ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

31 DECEMBER 2005

Company number: 57061



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COMPANIES HOUSE

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Directors

B V Strickland MA, FCA R E Beveridge MA W J Cain BCom, FCA (Chairman)

Secretary

R E Beveridge MA

Bankers

Royal Bank of Scotland Plc Professional Practices London Corporate Services Centre PO Box 50294 1 1/2 Devonshire Square London EC2P 2WL

Management Company

(From 19 May 2005)
Capita Insurance Services Limited
71 Victoria Street
Westminster
London SW1H 0XA

(To 18 May 2005)
Iron Trades Management Services Limited
Corn Exchange
55 Mark Lane
London EC3R 7NE

Auditors

Wilkins Kennedy Bridge House London Bridge London SE1 9QR

Legal advisors

Clifford Chance LLP 10 Upper Bank Street Canary Wharf London E14 5JJ

Actuarial advisors

Watson Wyatt Partners Watson House London Road Reigate RH2 9PQ

Registered Office

Plumtree Court London EC4A 4HT

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The Directors have pleasure in presenting their Annual Report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2005.

Status, principal activities, review of business developments, subsequent events and future developments

The Chester Street Employers' Association Limited ('The Association') is a mutual company limited by guarantee without any share capital. The Association ceased to write business with effect from 1 January 1990.

In early January 2001, the directors of Chester Street Insurance Holdings Limited ('Holdings'), the company's wholly owned subsidiary, received the preliminary findings of an actuarial review of its reserves, which indicated that a substantial increase would be required in the level of its provision for claims incurred but not yet reported, particularly insofar as that provision was for losses forecast to arise out of claims for asbestos-related diseases. These findings reflected the impact of significant increases in both the number and average cost of asbestos-related disease claims notified during 2000.

The Board of Holdings, having considered those findings and taken appropriate advice, determined that Holdings' liabilities exceeded its assets and that Holdings was insolvent. On 9 January 2001, the High Court granted the petition of the directors for the appointment of Dan Schwarzmann and Colin Bird of PricewaterhouseCoopers as provisional liquidators.

Following a unanimous vote of the creditors attending and voting at meetings held on 5 February 2001, a Scheme of Arrangement (the 'Scheme') was sanctioned by the Court on 28 February 2001 and became effective on 5 March 2001, with Dan Schwarzmann and Colin Bird of PricewaterhouseCoopers as Scheme Administrators. On 25 July 2001, Mark Batten, also of PricewaterhouseCoopers, replaced Colin Bird as a provisional liquidator and Scheme Administrator.

At the end of March 2001, the Scheme Administrators set an initial payment percentage of 5% pursuant to the Scheme. In May 2001, the Association of British Insurers (ABI) announced that its members would fund compensation for certain claimants, whose claims would otherwise fail to be met in full because their former employer was no longer able to pay and the claim failed to meet the criteria for compensation by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS), formerly the Policyholders Protection Board (PPB).

Payments to creditors under the Scheme began to be made in July 2001. Holdings is cooperating with its policyholders and with the FSCS, ABI and DTI to ensure that claimants receive prompt payment. The scheme payment percentage currently remains unchanged at 5%.

DIRECTORS' REPORT

During 2002, proceedings were brought by Geologistics Limited ("Geologistics"), a corporate policyholder of Independent Insurance Company Limited (In Provisional Liquidation) ("Independent"), against the FSCS to recover defence costs that were incurred on compulsory insurance claims, but not paid, before Independent became insolvent. During December 2003, the Court of Appeal agreed with the High Court that Geologistics was entitled to recover its defence costs from the FSCS. Subsequently the House of Lords refused FSCS leave to appeal the decision. Following the Geologistics judgment, the company is now able to recover those defence costs incurred in respect of protected post 1972 claims. A review of costs paid during 2005 is pending and as such no recovery has been agreed with the FSCS for inclusion in the accounts.

On 4 December 2002 a wholly owned subsidiary, Chester Street Investments Limited and its subsidiary companies were placed into voluntary liquidation. The companies were formally dissolved on 4-6 April 2005.

