# The Cumberland News & Star &





## **CUMBRIAN NEWSPAPERS LIMITED**

Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2008

Company Registration Number 2729





Saint & Co.
Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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## **COMPANY INFORMATION**

The board of directors Mr R.L.F. Burgess

Mr T. Hall Mr G. Beattie Mr A. J. Swanston Mr T. S. Johnston Mr C. Edgar

Mr N R Hodgkinson

Company secretary Mr A. J. Swanston

Registered office PO Box 7

Newspaper House Dalston Road

Carlisle CA2 5UA

Auditor Saint & Co

Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors

Sterling House

Wavell Drive, Rosehill Carlisle, Cumbria

CA1 2SA

Bankers HSBC Bank PLC

PO Box 5

29 English Street

Carlisle Cumbria CA3 8JT

#### THE DIRECTORS' REPORT

#### YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

The directors have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 December 2008.

#### PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND BUSINESS REVIEW

The principal activity of the company is that of newspaper publishers and printers.

A full review of the years activities can be found in the annual report of the parent company.

#### **RESULTS AND DIVIDENDS**

The loss for the year amounted to £885,466. Particulars of dividends paid are detailed in note 10 to the financial statements.

#### **DIRECTORS**

The directors who served the company during the year were as follows:

Mr R.L.F. Burgess

Mr T. Hall

Mr G. Beattie

Mr A. J. Swanston

Mr T. S. Johnston

Mr C. Edgar

Mr N R Hodgkinson

Mr D. Bowden

(Resigned 5 September 2008)

#### **DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual 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). The financial statements are required by law to 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 directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable 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 company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## THE DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued)

#### YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

In so far as the directors are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditor is unaware; and
- the directors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

#### **DISABLED EMPLOYEES**

Disabled persons are employed by the company when they appear to be suited to a particular vacancy. It is the company's policy to continue, where possible, to employ persons who become disabled during their employment.

#### **EMPLOYEE INVOLVEMENT**

The company maintains a system of briefing and consultation to inform all employees of the company's performance.

#### **AUDITOR**

Saint & Co are deemed to be re-appointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

Registered office: PO Box 7 Newspaper House Dalston Road Carlisle CA2 5UA Signed by order of the directors

T Ed

MR A. J. SWANSTON Company Secretary

Approved by the directors on 27 March 2009

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF CUMBRIAN NEWSPAPERS LIMITED

#### YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

We have audited the financial statements of Cumbrian Newspapers Limited for the year ended 31 December 2008 on pages 6 to 17, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 8 to 9.

This report is made solely to the company's shareholders, as a body, in accordance with Section 235 of the Companies Act 1985. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's shareholders those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's shareholders as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

#### RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTORS AND AUDITOR

The directors' responsibilities for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) are set out in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. We also report to you whether in our opinion the information given in the Directors' Report is consistent with the financial statements.

In addition we report to you if, in our opinion, the company has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding directors' remuneration and other transactions is not disclosed.

We read the Directors' Report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it.

#### BASIS OF AUDIT OPINION

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

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

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF CUMBRIAN NEWSPAPERS LIMITED (continued)

## YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

#### **OPINION**

In our opinion:

- the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2008 and of its loss for the year then ended;
- the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985; and
- the information given in the Directors' Report is consistent with the financial statements.

