	Auditors' remuneration Fees payable to the group's auditor for the audit of the group's annual accounts (company 2014 £12,600 and 2013 £11,400) Other assurance services Interest payable On bank loans and overdrafts	3,000 23,800 =	22,600
	Auditors' remuneration Fees payable to the group's auditor for the audit of the group's annual accounts (company 2014 £12,600 and 2013 £11,400) Other assurance services Interest payable	3,000 23,800 ———————————————————————————————————	22,600 2013

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

Taxation	2014 £	2013 £
Domestic current year tax	L	r.
U.K. corporation tax	738,841	739,069
Total current tax	738,841	739,069
Deferred tax		
Origination and reversal of timing differences	288	7,290
	739,129	746,359
Factors affecting the tax charge for the year	•	
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	3,542,368 ————	3,138,049
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation multiplied by standard rate of UK corporation tax of 21.66% (2013 - 23.33%)	767,277	732,107
Effects of:		
Non deductible expenses	12,205	4,351
Depreciation add back	2,271	1,413
Capital allowances	(2,841)	(9,011
Other tax adjustments	(40,719)	-
Foreign tax adjustments	1,426	4,122
Adjustments to previous periods	49	-
Marginal Relief	(827)	(3,379
Amortisation	-	9,421
Effect of a change in the rate of tax	-	45
	(28,436)	6,962

The standard rate of tax used is based on the full rates of 21% and 23% applicable during the year.

6 Profit for the financial year

As permitted by section 408 Companies Act 2006, the holding company's profit and loss account has not been included in these financial statements. The profit for the financial year is made up as follows:

	2014 £	2013 £
Holding company's profit for the financial year	656,469	229,107

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

7	Dividends		2014 £	2013 £
	Ordinary interim paid 7 April 2014 Ordinary interim paid 9 April 2013		1,464,344	1,415,383
8	Intangible fixed assets			
	Group	Brand name £	Goodwill £	Total £
	Cost			
	At 1 December 2013	500	3,337,802	3,338,302
	Disposals	-	(807,654)	(807,654)
	At 30 November 2014	500	2,530,148	2,530,648
	Amortisation			
	At 1 December 2013	-	3,277,233	3,277,233
	Amortisation on disposals	-	(747,085)	(747,085)
	At 30 November 2014		2,530,148	2,530,148
	Net book value			
	At 30 November 2014	500	-	500
	At 30 November 2013	500	60,569	61,069
	Intangible fixed assets (continued)			
	Company			
			·	Brand name £
	Cost At 1 December 2013 & at 30 November 2014			500
•				
	At 30 November 2013			500

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

9 Tangible fixed assets

Group					
	Land and buildings Leasehold	Plant and machinery	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1 December 2013	27,610	12,828	5,192	75,046	120,676
Additions	-	-	7,189	-	7,189
Disposals	-	-	-	(21,840)	(21,840)
At 30 November 2014	27,610	12,828	12,381	53,206	106,025
Depreciation					
At 1 December 2013	27,610	12,387	5,191	3,093	48,281
Charge for the year	-	418	360	9,708	10,486
At 30 November 2014	27,610	12,805	5,551	12,801	58,767
					
Net book value					
At 30 November 2014	-	23	6,830	40,405	47,258
A4 00 No	=	444			70.005
At 30 November 2013		441	1	71,953 	72,395

10 Fixed asset investments

Group

	Unlisted investments £
Cost	
At 1 December 2013	30,322
Revaluation	1,347 ————
At 30 November 2014	31,669
Net book value	
At 30 November 2014	31,669
At 30 November 2013	30,322

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

Fixed asset investments			(Continued)
Company			
	Unlisted investments เ	Shares in group ındertakings	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 December 2013	30,322	3,967,764	3,998,086
Revaluation	1,347	-	1,347
Disposals	-	(921,584)	(921,584)
At 30 November 2014	31,669	3,046,180	3,077,849
Net book value			
At 30 November 2014	31,669	3,046,180	3,077,849
At 30 November 2013	30,322	3,967,764	3,998,086

In the opinion of the directors, the aggregate value of the company's investment in subsidiary undertakings is not less than the amount included in the balance sheet.

