Equifax Limited

Annual report and financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2020

Registered number: 02425920

Company Information

Directors
S Brown
P Heywood
P Remon
W Au

Auditors
Ernst & Young LLP
1 Bridgewater Place
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LS11 5QR

Bankers
National Westminster Bank
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Registered office
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EC2R 7HJ

Registered No: 02425920

Strategic Report

The directors present their strategic report for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Review of the business

Our business is focused on providing comprehensive information databases, analytical resources to transform information into value-added insight for our customers and technology platforms that deliver decisioning tools that enable our customers to make decisions about their customers in "real time" at the point of interaction. Our products and services include consumer credit information, marketing information, commercial credit information, decisioning and analytical tools and identity verification services which enable businesses to make informed decisions about extending credit or service, managing portfolio risk and developing strategies for marketing to consumers for businesses. We also enable consumers to manage and protect their financial affairs through a portfolio of products that we sell directly and indirectly via the Internet and other marketing channels of distribution.

In early September 2017, Equifax Inc., our US parent company, announced it had been the victim of a criminal cyber-attack in May 2017. Although our UK business was not breached, the attack regrettably compromised the personal information of a range of UK consumers. Approximately 860,000 potentially affected U.K. consumers were contacted regarding access to personal information.

Following the cybersecurity incident, we began undertaking significant steps to enhance our data security infrastructure. In connection with these efforts, the company has incurred significant costs and expect to incur additional significant costs as we take further steps to prevent unauthorized access to our systems and the data we maintain. The actions the company has taken are based on our investigation of the causes of the cybersecurity incident, but there will be additional changes needed to prevent a similar incident. The company also enhanced its disclosure controls and procedures and related protocols to specifically provide that cybersecurity incidents are promptly escalated and investigated and reported to senior management, and where appropriate, to the Board of Directors. We also engaged an independent outside consulting firm to help us with both strategic remediation activities and to review our cybersecurity framework, our controls framework and our management and employees' roles and responsibilities. As a result of the significant security and remediation efforts across the company, to date the company has spent £37.4m on non-capital security remediation and transformation efforts, of which £7.5m was spent in 2020 and has been disclosed in the profit and loss account as an exceptional item. The costs were mostly for specialist IT and project management staff as well as other consultancy related fees and software/equipment.

During 2020, the company raised £20.0m from an intercompany loan to continue to fund further transformation efforts.

The company is still under investigation from the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). The Company continues to co-operate with the FCA and there is currently no indication of the outcome of the investigation or the exact timing of the ruling. The amount of any financial obligation, if any, which could arise on conclusion of the investigation, cannot be estimated reliably due to the wide-ranging number of outcomes at this stage and therefore no provision has been made in the financial statements.

Key performance indicators

The key financial and other performance indicators during the year were as follows:

Key performance indicators	*2020*	*2019*	*Growth*
Revenue	£118.8m	£126.2m	-5.9%
Profit before interest, tax & exceptional item	£6.5m	£18.2m	-64.3%
(Loss)/Profit before interest and tax	£(1.0)m	£6.5m	113.8%
Capital expenditure (intangible and tangible)	£11.9m	£15.9m	-25.2%
Average number of employees	483	456	5.7%

Strategic Report (continued)

Key performance indicators (Continued)

During the year the revenue of the company reduced by -5.9% (2019: 3.3% increase). During the year total operating profit from continuing operations decreased by 822.2% (2019: 271.1% increase). The reduction was substantially due to the impact on revenue in the aftermath of COVID-19 being declared a global pandemic. Government restrictions put in place to tackle the pandemic had an inevitable result of reduced economics activity that impacted business around the world. The company was impacted by a reduction is demand for products and services in line with reduced economic activity in the UK. However the company did not furlough or significantly downsize and the company transformation efforts continued as initially planned. As a result the cost base of the company remained largely consistent, and impacted on profitability in the year. Total Profit before interest, tax & exceptional item decreased by 64.3% when excluding spend on the exceptional security remediation efforts.

The audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 are set out on pages 23 to 37. The loss for the year, after taxation, amounted to (£0.07)m (2019: £7.8m profit). During the year the company did not repatriate any dividends to the parent company (2019: £1.8m).

The company invested £11.9m in tangible and intangible assets in the year (2019: £15.9m). This investment was in core infrastructure, security and continued development of new platforms that should drive growth, greater security and reduce costs in the future. The net current assets as at the year-end were £29.8m (2019: £15.6m) and the current ratio (current assets over current liabilities) was 2.1 (2019: 1.6).

At 31 December 2020 the company had a positive cash balance of £32.7m (2019: £6.2m). Shareholder's funds remained at £47.0m (2019 £47.0m). The significant increase in the cash balance was driven by a new intercompany loan taken out in the year.

The total average number of employees remained stable with a small increase of 6.0% during the year as the company continued to manage resources to help deliver growth in the future.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The directors consider that the principal risk factors that could materially and adversely affect the company's future operating profits or financial position are data protection, consumer outcomes, business continuity, new entrants, changes in the regulatory environment and the uncertainty within the United Kingdom (UK) following the decision to exit the European Union (EU).

Management and the Board regularly review risks facing the company.

The company's principal risks are:

- Security breaches and other disruptions to our information technology infrastructure could compromise Company, consumer and customer information, interfere with our operations, cause us to incur significant costs for remediation and enhancement of our IT systems and expose us to legal liability, all of which could have a substantial negative impact on our business and reputation.
- If we fail to achieve and maintain key industry or technical certifications, our customers and business partners may stop doing business with us and we may not be able to win new business, which would negatively affect our revenue.
- Our business has been and will continue to be negatively impacted by the recent COVID-19 outbreak.
- The failure to realise the anticipated benefits of our transformation strategy, including our transition to cloud-based technologies, could adversely impact our business and this transition could expose us to operational disruptions.
- We help our clients make more informed decisions with higher levels of confidence by leveraging a broad array of data assets. If we lose access to credit, employment, financial and other data from external sources, or fail to maintain the integrity of the data assets, it could harm our ability to provide our products and services.

Strategic Report (continued)

Principal risks and uncertainties (continued)

- Negative changes in general economic conditions, including interest rates, unemployment rates, income, home prices, investment values and consumer confidence, and uncertainty stemming from the U.K.'s departure from the EU could adversely affect us.
- If we do not introduce successful new products, services and analytical capabilities in line with market demands in a timely manner, or if the market does not adopt our new offerings, our competitiveness and operating results will suffer. New product introductions and pricing strategies offered by our competitors and increased availability of free or less expensive consumer information could decrease our sales and market share, require us to enhance our products and services or require us to reduce our prices in a manner that impacts our revenue and operating margins. Further, recommendations arising from the Credit Information Market Study (CIMS) could affect demand for some of our products and services or incur additional expense.
- If our relationships with key customers or partners are materially diminished or terminated, our business could suffer.
- The acquisition, integration or divestiture of businesses by us may not produce the expected financial, operating results or IT and data security profile we expect. In addition, if we are unable to make acquisitions or successfully develop and maintain joint ventures and other alliances, our growth may be adversely impacted.
- If our systems do not meet customer requirements for response time or high availability, or we experience system constraints or failures, or our customers do not migrate to the cloud or modify and/or upgrade their systems to accept new releases of our products and services, our services to our customers could be delayed or interrupted, which could result in lost revenues or customers, lower margins, service level penalties or other harm to our business and reputation.
- Dependence on outsourcing certain portions of our operations may adversely affect our ability to bring products to market and damage our reputation. Dependence on outsourced information technology and other administrative functions may impair our ability to operate effectively.
- Our business will suffer if we are not able to retain and hire key personnel.
- We and our customers are subject to various current laws and governmental regulations, and could be affected by new and evolving consumer privacy and cybersecurity or other data-related laws or regulations, compliance with which may cause us to incur significant expenses and change our business practices, and if we fail to maintain satisfactory compliance with certain laws and regulations, we could be subject to civil or criminal penalties.
- Sub-optimal data lifecycle ownership and processes could impair our ability to maximise opportunities for consumer and client service and product development.
- Investigations and material litigation have the potential to adversely impact our business and results of operations.

The board has strategies to manage these risks and remains confident of the continued success of the company.

