REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2003

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Company Registration No: 2939644

(alternate to D Potts)

Directors

A C Roper M J Mercer-Deadman D Potts

J McDonagh

R Turner

Company Secretary

A A Swift

Auditors

KPMG LLP 2 Cornwall Street Birmingham B3 2DL

Principal Bankers HSBC

Lawyers

CMS Cameron McKenna Mitre House 160, Aldersgate Street London EC1A 4DD

Registered office

24 Birch Street Wolverhampton WV1 4HY

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

The Directors submit their report together with financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2003.

PRINCIPAL TRADING ACTIVITIES

The principal activity of the Group is to carry on the business of the design, financing, construction and operation of the property and undertaking known as the M40 motorway, junctions 1 to 15, pursuant to and in accordance with the terms of an agreement with Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Transport which was signed by UK Highways M40 Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary, on 8 October 1996.

The consolidated profit on ordinary activities after taxation for the year was £270,000 (2002: £888,000)

The directors recommend the payment of a final dividend for the year of £700,000 (2002: £500,000) which, when added to the interim dividend paid in June of £400,000 (2002: nil) makes a total for the year of £1,100,000 (2002: £500,000).

SHARE CAPITAL

Details of the authorised and issued share capital are shown in note 17.

CHARITABLE AND POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

The group made no charitable or political contributions during the year.

DIRECTORS

The following directors held office during the year:

P G Shell (resigned 15/03/04)

M J Mercer-Deadman

E G Barron (resigned 30/06/03)

D Potts

H Gilbey (appointed 26/03/03, resigned 02/12/03) S N Jones (appointed 30/06/03, resigned 27/02/04)

J McDonagh (appointed 02/12/03) R W Robinson (resigned 26/03/03)

Alternate Directors

A C Roper Alternate to D Potts

DIRECTORS' INTERESTS

No director has, or has held at any time during the year, any interest in the share capital of the Company.

No director has a service contract with or receives any remuneration from the Company. No director has, or had during the year, any personal interest in any significant or material contract with the Company.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (continued)

POLICY ON PAYMENT OF CREDITORS

It is the Group's policy to comply with the terms of supply agreed with suppliers. Where payment terms are not negotiated the Group endeavours to adhere with the suppliers' standard terms. The average creditors days outstanding for the Group at the year end was 25 (2002: 26). The Company is an investment holding company and so an equivalent number for the Company would not be meaningful.

AUDITORS

Pursuant to a shareholders resolution the Company is not obliged to reappoint auditors annually and KPMG LLP, having so agreed, will therefore continue in office.

By Order of the Board

For and on behalf of UK Highways M40 (Holdings) Ltd Company Secretary

April 2004

Registered Office: 24 Birch Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 4HY

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

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

The directors are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and the Group and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Group and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Independent auditors' report to the members of UK Highways M40 (Holdings) Limited

We have audited the financial statements on pages 7 to 19.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with section 235 of the Companies Act 1985. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an 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.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

The directors are responsible for preparing the directors' report and, as described on page 5, the financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and accounting standards. Our responsibilities, as independent auditors, are established in the United Kingdom by statute, the Auditing Practices Board and by our profession's ethical guidance.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the directors' report is not consistent with the financial statements, if the company has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding directors' remuneration and transactions with the company is not disclosed.

Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and the Group as at 31 December 2003 and of the profit of the Group for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

KPMG LLP

Chartered Accountants Registered Auditor

Birmingham

April 2004

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2003

	Note	2003 £'000	2002 £'000
Turnover	3	22,133	22,239
Net operating costs	4	(15,526)	(14,711)
Operating profit		6,607	7,528
Interest receivable and similar income	6	2,829	2,919
Interest payable and similar charges	7	(9,042)	(9,180)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation		394	1,267
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	8	(124)	(379)
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation		270	888
Dividend paid and proposed		(1,100)	(500)
Retained (Loss)/Profit for the financial year	18	(830)	388

All gains and losses are recognised in the profit and loss account.

There is no difference between the results as stated and the results on a historical cost basis.

