Metlife Investments Limited

Annual report and financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2018

Registered number: 02676407

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Company information

Directors

R Leist

E Palmer

Company Secretary M Szwed

Registered office

Level 34

One Canada Square Canary Wharf

London England E14 5AA

Registered Number 02676407 (England and Wales)

Auditor

Deloitte LLP **Statutory Auditor Temple Quay** 3 Rivergate **Bristol**

BS1 6GD

United Kingdom

Strategic report

For the year ended 31 December 2018

The Directors, in preparing this Strategic report, have complied with s414C of the Companies Act 2006. It has been prepared solely to provide additional information to facilitate an assessment of how the Directors have performed their duty to promote the success of MetLife Investments Limited ('the Company').

STRATEGIC REVIEW AND PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activity of the Company in the year under review was the provision of investment advice to its affiliate, Metlife Investment Advisors LLC, who are based in the United States. The company also provided investment management and advisory services to fellow group undertakings in the UK, Europe and Asia.

As shown in the Statement of Comprehensive Income on page 9, there was an operating profit of £2,054,022 (2017: operating profit £823,134). The Company's performance is monitored by using key performance indicators comparing actual expense year on year as follows:

Actual expenses 2018 (page 9)	£14,328,125
Actual expenses 2017 (page 9)	£16,457,282
Decrease	£2,129,157

The actual expenses decreased by £2.1 million. This mainly due to an exchange gain being incurred this year compared to an exchange loss in 2017 as a result of the strengthening of the US\$ versus the £. This resulted in a cost reduction of £1.4 million. Staff costs also decreased by £0.9 million during the year as shown in note 3 to the financial statements. As at 31 December 2018 the Company's balance sheet showed capital and reserves amounting to £11.7 million (2017 £10.3 million), net current assets of £12.8 million (2017 £11.6 million) and bank and cash balances in the sum of £9.3 million (2017 £12.8 million). Bank and cash balances have reduced due payment of the 2017 dividend in the sum of £5 million, which was settled in 2018. The Directors consider this adequate to continue carrying out the Company's activities. There have not been any significant changes in the Company's principal activities in the year under review.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

Financial risk management

The Company is exposed to financial risk through its financial assets and financial liabilities. In particular, the key financial risk is that the debtors may not be able to pay the amounts in full when they become due. However, as substantially all debts are due from group companies, this risk is monitored closely, and any potential issues would be notified to the company promptly due to the close relationship. All balances due are followed up on a monthly basis and any significant delays are reported to management. The Company is not exposed to any significant interest rate risk, as the funds held on deposit are not a material part of operations. Significant fluctuations in interest rates would not affect the Company's operations.

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that the counterparty will be unable to pay amounts in full when due. The Directors monitor exposure to credit risk through regular review of credit exposures, assessment of the creditworthiness of counterparties and informed estimates of provision for doubtful debts. Due to the nature of its financial assets, the Company believes that the concentration of credit risk on debts receivable from companies within the MetLife group is acceptable given the credit standing of the MetLife group.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that cash may not be available, or the assets cannot be liquidated at a reasonable cost, to pay obligations when they fall due. To guard against this risk, assets are managed with liquidity in mind maintaining a healthy balance of cash and cash equivalents. The maturity profile is monitored to ensure adequate liquidity is maintained.

Strategic report
For the year ended 31 December 2018

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES - continued

Future Developments

The Directors are not aware, at the date of this report, of any likely major changes in the nature of the Company's activities over the next year. Over the last three years the Company has continued to expand its business by providing services to additional group companies, and has recruited new staff to meet demand. However, significant expansion is not forecast for the foreseeable future and turnover and operating profit is expected to remain at similar levels to 2018. There have been no significant events since the balance sheet date which require disclosure.

Brexit

The directors have considered the implications of the United Kingdom leaving the EU without a deal in place and have also taken independent specialist advice. The overall conclusion is that this is not expected to pose a significant risk to the company's existing operations and is not anticipated to have a material impact on the company's business.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

E Palmer - Director

Date: 23 9 19

Level 34 One Canada Square Canary Wharf London E14 5AA

Directors' report

For the year ended 31 December 2018

The Directors present their Annual report with the audited financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2018.

DIVIDENDS

The Directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend for the year ended 31 December 2018 (2017 £5,000,000).

DIRECTORS

The Directors shown below have held office during the whole of the period from 1 January 2018 to the date of this report.

