# **ALLIANCE & LEICESTER** PERSONAL FINANCE LIMITED

Registered in England and Wales Company Number 02486611

> **ANNUAL REPORT AND** FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED **31 DECEMBER 2019** 



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## REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

The Directors submit their report, together with the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019.

This Report of the Directors has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemptions under Sections 415A (1) & (2) of the Companies Act 2006. The Company is also exempt from preparing a Strategic Report in accordance with Section 414B of the Companies Act 2006.

## Principal Activities and review of the year

The principal activity of Alliance & Leicester Personal Finance Limited (the Company) is to recover second charge secured personal loans already advanced to customers. There is no new loan activity.

#### Results and dividends

The profit for the year amounted to £291,000 (2018: £301,000). The Directors do not recommend the payment of a final dividend (2018: fnil)

The Directors are aware of the shareholder's deficit totalling £203m (2018: £203m), but do not believe that a material uncertainty exists on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. The company continues to receive funding from its parent Santander UK plc, when needed.

#### **Directors**

The Directors who served throughout the year and to the date of this report (except as noted) were as follows:

R Attar-Zadeh M J Hall R J Morrison G R White (resigned 8 May 2019) (appointed 8 May 2019)

#### Statement of directors' responsibilities in respect of the financial statements

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulation. Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Directors have prepared the financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union. 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 the financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- state whether applicable IFRSs as adopted by the European Union have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent; 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 also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

#### Statement of Going Concern

The financial position of the Company, its cash flows, liquidity position and borrowing facilities are set out in the financial statements. In addition, notes 2 and 11 to the financial statements include the Company's objectives, policies and processes for managing its capital; its financial risk management objectives and its exposures to operational risk, market risk, liquidity risk and credit risk.

The Company is part of the Santander UK Group (the "Group"). The Company has net liabilities and is reliant on other companies in the Santander UK Group for a significant proportion of its funding. The company is expected to continue in existence for the foreseeable future. The company participates in the group's centralised treasury arrangements and so shares banking arrangements with its parent and fellow subsidiaries.

The Board of Santander UK plc has confirmed that it is a going concern, and that it will provide funding to the Company for the foreseeable future.

The Directors, having assessed the responses of the directors of the company's parent Santander UK plc to their enquiries have no reason to believe that a material uncertainty exists that may cast significant doubt about the ability of Santander UK plc and the Group to continue as a going concern or its ability to continue with the current banking arrangements.

#### Statement of Going Concern (continued)

On the basis of their assessment of the company's financial position and of the enquiries made of the directors of Santander UK plc, the Company's Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company will be able to continue in operational existence for at least the period of 12 months from the date the financial statements are authorised for issue. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual report and financial statements.

The process for the UK leaving the EU impacts the economic, legal and regulatory environment across the financial services industry. The Santander UK group has put in place appropriate plans to address the potential risks and will update and implement in this Company as necessary.

#### COVID-19

The Company is monitoring the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on the financial performance of the Company. The Company is part of the Santander UK Group, which has implemented precautionary measures and protocols based on recommendations from official health authorities, such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and Public Health England. Further such measures may need to be implemented in future, as the situation is complex and is still changing rapidly.

Given the fluidity of the situation, the Company cannot quantify the magnitude and duration of the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak at this time, although there may well be a negative impact on our 2020 financial results. However, the Company does not anticipate any significant change to the carrying value of its assets and liabilities at the reporting date. The Company will continue to monitor and assess its business operations.

#### Brexit and IBOR transition

The process of the UK leaving the EU impacts the economic, legal and regulatory environment for our customers across the financial services industry. In addition, the use of LIBOR, which is expected to cease in 2021, and its transition to (near) Risk Free Reference Rates (RFR) is also a significant issue across the industry. The Santander UK group has put in place appropriate plans to address the potential risks and will update and implement in this Company as necessary.

#### **Qualifying Third Party Indemnities**

Enhanced indemnities are provided to the Directors of the Company by Santander UK Group Holdings plc against liabilities and associated costs which they could incur in the course of their duties to the Company. All of the indemnities remain in force as at the date of this Annual Report and financial statements. All of the indemnities were qualifying third party indemnities. A copy of each of the indemnities is kept at the registered office address of Santander UK Group Holdings plc.