SAINT & CO

**Chartered Accountants** 

& Registered Auditors

Sterling House Wavell Drive, Rosehill Carlisle, Cumbria CA1 2SA

27 March 2009

## PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

## YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

|   | Note   | ~  | 2007<br>£                                |
|---|--------|--|--|
| TURNOVER  | 2      | 20,202,325   | 23,103,053                               |
| OPERATING COSTS: Raw materials and consumables Other external charges Staff costs Depreciation written off fixed assets Other operating charges |        | (3,868,945)<br>(112,054)<br>(10,903,838)<br>(1,108,402)<br>(5,100,169) | (136,432)<br>(11,179,828)<br>(1,196,049) |
|   |        | `  | ·  |
| OPERATING (LOSS)/PROFIT   | 4      | (891,083)  | 1,089,531                                |
| Cost of restructuring the company   | 6      | (442,864)  | (367,422)                                |
|   |        | (1,333,947)  | 722,109                                  |
| Income from fixed asset investments Interest receivable and similar income Interest payable and similar charges                                 | 7<br>8 | 36,054<br>44,059<br>(2,227)  | 39,620<br>71,715<br>(5,737)              |
| (LOSS)/PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION  |        | (1,256,061)  | 827,707                                  |
| Tax on (loss)/profit on ordinary activities   | 9      | 370,595  | (187,638)                                |
| (LOSS)/PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR  |        | (885,466)  | 640,069                                  |

All of the activities of the company are classed as continuing.

The company has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above.

The notes on pages 8 to 17 form part of these financial statements.

## **BALANCE SHEET**

## **31 DECEMBER 2008**

|   |      | 200         | 2008      |              |
|---|------|-------------|-----------|--------------|
|   | Note | £           | £         | £            |
| FIXED ASSETS  |      |             |           |              |
| Tangible assets   | 11   |             | 6,972,988 | 7,595,303    |
| Investments   | 12   |             | 5,429     | 5,429        |
|   |      |             | 6,978,417 | 7,600,732    |
| CURRENT ASSETS  |      |             |           |              |
| Stocks  | 13   | 472,120     |           | 285,930      |
| Debtors   | 14   | 3,730,794   |           | 3,980,402    |
| Cash at bank and in hand                                |      | 412,377     |           | 130,127      |
|   |      | 4,615,291   |           | 4,396,459    |
| CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one               |      | (4.400.040) |           | (2.224.050)  |
| year  | 15   | (4,103,319) |           | (3,234,950)  |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS                                      |      |             | 511,972   | 1,161,509    |
| TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES                   | ;    |             | 7,490,389 | 8,762,241    |
| CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year | 16   |             | (9,909)   | (29,728)     |
| •   |      |             | (-,,      | <b>(</b> ,,, |
| PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES                              |      |             | (004 500) | (4.400.005)  |
| Deferred taxation                                       | 19   |             | (961,599) | (1,133,285)  |
|   |      |             | 6,518,881 | 7,599,228    |
|   |      |             |           |              |
| CAPITAL AND RESERVES                                    |      |             |           |              |
| Called-up equity share capital                          | 21   |             | 212,079   | 212,079      |
| Profit and loss account                                 | 22   |             | 6,306,802 | 7,387,149    |
| SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS                                     | 23   |             | 6,518,881 | 7,599,228    |

These financial statements were approved by the directors and authorised for issue on 27 March 2009, and are signed on their behalf by:

MR R.L.F. BURGESS

MR A. J. SWANSTON

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Basis of accounting

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

#### Cash flow statement

The directors have taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 (Revised 1996) from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the company is wholly owned and its parent publishes a consolidated cash flow statement.

#### Turnover

The turnover shown in the profit and loss account represents amounts invoiced during the year, exclusive of Value Added Tax.

#### **Fixed assets**

All fixed assets are initially recorded at cost.

#### Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Plant & Machinery

- 5-33.33% per annum on cost

#### **Stocks**

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

#### Hire purchase agreements

Assets held under hire purchase agreements are capitalised and disclosed under tangible fixed assets at their fair value. The capital element of the future payments is treated as a liability and the interest is charged to the profit and loss account on a straight line basis.

#### Operating lease agreements

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged against profits on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

## 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

#### Pension costs

The company participates in a defined benefit multi-employer pension scheme. The assets and liabilities of which are held independently from the group. The company is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme and accordingly accounts for the scheme, in accordance with the exemptions provided in FRS 17 as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The annual amounts payable are charged to the profit and loss account. The defined benefit scheme is accounted for under FRS 17 in the consolidated accounts of CN Group Limited and any available information about the surplus or deficit in the scheme is shown in these accounts.

