Virgin Media Business Limited
Financial Statements
31 December 2013

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# **Financial Statements**

# Year ended 31 December 2013

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# **Company Information**

The board of directors T Mockridge

R D Dunn D M Strong M O Hifzi

Company secretary G E James

Registered office Bartley Wood Business Park

Hook Hampshire RG27 9UP

Auditor KPMG LLP

**Chartered Accountants** 

One Snowhill

Snow Hill Queensway

Birmingham B4 6GH

### Strategic Report

### Year ended 31 December 2013

### Principal activity and business review

The principal activity of the company during the year was, and will continue to be, the marketing and sale of data telecommunication services and systems.

At 31 December 2013 the company was a wholly owned subsidiary undertaking of Virgin Media Inc. (Virgin Media). Virgin Media became a wholly-owned subsidiary of Liberty Global plc (Liberty Global) as a result of a series of mergers that were completed on 7 June 2013 (the LG/VM Transaction). This is referred to in more detail in the consolidated financial statements of Virgin Media Inc. which are available from the company secretary at Virgin Media, Bartley Wood Business Park, Hook, Hampshire, RG27 9UP.

The Virgin Media Inc. consolidated group (the group) operates under the Virgin Media brand in the United Kingdom (U.K.).

The group provides digital cable, broadband internet, fixed-line telephony and mobile services in the U.K. to both residential and business-to-business (B2B) customers. The group is one of the U.K.'s largest providers of residential digital cable, broadband internet and fixed-line telephony services in terms of customers. The group believes its advanced, deep-fibre cable access network enables it to offer faster and higher quality broadband internet services than our digital subscriber line, or DSL competitors. As a result, it provides our customers with a leading next generation broadband internet service and one of the most advanced interactive digital cable services available in the U.K. market.

As of 31 December 2013, the group provided services to approximately 4.9 million residential cable customers on its network. The group is also one of the UK's largest mobile virtual network operators by number of customers, providing mobile telephony services to 1.9 million contract mobile customers and 1.1 million prepay mobile customers over third party networks. As of 31 December 2013, 84% of residential customers on the group's cable network received multiple services from the group, and 66% were "triple play" customers, receiving broadband internet, digital cable and fixed-line telephony services from the group.

In addition the group provides broadband internet, fixed-line and mobile telephony and other connectivity services to businesses, public sector organisations and service providers.

Strategic Report (continued)

## Year ended 31 December 2013

#### Key performance indicators (KPI's)

The company's key financial and other performance indicators for the year are considered below.

	2013	2012 Comments
Turnover (£000)	155,652	145,616 Turnover has increased by 6.9% primarily due
		to growth across three major revenue streams,
		National Ethernet, Managed Internet Access and IPVPN solutions.
Operating profit (£000)	2,693	13,930 Operating profit has decreased by 80.7%, primarily due to an increase in administrative expenses driven by an increase in depreciation expense and share based compensation recharge associated with the LG/VM transaction, partially offset by an
		increase in gross profit resulting from increased turnover.

The company reported a decrease in net current assets and an increase in total assets less liabilities for the year ended 31 December 2013 as a result of normal operations. During the year, no new external finance was arranged and there was no movement in the called up equity share capital of the company. Operations were financed through the company's inter-company balances with fellow group undertakings.

#### Future outlook

The directors will continue to review management policies in light of changing trading and market conditions. Further detail of the future outlook of the group is provided in Virgin Media Inc.'s financial statements and annual report for 2013, which are available from the company secretary at Virgin Media, Bartley Wood Business Park, Hook, Hampshire, RG27 9UP.

### Principal risks and uncertainties

Financial and operational risk management is undertaken as part of the group operations as a whole. The company's operations expose it to a variety of operational and financial risks. These are considered in more detail in the financial statements of Virgin Media Inc. which are available from the company secretary at Virgin Media, Bartley Wood Business Park, Hook, Hampshire, RG27 9UP.

