# WHITE & CO PLC REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY 2017

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## STRATEGIC REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY 2017

# Principal activity

The principal activity of the company is the operation of depots and vehicles in the UK and Channel Islands for export packing, overseas shipping, industrial storage, warehousing, household, office, industrial removals and haulage.

#### **Business review**

The substantial reduction in domestic property moves following increases in stamp duty and uncertainty arising from the EU Referendum vote, has resulted in the company incurring a loss for the year.

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

Shareholders' funds at 31st January 2017 amounted to £1,919,608.

## Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risk to our industry is the UK housing market, which has in recent months slowed, having been affected by uncertainties over the general election, availability of mortgage funding and an inadequate number of new builds. The directors continue to monitor the situation and in particular its business risks.

The company has a wide spread of customers and suppliers. The credit risk is primarily attributed to its trade debtors, which is managed by running credit checks on new customers and by monitoring payments against contractual agreements.

The company has an overdraft facility for £1,200,000 with Lloyds Bank at a rate of 2% over bank base rate, which falls for renewal in November 2017. £1,181,822 of this facility was unutilised at the year end (2016: £1,200,000). The company also utilises asset finance to enable it to maintain a continually updated fleet of vehicles.

The company monitors cash flow as part of its day to day control procedures. The board considers cash flow projections on a monthly basis and ensures that appropriate facilities are available to be drawn upon as necessary.

The directors have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual financial statements.

## The future

The directors consider the long term future of the company to be secure. We continue to develop and expand our services and seek the opportunity to acquire or create new operating centres, in areas where we have only limited representation.

#### **Environmental matters**

The company is committed to complying with accepted environmental practices, including the commitment to meet or exceed applicable legal and other requirements.

By order of the Board

D A Hoare Director

Date: 28th July 2017

**DIRECTORS:** 

R J Nicklinson (retired 31.07.16)

I M Palmer

D A Hoare

I D Nicholson

S C Fassoms

W R Burden (appointed 1.05.16)

L Spies (appointed 01.05.16)

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY 2017

The company is a public company limited by shares and is incorporated and domiciled in England and Wales. The address of its registered office is Ashton House, 12 The Precinct, Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh, SO53 2GB, and principal place of business is the UK.

A review of the company's business during the year including future developments and principal risks and uncertainties are included in the strategic report.

The directors have pleasure in presenting their report and financial statements for the year ended 31st January 2017.

#### Dividend

The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend.

#### Parent company

The company is wholly owned by Whitport Limited, its ultimate parent company which is incorporated in England and Wales.

# 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 (Financial Reporting Standard 102). 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 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;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departure disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The 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 to 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 hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## Disclosure of information to the auditors

We, the directors of the company who held office at the date of approval of these Financial Statements as set out above each confirm, so far as we are aware, that:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and
- we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken as directors in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

# REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (Continued)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY 2017

#### Personnel

The company is committed to the training and development of all employees and to a policy of internal promotion.

In considering applications for employment from disabled people, the company seeks to ensure that fair consideration is given to the abilities and aptitudes of the applicant while having regard to the requirements of the job for which he or she has applied.

Employees who become unable to carry out the job for which they are employed are given individual consideration and depending on the nature, severity and duration of the disability may be considered for alternative work.

Health and Safety precautions are kept under constant review with the aim of maintaining the highest standards.

The company is committed to a policy of developing employee involvement and awareness on matters of concern to all employees. Staff involvement will continue to be carried out at a local level both on a formal and informal basis.

#### Auditors

The auditors have indicated their willingness to continue in office and a resolution will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting re-appointing them, and fixing their remuneration.

#### Company status

The company is a Close Company.

By order of the Board

D A Hoare Director

Date: 28th July 2017

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WHITE & CO PLC

We have audited the financial statements of White & Co Plc for the year ended 31st January 2017 which comprise the Statement of Income and Retained Earnings, the Balance Sheet, and the related notes. 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), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

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 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 members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

#### Respective responsibilities of directors and auditor

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement on page 2, 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 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 company's affairs as at 31st January 2017, and of its loss for the year then
- 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 matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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.

## Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report.