The company also operates a defined contribution pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company. The annual contributions payable are charged to the Profit and Loss Account.

#### Deferred taxation

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date where transactions or events have occurred at that date that will result in an obligation to pay more, or a right to pay less or to receive more tax, with the following exceptions:

Deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that the directors consider that it is more likely than not that there will be suitable taxable profits from which the future reversal of the underlying timing differences can be deducted.

Deferred tax is measured on an undiscounted basis at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the periods in which timing differences reverse, based on tax rates and laws enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date.

#### Financial instruments

Financial instruments are classified and accounted for, according to the substance of the contractual arrangement, as either financial assets, financial liabilities or equity instruments. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the company after deducting all of its liabilities.

#### 2. TURNOVER

The turnover and loss before tax are attributable to the one principal activity of the company.

An analysis of turnover is given below:

2008 2007 £ £ 20,202,325 23,103,053

United Kingdom

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

## 3. PARTICULARS OF EMPLOYEES

4.

5.

Emoluments receivable

contributions schemes

Value of company pension contributions to defined

The average number of staff employed by the company during the financial year amounted to:

| amounto.  |  |                                |
|---|--|--------------------------------|
| Number of production staff<br>Number of administrative staff  | 2008<br>No<br>363<br>16<br>379                 | 2007<br>No<br>323<br>24<br>347 |
| The aggregate payroll costs of the above were:  |  |                                |
| Wages and salaries Social security costs Other pension costs  | 2008<br>£<br>8,938,842<br>801,159<br>1,163,837 | 790,209                        |
|   | 10,903,838                                     | 11,179,828                     |
| OPERATING (LOSS)/PROFIT  Operating (loss)/profit is stated after charging:  |  |                                |
|   | 2008<br>£                                      | 2007<br>£                      |
| Depreciation of owned fixed assets Depreciation of assets held under hire purchase agreements Loss on disposal of fixed assets Operating lease costs: | 1,080,214<br>27,400<br>788                     | 1,196,049<br>-<br>-            |
| - Plant and equipment - Other Auditor's remuneration  | 11,911<br>758,899<br>9,750                     | 2,613<br>760,338<br>9,250      |
| DIRECTORS' EMOLUMENTS   |  |                                |
| The directors' aggregate emoluments in respect of qualifying s  | services were                                  | :                              |
|   | 2008<br>£                                      | 2007<br>£                      |

480,135

49,057

529,192

358,016

72,975

430,991

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

| 5. | DIRECTORS' EMOLUMENTS (continued)                                       |               |            |
|----|---|---------------|------------|
|    | Emoluments of highest paid director:                                    | 2008<br>£     | 2007<br>£  |
|    | Total emoluments (excluding pension contributions)                      | 135,495       | 137,442    |
|    | Value of company pension contributions to defined contributions schemes | 28,500        |            |
|    |   | 163,995       | 137,442    |
|    | The number of directors who accrued benefits under company profollows:  | ension sche   | mes was as |
|    |   | 2008<br>No    | 2007<br>No |
|    | Defined contributions schemes Defined benefit schemes                   | 5<br><u>5</u> | 5<br>      |
| 6. | COST OF REORGANISATION OR RESTRUCTURING                                 |               |            |
|    |   | 2008<br>£     | 2007<br>£  |
|    | Redundancy costs  | 442,864       | 367,422    |
| 7. | INCOME FROM FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS                                     |               |            |
|    |   | 2008<br>£     | 2007<br>£  |
|    | Income from unlisted investments  | 36,054        | 39,620     |
| 8. | INTEREST PAYABLE AND SIMILAR CHARGES                                    |               |            |
|    |   | 2008<br>£     | 2007<br>£  |
|    | Interest payable on bank borrowing                                      | 2,227         | 5,737      |