Strategic Report (continued)

SECTION 172(1) STATEMENT

The following serves as our section 172 statement. Section 172 of the Companies Act 2006 recognises that whilst companies are run for the benefit of the shareholders, a business's long-term success and reputation are dependent upon maintaining relationships with stakeholders and an appreciation of the external impact of its' activities.

The Directors are fully aware of their responsibilities to promote the success of the Company in accordance with section 172 of the Companies Act 2006 and are keen to ensure proper reflection on stakeholder engagement and issues at Board level and promote continuous reflection on opportunities for development.

The Board regularly reviews the business's principal stakeholders and how we engage with them. The sections below set out a more detailed summary of the company's relationships with its key stakeholders and how the business engages with those stakeholders.

The Board is comprised of:

Patrico Remon – President Equifax Europe
Suzanne Brown – Senior Finance Officer - UK&I
Paul Heywood – Chief Data and Analytics Officer
Wai-Fong Fong Au - Non-Executive Director

They key stakeholders of the company during the year along with details of the forms of engagement undertaken are detailed below:

Customer (Personal Consumers and Businesses): Consumers and Businesses rely on Equifax through the use of data and analytics tools to support them in getting access to credit.		
Why?	**How we engage? What they tell us?**	**Our response / outcomes of engagement**
We provide credit information, in the form of credit reports, to lenders and creditors to help them determine consumer and business creditworthiness. We also provide credit reports to consumers and business directly, so they can better understand their credit situation, and protect their identity. Consumers and Business are at the heart of what we do. Our goal is to help consumers live their financial best. The board understand that for a variety of reasons such as health, financial, life events or personal circumstances anyone can experience vulnerability and need some additional help.	The board understands the importance of providing consumers with user-friendly capabilities to see, understand and question their consumer credit file and information. Consumers want more information on how lenders use their credit information and how in turn they can be more financially responsible and protected from fraud and identity theft. Consumers also seek support through various other life events that can cause them to experience vulnerability. Consumers also want to be able to control their credit files with easy steps to dispute and correct any misstatement on their reports Consumer feedback is initiated in a number of ways: Through Voice of the Consumer feedback via Consumer Satisfaction Surveys (CSAT) and Online Surveys. Additionally, Equifax partner with an external behavioural research	To provide consumers with the information they need to better understand their financial status the company has a dedicated knowledge centre on the company website (www.equifax.co.uk/resources/home). The knowledge centre is packed full of useful articles on Understanding your credit information, Loans and Credit, Debt Management, Mortgages, Identity Protection, and Money Management and much more. To help consumers control their credit files if they believe information is inaccurate or incomplete, the company has an online credit report dispute centre where consumers can submit disputes and track its progress. Work is also underway with HM Treasury, the FCA and other CRA's concerning consumer support and how the company can continue to play a role

Strategic Report (continued)

	company to gain consumer insight and feedback as we develop products and services to meet consumer expectations. Client surveys, customer feedback and other forms of engagement is fed up to senior management and important and key findings and trends are shared with board members. The board are committed to partnering with Charities and Third Parties to help us update, improve and make transparent our consumer journeys and processes. We actively provide clear sign posts to Charities from our online Customer Support Centre and engage with members of the Money Advisory Liaison Group to learn how best to support them and their consumer's specific requirements. We provide free Statutory Credit Reports to Citizens Advice who are helping consumers seeking Debt Relief Orders and local authorities who act as deputies for vulnerable consumers who are subject to Court of Protection orders. We also provide alternative format Credit Reports in Braille, Large Print and Audio for consumers who benefit from these specific services.	in provide greater insight and support to vulnerable consumers.

Clients: Our clients rely on us to provide them with the best in class Data, analytics and technology. Our products and solutions deliver insights that help clients make more informed decisions.		
Why?	**How we engage? What they tell us?**	**Our response / outcomes of engagement**
With one of the largest sources of detailed consumer and business data in the UK, we provide our clients insight into the behaviours and drivers behind the economy helping them drive their businesses forward. We have a history of working together with our clients to help them make sense of data – both theirs and ours. Organisations gain insight into the intricate connections we're able to make which help them make informed decisions that drive business performance. It also helps them to better understand who their customers will be and unlock the value in their customer base. We help organisations to protect against fraud and comply with regulation, and help consumers protect their identity and access credit. We work across a diverse range of industries, delivering insightful and intelligent solutions to businesses of all sizes, from SMEs to multinational corporations.	We are focused on building a culture in which the customer is at the centre of our decision processes and we exceed customer expectations by delivering solutions with speed, flexibility, stability and performance. Our focus on customer centricity enables us to be more proactive in solving problems better and faster for customers while delivering enhanced operational readiness to provide a better customer experience. Our board members and senior executives regularly visit our clients to collaborate on new product developments, discuss latest trends and factors impacting on their respective industries as well how Equifax can leverage their unique data, and analytics technology to support their business growth needs. In order to keep our clients informed and aware of the latest market trends and technological advances, the board and senior executives regularly attend and sponsor conferences. The aim of these events is	In order to ensure the board have oversight of the sales function the board: · Maintain appropriate policies and controls to ensure that end-Consumer outcomes are appropriately prioritised, and that Customers are sold products and services that meet their needs; · Regularly set and assess sales strategies for specific products, services and markets, taking into account the regulatory environment and its Risk Appetite; · Decide on the incentives, reward and support required to ensure that Sales Activities do not result in its Risk Appetite being exceeded; · Ensure that operational management understands its obligations in relation to Risk management; · Assess the level and timing of any sales incentive payments in relation to Customer and Consumer outcomes; and · Receive regular reports on Sales Activities and sales quality. During the year the board priority was to ensure customers continued to be

Strategic Report (continued)

We work with clients in: retail, telecommunications, public sector, insurance, financial services, banking, marketing services, utilities, debt management and commercial finance	to share knowledge and aid in collaborative efforts with our clients and partners. Our clients want to leverage our knowledge, expertise, analytics and insight to power their decisions to move them forward. They want a reliable service and the latest innovations to enable them to be more efficient whilst ensuring we support them in complying with their regulated activities.	supported. Our clients rely on us to provide insight to power their business and the board were keen to ensure we remained operationally robust despite challenging working environments to continue to provide high levels of services to our clients.

Suppliers & Partners: We operate in conjunction with a wide range of suppliers to deliver services to our customers. The board acknowledge that to deliver on the company strategy, engagement and a strong mutually beneficial relationship with suppliers is required

Why?	How we engage? What they tell us?	Our response / outcomes of engagement
Our supplier and partners are an integral part of the company delivering on its strategy. We collaborate and operate with suppliers across a range of areas from data contributors to technology companies and many, many more. Our suppliers and our business partners place their trust in us. We must protect their confidential information.	All supplier-related activity is managed in line with the Global Procurement and Outsourcing business policies and the board maintain oversight of the management of the most important supplier and partners. This ensures that supply risk is managed appropriately in relation to customer outcomes, data security, corporate responsibility, and financial, operational, contractual and brand damage caused by inadequate oversight or supplier failure.	The board are committed to preventing acts of modern slavery and human trafficking from occurring within our business and supply chain, and impose the same high standards on our suppliers. (https://www.equifax.co.uk/about-equifax/corporate-social-responsibility/en_gb/). We will not tolerate any failures in our supply chain to meet these standards; they are a prerequisite of doing business with us. Equifax also has a code of ethics in place. (https://www.equifax.co.uk/about-equifax/corporate-governance/code-of-ethics/en_gb/). Equifax expects that all its employees shall conduct business honestly and ethically. Employees must treat all suppliers, contractors and customers fairly and honestly at all times. These parties should not be taken unfair advantage of through manipulation, concealment, abuse of privileged information, misrepresentation of material facts or any other unfair dealing. The board are keen to ensure the company implements fair payment practises and report monthly on them via companies' house. There is a robust dispute resolution process in place to ensure suppliers can raise concern where appropriate. Late payment disputes are raised by the supplier and/or the business manager responsible for the goods/services with Procurement and/or Finance, depending on the reason for non-payment. Action is taken immediately to resolve all disputes and to clear invoices for payment.

Strategic Report (continued)

		The board also prioritise without exception the protection of data and data sharing. Equifax data sharing policy is intended to help Equifax achieve a rational and consistent approach to sharing data, and to help our data providers and users better understand the standards we expect from them. In line with policy the board: • Ensure that operational management understands its obligations in relation to data sharing; • Receive regular reports on data protection risks and issues. • Take or direct appropriate action to define and implement remedial activity to mitigate data protection risks that have moved out of Risk Appetite.