Results

The results for the year ended 31 December 2005 are set out in the profit and loss account on pages 6 and 7.

Following the annual review by Watson Wyatt of the continuing pattern of notified claims for asbestos related diseases during the financial year, the Directors have felt it appropriate to decrease the value of the claims reserves.

The total number of asbestos related claims has fallen for the first year since 2001. It is also encouraging that the number of mesothelioma non-shipbuilding claims has fallen significantly in 2005 as the level of notifications seen in 2003 and 2004 had been much higher than expected.

In the projection of future numbers of pleural plaque claims, no allowance has been made for the recent Court of Appeal ruling. If upheld, in the House of Lords, the ruling will remove the possibility of damages for pleural plaques and thereby remove the entire class of claims. However, given the ruling could be overturned, it seems premature to reduce the projected pleural plaques claims to zero.

The annual review by Watson Wyatt took into account information prepared by the Institute of Actuaries in a paper 'UK Asbestos – The Definitive Guide' which was based on industry data and in particular work undertaken by the Health and Safety Executive. This study is based on similar assumptions regarding exposure and latency periods as that previously used by the company, but it has the advantage of more detailed work, profiling the age group of sufferers from asbestos related diseases, and a larger underlying database of information. The results of the 'Definitive Guide' paper were compared to the past claims experience of the company and the central projections of the 'Definitive Guide' were compared to the company projections as at 31 December 2004, by considering the ratio of the projected future claim numbers to the number notified to date. For pleural plaques, notifications have increased significantly across the industry largely invalidating the Working Party projections. However, for the other claim types, projections are broadly consistent with the 'Definitive Guide' results. The company has based average claim values on historic settlements.

DIRECTORS' REPORT

Directors

The Directors of the company during the year are as shown on page 1.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, Mr. R E Beveridge will retire by rotation under Article 54 and, being eligible, offers himself for re-election at the next Annual General Meeting.

All the directors held office throughout the year ended 31 December 2005.

Employees

The group had 3 employees during the year.

Management Services Provider

On 18 May 2005, the contract for management services, with Iron Trades Management Services Limited ("ITMS"), expired. The Scheme Administrators awarded the new contract to Capita Insurance Services Limited, who assumed responsibility for all the services previously provided by ITMS.

Political and charitable contributions

No contributions were made during the year.

Financial instruments

The company's financial instruments at the balance sheet date comprised mainly investments, bank balances and scheme creditors.

The main risk arising from the company's financial instruments is liquidity risk as the company is not a going concern.

Financial assets

The company has no financial assets other than short-term debtors, cash at bank and investments.

Statement of Directors' responsibilities

Company law requires the directors to prepare accounts for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and the group and the profit or loss of the group for that period. In preparing the accounts, 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 accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the group will continue in business.

The directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements when preparing the accounts, other than preparing the group accounts on a break-up basis since Holdings is no longer a going concern.

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

DIRECTORS' REPORT

So far as the directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information (as defined by Section 234ZA of the Companies Act 1985) of which the company's auditors are unaware, and each director has taken all the steps that he ought to have taken as a director in order to make himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

The auditors, Ernst & Young LLP, resigned from office on 24 November 2005 and Wilkins Kennedy were appointed in their place.

Plumtree Court London EC4A 4HT By order of the board

R E Beveridge Secretary

11 September 2006

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

Technical Account – General Business Discontinued operations

		2005	2004
	Note	£m	£m
Claims paid			
- gross amount	2	74.0	84.4
- reinsurers' share		(8.0)	-
- net of reinsurance		73.2	84.4
Change in the provision for claims			
- gross amount		(53.6)	966.8
- reinsurers' share		` -	-
- net of reinsurance		(53.6)	966.8
Claims incurred, net of reinsurance		19.6	1,051.2
Net operating expenses	4, 10(b)	3.3	6.1
Total technical charge		22.9	1,057.3
Balance on the technical account for general business		(22.9)	(1,057.3)