#### Independent Auditors

Each of the Directors as at the date of approval of this report has confirmed that:

- so far as the Director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditors are unaware; and
- the Director has taken all steps that he/she ought to have taken as a Director to make himself/herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditors are aware of that information.

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

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP are re-appointed as auditors under Section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

By Order of the Board

C J Wise For and on behalf of Santander Secretariat Services Limited Secretary Secretary

## 30 November 2020

Registered Office Address: Building 3, Floor 2, Carlton Park, Narborough, Leicester LE19 OAL.

# Independent auditors' report to the members of Alliance & Leicester Personal Finance Limited

# Report on the audit of the financial statements

## **Opinion**

In our opinion, Alliance & Leicester Personal Finance Limited's financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2019 and of its profit and cash flows for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements, included within the Annual Report and Financial Statements (the "Annual Report"), which comprise: the balance sheet as at 31 December 2019; the statement of comprehensive income, cash flow statement and the statement of changes in equity for the year ended; and the notes to the financial statements, which include a description of the significant accounting policies.

## **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities under ISAs (UK) are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## Independence

We remained independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, which includes the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

### Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the directors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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.

## Reporting on other information

The other information comprises all of the information in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify an apparent material inconsistency or material misstatement, we are required to perform procedures to conclude whether there is a material misstatement of the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report based on these responsibilities.

With respect to the Report of the Directors, we also considered whether the disclosures required by the UK Companies Act 2006 have been included.

Based on the responsibilities described above and our work undertaken in the course of the audit, ISAs (UK) require us also to report certain opinions and matters as described below.

# Independent auditors' report to the members of Alliance & Leicester Personal Finance Limited (continued)

Report of the Directors

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, the information given in the Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 December 2019 is consistent with the financial statements and has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we did not identify any material misstatements in the Report of the Directors.

#### Responsibilities for the financial statements and the audit

Responsibilities of the directors for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of directors' responsibilities in respect of the financial statements set out on page 2, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable framework and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The directors are also responsible for such internal control as they 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.

Auditors' 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 auditors' 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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the FRC's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditors' report.

Use of this report

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the company's members as a body in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving these opinions, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

# Other required reporting

### Companies Act 2006 exception reporting

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

- · we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- · the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns.

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

## **Entitlement to exemptions**

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion, the directors were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from preparing a strategic report. We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

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Alay Kabra (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
Milton Keynes
3 ONovember 2020

# STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the years ended 31 December

Continuing Operations	Note	2019 £000	2018 £000
Interest receivable and similar income		344	445
Interest payable and similar charges		(286)	(312)
Net interest income		58	133
Operating profit		58	133
Impairment movement on secured loans and advances	6	308	244
Administrative expenses	3	(6)	(6)
Profit before tax		360	371
Tax charge for the year	4	(69)	(70)
Profit for the year		291	301
Total comprehensive income for the year		291	301

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

# **BALANCE SHEET**

As at 31 December

	Note	2019 £000	2018 £000
Assets			
Deferred tax asset	5	6	8
Financial assets at amortised cost:			
- Loans and advances to customers	10	3,847	4,741
- Due from banks - group undertakings	9	28,619	27,083
Total assets		32,472	31,832
Liabilities			
Financial liabilities at amortised cost:			
- Due to banks - group undertakings	9	234,991	234,704
Other liabilities	7	16	22
Corporation tax		136	68
Total liabilities		235,143	234,794
Share capital	8	40,000	40,000
Accumulated losses		(242,671)	(242,962)
Total equity		(202,671)	(202,962)
Total equity and liabilities		32,472	31,832

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to the small companies regime and the Directors make this statement in accordance with section 414(3) of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors, authorised for issue and signed on its behalf by:

Rachel Morrison, Director 30 November 2020

# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the year ended 31 December

	Share capital	Accumulated losses	Total equity
	£000	£000	£000
Balance at 1 January 2019	40,000	(242,962)	(202,962)
Profit and total comprehensive income for the year		291	291
Balance at 31 December 2019	40,000	(242,671)	(202,671)
	Share capital	Accumulated losses	Total equity
	£000	£000	£000
Balance at 1 January 2018	40,000	(243,263)	(203,263)
Profit and total comprehensive income for the year		301	301
Balance at 31 December 2018	40,000	(242,962)	(202,962)