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

| TAXATION ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES                             |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| (a) Analysis of charge in the year                          |  |   |
|   | 2008   | 2007  |
|   | £  | £   |
| Current tax:  |  |   |
| UK Corporation tax based on the results for the year at 28% |  | 160 170   |
|   | (182.599)  | 160,179<br>9,196  |
| Overtainer provision in prior year                          | `  |   |
| Group relief  | , , ,  | 169,375<br>38,668   |
| ·   |  | 208,043   |
| total current tax   | (130,303)  | 200,043   |
| Deferred tax:   |  |   |
| Origination and reversal of timing differences              | (171,686)  | (20,405)  |
| Tax on (loss)/profit on ordinary activities                 | (370,595)  | 187,638   |
| (b) Factors affecting current tax charge                    |  |   |
|   |  | ner than the  |
| <b>,</b>  | 2008   | 2007<br>£   |
| (Loss)/profit on ordinary activities before taxation        | (1 <u>,256</u> ,061)   | 827,707   |
| (Loss)/profit on ordinary activities by rate of tax         | (351,697)  | 248,312   |
| Expenses not deductible for tax purposes                    | 6,781  | 19,414  |
|   |  | (11,886)<br>31,884  |
| ·   | ·  | (88,067)  |
|   | 214,430  | (810)   |
| Adjustments to the tax charge in respect of prior periods   | (182,599)  | 9,196   |
| Total current tax (note 9(a))                               | (198,909)  | 208,043   |
| DIVIDENDS   |  |   |
| Equity dividends  |  |   |
| •   | 2008   | 2007  |
|   | £  | £   |
| Paid  |  | 107.000   |
| Equity dividends on ordinary shares                         | 194,881  | 487,302   |
|   | Current tax:  UK Corporation tax based on the results for the year at 28% (2007 - 30%)  Over/under provision in prior year  Group relief  Total current tax  Deferred tax:  Origination and reversal of timing differences  Tax on (loss)/profit on ordinary activities  (b) Factors affecting current tax charge  The tax assessed on the (loss)/profit on ordinary activities for standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 28% (2007 - 30%)  (Loss)/profit on ordinary activities before taxation  (Loss)/profit on ordinary activities by rate of tax  Expenses not deductible for tax purposes  Non-taxable income  Capital allowances for the period in excess of depreciation Movements on provisions  Utilisation of tax losses  Adjustments to the tax charge in respect of prior periods  Total current tax (note 9(a))  DIVIDENDS  Equity dividends | Current tax:  UK Corporation tax based on the results for the year at 28% (2007 - 30%) Over/under provision in prior year (182,599) Group relief (16,310) Total current tax (198,909)  Deferred tax: Origination and reversal of timing differences (171,686) Tax on (loss)/profit on ordinary activities (370,595)  (b) Factors affecting current tax charge The tax assessed on the (loss)/profit on ordinary activities for the year is high standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 28% (2007 - 30%).  (Loss)/profit on ordinary activities before taxation (1,256,061)  (Loss)/profit on ordinary activities by rate of tax Expenses not deductible for tax purposes 6,781 Non-taxable income (10,095) Capital allowances for the period in excess of depreciation Movements on provisions Utilisation of tax losses Adjustments to the tax charge in respect of prior periods (182,599) Total current tax (note 9(a))  DIVIDENDS  Equity dividends  2008 £ Paid |

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

## 11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

|     | •   | Plant 8       | Machinery<br>£                   |
|-----|---|---------------|----------------------------------|
|     | COST At 1 January 2008 Additions Disposals  |               | 19,010,086<br>486,316<br>(1,800) |
|     | At 31 December 2008   |               | 19,494,602                       |
|     | DEPRECIATION At 1 January 2008 Charge for the year On disposals   |               | 11,414,783<br>1,107,614<br>(783) |
|     | At 31 December 2008   |               | 12,521,614                       |
|     | NET BOOK VALUE<br>At 31 December 2008   |               | 6,972,988                        |
|     | At 31 December 2007   |               | 7,595,303                        |
|     | Hire purchase agreements  |               |                                  |
|     | Included within the net book value of £6,972,988 is £32,176 ( assets held under hire purchase agreements. The depreciation statements in the year in respect of such assets amounted to | on charged to | the financial                    |
|     | Capital commitments   | 2008          | 2007                             |
|     | Contracted but not provided for in the financial statements   | £<br>144,413  | £<br>417,000                     |
| 12. | INVESTMENTS   |               |                                  |
|     |   | Unlisted li   | vestments<br>£                   |
|     | COST<br>At 1 January 2008 and 31 December 2008  |               | 5,429                            |
|     | NET BOOK VALUE<br>At 31 December 2008 and 31 December 2007  |               | 5,429                            |
| 13. | STOCKS  |               |                                  |
|     |   | 2008<br>£     | 2007<br>£                        |
|     | Raw materials   | 472,120       | 285,930                          |