Colleagues: The board want to ensure our colleagues have all the tools and opportunities to grow themselves and our business.

Why?	How we engage? What they tell us?	Our response / outcomes of engagement
The board of directors recognise that the company employees are a fundamental part of the business and key to driving its success and delivering on our cultural and strategic policies. The success of the company depends on attracting, retaining and empowering employees to drive the company's vision.	The board of directors of the company regularly engaged in employee surveys to elicit employee feedback and ensure employees are given an anonymised mechanism to share their views and engage on issues that are important to them. The board and the exec team also hosted various town hall meetings during the year to enable greater engagement with colleagues and the wider executive teams. During the current year as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the board have felt that colleague engagements were more important than ever, as all colleague come to grips with the sudden and unprecedented changes to the working environment. The directors noted the need to ensure colleagues remained supported whatever their working environment, that communication remained frequent and clear, and any additional risk be dealt with appropriately. To tackle this the board and exec team in lieu of town hall meetings felt more regular engagement was required to help colleagues stay engaged and supported through the various challenges the new environment	The board aims to encourage equal opportunities in employment regardless of age, disability, gender, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race (including colour, nationality and ethnic or national origins), religion or religious or philosophical belief, or sexual orientation. This is backed by the company Equality and Diversity Policy. Employee wellbeing is a major board priority. Colleagues have access to the company "Bravo" program of recognition and a host of other wellbeing and mindfulness benefits and assistance program (E.g. LifeWorks Employee assistance program and a host of other physical and financial well-being programmes), in place to support them in their work and outside of work. During the year members of the board and exec team signed the "Time to Change Employer Pledge" the pledge has created a 12 month action plan, based around six core standards, to provide a framework on we can tackle the stigma and discrimination around mental health. The Time to Change pledge is both a statement of the boards intent to continue to make mental

Strategic Report (continued)

	created. "All Hands" virtual meetings took place weekly with members of the board and senior exec teams presenting updates on business activities, news on latest policies and process in place to safeguard employee wellbeing and many more engagement topics. Employees also have the opportunity to vote for their own representation on the Equifax "People Forum" and escalate matters of importance to them to their people's forum representatives. Peoples forum representatives cover all Equifax sites but can also been contacted anonymously via "Ask the People Forum" The forum meets regularly to share the views and issues that have been brought to their attention. The forum work collectively with senior executives and board members to address the concerns and work towards implementing solutions. Our colleagues want to be informed, valued and be provided a secure and beneficial working environment where they can grow and develop on a professional and personal level. They want to be able to contribute to the businesses but also the wider community.	wellbeing a core to how we do business and also a tool to help us measure our attainment of that goal. Learning and growing is also supported with webinars and workshops run throughout the year to "Empower our colleagues with knowledge" The Learning at Equifax program strives to empower every employee in our organization, inspiring them to embrace and share learning and development as the means to a better career and workplace for all. During the year the board a exec members also launched "Grow" a new dedicated career development and personal learning homepage which further enhances the boards commitment to create a nurturing environment where people can be at their best, where they have the tools to take control of their development and where our managers are best placed to support that. The board received very positive feedback from employee engagement on the boards desire to sustain operations without seeking to furlough employee and the broader initiates the board and exec teams had perused and continue to peruse to support colleagues and their families.

Industry Regulators: Equifax Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Information Commissioner's Office.

Why?	**How we engage? What they tell us?**	**Our response / outcomes of engagement**
We are regulated by the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). The Information Commissioner's Office regulates us to ensure the way we manage personal data complies with the Data Protection Act 2018 and associated laws. The FCA regulates the financial services firms and markets in the UK.	The Board and senior executive team members regularly engage with the regulators via face to face meetings and correspondences, and are open and transparent in their dialogue with all its regulators. Regulatory updates are present at board meetings and discussed by the directors as a standing agenda item. The board are as a standing agenda item regularly presented with a risk committee report which highlights key issues in the broader regulatory environment for consideration. The Board regularly discuss any guidance and information requests received by regulators and the company submits regulatory returns and responds to requests for information from the regulators in a timely manner.	During the year members of the board contributed considerable time and resources to greater weekly engagements with regulators. During these weekly engagements the board share plans to manage the company's resilience in the face of challenges faced by the COVID pandemic, providing greater assurance to regulators that the board continue to manage risks appropriately and plans were in place to protect all stakeholders to the best of the company's ability. The board also reviewed the regulators business plans for 20/21 and integrated it as an important factor in various aspects of the company's activities and the setting of strategy. Following engagement with regulators the board also took on the advice with regards to board structure and added a Non-Executive director during the year

Strategic Report (continued)

	During the year as a result of increased pressure on business across the globe board members and exec teams increased engagement with regulators that covered resilience as well as a range of other issues.	to further enhance the governance structure already in place.

Shareholders: We aim to provide long term shareholder value. The shareholder of Equifax Ltd are related party group company with the ultimate parent company Equifax Inc.		
Why?	**How we engage? What they tell us?**	**Our response / outcomes of engagement**
Our shareholders are our owners and thus have a significant interest in the company's operations to ensure their investment is safeguarded and continues to produce sustainable long term growth.	Shareholder interests and concerns are directly communicated to the board during regular board meetings. The board must balance shareholder priorities to ensure dividend and growth are maximised while providing value for money for our clients. Monthly results and forecasts are shared with our shareholders to keep them informed, as well as forward looking growth plans.	During meetings with shareholders they are regularly provided assurance in line with their respective priorities. This includes reviews of company operation including progress updates on transformation. Client surveys and other metrics are also presented to the board.

Community and Environment : At Equifax, we believe that any action we take should be for the benefit of all, and this belief runs through everything we do		
Why?	**How we engage? What they tell us?**	**Our response / outcomes of engagement**
We recognise the importance of contributing to our communities through volunteering, community investment, and long-term partnerships The board are mindful of the environmental impact of its activities and is committed to the protection of the environment and the reasonable prevention of pollution related to its activities and services.	Equifax have supported local charities for many years and management and staff take part in fund raising activities regularly to continue to support our charitable partners. The board is committed to creating a healthy work environment for our colleagues and to do so in a way that is also beneficial for the environment we live in. Equifax Limited implemented an effective environmental management system, certified against the ISO 14001:2015 standard. The certification held shows our ongoing commitment to reduce our impact to the environment and promote sustainability within the organisation.	In 2020 Equifax chose St Vincent's as the charity partner. Staff regularly raise funds for the support centre, come and volunteer on a regular basis and offer their expertise to assist with things such as employment support. Through fundraising efforts in the year Equifax raised sufficient funds for a new IT suite for the centre. In the London office all monies raised go to Theodora and since 2015 Equifax has raised over £50,000 for the charity. The board have a sub board "The Environmental Management Board" that regularly update the board of environmental matters. Ahead of this year the environmental board had set some key objectives to reduce the environmental impact of the company. In 2020 aided by the reduction in activity as a result of COVID, the board saw big strides in their goals. More details on this can be found in the boards annual SECR report in the directors report page 14. Our work spaces include recycling and waste segregation stations, energy efficient lighting with auto motion

Strategic Report (continued)

		sensors, and time controlled air conditioning with auto shut-off out of hours. Colleagues are also offered a cycle to work scheme and provided secure cycle racks, showers and lockers.

Decision making and principal decisions

The Board has made numerous decisions through the fiscal year, either directly though Board meetings or via delegations to senior management or committees. The Board has remained mindful and considerate of the potential impacts on key stakeholders and factored their respective needs and concerns into all discussions and decision making in accordance with s172 of the Companies Act 2006. Not every decision made by the Board impacts all stakeholders and decisions will have differing levels of impact of respective shareholders. Major decisions and considerations made by the Board during the fiscal year include:

- Approval of the 2019 Annual Accounts and Financial Statements.
- Approval of the UK Tax Strategy Statement.
- Decision to seek funding (£20m loan) to manage working capital
- Decision to not furlough any employees, all staff received full pay and incentives.
- Dividend Policy
- COVID-19 Management (Employee wellbeing and business continuity)
- Operational Management, government schemes available to support business

Future developments and Post Balance Sheet Events

The directors are confident of the long term prospects of the company, which is well established with a diversified portfolio of products and clients. The general level of activity in the forthcoming year is expected to be above levels in 2020 as the UK economy continues to recover from the impact of COVID-19 with the roll-out of a vaccine program.