Signed on behalf of the directors

G E James

Company Secretary

Approved by the directors on 30 June 2014

### **Directors' Report**

### Year ended 31 December 2013

The directors present their report and the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 December 2013.

# Results and dividends

The profit for the financial year, after tax, amounted to £1,364,000 (2012 - profit of £14,097,000). The directors have not recommended an ordinary dividend (2012 - £nil).

#### **Directors**

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

C B E Withers (Resigned 31 March 2014)
T Mockridge (Appointed 7 June 2013)
R D Dunn (Appointed 7 June 2013)
D M Strong (Appointed 22 November 2013)
M O Hifzi (Appointed 31 March 2014)
R C Gale (Resigned 29 November 2013)

The directors of the company have been indemnified against liability in respect of proceedings brought by third parties, subject to the conditions set out in the Companies Act 2006. Such qualifying third party indemnity provision is in force for directors serving during the financial year and as at the date of approving the Directors' Report.

### Going concern

After making suitable enquiries, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing these financial statements.

### Disclosure of information to the auditor

So far as each person who was a director at the date of approving this report is aware, there is no relevant audit information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing its report, of which the auditor is unaware. Having made enquiries of fellow directors and the company's auditor, each director has taken all the steps that he/she is obliged to take as a director in order to make himself/herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

#### **Auditor**

On 5 June 2014, Ernst and Young LLP resigned as auditors and subsequently KPMG LLP were appointed.

Signed on behalf of the directors

M O Hifzi Director

Approved by the directors on 30 June 2014

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### **Directors' Responsibilities Statement**

#### Year ended 31 December 2013

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

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments 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 adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. 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.

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Member of Virgin Media Business Limited

#### Year ended 31 December 2013

We have audited the financial statements of Virgin Media Business Limited for the year ended 31 December 2013 on pages 8 to 17. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the company's member, 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 member 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 member, 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 set out on page 5, 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

A description of the scope of an audit of financial statements is provided on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditscopeukprivate.

### **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 31 December 2013 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

# Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

# Independent Auditor's Report to the Member of Virgin Media Business Limited (continued)

# Year ended 31 December 2013

# Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, 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 the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Xavier Timmermans (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of KPMG LLP, Statutory Auditor Chartered Accountants
One Snowhill
Snow Hill Queensway
Birmingham
B4 6GH

30 June 2014

# **Profit and Loss Account**

# Year ended 31 December 2013

		2013	2012
	Note	£000	£000
Turnover		155,652	145,616
Cost of sales		(51,475)	(48,353)
Gross profit		104,177	97,263
Administrative expenses		(101,484)	(83,333)
Operating profit	2	2,693	13,930
Other interest receivable and similar income	4	1,217	1,312
Interest payable and similar charges	5	(2,121)	(2,054)
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	•	1,789	13,188
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	6	(425)	909
Profit for the financial year	14	1,364	14,097

The company has no other gains or losses and therefore no separate statement of total recognised gains or losses is presented.

All results relate to continuing operations.

The notes on pages 10 to 17 form part of these financial statements.

# **Balance Sheet**

# 31 December 2013

		2013	2012
	Note	£000	£000
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	7	65,167	54,151
Current assets			
Debtors due after one year - Deferred tax	8,9	484	909
Debtors due within one year	8	151,954	161,306
		152,438	162,215
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	10	(19,396)	(19,521)
Net current assets		133,042	142,694
Total assets less current liabilities		198,209	196,845
Capital and reserves			
Share capital	13	1	1
Profit and loss account	14	198,208	196,844
Shareholder's funds	14	198,209	196,845
Snarenoider's lunds	14	198,209	190,8

These financial statements were approved by the directors on 30 June 2014 and are signed on their behalf by:

R D Dunn Director

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The notes on pages 10 to 17 form part of these financial statements.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

### Year ended 31 December 2013

### 1. Accounting policies

A summary of the principal accounting policies is set out below. All accounting policies have been applied consistently, unless noted below.