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

Non-technical account Discontinued operations

Discontinued operations	Note	2005 £m	2004 £m
Balance on the technical account for general business		(22.9)	(1,057.3)
Investment income	5	7.2	10.1
Unrealised gains on investments		12.2	7.8
		19.4	17.9
Investment expenses and charges		(0.2)	(0.2)
Loss on ordinary activities before tax		(3.7)	(1,039.6)
Tax credit on loss on ordinary activities	6	-	8.2
Loss retained for the financial year	9	(3.7)	(1,031.4)

The group has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the current and preceding years.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005

Assets			
	Note	2005 £m	2004 £m
Investments			
Other financial investments	7	188.0	172.2
Debtors			
Other debtors	8	1.2	3.2
Other assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		1.3	1.4
Corporation tax recoverable		-	7.9
		1.3	9.3
Prepayments and accrued income			
Accrued interest		1.6	1.6
Prepaid expenses	_	0.7	-
		2.3	1.6

192.8

186.3

Total Assets

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005

Liabilities	
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Liabilities	Note	2005	2004
		£m	£m
Reserves			
Profit and loss account	9	(3,293.2)	(3,289.5)
Technical provisions			
Claims outstanding	3	3,246.0	3,299.6
Provisions for other risks and charges	10	32.3	32.2
Creditors			
Other creditors including taxation and social security		0.2	1.7
Scheme creditors	2	188.4	131.5
Other scheme creditors	2	17.7	8.6
		206.3	141.8
Accruals and deferred income		1.4	2.2
Total Liabilities		192,8	186.3

Approved by the Board on 11 September 2006

B V Strickland Director

W. J. Cari

W J Cain Director

ASSOCIATION ONLY

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2005

Assets	Note	2005	2004
		£m	£m
Investments			
Shares in group undertaking	12	-	-
Other Assets			
Cash at Bank and in Hand		-	-
Total Assets		-	
Reserves			
Profit and loss account			
		-	-

Approved by the Board on 11 September 2006

B V Strickland

W.T. Can

Director

W J Cain Director

CONSOLIDATED CASHFLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

Net cash outflow from operating activities	Note 11	2005 £m (4.4)	2004 £m (13.0)
Taxation		7.9	1.5
Cash available for investment		3.5	(11.5)
Net portfolio (investment)/disinvestment	11	(3.6)	8.3
Net cash outflow for the year	11	(0.1)	(3.2)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

1 Accounting policies

Basis of presentation and consolidation

The group accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of section 255 of and Schedule 9A to the Companies Act 1985, which cover the disclosures applicable to insurance companies.

The Association only balance sheet has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of section 226 of, and Schedule 4 to, the Companies Act 1985 and under the historical cost convention modified to include the revaluation of investments in shares in group undertakings. As permitted by section 230 of the Companies Act 1985 a separate profit and loss account for the Association is not presented.

The consolidated accounts incorporate the assets and liabilities of the group and all of its subsidiaries as at 31 December 2005 and the results for the year ended on that date.

The assets and liabilities of Chester Street Insurance Holdings Limited have been prepared on a break-up basis as the company is not a going concern, having entered into a Scheme of Arrangement with its creditors under section 425 of the Companies Act 1985 (the Scheme) on 5 March 2001.

The accounts comply with applicable accounting standards. They also comply with the guidance on Accounting for Insurance Business issued by the Association of British Insurers in November 2003.

Basis of accounting

The annual basis of accounting has been applied to all classes of business.

Claims

General business claims incurred include all losses occurring during the year, whether reported or not, related handling costs and any adjustments to claims outstanding from previous years. Significant delays are experienced in the notification and settlement of certain claims, particularly in respect of liability business, the ultimate cost of which cannot be known with certainty at the balance sheet date. Outstanding claims provisions are based on the estimated ultimate cost of all claims incurred but not settled at the balance sheet date. Any estimate represents a point within a range of possible outcomes. Further details of estimation techniques are given in note 3. Claims provisions are not discounted.