Since the balance sheet date, the landscape of the economy has continued to be plagued by uncertainty as a result of the continued impact of the Covid-19 virus which was declared an international pandemic by the World Health Organisation in 2020. COVID-19 had and still is creating huge social and economic uncertainty across the UK putting many citizens and businesses at financial risk. The UK government imposed another UK wide lockdown to tackle the spread of the virus.

In response to the pandemic, many of Equifax clients have seen reductions in the levels of their activity due to many businesses being forced to close again in January 2021 as further government restriction were put in place to tackle the spread of the virus. As a result the company saw a reduction in the use of Equifax's services, which has changed Equifax's financial outlook compared to initial budget.

Further details of significant events since the balance sheet date are contained in note 18 to the financial statement on page 36.

By order of the Board

DocuSigned by:
Suzanne Brown
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S Brown
Director

August 11, 2021

Directors' Report (continued)

The directors present their report for the year ended 31 December 2020

Directors of the company

The current directors are shown on page 1.

S Brown
P Heywood
J Lewis (resigned 05 February 2021)
J Nair (resigned 05 February 2021)
P Remon
W Au (appointed 02 October 2020)

Dividends

During the year the company did not repatriated any dividends to the parent company (2019: £1.8m).

Future developments and events after the balance sheet date

Details of future developments and events that have occurred after the balance sheet date can be found in the Strategic Report on pages 2 to 11 and form part of this report by cross-reference.

COVID-19

The outbreak of COVID-19 has created huge social and economic uncertainty across the UK putting many citizens and businesses at financial risk.

In response to the pandemic, many of Equifax clients have seen reductions in the levels of their activity and resulted in lower use of Equifax's services, which has changed EFX's financial outlook compared to prior years and 2020 budget.

Equifax saw an immediate reduction in PayGo activity as demand for credit reduced across all industry segments, this was particularly noticeable in the Auto industry as all car showrooms closed and it is traditionally an industry where business is still conducted face to face.

Equifax has responded quickly to meet the changing needs of clients, developing new scores and characteristics to account for government regulation changes and short term shocks during the pandemic.

Going concern

The company's business activities, together with the factors likely to affect its future development, performance and position are set out in the Strategic Report on pages 2 to 11. At 31 December 2020, the company had £32.7m (2019: £6.2m) of cash at bank and in hand. The company had no external long-term or short-term borrowings. During the year, the company entered into an interest bearing intercompany loan agreement with Equifax International Treasury Services Limited for £20m. The loan attracts interest at an annual rate of 1.2% which is payable in arrears on a monthly basis, and the loan principal is repayable in full in October 2025. The purpose of the loan is to support working capital requirements and ongoing investment heading into 2021.

During the year the company generated a loss after tax of (£0.07)m (2019: £7.8m profit). At the year end the company's balance sheet has net assets of £47.0m (2019 £47.0m) and has net current assets of £29.7m (2019 £15.4m)

Given the significant impact of Covid-19, the directors have undertaken a financial assessment of the company and prepared a summary of the impact expected over a period to 31 August 2022. The company has also obtained a letter of parental support from Equifax Inc, the company's ultimate parent undertaking. Management are confident the company has adequate resources and parental support available as well as debt facilities in place to meet liabilities as they fall due.

Directors' Report (continued)

Going concern (Continued)

The Directors have prepared cash flow forecasts for a period to 31st August 2022 supporting their conclusions. These forecasts reflect and consider:

- Profit forecasted to be generated by the Company applying forecasts endorsed and approved at Board and Group level
- The Company's working capital requirements over the period including assumptions over seasonal increases in working capital requirements
- The economic impact on our business using Oxford Economics data
- The planned extent of capital expenditure and future investment across the Company.
- The direct impact of Covid-19 recovery, impacting product and sector mix
- The company's current financing structure, including the £20m intercompany loan agreement as referred to above.

As part of the assessment, the Directors have also modelled possible downside scenarios to the base case. One scenario including performing a reverse stress testing for the Company which models a decline in performance comfortably in excess of that experienced by the Company historically and during the Covid-19 pandemic. The stress testing scenarios illustrated that as a result of the intercompany loan the company will be in a position to withstand the financial impact of a more significant decline in revenue in the case of unforeseen reduction in economic activity.

The company has considerable financial resources together with long term contracts with a number of customers and suppliers across different geographic areas and industries. As a consequence, the directors believe that the company is well placed to manage its business risks.

Based upon the forecasts, the directors consider the company's operating and other future cash flows are such that the company will have sufficient funds through parental support and committed intercompany credit facilities to meet its liabilities as they fall due through the forecast period to 31 August 2022.

The Directors have considered ability of the parent company to provide support and are satisfied that the parent company is able to provide that support given that Equifax Inc has largely been unaffected by the Covid-19 pandemic, generates cash from its operations, has significant cash reserves and an available credit facility maturity in September 2023 against which there are currently no borrowings.

Accordingly, the Directors have concluded that the Company has adequate resources to continue to meet its liabilities as they fall due for a period to 31 August 2022. Therefore, the Directors are satisfied they have a reasonable basis upon which to conclude that it remains appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

Credit risk

The company's principal financial assets are bank balances, trade and other receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows.

The company has some concentration of credit risk, as cash resources are managed with two banking institutions. In respect of trade and other receivables however, any credit exposure is spread over a large number of customers.

Liquidity risk

At 31 December 2020 the company had a cash balance of £32.7m (2019: £6.2m). The company has no long-term or short-term debt from non-group sources. The company continues to have positive cash position and the directors are confident that it has the resources to meet its obligations in the coming twelve months.

Directors' Report *(continued)*

Political contributions

During the year the company made no political donations (2019: nil).

Disabled employees

Applications for employment by disabled persons are always fully considered, bearing in mind the aptitudes of the applicant concerned. In the event of staff becoming disabled, every effort is made to ensure that their employment with the company continues and that appropriate training is arranged.

Employee consultation

Equifax Limited places considerable value on the involvement of its employees and keeps them informed on matters affecting them as employees and on various factors affecting the performance of the company. Employees are consulted on a wide range of matters affecting their current and future interests via the Employee Forum.

Statement as to the disclosure of information to the auditors

Each of the persons who is a director at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- so far as the directors are aware there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and
- the directors have taken all steps that ought to have been taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the entity's auditors are aware of this information.

This confirmation is given and should be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of s418 of the Companies Act 2006.

Auditors

A resolution to reappoint Ernst & Young LLP as auditors will be proposed to members at the Annual General Meeting.

Equifax Limited and TDX Group Limited SECR Annual Report

Introduction

The below SECR disclosure has been prepared on an Equifax Limited and TDX Group combined basis. Equifax Limited and TDX Group are related parties part of the combined Equifax group and with the same ultimate parental controlling party. The two companies operate with share facilities, IT resources and people resources. It is therefore not practical to disclose on an individual entity basis.

Purpose of this report

In accordance with the UK Government's Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR) policy implemented 1 April 2019, The directors are including the required information as part of Directors Report

Report Date Range: **January 2020 - December 2020**

Directors' report (continued)

Equifax Limited and TDX Group Limited SECR Annual Report (continued)

UK energy use for the current financial year

The annual energy usage stats for Equifax and TDX Group include, as a minimum, energy use from purchased electricity, gas and transport across our four UK based offices in London, Leeds, and Nottingham.

These are as follows:

Data Point	Totals
Electricity (kWh)	576,557
Gas (kWh)	78,730
Company Car Mileage (km)	164,965
Grey Fleet Mileage (km)	113,444
Short Haul Flights (km)	94,462
Long Haul Flights (km)	269,704
Train Mileage (km)	73,318

Associated GHG (Greenhouse Gas) emissions for the current financial year

We have calculated the annual equivalent quantity of emissions of greenhouse gasses in tonnes of carbon dioxide based on the figures gained by carrying out the energy usage tracking in our UK offices. We have used the conversion factors provided by the Carbon Trust to work out our equivalent carbon footprint.