### **Basis of accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, and applicable UK accounting standards.

### Cash flow statement

The company is exempt from publishing a cash flow statement as permitted by FRS 1 "Cash flow statements (revised 1996)", as it is a wholly owned subsidiary of its ultimate parent company.

#### **Turnover**

Turnover represents the value of services provided, stated net of value added tax, and is attributable to continuing activities, being the sale of data telecommunications services and systems, all of which is derived from operations in the United Kingdom. The directors consider this to be a single class of business.

Turnover in respect of line rentals and rental of equipment provided to customers are recognised on a straight-line basis over the term of the rental agreement.

Installation turnover is recognised when the contracted service has been delivered, which is generally when the customer has acknowledged acceptance of the equipment to which they retain title. The determination of whether the act of connecting a customer to the group's network is a separable service requires judgement, in particular with regard to whether the installation itself has standalone value. The factors relating to this judgment have been reviewed, with particular focus on contract features and whether or not the group retains title to the underlying assets, and the extent of independent evidence of standalone value for the installation service. Following this review, it was concluded that there is generally no longer sufficient evidence of standalone value. Accordingly, from June 2013 where the judgement is that insufficient evidence exists, any revenues arising thereon have been recognised over the term of the related rental agreement.

# Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, other than land, so as to write off the cost of a tangible fixed asset on a straight line basis over the expected useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Network assets 3 - 30 years Freehold property 30 years Other 3 - 12 years

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

#### Year ended 31 December 2013

# 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### Deferred tax

Deferred tax is recognised, as appropriate, 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:

- provision is made for deferred tax on gains arising from the revaluation (and similar fair value adjustments) of fixed assets, and gains on disposal of fixed assets that have been rolled over into replacement assets, only to the extent that, at the balance sheet date, there is a binding agreement to dispose of the assets concerned. However, no provision is made where, on the basis of all available evidence at the balance sheet date, it is more likely than not that the taxable gain will be rolled over into replacement assets and charged to tax only where the replacement assets are sold; and
- 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.

#### Trade and other debtors

Trade and other debtors are stated at their recoverable amount. Provision is made when the amount receivable is not considered recoverable and the amount is fully written off when the probability for recovery of a balance is assessed as being remote.

# 2. Operating profit

Operating profit is stated after charging:

	2013	2012
	£000	£000
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	13,174	9,344

Auditor's remuneration of £19,000 (2012 - £15,000) represents costs allocated to the company by fellow group undertakings that pay all auditor's remuneration on behalf of the group.

The directors received remuneration for the year of £47,797 (2012 - £14,166) in relation to qualifying services as directors of this company, all of which was paid by, and is disclosed in the financial accounts of Virgin Media Limited. In 2013 this included an element relating to compensation for loss of office.

Certain expenses are specifically attributable to the company. Where costs are incurred by other group companies on behalf of the company, expenses are allocated to the company on a basis that, in the opinion of the directors, is reasonable.

# **Notes to the Financial Statements**

# Year ended 31 December 2013

# 3. Staff costs

The company does not have any directly employed staff but is charged an allocation of staff costs by the group. Details of staff numbers and staff costs of the group are disclosed in the group accounts of Virgin Media Finance PLC.

# 4. Other interest receivable and similar income

	Interest on amounts owed by group undertakings	2013 £000 1,217	2012 £000 1,312
5.	Interest payable and similar charges		
	Interest on amounts owed to group undertakings Other finance charges	2013 £000 1,019 1,102 2,121	2012 £000 1,143 911 2,054
6.	Tax on profit on ordinary activities		
	The tax charge is made up as follows:  Current tax charge:	2013 £000	2012 £000
	Current tax on profit for the year	-	-
	Total current tax		
	Deferred tax: Origination and reversal of timing differences Effect of tax rate on opening balances Total deferred tax (note 9)	307 118 425	(909) - (909)
	Total tax charge/(credit) on profit on ordinary activities	425	(909)