R Leist

E Palmer

POLITICAL DONATIONS AND EXPENDITURE

No political donations were made during the year (2017: none)

GOING CONCERN

After making enquiries, the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. In carrying out this assessment they have considered financial risk management, credit risk and liquidity risk as detailed in the Strategic Report. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in note 1 of the financial statements.

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Directors are responsible for preparing 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 UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law) including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland). 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 and 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 judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures
 disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business.

The Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are 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 the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Company's website (www.metlife.com). Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions

STATEMENT AS TO DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS

So far as the Directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information (as defined by Section 418 of the Companies Act 2006) of which the company's auditors are unaware, and each Director has taken all the

Directors' report

For the year ended 31 December 2018

steps that he ought to have taken as a Director in order to make himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditor

The auditors, Deloitte LLP, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

E Palmer - Director

Date: 23 9 19

Level 34 One Canada Square Canary Wharf London E14 5AA Independent auditor's report to the members of Metlife Investments Limited

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements of Metlife Investments Limited (the 'company'):

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2018 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements which comprise:

- · the statement of comprehensive income;
- the balance sheet;
- · the statement of changes in equity; and
- the related notes 1 to 15.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 Financial Reporting Council's (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.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We are required by ISAs (UK) to report in respect of the following matters where:

- the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in 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.

We have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion 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

Independent auditor's report to the members of Metlife Investments Limited

Report on the audit of the financial statements

knowledge obtained in 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 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 in respect of these matters.

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement, 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.

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 auditor's report.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

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 the directors' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

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 any material misstatements in the strategic report or the directors' report.

Independent auditor's report to the members of Metlife Investments Limited

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report in respect of the following matters 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.

We have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

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.

Mark Taylor, FCA (Senior statutory auditor)

For and on behalf of Deloitte LLP

Statutory Auditor

Man Typh

Bristol, UK

25 September 2019

Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 31 December 2018

	Notes	31.12.18 £	31.12.17 £
TURNOVER	2	16,372,488	17,272,243
Administrative expenses		(14,328,125)	(16,457,282)
		2,044,363	814,961
Other operating income		9,659	8,173
OPERATING PROFIT	. 5	2,054,022	823,134
Interest receivable and similar income		16,427	4,663
Interest payable and similar charges		(54,167)	
PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE			
TAXATION		2,016,282	827,797
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	6	(523,882)	(206,598)
PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		1,492,400	621,199

There was no other Comprehensive Income during the year.

All income was derived from continuing operations.

The notes form part of these financial statements

Metlife Investments Limited Registered number: 02676407

Balance sheet As at 31 December 2018

		3 ·	1.12.18	31	1.12.17
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	7		539,770		742,397
CURRENT ASSETS					
CURRENT ASSETS	_			40 000 400	
Debtors	8	13,101,817		12,289,160	
Cash at bank		9,330,001		12,791,719	
		22,431,818		25,080,879	
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(9,649,552)		(13,437,726)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			12,782,266		11,643,153
					
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT					
LIABILITIES			13,322,036		12,385,550
LIABILITY FOR SHARE BASED					
	40				(0.400.046)
PAYMENTS	10		(1,574,104)		(2,130,018)
NET ASSETS			11,747,932		10,255,532
CAPITAL AND RESERVES					
Called up share capital	11		250,100		250,100
Retained earnings	12		11,497,832		10,005,432
SHAREHOLDER'S FUNDS			11,747,932		10,255,532

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 23 September and were signed on its behalf by

E Palmer - Director

The notes form part of these financial statements

Statement of changes in equity At 31 December 2018

	Called up share capital £	Retained earnings £	Total £
Balance at 1 January 2017	250,100	14,384,233	14,634,333
Total comprehensive income		621,199	621,199
Dividends	-	(5,000,000)	(5,000,000)
Balance at 31 December 2017	250,100	10,005,432	10,255,532
Total comprehensive income		1,492,400	1,492,400
Balance at 31 December 2018	250,100	11,497,832	11,747,932

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2018

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The accounting policies adopted reflect United Kingdom Law and Accounting Standards. The functional currency of the Company is considered to be pounds sterling because that is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Company operates.

Financial reporting standard 102 - reduced disclosure exemptions

The Company has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland":

- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows;
- the requirements of Section 26 Share-based Payment paragraphs 26.18(b), 26.19 to 26.21 and 26.23:
- the requirement of Section 33 Related Party Disclosures paragraph 33.7.

The ultimate and controlling party is Metlife Inc, a company incorporated in USA. Metlife Inc prepares publically available consolidated accounts which includes the results of Metlife Investments Limited. The Company is taking advantage of the exemptions granted by FRS102 as stated above. Copies of the group Financial Statements of Metlife Inc can be obtained from 200 Park Avenue, New York, USA.