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

# **CASH FLOW STATEMENT**

For the year ended 31 December		
	2019 £000	2018 £000
Cash flows from operating activities		
Profit before tax	360	371
Decrease in impairment	(308)	(244)
Operating cash flows before changes in operating assets and liabilities	52	127
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Net decrease in loans and advances to customers	1,202	1,268
Net (increase) / decrease/ in other receivables	(1,536)	16,492
Net increase / (decrease) in payables	282	(17,887)
Net cash from operating activities	-	<u>-</u>
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	-	-
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	-	-
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	-	

Where tax assets/liabilities have been group relieved, they are accounted for as operating receivables/payables.

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented, unless otherwise stated.

#### General information

The Company is a private company limited by shares, incorporated and registered in England and Wales and part of Santander UK Group Holdings plc whose ultimate parent is Banco Santander SA. The registered office address of the Company is Building 3, Floor 2, Carlton Park, Narborough, Leicester, LE19 OAL.

#### Basis of preparation

The financial statements of Alliance and Leicester Personal Finance Limited have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and IFRS Interpretations Committee (IFRS IC) interpretations as adopted by the European Union and the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies reporting under IFRS.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and on a going concern basis as disclosed in the Directors' statement of going concern set out in the Report of the Directors.

The functional and presentation currency of the Company is Sterling

#### Recent accounting developments

On 1 January 2019, the Company adopted IFRS 16 "Leases" (IFRS 16). IFRS 16 substantially carries forward the lessor accounting requirements from the previous leasing standard (IAS 17) and a lessor continues to classify its leases as operating leases or finance lease and to account for those two types of leases differently. The accounting policy has not led to material effect to the Company's financial statements or its reserves, since lessor accounting is not impacted by the new standard. The adoption of IFRS 16 is not expected to have a material impact on the Company as it doesn't have any leases.

#### Future accounting developments

At 31 December 2019, for the Company, there were no significant new or revised standards and interpretations, and amendments thereto, which have been issued but which are not yet effective.

#### Financial Instruments

## Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets and liabilities are initially recognised when the Company becomes a party to the contractual terms of the instrument. The Company determines the classification of its financial assets and liabilities at initial recognition and measures a financial asset or financial liability at its fair value plus or minus, in the case of a financial asset or financial liability not at FVTPL, transaction costs that are incremental and directly attributable to the acquisition or issue of the financial asset or financial liabilities carried at fair value through profit or loss are expensed in profit or loss. Immediately after initial recognition, an expected credit loss (ECL) allowance is recognised for financial assets measured at amortised cost.

#### 1. Classification and subsequent measurement

From 1 January 2018, the Company has applied IFRS 9 Financial Instruments and classifies its financial assets in the measurement categories of amortised cost, FVOCI and FVTPL.

The classification and measurement requirements for financial asset debt instruments and financial liabilities are set out below.

#### Financial assets: debt instruments

Debt instruments are those instruments that meet the definition of a financial liability from the issuer's perspective, such as loans. Classification and subsequent measurement of debt instruments depend on the Company's business model for managing the asset, and the cash flow characteristics of the asset.

#### Business model

The business model reflects how the Company manages the assets in order to generate cash flows and, specifically, whether the Company's objective is solely to collect the contractual cash flows from the assets or is to collect both the contractual cash flows and cash flows arising from the sale of the assets. Factors considered in determining the business model for a group of assets include past experience on how the cash flows for these assets were collected, how the assets' performance is evaluated and reported to key management personnel and how risks are assessed and managed.

# 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

#### Financial Instruments (continued)

#### SPPI

Where the business model is to hold assets to collect contractual cash flows or to collect contractual cash flows and sell, the Company assesses whether the assets' cash flows represent SPPI. In making this assessment, the Company considers whether the contractual cash flows are consistent with a basic lending arrangement (i.e. interest includes only consideration for the time value of money, credit risk, other basic lending risks and a profit margin that is consistent with a basic lending arrangement). Where the contractual terms introduce exposure to risk or volatility that is inconsistent with a basic lending arrangement, the related asset is classified and measured at FVTPL.