Data Point	Totals	Conversion (Carbon Trust)	GHG (CO2) Kilograms
Electricity (kWh)	576,557	0.41205	237,570.31
Gas (kWh)	78,730	0.183997	14,486.08
Company Car Mileage (km)	164,965	0.29461	48,600.34
Grey Fleet Mileage (km)	113,444	0.30875	35,025.84
Short Haul Flights (km)	94,462	0.01791	1,691.81
Long Haul Flights (km)	269,704	0.02838	7,654.20
Train Mileage (km)	73,318	0.04885	3,581.58

Emissions data Intensity Ratio

To allow us to express our emissions data using an appropriate metric or financial indicator for the business (so as to 'normalise' the collected data in a quantifiable way), we have chosen to use the calculations gained from the above GHG conversions against the square footage of our various offices to reach this figure (kilograms of CO2e per total square metres).

Directors' report (continued)

Equifax Limited and TDX Group Limited SECR Annual Report (continued)

Data Point	Totals	Conversion (Carbon Trust)	GHG (CO2) Kilograms	Intensity Ratio (Sq. Ft)	GHG (CO2) Kilograms per SQ. Ft. of UK office space
Electricity (kWh)	576,557	0.41205	237,570.31	72,172	3.291724101
Gas (kWh)	78,730	0.183997	14,486.08	72,172	0.20071612
Company Car Mileage (km)	164,965	0.29461	48,600.34	72,172	0.6733960352
Grey Fleet Mileage (km)	113,444	0.30875	35,025.84	72,172	0.4853105775
Short Haul Flights (km)	94,462	0.01791	1,691.81	72,172	0.02344142354
Long Haul Flights (km)	269,704	0.02838	7,654.20	72,172	0.1060549731
Train Mileage (km)	73,318	0.04885	3,581.58	72,172	0.04962567616

Energy efficiency actions taken during the financial year

In order to try and improve the energy efficiency of our offices, we have in place, or have implemented the following measures:

Real Estate: During 2020 we re-evaluated our space requirement in Leeds, vacating a number of floors totalling approximately 16,000 square feet of real estate, and reducing our energy consumption associated with providing this real estate.

Travel Management: During 2020 we implemented a blanket internal travel policy. This included a ban on unauthorised company travel. We have also appointed a European Travel Programme Administrator. A key focus of this role is to highlight and report travel policy violations.

Environmental Management: In addition to our existing ISO 14001:2015 held by TDX Group Limited (Nottingham), during 2019 Equifax Limited (London, and Leeds) also implemented an environmental management system and achieved certification to the same accreditation. Both certifications have passed external audit and continue to be active in 2020.

COVID19: During the middle and later part of 2020, Covid19 has resulted in a large reduction in travel both site to site and internationally within Equifax and TDX group, as well as large reductions in Energy usage across sites.

Information about the methodologies used to calculate disclosures

The following is the methodology that we have used to calculate the above records and information.

UK energy use for the current financial year: The figures for the energy usage and travel included in the above tables are a combined total of all usage across our UK sites, London, Leeds and Nottingham

Directors' report (continued)

Associated GHG (Greenhouse Gas) emissions for the current financial year: The figures quoted for Associated GHG emissions are calculated from our raw data as outlined above using the conversion rate provided by The Carbon Trust, Details of the conversion factors are at the following website:

https://www.carbontrust.com/resources/guides/carbon-footprinting-and-reporting/conversion-factors/

Emissions data Intensity Ratio: We have chosen to use the square footage of our offices as our data intensity ratio, these figures are taken from our lease documents for each site and are a combined figure for all UK sites, London, Leeds, and Nottingham.

ISO 14001:2015 Management System: Both Equifax Limited (London, and Leeds), and TDX Group Limited (Nottingham) are certified to ISO 14001:2015. The respective certificate numbers are as follows:

Equifax UK Limited - EMS 718851
TDX Group Limited - EMS 632836

DocuSigned by:
Suzanne Brown
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By order of the Board

S Brown
Director

August 11, 2021

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the strategic report, the 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 period.

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 accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures 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 proper 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 members of Equifax Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Equifax Limited for the year ended 31 December 2020 which comprise the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Financial Position and the related notes 1 to 19, including a summary of significant accounting policies The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2020 and of its loss 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.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of matter - Investigation by the FCA

We draw attention to Note 19 of the financial statements, which describes the uncertainty of the outcome of the investigation from the Financial Conduct Authority. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period from when the financial statements are authorised for issue to 31 August 2022.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report. However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this statement is not a guarantee as to the company's ability to continue as a going concern

Independent Auditor's Report

to the members of Equifax Limited (continued)

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of the other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions 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 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 the 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 or directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which 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.

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement set out on page 18, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect irregularities, including fraud. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both those charged with governance of the entity and management.

Our approach was as follows:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the company and determined that the most significant are those that relate to the reporting framework (FRS 102 and the Companies Act 2006) and the relevant tax laws and regulations in the UK. In addition, we concluded that there are certain significant laws and regulations which may have an effect on the determination of the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements being those laws and regulations relating to health and safety, employee matters, General Data Protection Regulations, Information Commissioner's Office and Financial Conduct Authority.
- We understood how Equifax Limited is complying with those frameworks by making enquiries of those charged with governance and management, including those responsible for legal and compliance procedures, to understand how the company maintains and communicates its policies and procedures in these areas. We corroborated our enquiries through our review of board minutes and papers provided to the Audit Committee as well as observations in Audit Committee meetings. We also made inquiries of management to identify if there are matters where there is a risk of breach of such frameworks that could have a material adverse impact on the company, as well as consideration of the results of our audit procedures across the company.
- We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur by meeting with management to understand where it considered there was a susceptibility to fraud. We considered the programmes and controls that the company has established to address risks identified, or that otherwise prevent, deter and detect fraud; and how senior management monitors those programmes and controls. Where the risk was considered to be higher, we performed audit procedures to address each identified fraud risk. These procedures included testing manual journals and were designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from fraud and error. Specifically, we identified a fraud risk in relation to revenue recognition and performed detailed audit procedures over the revenue accounts utilising our analytics tools and paying particular attention to manual journals in order to address the risk of management override. We also identified a fraud risk in relation to the capitalisation of internal costs within the deferred programming intangible asset and performed detailed testing of amounts capitalised on a sample basis, agreeing those amounts to supporting documentation and ensuring that the criteria for capitalisation were met.
- Based on this understanding we designed our audit procedures to identify noncompliance with such laws and regulations. In addition to those set out above, we completed procedures to conclude on the compliance of the disclosures in the Annual Report and Financial Statements with the requirements of the relevant accounting standards and UK legislation. If any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations were identified, we reviewed the results of management's own investigation into the causes of the non-compliance and we also performed sufficient and appropriate independent audit procedures, including meeting with the company's external advisors. Where appropriate we consulted our internal specialists.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the

Financial Reporting Council's website at https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Independent Auditor's Report
to the members of Equifax Limited (continued)

Use of our report

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.

Ernst & Young LLP

Tim Helm (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Ernst & Young LLP (Statutory Auditor)
Leeds

11 August 2021

Registered No: 02425920

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 31 December 2020

	Notes	2020 £000	2019 £000
Turnover	3	118,796	126,240
Cost of sales		(65,975)	(64,487)
Gross profit		52,821	61,753
Administrative expenses		(46,329)	(43,542)
Profit on ordinary activities before finance charges and exceptional items	4	6,492	18,211
Exceptional item – Security Remediation & Transformation		(7,459)	(11,672)
(Loss)/profit on ordinary activities before finance charges		(967)	6,539
Interest receivable and similar income	6	15	30
Interest payable and similar charges	6	(111)	(59)
(Loss)/profit on ordinary activities before taxation		(1,063)	6,510
Tax on (Loss)/profit on ordinary activities	7	997	1,312
Comprehensive (loss) income for the financial year		(66)	7,822

All the results arose from continuing operations.

The company has no other comprehensive income or losses for the years ended 31 December 2020 and 31 December 2019.

Total Comprehensive Income is entirely attributed to the owners of the parent company.