Financial Instruments

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a finance transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the company transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the company, despite having retained some significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party and the other party has the practical ability to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party and is able to exercise that ability unilaterally and without needing to impose additional restrictions on the transfer.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2018

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Turnover

Turnover comprises the value of charges levied for investment advice provided to associated group undertakings, and is stated net of VAT. Turnover is calculated on an accruals basis, any income due to the Company and not invoiced as at the year end date will be accounted for as accrued income. 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 value of the consideration due. Where a contract has only been partially completed at the balance sheet date turnover represents the value of the service provided to date based on a proportion of the total contract value. 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.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life. Tangible Fixed Assets are stated at cost net of depreciation.

Leasehold property - over the lease period

Fixtures and fittings - 20% on cost Computer equipment - 33% on cost

Foreign currencies

Monetary assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of transaction. Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at the operating result.

Pension costs

Payments to the Company's defined contribution pension scheme are charged to the profit and loss account in the period to which they relate.

Share based payments

The MetLife Group offers certain employees the opportunity to partake in share-based payments award schemes under its long-term incentive plan, as described in note 15. The Company participates in three cash-settled schemes: the Unit Option scheme, the Restricted Units scheme and the Performance Units scheme. The schemes relate to the shares of MetLife, Inc., the Company's ultimate parent company, and are administered by MetLife European Services Limited. The costs of the schemes are recharged to the Company at cost when the cash amounts are paid to the individuals. These amounts are subject to specific vesting conditions.

A liability is recognised for the services received by the Company, measured initially at the fair value of the liability. At each balance sheet date until the liability is settled, and at the date of settlement, the fair value of the liability is remeasured, with any changes in fair value recognised in the profit and loss account. The Company recognises the expense over the requisite service period. An estimation of the future forfeitures of awards is incorporated into the determination of the compensation expense when recognising the expense over the requisite service period.

The fair value of the Restricted Units and Performance Units schemes are determined using the stock price of MetLife, Inc., at the balance sheet date, discounted using a 3-year Treasury security market yield for the assumed dividends to be paid in the vesting period. The Unit Options scheme fair value is measured using the Binomial model.

The Company recognises a provision in relation to National Insurance Contributions (NICs) which will become payable by the Company on the exercise of the share based payment schemes by the employees to whom awards have been made, as described in note 16. The provision has been calculated according to the value of the liability at the balance sheet date and based on the rate of NICs at the point at which the liability is expected to crystallise, based on current tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2018

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tayation

Current 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 recognised in respect of all timing differences that 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 average rates that are expected to apply in the periods in which the timing differences are expected to crystallise, based on current tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date. Timing differences arise from the inclusion of items of income and expenditure in taxation computations in periods different from those in which they are included in financial statements. A net deferred tax asset is recognised to the extent that, on the basis of all available evidence, it is 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 and liabilities are measured on a non-discounted basis.

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 Business Review which forms part of the strategic report. The strategic report also describes the financial position of the Company; its cash flows and liquidity position. The Company meets its day to day working capital requirements through the use of significant retained profits from previous years. The Company's forecasts and projections show that the Company will be able to operate with the capital resources it currently has for the foreseeable future. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual financial statements.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the entities accounting policies, 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 financial statements do not include any estimates apart from an estimation of the future forfeiture awards in respect of share based payments.

With the exception of the forecasts made to assess going concern, there were no critical accounting judgements as the company's transactions to date have been straight forward.

2. TURNOVER

The turnover and profit before taxation are attributable to the one principal activity of the Company which is carried out in the UK, that of the provision of investment advice to the group entities.

An analysis of turnover by geographical market in which the recipient operates is given below:

	31.12.18 £	31.12.17 £
USA	11,675,426	13,444,476
United Kingdom	1,177,809	768,752
Europe	1,715,434	2,283,591
Asia	1,803,819	775,424
	16,372,488	17,272,243

All turnover materially relates to a single class of business and therefore no segmental analysis by class of business has been presented.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2018