Claims handling expenses

The provision for claims handling expenses (which is included in the balance sheet within technical provisions – claims outstanding) consists of all estimated future costs of negotiating and settling claims until the date that the Directors have anticipated that all claims will have been settled under the Scheme. No deduction has been made for anticipated investment income.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

Run-off provision

The run-off provision consists of all estimated operational costs (other than the cost of negotiating and settling claims) until the date that the Directors have anticipated that all claims will have been settled under the Scheme. This provision has been discounted at a rate justified by anticipated investment income. No further deduction for anticipated investment income has been made.

Investments

Listed investments are stated in the group balance sheet at middle market value based on prices quoted by the relevant exchanges.

Investment income

All realised and unrealised gains and losses are taken to the profit and loss account. Realised gains are measured by reference to original cost. Since the subsidiary is no longer a going concern all the investment return has remained in the non-technical account. In the Association only balance sheet unrealised losses on subsidiaries are taken directly to the profit and loss account.

Dividends received from companies in the United Kingdom are shown at the net amount received.

Taxation

Provision is made for deferred tax liabilities, using the liability method, on all material timing differences, including revaluation gains and losses on investments recognised in the profit and loss account. Deferred tax is calculated at the rates at which it is expected that the tax will arise. Deferred tax balances are not discounted.

Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent they are regarded as recoverable. Assets are regarded as recoverable when it is more likely than not there will be suitable taxable profits from which the future reversal of the underlying timing differences can be deducted.

2 Claims

Claims paid in the profit and loss account reflect all amounts settled for defence costs and damages claims. The payments include amounts settled by policyholders, the FSCS, ABI and the DTI. Scheme creditors represent the portion of agreed claims which have been paid to the claimants by other parties, but which still remain a liability of the company. Other scheme creditors reflect an accrual for claims settled but not processed at the year-end.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

3 Technical provisions

Below is a summary of the gross outstanding claims:

	2005	2004
	£m	£m
Notified Outstanding Claims	211.0	153.7
Incurred But Not Reported Claims	2,950.0	3,011.0
	3,161,0	3,164.7
Claims Handling Provision	85.0	134.9
	3,246.0	3,299.6

The ultimate cost of outstanding claims is estimated by using a range of standard actuarial claims projection techniques. The main assumption underlying these techniques is that past claim development experience can be used to project ultimate claims costs and that no changes to past trends, such as public attitudes to claiming or inflation occur. The approach adopted takes into account the nature and materiality of the business and type of data available. Case estimates are generally set by skilled claims technicians applying their experience and knowledge to the circumstances of individual claims. Additional qualitative input, such as allowance for one-off occurrences or changes in legislation, policy conditions or portfolio mix, is also used in arriving at the estimated cost of claims, in order that it represents the most likely outcome taking account of all the uncertainties involved. Claims provisions are not discounted.

Fundamental uncertainty

Chester Street Insurance Holdings Limited ('Holdings') has a substantial exposure to disease claims arising from employers' liability policies written many years ago. The majority of this exposure is in respect of asbestos. There is a significant uncertainty over the ultimate out-turn of asbestos related claims which reflects the limited data available particularly in relation to exposure analysis, the latency period for asbestos related claims and mortality profile of claimants. The claims are extremely long tail in nature and the latency period for these claims is significant—the usage of asbestos was at its peak over 40 years ago. There is very limited available data in respect of the number of employees of policyholders exposed to asbestos. The future costs arising from these claims cannot, therefore, be predicted with certainty. Accordingly, the provision for claims outstanding in respect of asbestos related claims relies on a considerable degree of judgement as to the number of claims that will emerge, the timing of the claims and the amounts at which they will be settled.

The provision for disease claims is based on information currently available and the ultimate liability may vary as a result of subsequent information and events, and could result in significant adjustments to the amounts provided. Adjustments to the technical provisions are reflected in the accounts for the period in which the adjustments are made.