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, 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; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all of the information and explanations we require for our audit

Fabrice Legris BEng FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor) For and on behalf of Westlake Clark **Statutory Auditor** 

Unit 1, West Links **Tollgate Business Park Chandlers Ford SO53 3TG** 

Date: 28 JULY 2017

# STATEMENT OF INCOME AND RETAINED EARNINGS

<u>Note</u>		2017 £	2016 £
1	Turnover Cost of sales	24,533,773 ( <u>24,403,228</u> )	33,193,374 ( <u>31,278,856</u> )
	Gross profit	130,545	1,914,518
	Administrative expenses	(562,727)	(_1,154,960)
	Operating (loss)/profit	( 432,182)	759,558
	Investment income	399	2,265
		( 431,783)	761,823
2	Interest payable	(120,436)	(145,155)
3	(Loss)/profit on ordinary activities before taxation	( 552,219)	616,668
5	Taxation on ordinary activities	91,357	(143,000)
14	(Loss)/profit for year	( 460,862)	473,668
	Retained profits as at 1st February	1,380,470	906,802
	Retained profits as at 31st January	919,608	1,380,470

# **BALANCE SHEET**

# **AS AT 31ST JANUARY 2017**

Note	<b>:</b>	2017 €	2016 £
	Fixed assets		
6	Intangible assets	116,819	132,549
7	Tangible assets	5,831,976	6,458,259
9	Investments	50,625	50,625
		5,999,420	6,641,433
	Current assets		
10	Debtors receivable within one year	3,245,082	3,417,673
10	Debtors receivable after one year	3,000	3,000
	Cash at bank and in hand	16,592	855,049
		3,264,674	4,275,722
	Current liabilities	·	
11	Creditors due within one year	(_3,090,914)	(_4,042,898)
	Net current assets	173,760	232,824
	Total assets less current liabilities	6,173,180	6,874,257
11	Creditors: due after more than one year	( 4,181,972)	( 4,388,787)
12	Provisions for liabilities and charges	(71,600)	(105,000)
	Net assets	1,919,608	2,380,470
	Capital and reserves		
13	Called up share capital	1,000,000	1,000,000
14	Profit and loss account	919,608	1,380,470
	Equity shareholders' funds	1,919,608	2,380,470

Approved by the Board of Directors on 28th July 2017 and signed on its behalf by:

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D A Hoare Director

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY 2017

# Summary of significant accounting policies

## Basis of accounting

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

The company's functional and presentation currency is the pound sterling.

The company has taken advantage of the following exemptions on the basis that it is a qualifying entity and the equivalent disclosures required by this FRS are included in the consolidated financial statements of its ultimate parent company, Whitport Limited.

- i The company has taken advantage of the exemption, under FRS 102 paragraph 1.12(b), from preparing a statement of cash flows;
- ii from the financial instrument disclosures, required under FRS 102 paragraphs 11.39 to 11.48A and paragraphs 12.26 to 12.29;
- iii from disclosing the company key management personnel compensation, as required by FRS 102 paragraph 33.7.

No consolidated financial statements have been prepared as the company has taken advantage of section 405 of the Companies Act 2006 from consolidating subsidiary undertakings as they are not material for the purpose of giving a true and fair view.

#### Turnover

The turnover of the company comprises the gross revenue, exclusive of value added tax.

#### Intangible assets

Goodwill arising on the acquisition of businesses is amortised through the statement of comprehensive income and retained earnings on a straight line basis, over its estimated useful economic life of 20 years.

#### Tangible assets

These are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation or accumulated impairment. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets with the exception of land and the cost of 999 year leases. The depreciation is on a consistent basis, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset evenly over its expected useful life, as follows:

Freehold buildings

- over 50 years

Short leaseholds

- over the period of the lease

Motor vehicles

- over 3 to 10 years

Plant and equipment

- over 3 to 12 years

#### **Investments**

Investments in subsidiaries are accounted for at cost.

# Debtors and creditors receivable/payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in the profit and loss account in other administrative expenses.

## **Taxation**

Current tax represents the amount of tax payable or receivable in respect of the taxable (loss)/profit for the current or past reporting periods. It is measured at the amount expected to be paid or recovered using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes, which have arisen but not reversed by the balance sheet date. Deferred tax is measured at the rate enacted at the balance sheet date and expected to be in force at the date the timing differences reversed.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY 2017

## 1 Accounting policies (continued)

## Operating, and finance lease commitments

(i)—Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to income as incurred.

(ii) The asset and related liability in respect of finance lease commitments are recorded in the Balance Sheet at the inception of the agreement. Instalments are apportioned between finance charges and reductions of the appropriate liability.