Based on these factors, the Company classifies its debt instruments into the measurement category of amortised cost.

Financial assets that are held for collection of contractual cash flows where those cash flows represent SPPI, and that are not designated at FVTPL, are measured at amortised cost. The Company's debt instruments consist of the secured loan portfolio which is reflected under 'Loans and advances to customers' in the Balance Sheet and 'Due from banks - group undertakings'. The loans are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. Interest income using the effective interest rate method is reflected in the Statement of Comprehensive income as 'interest receivable and similar income'. The carrying amount of these assets is adjusted by any ECL recognised.

The Company reclassifies financial assets when and only when its business model for managing those assets changes. The reclassification takes place from the start of the first reporting period following the change. Such changes are expected to be very infrequent.

#### Financial liabilities

The Company's financial liabilities consist of 'Due to banks - group undertakings' which are held at amortised cost. Finance costs are charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income using the effective interest rate method and reflected under 'interest payable and similar charges'.

#### 2. Impairment of financial assets

Expected credit losses are recognised on all financial assets at amortised cost. The expected credit loss considers forward looking information to recognise impairment allowances earlier in the lifecycle of a product. A three-stage approach to impairment measurement is adopted as follows:

- Stage 1 the recognition of 12 month expected credit losses (ECL), that is the portion of lifetime expected credit losses from
  default events that are expected within 12 months of the reporting date, if credit risk has not increased significantly since
  initial recognition;
- Stage 2 lifetime expected credit losses for financial instruments for which credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition; and
- Stage 3 lifetime expected credit losses for financial instruments which are credit impaired.

#### The measurement of ECL reflects:

- An unbiased and probability-weighted amount that is determined by evaluating a range of possible outcomes;
- The time value of money, and
- Reasonable and supportable information that is available without undue cost or effort at the reporting date about past events, current conditions and forecasts of future economic conditions.

For more on how ECL is calculated see the Credit risk section of Note 2 Financial Risk Management.

## i) Write-off

A write-off is made when all collection procedures have been completed and is charged against previously established provisions for impairment.

## ii) Recoveries

Recoveries of loan losses are not included in the loan loss allowance, but are taken to income and offset against charges for loan losses. Loan loss recoveries are reflected in the Statement of Comprehensive Income within "Impairment movement on secured loans and advances".

## 3. Derecognition

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows have expired or the Company has transferred its contractual right to receive the cash flows from the assets and either: (1) substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred; or (2) the Company has neither retained nor transferred substantially all of the risks and rewards, but has transferred control. Financial liabilities are derecognised when extinguished, cancelled or expired.

# 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

#### Offsetting financial instruments

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the Balance Sheet when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

#### Presentation of Statement of Comprehensive Income

Due to the fact that the nature of the business is to provide personal loans, the Directors are of the opinion that it is more appropriate to use 'Net Interest Income' rather than 'Revenue' in presenting the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

#### Revenue recognition

Interest income on loans and advances to customers is accrued on a time basis, by reference to the principal outstanding and at the effective interest rate applicable, which is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset to that asset's net carrying amount.

#### interest receivable and payable

Interest income and expense on financial assets and liabilities held at amortised cost is measured using the effective interest rate method, which allocates the interest income or interest expense over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts through the expected life of the financial instrument. Fees integral to the loan yield are included within interest income and expense as part of the effective interest rate calculation.

#### Income taxes including deferred taxes

The tax expense represents the sum of tax currently payable and deferred tax.

Income tax payable on profits, based on the applicable tax law in each jurisdiction, is recognised as an expense in the period in which profits arise. Taxable profit differs from net profit as reported in the Statement of Comprehensive Income because it excludes items of income or expense that are taxable or deductible in other years and it further excludes items that are never taxable or deductible. The liability for current tax is calculated using tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

Deferred income tax is the tax expected to be payable or recoverable on income tax losses available to carry forward and on temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the Financial Statements and is accounted for using the balance sheet liability method. Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognised for all taxable temporary differences and deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that taxable profits will be available against which the assets may be utilised as they reverse. Such deferred tax liabilities are not recognised if the temporary difference arises from goodwill. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are not recognised from the initial recognition of other assets (other than in a business combination) and liabilities in a transaction that affects neither the taxable profit nor the accounting profit.