Holdings' technical provisions represent the directors' best estimate of the likely outcome of the run-off of the company's insurance liabilities and are therefore not comparable with any figure that may be inferred from the level of the initial payment percentage to Holdings' creditors set by the Scheme Administrators pursuant to the Scheme of Arrangement. The technical provisions are still fundamentally uncertain because of the difficulty of forecasting the future development of the claims to which they relate.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

3 Technical provisions (continued)

Provision for claims handling expenses

Included in the balance sheet within technical provisions - claims outstanding is the provision for claims handling expenses of £85.0m (2004: £134.9m). This consists of all estimated future costs of negotiating and settling claims until the date that the Directors have anticipated that all claims will have been settled under the Scheme. No deduction has been made for anticipated investment income. The claims handling expense provision is fundamentally uncertain because of the difficulty of forecasting the future development of the claims to which they relate.

4 Run-off expenses

Included in run-off expenses are:	2005	2004
	£000	£000
Directors' emoluments (see note 4.1)	43	43
Auditors' remuneration	83	95

4.1 Di

2005	2004
£000	£000
43	43
2005	2004
£000	£000
20	20
	£000 43 2005 £000

4.2 Employment costs

4 V	2005	2004
	£000	£000
Wages and salaries	43	43
Social security costs	4	4
	47	47

4.3 Average number of employees

The average number of employees during the year was 3 (2004: 3).

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

5 Investment income

	2005	2004
	£m	£m
Income from investments	5.4	5.4
Realised gains on investments	1.5	3.5
Interest on group relief	0.3	1.2
	7.2	10.1

6 Tax credit on loss on ordinary activities

	2005	2004	
	£m	£m	
Current Tax			
UK Corporation tax at 30%	-	-	
Group Relief in respect of prior years	-	(7.9)	
Under provision of tax recovery from previous year		(0.3)	
Current tax credit for the year		(8.2)	

Factors affecting tax charge for period

Loss on ordinary activities before tax	(3.7)	(1,039.6)
Loss on ordinary activities multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax of 30% (2004: 30%)	(1.1)	(311.9)
Effects of:		
Prior year adjustment	-	(8.2)
Losses not utilised	1.1	311.9
Current tax credit for the year		(8.2)

7 Other financial investments

Current Value		Cost	
2005	2004	2005	2004
£m	£m	£m	£m
-	-	-	-
188.0	172.2	157.5	153.9
188.0	172.2	157.5	153.9
-	-	-	-
188.0	172.2	157.5	153.9
	2005 £m 188.0 188.0	2005 2004 £m £m 188.0 172.2 188.0 172.2	2005 2004 2005 £m £m £m 188.0 172.2 157.5 188.0 172.2 157.5

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

8 Other debtors

Included in other debtors is an amount of £0.8m in respect of Holdings' claim in the solvent scheme of arrangement of one of its reinsurers.

9 Reconciliation of movement in reserves

Group

•	Profit & Loss			
	Account	Total	Account	Total
	2005	2005	2004	2004
	£m	£m	£m	£m
1 January	(3,289.5)	(3,289.5)	(2,258.1)	(2,258.1)
Retained loss for the financial year	(3.7)	(3.7)	(1,031.4)	(1,031.4)
31 December	(3,293.2)	(3,293.2)	(3,289.5)	(3,289.5)

10 Provisions for other risks and charges

a) Deferred Taxation

There is an unrecognised deferred tax asset of £999m (2004: £998m). This is made up of trading losses of £991m (2004: £990m) and capital losses of £8m (2004: £8m). Deferred tax has not been recognised to the extent that it is unlikely that there will be sufficient suitable profits in future periods to recover the losses.

b) Provision for run-off expenses

2005	2004
£m	£m
32.2	30.7
(2.9)	(4.4)
3.0	5.9_
32.3	32.2
	32.2 (2.9) 3.0

2005

2004

The provision for run-off expenses totals £32.3m (2004: £32.2m). This consists of all estimated operational costs (other than the cost of negotiating and settling claims) until the date that the Directors have anticipated that all claims will have been settled under the Scheme. The provision is fundamentally uncertain because of the difficulty of forecasting the future development of the claims. This provision has been discounted at 4.54% (2004: 4.97%), a rate justified by anticipated investment income. No further deduction for anticipated investment income has been made. The undiscounted provision is £66.2m (2004: £69.4m). The average settlement period assumed in discounting this provision is 13.2 years (2004: 12.5 years).