#### **Pensions**

The company operates defined contribution pension schemes. Payments are charged to revenue as incurred.

#### Foreign currencies

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are translated and recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate ruling at the balance sheet date.

#### Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the company's accounting policies management is required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and underlying assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

2	Interest payable	2017	2016
	• •	£	£
	Bank overdrafts	5,797	5,705
	Interest payable to parent company	96,629	108,402
	Interest on obligations under finance leases repayable within 5 years	18,010	31,048
		120,436	145,155
2			c
3	(Loss)/profit on ordinary activities before taxation is stated after charging:	£	£
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	998,789	989,810
	Amortisation of goodwill	15,730	15,730
	Auditors remuneration - statutory audit	38,385	35,615
	- tax services	3,735	2,850
	Operating lease rentals	500,352	531,954
	Hire of equipment	259,890	259,020
4	Staff costs	£	£
	Wages and salaries	9,065,437	10,022,565
	Social security costs	792,733	833,815
	Other pension costs	191,589	178,702
		10,049,759	11,035,082
	The average number of persons employed by the company during the year was	475	508

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

4	Staff costs (continued) Directors' remuneration (including performance related and deferred bonuses	2017	2016
	Staff costs include the following remuneration in respect of the directors:	£	£
	Fees	36,000	33,000
	Remuneration currently payable Pension scheme contributions	270,998	275,179
	Pension scheme contributions	13,991	12,362
		320,989	320,541
	The amount in respect of the highest paid director is as follows:	£	£
	Remuneration	89,308	111,838
	Pension scheme contributions	4,760	4,760
		94,068	116,598
	Retirement benefits are accruing under money purchase schemes for five c (2016: three).	lirectors as at 31st Ja	nuary 2017.
5	Taxation	£	£
	The (credit)/charge to taxation in the year comprised:		
	Current	( 55,000)	105,000
	Over provision in prior years	(2,957)	
		( 57,957)	105,000
	Deferred	(33,400)	38,000
		( 91,357)	143,000
	Factors affecting future corporation tax: The planned reduction in UK corporation	Tarana and the same of the sam	
	Taxation reconciliation	£	£
	(Loss)/profit on ordinary activities before taxation	(552,219)	616,668
	Taxation (credit)/charge at UK corporation tax rate 20.00% (2016: 20.17%)	( 110,443)	124,382
	Depreciation on properties	10,376	10,464
	Accelerated capital allowances	- (	415)
	Depreciation in excess of capital allowances	675	-
	Expenses not deductible for taxation purposes	8,074	6,038
	Other Prior year adjustment	2,918 ( 2,957)	2,531
	11101 your adjustment	(	
		(91,357)	143,000
6	Intangible fixed assets - Goodwill		_
	Cost At 1st February 2016 and at 31st January 2017		\$ 314,600
	Amortisation		
	At 1st February 2016		182,051
	Charge for year		15,730
	At 31st January 2017	-	197,781
	Net Book Value at 31st January 2017	-	116,819
	Net Book Value at 31st January 2016	=	132,549
		=	

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY 2017

7	Tangible fixed assets		Short			
	<b>.</b>	Freehold	Leasehold	Motor	Plant and	
-		Property-	Property	··· Vehicles	Equipment	Total
	Cost	<u> </u>	£	£	£	£
	At 1st February 2016	3,247,278	80,477	9,158,209	1,664,400	14,150,364
	Additions	-	-	345,088	122,109	467,197
	Disposals			(798,535)		(798,535)
	At 31st January 2017	3,247,278	80,477	8,704,762	1,786,509	13,819,026
	Depreciation					
	At 1st February 2016	749,203	62,389	5,570,675	1,309,838	7,692,105
	Charge for year	51,448	2,486	844,417	100,438	998,789
	Adjustment on disposals		<u> </u>	(703,844)		(703,844)
	At 31st January 2017	800,651	64,875	5,711,248	1,410,276	7,987,050
	Net book value					
	At 31st January 2017	2,446,627	15,602	2,993,514	376,233	5,831,976
	At 31st January 2016	2,498,075	18,088	3,587,534	354,562	6,458,259

The net book value of motor vehicles includes £1,021,461 (2016: £1,250,651) in respect of vehicles being acquired under hire purchase contracts and depreciation thereon for the year amounted to £229,193 (2016: £229,193). Freehold property includes land of £699,280 which is not depreciated.