Deferred tax is calculated at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the period when the liability is settled or the asset is realised based on rates enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date. Deferred tax is charged or credited in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, except when it relates to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity, in which case the deferred tax is also recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity.

## Critical judgements and accounting estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make estimates and judgements that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amount of income and expenses during the reporting period. Management evaluates its estimates and judgements on an ongoing basis. Management bases its estimates and judgements on historical experience and on various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions. In the course of preparing the financial statements, the following accounting estimates are considered important to the portrayal of Company's results and financial condition because: (i) they are highly susceptible to change from period to period as assumptions are made to calculate the estimates, and (ii) any significant difference between the estimated amounts and actual amounts could have a material impact on the Company's future financial results and financial condition.

In calculating each estimate, a range of outcomes were calculated based principally on management's conclusions regarding the input assumptions relative to historic experience. The actual estimates were based on what management concluded to be the most probable assumptions within the range of reasonably possible assumptions.

#### Credit impairment losses

The application of the ECL impairment methodology for calculating credit impairment allowances is highly susceptible to change from period to period. The methodology requires management to make a number of judgmental assumptions in determining the estimates. Any significant difference between the estimated amounts and actual amounts could have a material impact on the Company's future financial results and financial condition.

## 2. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

As a result of its normal business activities, the Company is exposed to a variety of risks, the most significant of which are operational risk, market risk, liquidity risk and credit risk. The Company manages its risk in line with the central risk management function of the Santander UK Group (the "Group"). Santander UK Group's Risk Framework ensures that risk is managed and controlled on behalf of shareholder, customers, depositors, employees and the Santander UK Group's regulators. Effective and efficient risk governance and oversight provide management with assurance that the Santander UK Group's business activities will not be adversely impacted by risks that could have been reasonably foreseen. This in turn reduces the uncertainty of achieving the Santander UK Group's strategic objectives.

Authority flows from the Santander UK plc Board to the Chief Executive Officer and then to specific individuals. Formal standing committees are maintained for effective management of oversight. Their authority is derived from the person they are intended to assist. Further information can be found in the Santander UK plc Annual Report which does not form part of this Report.

#### Operational risk

Operational risk is defined as the risk of loss resulting from inadequate or failed internal processes, people and systems or from external events. This includes regulatory, legal and compliance risk. Operational risk is monitored and managed within the Group. Further information can be found in the Santander UK plc Annual Report which does not form part of this Report.

#### Market risk

Market risk is the potential for loss of income or decrease in the value of net assets caused by movements in the levels and prices of financial instruments. The majority of market risk arises as a result of interest rate risk.

#### Interest rate risk

The loan portfolio is wholly comprised of lending at a fixed rate and therefore not subject to interest rate risk. The Company however is exposed to interest rate risk as it receives a variable interest rate on its loans with its parent company. During 2011, the parent company impaired the floating rate loan and as a result the Company does not incur any interest against the balance that has been impaired. An interest rate sensitivity analysis is not deemed to be appropriate under these circumstances.

## Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the potential that, although remaining solvent, the Company does not have sufficient liquid financial resources to enable it to meet its obligations as they fall due or can secure them only at excessive cost.

The Company manages liquidity risk with the support of its parent company, ensuring that the Company will have sufficient liquid resources to meet its obligations as they fall due.

The maturity profile of the Company's financial liabilities based on the remaining period to the contractual maturity date at the balance sheet date was:

2019	Less than 12 months £000	Within 1 year £000	Over 5 years £000	Total £000
Financial liabilities			<del></del>	
Due to banks – group undertakings	<del>-</del>	234,991	-	234,991
		1 to 5	Over 5	
	Less than 12 months	years	years	Total
2018	000 <u>1</u>	£000	£000	£000
Financial liabilities				
Due to banks – group undertakings	-	234,704	-	234,704

A loan facility of £240.0m extended to the Company by Santander UK plc was renewed with a maturity date of 31 December 2020. The Board of Santander UK plc has confirmed that it will provide funding to the Company for the foreseeable future.

#### Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that counterparties will not meet their financial obligations and may result in the Company losing the principal amount lent, the interest accrued and any unrealised gains, less any security held.

The main source of credit risk is in loans and advances to customers which comprise of secured personal loans.

# 2. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

#### Credit risk (continued)

#### Credit risk management

The credit quality of customer assets is managed by on-going monitoring and collection recovery operations during account administration. Credit risk is mitigated by security taken over the borrower's assets. This security takes the form of a secondary charge on the borrower's residential property.

For the purposes of risk management, the Company treats secured loans as a single asset class.

#### The Introduction of IFRS 9

IFRS 9 replaced IAS 39 on 1 January 2018. IFRS 9 introduced a new impairment methodology and rules around dassification and measurement of financial assets. Upon implementation, the measurement categories of 'Cash and cash equivalents' and 'Amounts owed by group undertakings' have changed from 'Loans and receivables' to 'Amortised cost'.

#### Key metrics

The Company uses a number of key metrics to measure and control credit risk, as follows:

Metric	Description
Expected credit losses (ECL)	ECL tells the Company what credit risk is likely to cost either over the next 12 months on qualifying exposures, or defaults over the lifetime of the exposure where there is evidence of a significant increase in credit risk since origination.
Stages 1, 2 and 3	The Company assesses the credit risk profile to determine which stage to allocate and monitors where there is a significant increase in credit risk and transfers between the stages.
Expected Loss (EL)	EL is the product of the probability of default, exposure at default and loss given default. The Company calculates each factor in accordance with group policy and risk models and an assessment of each customer's credit quality. There are differences between regulatory EL and IFRS 9 ECL. More details can be found in the Annual Report of the parent company Santander UK plc. For the rest of the Risk review, impairments, losses and loss allowances refer to calculations in accordance with IFRS, unless specifically stated otherwise. For IFRS accounting policy on impairment, see Note 1 to the Financial Statements.

## Maximum exposure to credit risk

The Company places the majority of its loans and advances with Group companies. The Company did not recognise an ECL provision against these balances as they are nearly all payable on demand and the borrower (Santander UK plc) has sufficient accessible highly liquid assets in order to repay the loan if demanded. As at the year-end 31 December 2019, no impairment was recognised against loans and advances to Group companies.

The main source of credit risk is in loans and advances to customers. Loans and advances to customers comprise of secured personal loans.

The table below shows the Company's maximum exposure to credit risk as at 31 December 2019. The table only shows the financial assets that credit risk affects.

		Balance Sheet asset		
	Gross amounts £000	Credit Loss allowances £000	Net exposure £000	
Financial assets at amortised cost:	<del></del>			
Loans and advances to customers	5,117	(1,270)	3,847	
Total financial assets at amortised cost	5,117	(1,270)	3,847	
		2019	2018 £000	
Total secured personal loan asset		£000 5,117		
•		•	6 378	
lotal secured personal loan arrears		1.339	6,378 1,616	
Total secured personal loan arrears Personal loan arrears as a % of asset		1,339 26%	6,378 1,616 25%	
•		•	1,616	

# 2. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

#### Credit risk (continued)

## Credit exposures and corresponding ECL

The following table analyses the credit risk exposure of financial instruments for which an ECL allowance is recognised, and the corresponding ECL at 31 December 2019.

	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
	f000	£000	£000	£000
Exposures			-	
Loans and advances to customers	3,778	145	1,194	5,117
Total exposures	3,778	145	1,194	5,117
IFRS 9 ECL				
Loans and advances to customers	(74)	(70)	(1,126)	(1,270)
Total ECL	(74)	(70)	(1,126)	(1,270)
Net exposures	3,704	75	68	3,847

Movements in ECL provision are set out below:

	Non-credit impaired		Credit impaired		
	Stage 1 Subject to 12-month ECL	Stage 2 Subject to lifetime ECL	Stage 3 Subject to lifetime ECL	Total	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	
At 1 January 2019	(90)	(146)	(1,401)	(1,637)	
Income statement charge for the year	•	(39)	(74)	(113)	
Income statement release for the year	16	115	290	421	
Net impairment reversal	16	76	216	308	
Assets derecognised – written off	•	-	59	59	
At 31 December 2019 (note 6)	(74)	(70)	(1,126)	(1,270)	

# 3. ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

## Auditors' remuneration

The profit in the current and prior years have been arrived at after charging an audit fee of £5,665 (2018: £5,500) which is payable to the Company's auditors for the statutory audit of the Company's annual financial statements.