### Notes to the Financial Statements

# Year ended 31 December 2013

### 6. Tax on profit on ordinary activities (continued)

The tax assessed on the profit on ordinary activities for the year is lower than (2012 - lower) the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 23.25% (2012 - 24.50%). The differences are explained below:

Profit on ordinary activities before tax	2013 £000 1,789	2012 £000 13,188
Profit on ordinary activities multiplied by rate of tax Effects of:	416	3,231
Expenses not deductable for tax purposes	28	25
Accelerated capital allowances	(354)	(909)
Group relief claimed without payment	(90)	(2,347)
Total current tax		-

# Factors affecting current and future tax charges

Reductions in the UK corporation tax rate from 26% to 24% (effective from 1 April 2012) and to 23% (effective 1 April 2013) were substantively enacted on 26 March 2012 and 3 July 2012 respectively. Further reductions to 21% (effective from 1 April 2014) and 20% (effective from 1 April 2015) were substantively enacted on 2 July 2013. This will reduce the company's future current tax charge accordingly. The deferred tax assets have been calculated using the enacted rate of 20% (2012 - 23%).

# 7. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Property £000	Network assets £000	Other £000	Total £000
Cost				
At 1 January 2013	1,455	83,105	16	84,576
Additions	_	23,660	530	24,190
Disposals		(101)		(101)
At 31 December 2013	1,455	106,664	546	108,665
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2013	1,102	29,307	16	30,425
Charge for the year	11	13,052	111	13,174
On disposals	_	(101)	_	(101)
At 31 December 2013	1,113	42,258	127	43,498
Net book value				
At 31 December 2013	342	64,406	419	65,167
At 31 December 2012	353	53,798		54,151
				,

# **Notes to the Financial Statements**

# Year ended 31 December 2013

#### 7. Tangible fixed assets (continued)

Network assets had previously been included within "Other" fixed assets.

# 8.

9.

Debtors		
Amounts owed by group undertakings Deferred tax (note 9)	2013 £000 151,954 484	2012 £000 161,306 909
	152,438	162,215
The debtors above include the following amounts falling due after more tha	n one year:	
Deferred tax	2013 £000 484	2012 £000 909
The analysis of amounts owed by group undertakings is:	2013 £000	2012 £000
Loans advanced to group undertakings Other amounts owed by group undertakings Impairment provision on amounts owed by group undertakings	19,300 132,731 (77)	19,300 142,083 (77)
	151,954	161,306
Amounts owed by group undertakings are unsecured and repayable on dema	and.	
Deferred tax		
The deferred tax included in the balance sheet is as follows:	2013	2012
Included in debtors (note 8)	£000 484	£000 909
The movement in deferred tax during the year was:		
Balance at 1 January	2013 £000 909	2012 £000
Profit and loss account movement arising during the year	(425)	909
Balance at 31 December	484	909

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

### Year ended 31 December 2013

# 9. Deferred tax (continued)

The deferred tax balance consists of the tax effect of timing differences in respect of:

	2013	2012
	£000£	£000
Depreciation in excess of capital allowances	484	909
	484	909
	484	909

A deferred tax asset has been recognised as it is considered, based upon all available evidence, more likely than not that there will be suitable taxable profits from which the future reversal of the underlying timing differences can be deducted.

### 10. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

2	2013	2012
£	000	£000
Amounts owed to group undertakings 19,	,396	19,521
The analysis of amounts away to grown undertakings is:		<del>- 11/11-11   11-111-1</del>
The analysis of amounts owed to group undertakings is:	013	2012
<del>-</del>	000	£000
Loans advanced by group undertakings 19,	,359	19,484
Other amounts owed to group undertakings	37	37
19,	396	19,521

Amounts owed to group undertakings are unsecured and repayable on demand.