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

| _   |   |                   |                  |
|-----|---|-------------------|------------------|
| 14. | DEBTORS   |                   |                  |
|     |   | 2008              | 2007             |
|     | Trade debtors   | £<br>2,598,519    | £<br>3,224,155   |
|     | Amounts owed by group undertakings  | 637,176           | 329,010          |
|     | Corporation tax repayable   | 17,783            | 31,625           |
|     | Other debtors   | 114,928           | 222,316          |
|     | Prepayments and accrued income  | 362,388           | 173,296          |
|     |   | 3,730,794         | 3,980,402        |
| 15. | CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year  |                   |                  |
|     |   | 2008              | 2007             |
|     |   | £                 | £                |
|     | Bank loans  | 7,968             | 10,175           |
|     | Trade creditors   | 688,504           | 321,967          |
|     | Amounts owed to group undertakings  | 2,317,032         | 1,940,135        |
|     | Taxation and social security  | 472,005           | 484,057          |
|     | Hire purchase agreements  | 19,819            | 19,819<br>22,963 |
|     | Other creditors  Accruals and deferred income   | 65,985<br>532,006 | 435,834          |
|     | Accidats and deferred income  |                   | <del></del>      |
|     |   | 4,103,319         | 3,234,950        |
|     | The following liabilities disclosed under creditors falling due with                          | hin one year      | are secured      |
|     | by the company:   | 2008              | 2007             |
|     |   | £                 | £                |
|     | Bank loans  | 7,968             | 10,175           |
|     | Hire purchase agreements  | 19,819            | 19,819           |
|     |   | 27,787            | 29,994           |
| 4.0 | CREDITORS, Amounto folling due ofter more than one year                                       | •                 | <del>-</del> "   |
| 16. | CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year                                       |                   |                  |
|     |   | 2008<br>£         | 2007<br>£        |
|     | Hire purchase agreements  | 9,909             | 29,728           |
|     | The following liabilities disclosed under creditors falling due a are secured by the company: | after more th     | an one year      |
|     |   | 2008<br>£         | 2007<br>£        |
|     | Hire purchase agreements  | 9,909             | 29,728           |
|     | The parenase agreements   |                   |                  |

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

#### 17. COMMITMENTS UNDER HIRE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS

Future commitments under hire purchase agreements are as follows:

|                                      | 2008   | 2007   |
|--------------------------------------|--------|--------|
|                                      | £      | £      |
| Amounts payable within 1 year        | 19,819 | 19,819 |
| Amounts payable between 2 to 5 years | 9,909  | 29,728 |
| , ,                                  | 29,728 | 49,547 |
|                                      |        |        |

#### 18. PENSIONS

The company participates in a defined benefit multi-employer pension scheme, the assets and liabilities of which are held independently from the group. The company is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme and accordingly accounts for the scheme, in accordance with the exemptions provided in FRS 17, as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The annual amounts payable are charged to the profit and loss account. The defined benefit scheme is accounted for under FRS 17 in the consolidated accounts of CN Group Limited and any available information about the surplus or deficit in the scheme is shown in these accounts.

During last year the defined benefit arrangements were closed to future service accrual and, following the actuarial valuation at 31 March 2007, a deficit recovery plan has been agreed with the schemes' Trustees which aims to eliminate the deficit by 2017. The pension charge for the year was £753,360 (2007 - £1,328,550).