The increase in provision is due to a change in the discount rate. The projected run-off expenses remain constant.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

11 Note to the Consolidated cashflow statement

	2005	2004
	£m	£m
Reconciliation of loss before taxation to net cash		
outflow from operating activities Loss before taxation and exceptional items	(3.7)	(1,039.6)
Decrease/(increase) in insurance and other debtors	1.3	(1,039.0) (3.2)
(Decrease)/increase in technical provisions	(53.6)	966.8
Increase in provisions for other risks and charges	0.1	1.5
Increase in insurance and other creditors	63.7	69.3
Unrealised gains	(12.2)	(7.8)
	(4.4)	$\frac{(7.8)}{(13.0)}$
Net cash outflow from operating activities	(4.4)	(13.0)
Movements in opening and closing portfolio	2005	2004
investments net of financing	£m	£m
Net cash outflow for the year	(0.1)	(3.2)
Cash flow movements from portfolio investments	3.6	(8.3)
Movements arising from cashflows	3.5	(11.5)
Changes in market values	12.2	7.8
Total movements in portfolio investments net of financing	15.7	(3.7)
Portfolio investments net of financing at 1 January	173.6	177.3
Portfolio investments net of financing at 31 December	189.3	173.6
	2005	2004
	£m	£m
Net portfolio investment		
Purchase of equity shares	-	<u>-</u>
Purchase of fixed interest investments	(27.4)	(37.1)
Purchase of deposits with credit institutions	-	-
Sale of equity shares		3.1
Sale of fixed interest investments	23.8	36.5
Sale of deposits with credit institutions	 	5.8
Net (investment)/disinvestment	(3.6)	8.3

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

11 Note to the Consolidated cashflow statement (continued)

Movements in cash and portfolio investment

	At 1 January 2005 £m	Cashflow £m	Changes to market value £m	At 31 December 2005 £m
Equity shares	-	-	- -	-
Fixed interest investments	172.2	3.6	12.2	188.0
Deposits with credit institutions	-	-	-	-
	172.2	3.6	12.2	188.0
Cash at bank and in hand and				
short term deposits	1.4	(0.1)		1.3
Total	173.6	3.5	12.2	189.3

Movements in technical provisions

	At 1 January 2005 £m	Change during year £m	At 31 December 2005 £m
Claims outstanding	3,299.6	(53.6)	3,246.0
-	3,299.6	(53.6)	3,246.0

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

12 Subsidiary Undertakings

Company	Principal activity	Current Value		2005	Cost
		2005	2004	2005	2004
		£m	£m	£m	£m
Chester Street Insurance Holdings Limited	General Insurance	-	-	-	-

Chester Street Insurance Holdings Limited became subject to a scheme of arrangement, effective from 5 March 2001.

13 Segmental reporting

The company wrote business in only one market segment, that of liability insurance.

14 Contingent liability

Note 3 gives details of the estimation techniques used in determining the outstanding claims provision. As stated in this note there is considerable uncertainty as to the quantum of the ultimate settlement of these liabilities. To the extent the ultimate cost is greater than that provided, there is a contingent liability in respect of this uncertainty.

15 Contingent Asset

Under the terms of the Scheme of Arrangement, the company is required to pay all elective defence costs. Where such costs are not reimbursable by the FSCS and exceed the payment dividend payable by the company, the excess can be set off against future payment dividends to the same policyholder.

Following negotiations between the Directors and the Scheme Administrators with the FSCS in respect of defence costs incurred on pre 1972 claims made under the Third Parties (Rights Against Insurers) Act 1930, the FSCS has agreed it can be treated in the same way as a solvent policyholder thus deducting defence costs funded by Holdings from dividends payable to the FSCS on a rolling account basis for each individual insolvent policyholder.