## Directors and employees

No directors were remunerated for their services to the Company. Directors' emoluments are borne by the ultimate UK parent company Santander UK plc. The Directors' services to the Company are an incidental part of their duties. No emoluments were paid by the Company to the Directors during the year (2018: £nil).

The Company had no employees during the year (2018: nil).

# 4. TAX CHARGE FOR THE YEAR

	2019	2018
	£000	£000
Current Tax		
UK corporation tax on profit for the year	67	68
Total current tax	67	68
Deferred Tax		
Origination and reversal of temporary differences	2	2
Total deferred tax	2	2
Tax charge on profit for year	69	70

UK corporation tax is calculated at 19% (2018: 19%) of the estimated assessable profits for the year.

The Finance Act 2016 introduced a further reduction in the corporation tax rate to 17% from 1 April 2020 and this rate has therefore been used to calculate the deferred tax balance at 31 December 2019. However, this rate deduction was reversed in the UK Budget in March 2020. As a result, the UK corporation tax rate is expected to remain at 19%. Since this change in rate was not substantively enacted by the balance sheet date, it is not reflected in the deferred tax asset at 31 December 2019.

The tax on the Company's profit before tax differs from the theoretical amount that would arise using the basic tax rate of the Company as follows:

	. 2019	2018
		£000
Profit before tax	360	371
Tax calculated at a tax rate of 19% (2018: 19%)	69	70
Tax charge for the year	 69	70

# 5. DEFERRED TAX ASSET

Deferred taxes are calculated on temporary differences under the liability method using the tax rates expected to apply when the liability is settled or the asset is realised. The movement on the deferred tax account was as follows:

	2019 £000	2018 £000
At 1 January	8	10
Statement of Comprehensive Income charge	(2)	(2)
At 31 December	6	8

The deferred tax assets are attributable to the following items:

•	Balance Sheet		Statement of Comprehensive Income		
	2019	2018	2019	2018	
	000	£000	£000	£000	
Deferred tax assets			<del></del> -		
Accelerated book depreciation	6	8	(2)	(2)	
	6	8	(2)	(2)	

The deferred tax assets scheduled above have been recognised in the Company on the basis that sufficient future taxable profits are forecast within the foreseeable future, in excess of the profits arising from the reversal of existing taxable temporary differences, to allow for the utilisation of the assets as they reverse.

# 6. IMPAIRMENT MOVEMENT ON SECURED LOANS AND ADVANCES

Movement in loan loss allowances:

	2019	2018
	£000	£000
As at 1 January	1,637	1,881
Decrease in impairment provisions	(308)	(244)
Amounts written off during the year	(59)	
As at 31 December	1,270	1,637

Loans and advances to customers before impairment totalled £5.1m (2018: £6.4m).

## 7. OTHER LIABILITIES

	2019	2018
	_£000_	£000
Other liabilities	16	22

# 8. SHARE CAPITAL

	2019	2018
<u> </u>	£000	£000
Issued and fully paid		
40,000,002 (2018: 40,000,002) ordinary shares of £1 each	40,000	40,000

# 9. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Company entered into transactions with other Group undertakings as shown in the table below.

	Expenditure		Amounts due from related parties		Amounts due to related parties	
	2019 £000	2018 £000	2019 £000	2018 £000	2019 £000	2018 £000
Santander UK plc – loans with immediate parent	286	312	-	-	234,991	234,704
Santander UK plc – other debtor	-	-	28,496	26,960	-	-
Santander UK plc – group relief	-	-	123	123	-	-
Total	286	312	28,619	27,083	234,991	234,704

All amounts due from and due to related parties are unsecured.

The loan payable to Santander UK plc is part of a total facility of £240.0m that incurs interest at the Bank of England base rate. The contractual term of this facility ends on the 31 December 2020. However, the Board of Santander UK plc has confirmed that it will provide funding to the Company for the foreseeable future.