### 11. Contingent liabilities

The company along with fellow group undertakings is party to a senior secured credit facility with a syndicate of banks. As at 31 December 2013, this comprised term facilities that amounted to £2,638 million (2012 - £750 million) and a revolving credit facility of £660 million (2012 - £450 million). With the exception of the revolving credit facility, all available amounts were borrowed under the senior secured credit facility with an equivalent aggregate value of £2,638 million (2012 - £750 million). Borrowings under the facilities are secured against the assets of certain members of the group including those of this company.

In addition, a fellow group undertaking has issued senior secured notes which, subject to certain exceptions, share the same guarantees and security which have been granted in favour of the senior secured credit facility. The amount outstanding under the senior secured notes at 31 December 2013 amounted to £4,081 million (2012 - £2,582 million). Borrowings under the notes are secured against the assets of certain members of the group including those of this company.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

#### Year ended 31 December 2013

### 11. Contingent liabilities (continued)

During March 2014, a fellow group undertaking of the company, issued (i) \$425 million principal amount of 5.5% senior secured notes due 15 January 2025 (ii) £430 million principal amount of 5.5% senior secured notes due 15 January 2025 and (iii) £225 million principal amount of 6.25% senior secured notes due 28 March 2029. The net proceeds of the issuance of these senior secured notes were used to redeem an equivalent aggregate amount of £875 million of the group's existing senior secured notes.

In April 2014, a fellow group undertaking issued a further £175 million principal amount of 6.25% senior secured notes due 28 March 2029. In addition, fellow group undertakings entered into (i) a new £100 million term loan ("Facility D") that matures on 30 June 2022 and (ii) a new £849.4 million term loan ("Facility E") that matures on 30 June 2023, each under the existing senior secured credit facility, and for which all available amounts were borrowed with an equivalent aggregate value of £949.4 million.

On 22 May 2014, the net proceeds from the issuance of the £175 million senior secured notes, along with borrowings under Facility D and Facility E, were used to fully redeem an equivalent aggregate amount of £592.7 million and £600 million of the group's existing senior secured notes and senior secured credit facility respectively.

Following the refinancing activities detailed above, the amounts borrowed under the senior secured credit facility amounted to £1,324.4 million and \$2,755.0 million and the amounts borrowed under the senior secured notes amounted to £2,558.4 million and \$1,872.9 million.

The company has joint and several liabilities under a group VAT registration.

### 12. Related party transactions

In accordance with the exemptions offered by FRS 8 "Related Party disclosures" there is no disclosure in these financial statements of transactions with entities that are part of Liberty Global plc, and its subsidiaries (see note 15).

# 13. Share capital

Allotted, called up and fully paid:

	2013		2012	
	No	£000	No	£000
Ordinary shares of £1 each	1,000	1	1,000	1

### Notes to the Financial Statements

### Year ended 31 December 2013

#### 14. Reconciliation of shareholder's funds and movement on reserves

	Share capital	Profit and loss account £000	Total share- holder's funds £000
At 1 January 2012	1	182,747	182,748
Profit for the year	_	14,097	14,097
At 31 December 2012 and 1 January 2013	1	196,844	196,845
Profit for the year		1,364	1,364
At 31 December 2013	<u> </u>	198,208	198,209

# 15. Parent undertaking and controlling party

The company's immediate parent undertaking is Filegale Limited.

The smallest and largest groups of which the company is a member and in to which the company's accounts were consolidated at 31 December 2013 are Virgin Media Finance PLC and Liberty Global plc, respectively.

On 7 June 2013 Liberty Global, Inc. and Virgin Media Inc. completed a series of mergers, which resulted in the company's ultimate parent and controlling party changing to Liberty Global plc.

The company's ultimate parent undertaking and controlling party at 31 December 2013 was Liberty Global plc.

Copies of group accounts referred to above which include the results of the company are available from the company secretary, Virgin Media, Bartley Wood Business Park, Hook, Hampshire, RG27 9UP.

In addition copies of the consolidated Liberty Global plc accounts are available on Liberty Global's website at www.libertyglobal.com.