8	Capital commitments	2017	2016
	•	£	£
	Authorised and contracted for	1,003,095	449,912
9	Fixed asset investments	£	£
	Shares in subsidiary undertakings at cost at 1st February 2016 and 31st January 2017	50,625	50,625

# Subsidiary undertakings

Lawrence & Hall Limited
White Van Lines Limited
Whites Moving & Storage Spain S.L.

The above subsidiaries, other than Whites Moving and Storage Spain S.L. which is incorporated in Spain, are incorporated in England and Wales and are wholly owned. All the shares are Ordinary Shares. All subsidiaries are involved in the relocation industry.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

10	D.M.	2017	2016
10	Debtors Amounts falling due within one year:	2017 £	2010 £
	Trade debtors	2,121,840	2,546,101
	Corporation tax	35,957	2,040,101
	Amount owed by parent company	33,937	-
	• • •	141,019	11,919
	Amount owed by fellow subsidiary undertaking		
	Prepayments and accrued income	946,266	859,653
		3,245,082	3,417,673
	Amounts falling due after more than one year:	£	£
	Trade debtors	3,000	3,000
11	Creditors	£ .	£
	Amounts falling due within one year:		•
	Bank overdraft	18,178	-
	Current instalments due on finance leases	201,125	315,076
	Trade creditors	1,008,903	761,799
	Amount owed to parent company	581,782	715,680
	Amount owed to fellow subsidiary undertaking	58,177	96,072
	Amounts owed to subsidiary undertakings	48,575	48,575
	Corporation tax	-	105,000
	Other taxation and social security	297,178	751,714
	Accruals and deferred income	<u>876,996</u>	1,248,982
		3,090,914	4,042,898
	Bank borrowing is secured by a charge on certain properties and debtors.	£	£
	Amounts falling due after more than one year:		
	Amount owed to parent company	4,000,000	4,000,000
	Instalments due on finance leases	127,089	328,214
	Accruals and deferred income	54,883	60,573
		4,181,972	4,388,787
	Interest is charged on amounts owed to the parent company at 2% over bank rate	e, currently 2.5%.	
12	Provisions for liabilities and charges Deferred taxation:	£	£
	Excess capital allowances	111,800	146,000
	Short term timing differences	( 40,200)	( 41,000)
	· ·	·	
	,	71,600	105,000
13	Called up share capital	£	£
	Allotted, called up and fully paid ordinary shares of £1 each	1,000,000	1,000,000
	There is a single class of ordinary shares. There are no restrictions on the distribut of capital.	ion of dividends and t	he repayment

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

14	Reserves		Profit
			and Loss
	At 1st February 2016		1,380,470
	Loss for year		(460,862)
	At 31st January 2017		919,608
15	Pension commitments The company operates defined contribution pension schemes. The assets of those of the company in independently administered funds. The pension cost company to the funds and amounted to £191,589 (2016: £178,702) and at 3 contributions were £21,465 (2016: £21,407).	charge represents contr	ibutions by the
16	Leasing and finance lease commitments	2017	2016
	At 31st January the total group future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable leases are payable as follows:  Operating leases	£	£
	Within one year	493,943	461,232
•	Within two and five years	1,557,642	1,383,539
	After more than five years	3,497,339	3,545,925
		5,548,924	5,390,696
	Finance leases:	201 125	215.076
	Within one year Within two and five years	201,125 127,089	315,076 328,214
	Within the und file years	<del></del>	
	Obligations under finance leases are secured on the assets concerned.	328,214	643,290
17	Contingent liability The company has guaranteed the parent company's bank overdraft which £836,243 (2016: £Nil).	at 31st January 2017	amounted to
18	Ultimate parent company The company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Whitport Limited, a company reis no ultimate controlling party of Whitport Limited.	gistered in England and	Wales. There
19	Related party transactions The company has taken advantage of the exemptions contained in Financial Rehas not disclosed transactions with other group companies on the grounds that the group consolidated accounts are publicly available from Ashton House Hampshire, SO53 2GB.	t it is a wholly owned:	subsidiary and
20	Turnover analysis Turnover is attributable to one class of business and from the sale of services.		2016
	The geographical analysis of turnover by origin is given below:	2017 £	2016 £
	UK	22,391,484	31,127,793
	Non UK	2,142,289	2,065,581
		24,533,773	33,193,374