Statement of Changes of Equity

for the year ended 31 December 2020

	Share capital *£000*	*Share premium* *£000*	*Share-based payment reserve* *£000*	*Profit and loss account* *£000*	*Total share-holder's funds* *£000*
At 1 January 2019	3,035	13,185	916	12,957	30,093
Share-based payment charge	-	-	356	-	356
Share based payments reimbursed to Equifax Inc	-	-	(356)	-	(356)
Issue of shares	-	10,890	-	-	10,890
Profit for the year	-	-	-	7,822	7,822
Dividends paid	-	-	-	(1,760)	(1,760)
At 31 December 2019	3,035	24,075	916	19,019	47,045
Share-based payment charge	-	-	609	-	609
Share based payments reimbursed to Equifax Inc	-	-	(609)	-	(609)
Issue of shares	-	-	-	-	-
Profit for the year	-	-	-	(66)	(66)
Dividends paid	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2020	3,035	24,075	916	18,953	46,979

Registered No: 02425920

Statement of Financial Position
as at 31 December 2020

	Notes	*2020 £000*	*2019 £000*
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	9	31,259	25,712
Tangible assets	10	6,059	9,438
		37,318	35,150
Current assets			
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	11	27,526	34,585
Debtors: amounts falling due after more than one year	11	1,836	1,110
Cash at bank and in hand		32,680	6,193
		62,043	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(32,381)	(26,493)
Net current assets		29,661	15,395
Total assets less current liabilities		66,979	50,545
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	12	(20,000)	(3,500)
Net assets		46,979	47,045
Capital and reserves			
Called-up share capital	13	3,035	3,035
Share premium		24,075	24,075
Share-based payment reserve		916	916
Profit and loss account		18,953	19,019
Shareholder's funds		46,979	47,045

The financial statements were approved for issue by the board of directors on August 11, 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

Suzanne Brown

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S Brown
Director

Notes to the Financial Statements
at 31 December 2020

1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. They have all been applied consistently throughout the year and the preceding year.

a. General information and basis of accounting

Equifax Limited is a company incorporated in England and Wales under the Companies Act and is a privately owned company limited by shares. The address of the registered office is given on page 1. The nature of the company's operations and its principal activities are set out in the Strategic Report on pages 2 to 11.

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102) with reduced disclosures as it applies to the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 December 2020.

The functional currency of Equifax Limited is considered to be pounds sterling because that is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the company operates. The financial statements are rounded to the nearest £'000.

The company meets the definition of a qualifying entity under FRS102 and has taken advantage of the disclosure exemptions available to it. Exemptions have been taken in relation to:

- Exemption from FRS102 17(d) of Section 7 from disclosure to prepare a cash flow statement.
- Exemption from FRS102 33.7 from disclosure of transactions with key personnel.
- Exemption from FRS102 33 (1A) from disclosure of transactions entered into between two or more members of a group provided that any subsidiary which is part to the transaction is wholly owned by such a member.
- Exemption from the requirements of Section 26 Share-based payments paragraphs 26.18(b), 26.19 to 26.21 and 26.23.

b. Going concern

The company's business activities, together with the factors likely to affect its future development, performance and position are set out in the Strategic Report on pages 2 to 11. At 31 December 2020, the company had £32.7m (2019: £6.2m) of cash at bank and in hand. The company had no external long-term or short-term borrowings. During the year, the company entered into an interest bearing intercompany loan agreement with Equifax International Treasury Services Limited for £20m. The loan attracts interest at an annual rate of 1.2% which is payable in arrears on a monthly basis, and the loan principal is repayable in full in October 2025. The purpose of the loan is to support working capital requirements and ongoing investment heading into 2021.

During the year the company generated a loss after tax of (£0.07)m (2019: £7.8m). At the year end the company's balance sheet has net assets of £47.0m (2019 £47.0m) and has net current assets of £29.7m (2019 £15.4m)

Given the significant impact of Covid-19, the directors have undertaken a financial assessment of the company and prepared a summary of the impact expected over a period to 31 August 2022. The company has also obtained a letter of parental support from Equifax Inc, the company's ultimate parent undertaking. Management are confident the company has adequate resources and parental support available as well as debt facilities in place to meet liabilities as they fall due.

The Directors have prepared cash flow forecasts for a period to 31st August 2022 supporting their conclusions. These forecasts reflect and consider:

- Profit forecasted to be generated by the Company applying forecasts endorsed and approved at Board and Group level

Notes to the Financial Statements
at 31 December 2020

1. Accounting policies (continued)

b. Going concern (continued)

- The Company's working capital requirements over the period including assumptions over seasonal increases in working capital requirements
- The economic impact on our business using Oxford Economics data
- The planned extent of capital expenditure and future investment across the Company.
- The direct impact of Covid-19 recovery, impacting product and sector mix
- The company's current financing structure, including the £20m intercompany loan agreement as referred to above.

As part of the assessment, the Directors have also modelled possible downside scenarios to the base case. One scenario including performing a reverse stress testing for the Company which models a decline in performance comfortably in excess of that experienced by the Company historically and during the Covid-19 pandemic. The stress testing scenarios illustrated that as a result of the intercompany loan the company will be in a position to withstand the financial impact of a more significant decline in revenue in the case of unforeseen reduction in economic activity.

The company has considerable financial resources together with long term contracts with a number of customers and suppliers across different geographic areas and industries. As a consequence, the directors believe that the company is well placed to manage its business risks.

Based upon the forecasts, the directors consider the company's operating and other future cash flows are such that the company will have sufficient funds through parental support and committed intercompany credit facilities to meet its liabilities as they fall due through the forecast period to 31 August 2022.

The Directors have considered ability of the parent company to provide support and are satisfied that the parent company is able to provide that support given that Equifax Inc has largely been unaffected by the Covid-19 pandemic, generates cash from its operations, has significant cash reserves and an available credit facility maturity in September 2023 against which there are currently no borrowings.

Accordingly, the Directors have concluded that the Company has adequate resources to continue to meet its liabilities as they fall due for a period to 31 August 2022. Therefore, the Directors are satisfied they have a reasonable basis upon which to conclude that it remains appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

c. Intangible assets – research and development

Research expenditure is written off as incurred. Development expenditure is also written off, except where the directors are satisfied as to the technical, commercial and financial viability of individual projects. Development costs include programming costs that are separately identifiable and deferred as and when they are incurred in the development of commercially exploitable systems and amortised over the period during which the company is expected to benefit. This period is between 3 and 10 years. Provision is made for any impairment.

d. Intangible assets – licenses & purchased databases

Separately acquired licenses and customer databases are included at cost less accumulated amortisation. Software licenses are amortised in equal instalments over a period of 3 to 7 years which is their estimated useful economic life. Purchased databases are amortised over a period of 8 to 15 years. Provision is made for any impairment.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)
at 31 December 2020

1. Accounting policies (continued)

e. Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

Leasehold improvements	period of lease
Equipment and software	3 to 10 years

Residual value represents the estimated amount which would currently be obtained from disposal of an asset, after deducting estimated costs of disposal, if the asset were already of the age and in the condition expected at the end of its useful life.

f. Impairment of assets

Assets, other than those measured at fair value, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each balance sheet date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised in the profit or loss as described below.

Where indicators exist for a decrease in impairment loss, the prior impairment loss is tested to determine reversal. An impairment loss is reversed on an individual impaired asset to the extent that the revised recoverable value does not lead to a revised carrying amount higher than the carrying value had no impairment been recognised.

g. Taxation

Current tax, including UK corporation tax and foreign tax, is provided at amounts 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 taxation is provided in full on timing differences which result in an obligation at the balance sheet date to pay more tax, or a right to pay less tax at a future date, at rates expected to apply when they crystallise based on current tax rates and law.

Unrelieved tax losses and other deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that, on the basis of all available evidence, it can be regarded as 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 assets are recognised only to the extent that the directors consider that it is more likely than not that there will be suitable profits from which the future reversal of the underlying timing differences can be deducted. Deferred tax liabilities and assets are not discounted.

h. Turnover

Turnover comprises the value of sales (excluding VAT and trade discounts) of services provided in the normal course of business. Sales are recognised as services are provided. Turnover from the supply of services represents the value of services provided under contracts to the extent that there is a right to consideration and is recorded at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Where a contract has only been partially completed at the balance sheet date turnover represents the fair value of the service provided to date based on the stage of completion of the contract activity at the balance sheet date.

Where payments are received from customers in advance of services provided; the amounts are recorded as deferred income and included as part of creditors due within one year.

i. Employee benefits

The company provides a defined contribution pension scheme. The amounts charged to the profit and loss account are the contributions payable in the year. The pension charge for the year was £2,452,000 (2019: £2,382,000). The amount of employer contributions payable at the year-end was £249,000 (2019: £nil).