Holdings of more than 20%

10

The company holds more than 20% of the share capital of the following companies:

Company	Country of registration or incorporation	Shar	es held
		Class	%
Subsidiary undertakings			a
Griffiths & Armour Limited	England & Wales	Ordinary	100.00
Griffiths & Armour Global Risks Limited	England & Wales	Ordinary	100.00
Griffiths & Armour Risk Management Limited	England & Wales	Ordinary	100.00
Griffiths & Armour Captive Management Limited	Channel Islands	Ordinary	100.00
Griffiths & Armour Insurance Brokers Limited	England & Wales	Ordinary	100.00
Griffiths & Armour Professional Risks Limited	England & Wales	Ordinary	100.00
Adam Brothers Contingency Limited	England & Wales	Ordinary	100.00

The principal activity of these undertakings for the last relevant financial year was as follows:

	Principal activity
Griffiths & Armour Limited	Insurance broker
Griffiths & Armour Global Risks Limited	Insurance broker
Griffiths & Armour Risk Management Limited	Risk management consultancy services
Griffiths & Armour Captive Management Limited	Management services
Griffiths & Armour Insurance Brokers Limited	Insurance broker
Griffiths & Armour Professional Risks Limited	Insurance broker
Adam Brothers Contingency Limited	Insurance broker

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

	Grou	p	Company	y
	2014	2013	2014	2013
	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors	620,065	2,810,749	-	-
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	95,636	94,158
Amounts owed by participating interests	8,823,948	8,688,194	-	-
Other debtors	2,845	4,941	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	33,817	38,957	-	-
	9,480,675	11,542,841	95,636	94,158

12 Client Money

Insurance brokers usually act as agents in placing the insurable risks of their clients with insurers and, as such, are generally not liable as principals for amounts arising from such transactions. Notwithstanding these legal relationships, debtors and creditors arising from insurance broking transactions are shown as assets and liabilities. This recognises that the insurance broker is entitled to retain the investment income on any cash flow arising from these transactions.

The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) have established a set of rules for UK insurance intermediaries to follow in order to comply with the Insurance Mediation Directive (IMD), one part of which is the Client Assets Sourcebook (CASS 5). CASS 5 requires that Client Money be held in either a statutory or non-statutory trust for the benefit of the related clients and insurers, and as such these monies are not the property of the broker. The monies so held and the related debtors and creditors, as mentioned above, would not therefore form part of the broker's net assets in the event of a winding-up and would not be available to its general creditors.

One of the group members, Griffiths & Armour Global Risks Limited, is licensed by the FCA (No. 312048) to act as an insurance intermediary and has elected to hold Client Money in a non-statutory trust. The amount of such monies held as at 30 November 2014, together with the related debtors and creditors is:

	2014	2013
	£	£
Non-Statutory Trust Client Bank	2,812,982	3,236,509
Insurance debtors	608,065	2,750,224
	3,421,047	5,986,733
Insurance creditors	(3,381,268)	(5,948,000)
Commissions both due to the company not yet earned or received, and those earned and received that were transferred to the company's own bank accounts immediately after the balance sheet		
date.	39,779	38,733
		===

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

	Creditors : amounts falling due within one	Grou	n	Company	
		2014	р 2013	2014	2013
	•	£	£	£	£
	Trade creditors	3,381,268	5,948,000	-	_
	Amounts owed to group undertakings	. •	-	19,869	19,869
	Amounts owed to participating interests	19,335	285,596	6,210	285,583
	Corporation tax	385,924	461,922		· -
	Taxes and social security costs	21,524	27,530	1,078	2,142
	Accruals and deferred income	109,750	132,147	12,000	11,400
		3,917,801	6,855,195	39,157	318,994
14	Provisions for liabilities				
	Group				
					Deferred taxation
					tunution
		-			£
	Balance at 1 December 2013	•	÷		
	Balance at 1 December 2013 Profit and loss account				3,866
	Profit and loss account				3,866 288
					3,866 288
	Profit and loss account	lows:			3,866 288
	Profit and loss account Balance at 30 November 2014	lows: Group		Company	3,866 288
	Profit and loss account Balance at 30 November 2014			Company 2014	3,866 288 4,154
	Profit and loss account Balance at 30 November 2014	Group	3	• •	3,866 288 4,154

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

15 Retirement Benefits

Defined contribution scheme

The group operates a defined contribution pension scheme through a group personal pension plan. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the group in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the group to the fund. There were no outstanding or prepaid contributions at the balance sheet date.

	2014	2013
	£	£
Contributions payable by the group for the year	38,822	42,441

Defined benefit scheme

The group provides retirement benefits as part of a multi-employer defined benefit scheme in which the Griffiths & Armour partnership is the lead employer.

The scheme became paid up on 31 May 2005.

A triennial actuarial valuation was performed as at 30 November 2011. A recovery plan has been agreed with the Trustees at a group level. Direct contributions of £98,400 per annum as a minimum will be paid for the scheme as a whole for a period of six years commencing on 1 December 2012.

In addition to the agreed contribution schedule there is a further agreement with the Trustees to investigate other deficit reduction actions wide of direct contributions into the scheme. To the extent that any such actions are taken, there will be an additional cost to the employer(s) for funding them. The overall agreement is that the sum total of all costs of the scheme to the employers will be £1.2m in the three years commencing 1 December 2012, and that these costs should be broadly equally spread over that period. The employers will make additional direct contributions to the extent that those already scheduled plus any costs of other deficit reduction actions that may be undertaken fall below the agreed overall amount.