The other debtor with Santander UK plc is not interest bearing and is repayable on demand.

There were no related party transactions during the year, or existing at the balance sheet date, with the Company's or parent Company's key management personnel (2018: £nil).

## 10. LOANS AND ADVANCES TO CUSTOMERS

	2019 £000	2018 £000
Secured Personal Loan – Second charge on household property	5,117	6,378
Loans and advances to customers	5,117	6,378
Less: Credit impairment loss allowances	(1,270)	(1,637)
Loans and advances to customers, net of impairment loss allowances	3,847	4,741
Repayable:		
On demand	410	471
In no more than 3 months	. 1	-
In more than 3 months but not more than 1 year	21	90
In more than 1 year but not more than 5 years	850	1,210
In more than 5 years	3,835	4,607
Loans and advances to customers	5,117	6,378
Less: Credit impairment loss allowances	(1,270)	(1,637)
Loans and advances to customers, net of impairment loss allowances	3,847	4,741

These loans are all fixed rate loans and represent a second charge over mortgaged household property.

During the year, £59,000 of loans deemed to be irrecoverable were written off (2018: none). There were no recoveries from loans previously written off.

# 11. CAPITAL MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCES

The Company's UK parent, Santander UK plc adopts a centralised capital management approach, based on an assessment of both regulatory requirements and the economic capital impacts of businesses in the Santander UK group. The Company has no non-centralised process for managing its own capital. Disclosures relating to the Santander UK group's capital management can be found in the Santander UK plc Annual Report and financial statements.

Capital held by the Company and managed centrally as part of the Santander UK group, comprises share capital and reserves which can be found in the Balance Sheet.

## 12. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Santander UK Group Holdings plc and its subsidiaries ("Santander UK group") engages in discussion, and co-operates, with HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) in their oversight of the Santander UK group's tax matters. The Santander UK group adopted the UK's Code of Practice on Taxation for Banks in 2010.

Certain leases in which current or previous members of the Santander UK group is or were the lessor are currently under review by HMRC in connection with claims for tax allowances. Under the terms of the lease agreements, certain members of the Santander UK group, including the company's parent, are fully indemnified in all material respects by the respective lessees for any liability arising from the disallowance of tax allowances plus accrued interest. Whilst legal opinions have been obtained to support the Santander UK group's position, the matter remains uncertain pending formal resolution with HMRC and subsequent litigation. It is anticipated that the matters will move to formal litigation in 2020 as required under the terms of the leases. In return for payments to the lessor companies, the Company has received the benefit of the claims for tax allowances via group relief surrendered from one or more of the lessor companies. If HMRC were successful, the Company would be required to pay up to £11.2m in corporation tax and interest which it would then reclaim from the lessor companies.

## 13. PARENT UNDERTAKING AND CONTROLLING PARTY

The Company is domiciled in the United Kingdom. The Company's immediate parent is Santander UK plc, a company registered in England and Wales.

The Company's ultimate parent and controlling party is Banco Santander SA, a company registered in Spain. Banco Santander SA is the parent undertaking of the largest group of undertakings for which group financial statements are drawn up and of which the Company is a member. Santander UK plc is the parent undertaking of the smallest group of undertakings for which the group financial statements are drawn up and of which the Company is a member.

Copies of all sets of group financial statements, which include the results of the Company, are available from Secretariat, Santander UK plc, 2 Triton Square, Regent's Place, London, NW1 3AN.

# 14. SUBSEQUENT BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

The Company is monitoring the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on the financial performance of the Company.

The Company is part of the Santander UK Group, which has implemented precautionary measures and protocols based on recommendations from official health authorities, such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and Public Health England. Further such measures may need to be implemented in future, as the situation is complex and is still changing rapidly.

Given the fluidity of the situation, the Company cannot quantify the magnitude and duration of the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak at this time, although there may well be a negative impact on our 2020 financial results. However, the Company does not anticipate any significant change to the carrying value of its assets and liabilities at the reporting date. The Company will continue to monitor and assess its business operations. COVID-19 is a non-adjusting post balance sheet event.