Notes to the financial statements (continued)
at 31 December 2020

1. Accounting policies (continued)

j. Foreign currency

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange at the date of the transaction or, if hedged, at the related forward contract rate. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are reported at the rates of exchange prevailing at that date or at any related forward contract rate. Any gain or loss arising from a change in exchange rates subsequent to the date of the transaction is included as an exchange gain or loss in the profit and loss account.

k. Leases

The company enters into operating leases. Rentals under operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the lease term, even if the payments are not made on such a basis. Benefits received and receivable as an incentive to sign an operating lease are similarly spread on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

l. Borrowing costs

Interest is expensed as incurred.

m. Share-based payments

The parent company, Equifax Inc. grants share options to certain employees. The cost of equity-settled transactions is measured at fair value at the date at which they are granted and is recognised as an expense over the vesting period, which ends on the date on which the relevant employees become fully entitled to the award. Fair value is determined by an external valuer using the binomial pricing model. In valuing equity-settled transactions, no account is taken of any vesting conditions. No expense is recognised for shares that do not ultimately vest. The company reimburses Equifax Inc. for the provision of share options to certain employees equal to the fair value of the share options.

n. Exceptional items

The company presents operating exceptional items on the face of the income statement. These are items of income and expense which, because of the nature and expected infrequency of the events giving rise to them, the Directors consider merit separate presentation to provide a better and more consistent indication of the company's underlying financial performance and more meaningful comparison with prior and future periods to assess trends in financial performance.

2. Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the company's accounting policies, which are described in note 1, the directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources.

The estimates and associated 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.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)
at 31 December 2020

3. Turnover

The whole of the company's turnover relates to its principal activity and derives from continuing operations. The origins and destination of turnover is predominantly within the UK. Sales are recognised as services are provided and are stated net of value added tax.

	2020	*2019*
	£000	*£000*
Provision of services	118,796	126,240

4. (Loss) / profit on ordinary activities before finance charges

Profit / (loss) on ordinary activities before finance charges is stated after charging:

	2020	*2019*
	£000	*£000*
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	3,708	2,984
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	6,000	4,414
Exceptional Item	7,459	11,672
Other operating lease rentals		
- property rentals	1,587	2,332
- other	105	120
Auditor's remuneration	128	116

The exceptional items include specialist IT and security contractors as well as software and infrastructure technology, consumer liaison staff, legal advisors, project management consultants. This is the final year of the exceptional costs related to this activity as remediation efforts were substantially completed in 2020. The audit fees of related companies are borne by the company.

5. Staff numbers and costs

The average monthly number of employees (including executive directors) was:

	2020	*2019*
	Number	*Number*
Operations	431	407
Administration	52	49
	483	456

Their aggregate remuneration comprised:

	2020	*2019*
	£000	*£000*
Wages and salaries	58,110	62,340
Social security costs	4,583	4,399
Other pension costs (note 1(i))	2,452	2,382
Redundancy costs	506	2,009
	65,651	71,130

Notes to the financial statements (continued)
at 31 December 2020

5. Staff numbers and costs (continued)

Included in wages and salaries is a total cost of share-based payments of £609,000 (2019: £356,000) which arises from transactions accounted for as equity-settled share-based payment transactions.

Directors' remuneration

The total amounts for directors' remuneration and other benefits were as follows:

	2020	*2019*
	£000	*£000*
Emoluments	1,337	1,540
Company contributions to a defined contribution pension scheme	50	17
	1,387	1,557

The number of directors for whom retirement benefits are accruing under defined contribution schemes amounted to 3 (2019 – 3).

The number of directors who exercised share options during the period amounted to 1 (2019 – 1).

The number of directors who received shares under the group's long term incentive scheme amounted to 2 (2019 – 2).

Highest paid director

The above amounts for remuneration include the following in respect of the highest paid director:

	2020	*2019*
	£000	*£000*
Emoluments	503	1,050

The highest paid director did exercise share options during the period and in 2019.

The highest paid director received shares under the group's long term incentive scheme during the year and in 2019.

6. Finance income and costs

Interest receivable and similar income

	2020	*2019*
	£000	*£000*
Other interest receivable	15	30
	15	30

Interest payable and similar charges

	2020	*2019*
	£000	*£000*
Interest payable on loans from group undertakings	111	59
	111	59

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

at 31 December 2020

7. Taxation on (loss) / profit on ordinary activities

(a) Tax on (loss) / profit on ordinary activities

The tax charge is made up as follows:

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Current tax:		
UK corporation tax at 19.00%	-	159
Adjustment in respect of prior years	(271)	(1,627)
Total current tax	(271)	(1,468)
Deferred tax:		
Origination and reversal of timing differences	(1,526)	(1,086)
Movement in short term timing differences	(28)	(46)
Adjustment in respect of prior year deferred tax	858	1,169
Effect of rate changes	(30)	119
Total deferred tax (note 7(c))	(726)	156
Tax on (loss) / profit on ordinary activities	(997)	(1,312)

(b) Factors affecting current tax charge

The tax assessed for the year is lower than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19% (2019 – 19%).

The differences are reconciled below:

	2020 £000	2019 £000
(Loss) / profit on ordinary activities before tax	(1,063)	6,510
(Loss) / profit on ordinary activities multiplied by the rate of tax 19.00% (2019: 19.00%)	(202)	1,237
Effects of:		
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	(21)	(25)
Group relief received for no consideration	(1,331)	(2,184)
Adjustment in respect of prior year current tax	(271)	(1,628)
Adjustment in respect of prior year deferred tax	858	1,169
Changes in tax laws and rates	(30)	119
Total tax credit (note 7 (a))	(997)	(1,312)

Notes to the financial statements (continued)
at 31 December 2020

7. Taxation on (loss) / profit on ordinary activities (continued)

(c) Deferred tax

	£000
At 1 January 2020	1,110
Charged to profit and loss account (note 7(a))	726
At 31 December 2020 (note 11)	1,836

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Representing:		
Decelerated capital allowances	1,597	911
Share based payments	171	127
Short term timing differences	68	72
	1,836	1,110

This primarily relates to the reversal of timing differences on acquired intangible and tangible assets and capital allowances through depreciation and amortisation, offset by expected tax deductions when payments are made to utilise provisions.

(d) Factors affecting future tax charges

The 2016 Summer Finance Bill, which was enacted in September 2016, included provision to reduce the rate of UK corporation tax to 17% with effect from 1 April 2020. Accordingly, 17% had been applied when calculating deferred tax assets and liabilities as at 31 December 2019. During the year, the 2020 Finance Act reverted the tax rate back to 19% as such 19% had been applied when calculating deferred tax assets and liabilities as at 31 December 2020. The March 2021 Budget announced a further increase to the main rate of corporation tax to 25% from April 2023. This rate had not been substantively enacted at the balance sheet date and as a result deferred tax balances as at 31 December 2020 continue to be measured at 19%.

8. Dividends on equity shares

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Ordinary: paid on ordinary shares	-	1,760

Notes to the financial statements (continued)
at 31 December 2020

9. Intangible fixed assets

	Software licence fees £000	*Deferred programming costs £000*	*Total £000*
Cost:			
At 1 January 2020	3,064	31,252	34,316
Additions	63	11,484	11,547
Retirements	(6)	(2,293)	(2,299)
At 31 December 2020	3,121	40,443	43,564
Amortisation:			
At 1 January 2020	1,287	7,317	8,604
Charge for the year	814	5,186	6,000
Retirements	(6)	(2,293)	(2,299)
At 31 December 2020	2,095	10,210	12,305
Net book value			
At 31 December 2020	1,026	30,233	31,259
At 31 December 2019	1,777	23,935	25,712

Amortisation is charged to administrative expenses in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment and software £000	*Leasehold improvements £000*	*Total £000*
Cost:			
At 1 January 2020	17,143	2,045	19,188
Additions	293	36	329
Retirements	(1,693)	(785)	(2,478)
At 31 December 2020	15,743	1,296	17,039
Depreciation:			
At 1 January 2020	8,721	1,029	9,750
Charge for the year	3,512	196	3,708
Retirements	(1,693)	(785)	(2,478)
At 31 December 2020	10,540	440	10,980
Net book value			
At 31 December 2020	5,203	856	6,059
At 31 December 2019	8,422	1,016	9,438

Depreciation is charged to administrative expenses in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)
at 31 December 2020

11. Debtors

	2020 *£000*	*2019* *£000*
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	19,166	23,586
Amounts owed by group undertakings	1,225	1,780
Prepayments and accrued income	6,403	7,710
Other debtors	5	46
Corporation tax	727	1,463
	27,526	34,585
Amounts falling due after more than one year:		
Deferred taxation (note 7(c))	1,836	1,110
	1,836	1,110

12. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020 *£000*	*2019* *£000*
Trade creditors	2,911	2,699
Amounts owed to group undertakings	5,391	2,273
Other taxation and social security	9,415	5,561
Accruals and deferred income	14,664	15,960
	32,381	26,493
Amounts falling due after more than one year:		
Amounts owed to group undertakings	20,000	3,500
	20,000	3,500

Amounts owed to group undertaking falling due within one year includes an un-secured interest bearing loan with interest due annually and a redemption date of 01 May 2021. Amounts owed to group undertaking falling due after more than one year includes an un-secured interest bearing loan with interest dur monthly and a redemption date of 07 October 2025.