In addition to the defined benefit schemes the company contributed £410,477 (2007 - £284,876) in the year to the defined contribution arrangement.

Particulars of the actuarial valuation of the scheme are contained in the financial statements of the holding company, CN Group Limited.

#### 19. DEFERRED TAXATION

The movement in the deferred taxation provision during the year was:

|  | 2008      | 2007      |
|--|-----------|-----------|
|  | £         | £         |
| Provision brought forward                                | 1,133,285 | 1,153,690 |
| Profit and loss account movement arising during the year | (171,686) | (20,405)  |
| Provision carried forward                                | 961,599   | 1,133,285 |

The provision for deferred taxation consists of the tax effect of timing differences in respect of:

|  | 2008      | 2007      |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| E C. C. H. L.        | £         | £         |
| Excess of taxation allowances over depreciation on fixed | 1,079,671 | 1,260,352 |
| assets<br>Tax losses available                           | (33,447)  | 1,200,332 |
| General provisions                                       | (84,625)  | (127,067) |
|  | 961,599   | 1,133,285 |
|  |           |           |

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

## 20. COMMITMENTS UNDER OPERATING LEASES

At 31 December 2008 the company had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as set out below.

|     | 1 3  |                    |                     |                    |                |
|-----|--|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|
|     |  | 2008               |                     | 200                |                |
|     |  | Land and buildings | Other<br>Items      | Land and buildings | Other<br>Items |
|     |  | £                  | £                   | £                  | £              |
|     | Operating leases which expire: Within 1 year                 | _                  | 49,375              | 2,666              | 46,208         |
|     | Within 2 to 5 years  | 322,400            | 305,842             | 312,900            | 332,543        |
|     | After more than 5 years                                      | 20,000             | -                   | 20,000             |                |
|     |  | 342,400            | 355,217             | 335,566            | 378,751        |
| 21. | SHARE CAPITAL  |                    |                     |                    |                |
|     | Authorised share capital:                                    |                    |                     |                    |                |
|     |  |                    |                     | 2008<br>£          | 2007<br>£      |
|     | 253,000 Ordinary shares of £1 each                           |                    |                     | 253,000            | 253,000        |
|     | Allotted, called up and fully paid:                          |                    |                     |                    |                |
|     |  | 2008               | <del>-</del>        | 200                |                |
|     | Ordinary shares of £1 each                                   | No<br>212,079      | £<br>212,079<br>——— | No<br>212,079      | £<br>212,079   |
| 22. | PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT                                      |                    |                     |                    |                |
|     |  |                    |                     | 2008               | 2007           |
|     | Dalamaa brawaht fanyard                                      |                    |                     | £<br>7,387,149     | £<br>7,234,382 |
|     | Balance brought forward (Loss)/profit for the financial year |                    |                     | (885,466)          | 640,069        |
|     | Equity dividends   |                    |                     | (194,881)          | (487,302)      |
|     | Balance carried forward                                      |                    |                     | 6,306,802          | 7,387,149      |
| 23. | RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT                                   | S IN SHAREH        | OLDERS'             | FUNDS              |                |
|     |  |                    |                     | 2008<br>£          | 2007<br>£      |
|     | (Loss)/Profit for the financial year                         |                    |                     | (885,466)          | 640,069        |
|     | Equity dividends   |                    |                     | (194,881)<br>—     | (487,302)      |
|     | Net (reduction)/addition to sharehold                        | ers' funds         |                     | (1,080,347)        | 152,767        |
|     | Opening shareholders' funds                                  |                    |                     | 7,599,228          | 7,446,461      |
|     | Closing shareholders' funds                                  |                    |                     | 6,518,881          | 7,599,228      |

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

## 24. ULTIMATE PARENT COMPANY

The company is a wholly owned subsidiary of CN Group Limited, Newspaper House, Dalston Road, Carlisle, CA2 5UA, which is incorporated in England and Wales.

The company has taken advantage of the exemption conferred by FRS8 from disclosing related party transactions as the details of the Company are included in the consolidated financial statements of the Parent.