The figures in the remainder of this note represent the portion of the scheme attributed to the group only.

The group expects to contribute £4,000 to the scheme during the next financial year.

Principal actuarial assumptions at the balance sheet date (expresssed as weighted averages):

	2014 %	2013 %
Discount rate at 30 November 2014	3.60	4.30
Expected return on plan assets at 30 November 2014	5.00	5.00
Future pension increases	2.45	2.80

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

15	Retirement Benefits		(Continued)
	The amounts recognised in the profit and loss are as follows:		
		2014 £	2013 £
	Interest on obligation Expected return on pension scheme assets	(18,000) 20,000	(15,000) 18,000
		2,000	3,000
	Analysis of amount recognised in the statement of total recognised ga	ins and losses:	
		2014 £	2013 £
	Actual return less expected return on pension scheme assets Experience gains and losses arising on scheme liabilities Changes in assumptions underlying the present value of the scheme	15,000 -	8,000 (1,000)
	liabilities	(11,000)	(34,000)
		4,000	(27,000)
	The amounts recognised in the balance.sheet are as follows:		
		2014 £	2013 £
	Present value of scheme liabilities	(444,000)	(415,000)
	Group pension contract	434,000	395,000
	Deficit in scheme	(10,000)	(20,000)
	Related deferred tax asset	2,000	4,666
	Net liability	(8,000)	(15,334)

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

15	Retirement Benefits		(Continued)
	Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation are	as follows:	
		2014	2013
		£	£
	Opening defined benefit obligation	20,000	-
	Interest cost	18,000	15,000
	Actuarial losses (gains)	11,000	35,000
	Total	49,000	50,000
		====	==
	Changes in fair value of plan assets are as follows:		
	·	2014	2013
		£	£
	Expected return	20,000	18,000
	Actuarial losses	15,000	8,000
	Contributions by employer	4,000	4,000
		39,000	30,000

The overall expected return assumption is calculated as the weighted average of the individual expected return assumptions for each of the major asset classes. The individual return assumptions are based on investment market conditions in the UK, specifically with regard to yields on UK Government gilts, high quality AA rated corporate bonds, and interest rates set by the Bank of England. Equity returns in well established global markets are generally expected to outperform the return on gilts by 3% pa or more in the long term, and such anticipated outperformance has been taken into account in deriving the expected return from equity type investments.

The weightings used for the overall expected return are in line with the proportions invested in each of the major asset classes, and a deduction to allow for investment expenses has been made.

The major categories of plan assets as a percentage of total plan assets are as follows:

	2014	2013
	%	%
Equities	44	44
Bonds	44	44
Property	12	· 12
	=====	===

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

15	Retirement Benefits					(Continued)
	Amounts for the current and pre	vious four pe	eriods are as fo	ollows:		
		2014 £	2013 £	2012 £	2011 £	2010 £
	Defined benefit obligation Plan assets	(444,000) 434,000	(415,000) 395,000	(365,000) 365,000	(333,000) 331,000	(291,000) 265,000
	Surplus/(deficit)	(10,000)	(20,000)	-	(2,000)	(26,000)
	Experience adjustments on plan liabilities Experience adjustments on plan assets	15,000	(1,000)	(6,000) 9,000	(9,000)	15,000
16	Share capital				2014 £	· 2013
	Allotted, called up and fully paid 2,871,261 'A' ordinary of £1 each 270,005 'B' ordinary of £1 each				2,871,261 270,005	2,871,261 270,005
					3,141,266	3,141,266

During 2013 149,585 ordinary B £1 shares with an aggregate nominal value of £149,585 were issued and allotted for a consideration of £1,196,680. Also during 2013 98,964 ordinary B £1 shares were converted to ordinary A £1 shares.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

Statement of movements on reserves				
Group	Sha premiu accou	m i	Other reserves ee below) £	Profit and loss account £
Balance at 1 December 2013 Profit for the year Transfer from share premium account Transfer to profit and loss account	1,996,69 (1,996,69	-	66,550 - - -	2,803,239 1,996,695 -
Dividends paid Tax relief on pension scheme contributions in excess of amounts charged to the profit and loss account Actuarial profit on pension scheme Effect of unrealised losses on actuarial valuation of pension		-	-	(1,464,344) 868 4,000
scheme liability held in Griffiths & Armour partnership Movement on deferred tax relating to pension liability		-		(836,000) (2,666)
Balance at 30 November 2014		 - = =	66,550	8,457,847
Other reserves Capital redemption reserve				
Non-distributable reserves Balance at 1 December 2013 & at 30 November 2014 Non-distributable reserves Balance at 1 December 2013 & at 30 November 2014		=	15,000	
Company	Share premium account £		Other rves elow) £	Profit and loss account £
Balance at 1 December 2013 Profit for the year Transfer from share premium account Transfer to profit and loss account Dividends paid	1,996,695 - - (1,996,695) -	5	1,550 - - - -	493,703 656,469 1,996,695 - (1,464,344)
Balance at 30 November 2014	-	5	1,550	1,682,523
Other reserves				
Capital redemption reserve Balance at 1 December 2013 & at 30 November 2014		5	1,550	