3.	STAFF COSTS		
J .	STAFF COSTS	31.12.18 £	31.12.17 £
	Wages and salaries	9,907,150	11,087,535
	Social security costs	1,418,443	1,254,778
	Other pension costs	546,800	448,285
		11,872,393	12,790,598
	The average monthly number of employees during the year was as for	ollows:	
		31.12.18	31.12.17
		£	£
	Investment advisory	50	51
	Administrative	2	3_
		52	54
4.	DIRECTORS' EMOLUMENTS		
		31.12.18	31.12.17
		£	£
	Directors' remuneration	494,364	772,126
	Amounts receivable under long-term incentive schemes	62,140	135,464
		556,504	907,590
	The number of Directors to whom retirement benefits were accruing v	was as follows:	
	*	31.12.18	31.12.17
	Deferred Contribution schemes	1	. 1
	Information regarding the highest paid Director is as follows:		
		31.12.18	31.12.17
		£	£
	Emoluments	556,504	511,611

During the year the Company contributed £21,979 (2017: £13,271) into the Legal and General Pension Scheme on behalf of the Directors.

The highest paid Director has accrued £77,603 entitlement under a long term incentive scheme as at 31 December 2018. One of the directors did not receive any emoluments and was employed and remunerated by another group entity.

During the year, one Director was a member of a defined contribution pension scheme (2017: one). One Director of the Company is a member of a defined benefit pension scheme operated by MetLife, Inc. (2017: one) No costs associated with this scheme or for any other compensation received by this director are borne by the Company because all costs are paid for by MetLife, Inc.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2018

5. OPERATING PROFIT

6.

The operating profit is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.12.18 £	31.12.17 £
Depreciation - owned assets	233,833	283,725
Foreign exchange (gain)/loss	(494,076)	937,608
Auditors remuneration - audit fee for audit of Financial Statements	20,000	20,000
TAXATION		
The tax charge on the profit on ordinary activities for the year was as	follows:	
	31.12.18 £	31.12.17 £
Current tax:	_	
UK corporation tax	380,481	210,037
Total current tax	380,481	210,037
Deferred tax	(184,314)	(3,439)
Under provision in respect of previous years	327,715	-
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	523,882	206,598

The under provision in respect of previous years relates to additional corporation tax payable in respect of accrued amounts for employee compensation which were not paid within nine months of the year end therefore not allowable for tax purposes. These payments related to the previous six financial years.

Reconciliation of total tax charge included in profit and loss

The tax assessed for the year is higher than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK. The difference is explained below:

	31.12.18 £	31.12.17 £
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	2,016,282	827,797
Profit on ordinary activities multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19% (2017 – 19.25%)	383,094	159,351
Effects of: Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Depreciation in excess of capital allowances Pension contributions accrual Under provision previous years Share based payments accrual	7,594 35,591 6,552 327,715 (52,350)	4,882 44,894 910 -
Deferred tax	(184,314)	(3,439)
Total tax charge	523,882	206,598

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2018

6. TAXATION - continued

The effective tax rate for the year reduced to 19% (2017 19.25%). This is as a result of corporation tax rates being reduced from 20% to 19% for the financial years ending 31 March 2017 and 31 March 2018 respectively.

Deferred Tax Asset:

	31.12.18	31.12.17
	£	£
Balance at 1 January 2018	41,961	38,522
Credit to income statement	184,314	3,439
Balance at 31 December 2018	226,275	41,961

The deferred tax asset relates to timing differences between accounting and tax deductions for depreciation charged in excess of capital allowances, pension payments and payments in respect of the liability for share based payments.

There is no expiry date on the provisions made in respect of these timing differences.

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Leasehold property	Fixtures and fittings	Computer equipment	Totals
	£	£	£	£
COST	4	2	~	~
At 1 January 2018	1,806,081	464,147	131,086	2,401,314
Additions		-	31,206	31,206
At 31 December 2018	1,806,081	464,147	162,292	2,432,520
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 January 2018	1,113,456	414,375	131,086	1,658,917
Charge for year	210,419	14,745	8,669	233,833
At 31 December 2018	1,323,875	429,120	139,755	1,892,750
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 December 2017	692,625	49,772		742,397
At 31 December 2018	482,206	35,027	22,537	539,770

During 2012 the Company relocated to new office premises. The Company incurred costs of £1,806,081 in order to refit the office. The office lease is in the name of MetLife Europe Services Limited, however all rent and associated costs are recharged to the Company. The office refit costs are being amortised over the period of the lease.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2018