13. Called-up share capital and reserves

		Allotted, called up and fully paid		
		2020		*2019*
	No.	*£000*	*No.*	*£000*
Ordinary shares of £1 each	3,035,302	3,035	3,035,302	3,035

On 13 June 2019 the company issued 100 ordinary shares with a nominal value of £1 per share to Equifax EUA Limited for a consideration of £4,000,000. This gave rise to an increase in the share premium account of £3,999,900.

On 9 December 2019 the company issued 100 ordinary shares with a nominal value of £1 per share to Equifax EUA Limited for a consideration of £6,890,000. This gave rise to an increase in the share premium account of £6,889,900.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)
at 31 December 2020

13. Called-up share capital and reserves (continued)

The company has one class of ordinary shares which carry no right to fixed income.

The company's other reserves are as follows:

The share-based payments reserve represents the cumulative cost of equity-settled transactions.

The profit and loss reserve represents cumulative profits or losses, net of dividends paid and other adjustments.

14. Financial commitments

(a) Lease commitments

At 31 December 2020 the company has future minimum rentals payable under non-cancellable operating leases as set out below:

		2020		*2019*
	Property	*Other*	*Property*	*Other*
	£000	*£000*	*£000*	*£000*
Operating leases amounts payable:				
Within one year	1,273	30	1,587	105
Within 2 to 5 years	3,820	20	5,185	24
After more than 5 years	5,791	-	7,065	-
	10,884	50	13,837	129

(b) Financial commitments

The company has entered into a cancellable contract with an information technology supplier that specifies termination requires a 180 day notice and the minimum amount payable under this agreement is £1,743,000.

The company has entered into various agreements with data suppliers which expire within 1 year. The minimum annual amount payable under these agreements is £1,183,000 (2019: £1,586,000).

The company has entered into an agreement with a data supplier with a minimum spend commitment through to July 2021. The minimum spend requirement under this agreement is £541,000.

15. Share-based payments

(a) Equity-settled share option scheme

The ultimate parent company Equifax Inc. issues share options to certain employees of the company. Options are exercisable at a price equal to the average quoted market price of Equifax Inc.'s shares at the date of grant. The shares vest in three equal instalments commencing 12 months after the grant date. Options expire 10 years after award. Options are forfeited if the employee leaves the company. The options are settled with equity.

(b) Non-vested Stock

The ultimate parent company Equifax Inc. issues non-vested shares of Equifax Inc.'s own common stock to certain employees of the company. Non-vested stock awards are generally subject to cliff vesting over a period between three to five years based on service.

The fair value of non-vested stock is based on the fair market value of Equifax Inc.'s own common stock on the date of grant. However, since the non-vested stock does not pay dividends during the vesting period, the fair value on the date of grant is reduced by the present value of the expected dividends over the requisite service period. The options are settled with equity.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)
at 31 December 2020

16. Related party transactions

During the year the company entered into transactions, in the ordinary course of business, with other related parties. Under the exemption detailed in Note 1 the entity is not required to disclose the transactions with other group entities, however it is required to detail outstanding balances under the following categories:

	Amounts owed by related party *£000*	Amounts owed to related party *£000*
Entities with control over the company		
2020	151	596
2019	460	488
Other group entities		
2020	1,156	24,657
2019	1,320	5,285

Terms and conditions of transactions with related parties

Sales and purchases between related parties are made at normal market prices. Outstanding trade balances are unsecured, interest free and cash settlement is expected within 30 days of invoice.

Outstanding loan balances with entities are unsecured, interest bearing and cash settlement is expected upon maturity.

The company has not provided or benefited from any guarantees for any related party receivables or payables. There were no other related party transactions in the year.

17. Ultimate parent undertaking

The company is a wholly owned subsidiary undertaking of Equifax Inc., a company incorporated in the United States of America. The only group in which the results of the group are consolidated is that headed by the ultimate parent company, Equifax Inc. The ultimate controlling party is Equifax Inc. The consolidated financial statements of Equifax Inc. are available to the public and can be obtained from 1550 Peachtree Street N.W., Atlanta, Georgia, 30309, United States of America.

The immediate parent undertaking and controlling party is Equifax EUA Limited, a company incorporated in England and Wales.

18. Post balance sheet events

Since the balance sheet date, the landscape of the economy has continued to be uncertain as a result of the outbreak of Covid-19 which was declared an international pandemic by the World Health Organisation. COVID-19 had and still is creating huge social and economic uncertainty across the UK putting many citizens and businesses at financial risk.

In response to the pandemic, many of Equifax clients have seen reductions in the levels of their activity due to many businesses being forced to close during the initial government restriction in place to tackle the spread of the virus. The restrictions were once again in place during a considerable period of the year 2021.

As a result the company saw a reduction in the use of Equifax's services, which has changed Equifax's financial outlook compared to 2021 budget.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)
at 31 December 2020

18. Post balance sheet events (continued)

Equifax has seen a reduction in PayGo activity as demand for credit reduced across all industry segments, this was particularly noticeable in the Auto industry as all car showrooms closed and it is traditionally an industry where business is still conducted face to face.

Equifax has responded quickly to meet the changing needs of clients, developing new scores and characteristics to account for government regulation changes and short term shocks during the pandemic. The company and our employees were quickly able to adapt to new working conditions ensuring uninterrupted services for our clients and consumers. As a result the company did not require use of the government furlough scheme. The company did make use of HMRC's VAT and PAYE deferral schemes to manage cash flow during the initial period of uncertainty, which have subsequently been repaid prior to 31 March 2021.

Currently the Directors do not expect any impairment to the carrying value of any assets of the Company as a result of the pandemic.

Management continue to monitor closely the risk associated with the outbreak for Equifax Limited and the wider stakeholders to ensure adequate risk management controls are in place.

19. Contingent Liability

In early September 2017, Equifax Inc., our US parent company, announced it had been the victim of a criminal cyber-attack in May 2017. Although our UK business was not breached, the attack regrettably compromised the personal information of a range of UK consumers. Approximately 860,000 potentially affected U.K. consumers were contacted regarding access to personal information.

Following the cybersecurity incident, we began undertaking significant steps to enhance our data security infrastructure. In connection with these efforts, the company has incurred significant costs and expect to incur additional significant costs as we take further steps to prevent unauthorized access to our systems and the data we maintain. The actions the company has taken are based on our investigation of the causes of the cybersecurity incident, but there will be additional changes needed to prevent a similar incident. The company also enhanced its disclosure controls and procedures and related protocols to specifically provide that cybersecurity incidents are promptly escalated and investigated and reported to senior management, and where appropriate, to the Board of Directors. We also engaged an independent outside consulting firm to help us with both strategic remediation activities and to review our cybersecurity framework, our controls framework and our management and employees' roles and responsibilities. As a result of the significant security and remediation efforts across the company, to date the company has spent £37.4m on non-capital security remediation and transformation efforts, of which £7.5m was spent in 2020 and has been disclosed in the profit and loss account as an exceptional item. The costs were mostly for specialist IT and project management staff as well as other consultancy related fees and software/equipment.

The company is still under investigation from the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). The Company continues to co-operate with the FCA and there is currently no indication of the outcome of the investigation or the exact timing of the ruling. The amount of any financial obligation, if any, which could arise on conclusion of the investigation, cannot be estimated reliably due to the wide-ranging number of outcomes at this stage and therefore no provision has been made in the financial statements.