At 31 December 2005, the company had a contingent asset comprising the value of elective defence costs paid in excess of payment dividends. The recoverability of this asset is dependent upon future claims arising from the same policyholders and as such cannot be estimated with reliability, and accordingly this asset is not included in the Balance Sheet. The reimbursment of defence costs by the FSCS following the Geologistics judgment will reduce the value of the contingent asset.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

16 Related party transactions

In the opinion of the directors, the following may be considered to be Related Parties in terms of Financial Reporting Standard No. 8 (FRS 8) "Related Party Disclosures", the value of transactions with whom requires to be disclosed:

- a) the Scheme Administrator (PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP)
- b) the management services provider (to 18 May 2005, Iron Trades Management Services Limited and from 19 May 2005, Capita Insurance Services Limited)

Amounts paid during the year:	2005	2004
Scheme Administrator:	£m	£m
scheme administration fees	1.9	2.8
other services and fees	0.4	0.6
Amounts paid to the management services provider	7 .4	4.5
Amounts paid to the management services provider	/ • • •	
Amounts due at 31 December:	2005	2004
	£m	£m
Amounts due to Iron Trades Management Services Limited	<u>-</u>	0.1
Amounts included in accruals at 31 December:	2005	2004
	£m	£m
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP	0.1	0.1
Capita Insurance Services Limited	0.2	-
Iron Trades Management Services Limited		1.9
	2007	2004
Amounts included in prepayments at 31 December:	2005	2004
	£m	£m
Capita Insurance Services Limited	0.7	-
Amounts in respect of related parties included in the discounted run-of undiscounted claims handling provision at 31 December:	f provision and	
••	2005	2004
	£m	£m
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP	25.7	25.5
Capita Insurance Services Limited	85.0	-
Iron Trades Management Services Limited	<u> </u>	134.9

The company has taken advantage of the exemption under FRS 8 not to disclose transactions with other group companies where 90% or more of the voting rights are controlled within the group.

Following the expiration of the management services contact, ITMS will, from the 19 May 2005 no longer be a related party. From this date, Capita Insurance Services Limited will provide all services.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

17 Funding

The Association has entered into an arrangement with its subsidiary, Chester Street Insurance Holdings Limited ('Holdings'), whereby Holdings settles liabilities of the Association for the purpose of discharging its debts as they fall due to creditors in the ordinary course of business, whilst it is in the interest of Holdings' scheme creditors. This arrangement does not cover liabilities arising out of the Association's negligence, fraud, and wilful default, breach of duty, breach of trust or other like action.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CHESTER STREET EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements on pages 6 to 22, which have been prepared on a break-up basis and the accounting policies set out on pages 12 and 13.

This report is made solely to the company's members, 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 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

The directors' responsibilities for preparing the Annual Report and 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 accounts give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Directors' Report is not consistent with the financial statements, if 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 transactions with the group 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 group'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.

Emphasis of matters

In forming our opinion, we have considered the adequacy of the disclosure made in the financial statements in respect of:

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CHESTER STREET EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION LIMITED (continued)

Latent Disease: The financial statements include provisions for gross notified and incurred but not reported outstanding claims of £3,161.0m (2004: £3,164.7m). These provisions rely on a considerable degree of judgement due to the uncertainty as to the number of claims that will emerge and the amounts at which they will be settled and could be materially different to the amounts stated. Details of the circumstances relating to this fundamental uncertainty are described in note 3 on page 14.

Claims Handling: The financial statements include a claims handling provision of £85.0m (2004: £134.9m). The ultimate cost of claims handling is dependent upon future events and could be materially different to the amount stated. Details of this fundamental uncertainty are described in note 3 (continued) on page 15.

Run-Off Expenses: The financial statements include a discounted run-off provision of £32.3m (2004: £32.2m) for estimated operational costs of the run-off. The ultimate cost of the run-off is dependent upon future events and could be materially different from the amount provided. Details of this fundamental uncertainty are described in note 10(b) on page 17.

Given the nature of these issues, it is not possible to quantify the potential effects of the resolution of these uncertainties.

Our opinion is not qualified in respect of the above matters.

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 affairs of the company, and of the group at 31 December 2005 and of the profit of the group for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Wilkins Kennedy Registered Auditor

London

11 September 2006