8.	DEBTORS: AM	MOUNTS FALLING DUE WIT	HIN ONE YEAR		
				31.12.18	31.12.17
	Ost			£	£ 7.946
	Other debtors	rom group undertakings		- 10,546,947	7,846 8,657,660
	VAT	ioni group undertakings		21,025	409,841
	Deferred tax as	sset		226,275	41,961
	Accrued incom			2,176,353	2,968,248
	Prepayments			131,217	203,604
				13,101,817	12,289,160
9.	CREDITORS:	AMOUNTS FALLING DUE W	ITHIN ONE YEAR		
				31.12.18	31.12.17
				£	£
	Amounts owed	I to group undertakings	•	1,083,985	1,295,920
	Tax			609,577	440,860
	Other creditors	3		760,238	5,005,545
	Accrued expen	nses		7,195,752	6,695,401
				9,649,552	13,437,726
10.	LIABILITY FOI	R SHARE BASED PAYMENT	-s	31.12.18	31.12.17
				£	£
	Liability for sha	are based payments		1,574,104	2,130,018
		has recognised a liability of made to employees partakin			
11.	CALLED UP S	HARE CAPITAL			
	Allotted, issued Number:	d and fully paid Class:	Nominal value:	31.12.18 £	31.12.17 £
	250,100	Ordinary	£1	250,100	250,100

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2018

12. RESERVES

Retained earnings £ 10,005,432 1,492,400 11,497,832

At 1 January 2018 Profit for the year

13. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The Company contributes to the cost of a defined contribution scheme for all eligible employees. During the year £546,800 (2017 £448,285) was recognised in the profit and loss account in respect of this scheme. As at 31 December 2018 there were outstanding contributions of £77,900 (2017: £43,418). One of the Directors of the Company is a member of a defined benefit pension scheme operated by MetLife, Inc. No costs associated with this scheme are borne by the Company because all contributions are paid for by MetLife, Inc. The Company is not entitled to any benefits arising from a surplus, nor is it liable for any costs associated with a deficit arising from the operation of the scheme.

14. ULTIMATE PARENT COMPANY

The Company's immediate parent company was previously Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, a company incorporated in the USA, which owned all of the Company's issued share capital. On 27 June 2018 MLIC sold its entire shareholding to Metlife Investment Management Holdings (Ireland) Limited, a company registered in Ireland. This is now the immediate holding company. The ultimate parent company and controlling party remains MetLife, Inc., which is organised under the laws of the State of Delaware, USA. Copies of the financial statements of the ultimate parent company are publicly available and can be obtained from 200 Park Avenue, New York, USA. The largest and smallest group for which consolidated Financial Statements are prepared is MetLife, Inc.

15. SHARE-BASED PAYMENT TRANSACTIONS

The Company participated in three cash-settled share based payment schemes during the period ended 31 December 2018, as part of its employee long-term incentive programme, the descriptions of which are provided below. The schemes all relate to the shares of MetLife, Inc., the ultimate parent company, and are administered by MetLife Inc. The value of the payments are determined in United States Dollars (US \$) and are converted to local currency using an exchange rate of £1 = US\$1.2769 (2017 US\$1.3359). The costs of the share-based payments are recharged to the Company and are recognised as part of Administrative expenses. The profit and loss charge for the year in respect of these payments amounted to £132,442 (2017 £293,680).

Unit Options

Each Unit Option is the contingent right of the holders to receive a cash payment equal to the closing price of a share of MetLife, Inc. vesting date, less the closing price on the grant date, if the difference is greater than nil. The Unit Options become eligible for surrender at a rate of one-third of each award on each of the first three anniversaries of the grant date. An employee may surrender an amount of eligible Unit Options at any time until the expiration date as specified in the relevant Unit Option Agreement. Vesting is subject to continued service, except for employees who are eligible for retirement, and in certain other limited circumstances.

Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the year ended 31 December 2018

Restricted Units and Performance Units

Restricted Units are units that, if they vest, are payable in cash equal to the closing price of a share of MetLife, Inc. on the last day of the restriction period, being the period beginning on the grant date and ceasing on the third anniversary of the grant date. The Restricted Units vest in their entirety on the third anniversary of the grant date. Vesting is subject to continued service, except for employees who are eligible for retirement and in certain other limited circumstances.

Performance Units are units that, if they vest, are multiplied by a performance factor to produce a number of final Performance Units which are payable in cash equivalent to the closing price of a share of MetLife, Inc. on a date following the last day of the three-year performance period. Performance Units are accounted for as liability awards, but are not credited with dividend-equivalents for actual dividends paid on shares during the performance period. Accordingly, the estimated fair value of Performance Units is based upon the closing price of a share on the grant date, reduced by the present value of estimated dividends to be paid on that stock during the performance period. Performance shares vest in their entirety at the end of the performance period. Vesting is subject to continued service, except for employees who are eligible for retirement and in certain other limited circumstances.