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

2013	2014	Reconciliation of movements in shareholders' funds	18
£	£	Group	
2,391,690	2,803,239	Profit for the financial year	
(1,415,383)	(1,464,344)	Dividends	
976,307	1,338,895		
(950,000)	(832,000)	Other recognised gains and losses	
1,196,680	-	Proceeds from issue of shares	
.,,		Tax relief on pension scheme contributions in excess of amounts charged	
933	868	to the profit and loss account	
4,666	(2,666)	Movement on deferred tax relating to pension asset/(liability)	
1,228,586	505,097	Net addition to shareholders' funds	
9,931,980	11,160,566	Opening shareholders' funds	
11,160,566	11,665,663	Closing shareholders' funds	
2013 £	2014 £	Company	
L	L	Company	
229,107	656,469	Profit for the financial year	
(1,415,383)	(1,464,344)	Dividends	
(1,186,276)	(807,875)		
1,196,680	-	Proceeds from issue of shares	
10,404	(807,875)	Net (depletion in)/addition to shareholders' funds	
5,672,810	5,683,214	Opening shareholders' funds	
5,683,214	4,875,339	Closing shareholders' funds	

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

19 Financial commitments

At 30 November 2014 the group had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	ionows.	•	
		Land an 2014 £	d buildings 2013 £
	Expiry date:	~	~
	Within one year	_	36,476
	In over five years	55,500	-
	in over two years		
		55,500	36,476
		2044	0040
20	Directors' remuneration	2014	2013
		£	£
	Remuneration for qualifying services	40,476	58,938
	Tromanoration for qualitying porvious	=====	====
	•		
21	Employees		
	Number of employees The average monthly number of employees (including directors) during the		
	year was:	2014	2013
		Number	Number
		Number	Humber
	Professional and technical	39	39
	Administration	2	2
		41	41
	Employment costs	2014	2013
	Employment costs	2014 £	2013 £
	Wages and salaries	475,772	556,699
	Social security costs	53,701	61,535
	Other pension costs	38,822	42,441
	- man (n = - m)		
		568,295	660,675

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

22 Related party relationships and transactions

Transactions with related parties

During the year the group has had significant transactions with Griffiths & Armour (a partnership) in which all the directors, with the exception of R M H Griffiths and D K Wright, are partners.

The transactions can be summarised as follows:

	2014	2013
	£	£
Transfer of overhead expenditure to the group	76,789	106,573
Transfer of commission income to the group	749.998	865.000

Balances with related parties

At 30 November 2014 there was a balance due to Griffiths & Armour by Griffiths & Armour Global Risks Limited of £13,112 (2013 - nil) and a nil balance due from Griffiths & Armour to Griffiths & Armour Global Risks Limited (2013 - £1,874).

At 30 November 2014 there was a balance due to Griffiths & Armour by the company of £6,210 (2013 - £285,583) and by the group of £6,210 (2013 - £285,583).

At 30 November 2014 there was a balance due from Griffiths & Armour to Griffiths & Armour Limited of £8,823,948 (2013 - £8,688,194).

Dividends to Directors

Dividends totalling £896,634 (2013 - £846,163) were paid during the year to directors and close members of their families.

	2014	2013
	£	£
RMH Griffiths (non-executive)	419,872	419,872
D K Wright	279,419	279,419
N A Brace	15,300	15,300
D J Whalley	31,638	24,470
C Evans	35,727	24,107
M Donnelly	28,233	16,789
D J Haram	13,282	6,175
R H Trotter	18,797	11,581
D J Darke	46,084	46,084
P Berg	8,282	1,183
C J Edwards	-	1,183
	896,634	846,163
		

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2014

22 Related party relationships and transactions

(Continued)

Other transactions

During 2013 new Ordinary B shares of £1 were purchased by the following directors at the market value of £8

	Shares	Consideration £
S H Bamforth	22,438	179,504
N A Brace	13,711	109,688
D J Whalley	13,712	109,696
C Evans	22,438	179,504
M Donnelly	22,438	179,504
D J Haram	13,712	109,696
R H Trotter	13,712	109,696
P Berg	13,712	109,696
C J Edwards	13,712	109,696
	149,585	1,196,680
•		