All items in the profit and loss account relate to continuing operations.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2003

		Group		Company	
	Note	2003 £'000	2002 £'000	2003 £'000	2002 £'000
FIXED ASSETS Tangible assets Investments	9 10	74,747 48,376	77,233 46,074	- 3,500	3,500
		123,123	123,307	3,500	3,500
CURRENT ASSETS Debtors - due within one year	11	2,293	2,679	1,290	1,116
Debtors - due after more than one year	11	8,827 11,120	11,656	11,298 12,588	11,608
Cash at bank and in hand		14,679	15,112	-	12,724
		25,799	29,447	12,588	12,724
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	12	(6,118)	(6,154)	(1,118)	(941)
Net Current Assets Due within one year Due after more than one year	[10,854 8,827	11,637 11,656	172 11,298	175 11,608
		19,681	23,293	11,470	11,783
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		142,804	146,600	14,970	15,283
CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year	13	(131,593)	(134,694)	(11,298)	(11,608)
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES	15	(5,395)	(5,260)	-	-
NET ASSETS		5,816	6,646	3,672	3,675
CAPITAL AND RESERVES Called up share capital Allotted, called up and fully paid Profit and loss account	17	3,550 2,266	3,550 3,096	3,550 122	3,550 125
EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	18	5,816	6,646	3,672	3,675

The financial statements on pages 7 to 19 were approved by the Board of Directors on 19th April 2004 and were signed on its behalf by:

Mike Mercer-Daadman

Director

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2003

	Note	2003 £'000	2002 £'000
Net cash inflow from operating activities	19	12,096	4,366
Returns on investments and servicing of finance		7 70	77.4
Interest received Interest paid		539 (8,839)	774 (10,357)
Net cash outflow from returns on investment and servicing of finance		(8,300)	(9,583)
Taxation		(214)	-
Equity dividends paid		(900)	
Net cash inflow/(outflow) before financing		2,682	(5,217)
Financing		(- 00 -)	(0.4.5)
Repayment of main loan Repayment of loan notes New loan facility		(2,805) (310)	(2,647) (392) 1,630
Net cash outflow from financing		(3,115)	(1,409)
Decrease in cash	20	(433)	(6,626)

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2003 NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting Standards in the United Kingdom and comply with the Companies Act 1985. A summary of the principal accounting policies, which have been consistently applied, is shown below.

Basis of consolidation

The Group financial statements comprise a consolidation of the financial statements of UK Highways M40 (Holdings) Limited and its subsidiary undertaking. The financial statements of each company in the Group are prepared to 31 December.

Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Tangible fixed assets comprise:

- (i) leasehold properties and improvements, being the depots covered by the Concession Agreement.
- (ii) infrastructure assets, being that section of the M40 road covered by the Concession Agreement (the "Project Road") together with its associated landscaping and over/under bridges.
- (iii) other assets, including fixed electrical and mechanical equipment, plant and machinery and fixtures and fittings.

Leasehold properties

These were handed over to the Group at nil value. Improvements to the leasehold properties are depreciated upon commissioning, over the remaining life of the leasehold or concession, whichever is the shorter.

Infrastructure assets

The Project Road was handed over to the Group at nil value. All expenditure on the Project Road specified in the Concession Agreement as related to increased capacity is treated as additions, which are included at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is charged on additions over the life of the concession pro rata to usage. Annual depreciation is a function of the proportion of traffic for the year over the total estimated traffic for the period of the concession.

Other assets

Depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis in order to write down the costs of assets to their estimated residual value over their expected useful lives as follows:

Mechanical and electrical equipment

10 years

Plant, machinery and other equipment

3-10 years

Fixtures and fittings

3-5 years

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2003 NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)

1. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Fixed Asset Investments

Fixed asset investments are held at cost (including accrual interest income on zero coupon bonds) less provision for any impairment. Cost includes rolled up notional interest which is calculated on a sum of the digits method reflecting the economic benefits received by the Company.

Major Maintenance

Provision for major maintenance of the Project Road is based on the expenditure required to maintain the Project Road in the condition laid down in the Concession Agreement. The provision made in the year reflects the costs to be borne by the Company in making good the wear and tear sustained by the road in the year. The annual cost of repair is calculated with reference to the expenditure required over the life of the Concession to maintain the Project Road to the specified standard and the annual traffic movements which give rise to the wear and tear. Expenditure is charged against the balance sheet provision as and when incurred, and to the extent that expenditure exceeds the amount provided to date, the balance is disclosed as a prepayment.

Deferred Taxation

The calculation of the charge for taxation takes into account taxation deferred because of timing differences in the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes. Except where otherwise required by accounting standards, full provision without discounting is made for all timing differences which have arisen but not reversed at the balance sheet.

Capitalised Interest

Interest costs incurred on borrowings to fund construction of additions to the Project Road were capitalised during the construction period. Capitalisation ceased once the additions were commissioned.

2. COMPANY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

As permitted by section 230 of the Companies Act 1985, the profit and loss account of the Company has not been included in the financial statements. The profit after taxation dealt with in the financial statements of the Company was £1,097,000 (2002: £498, 000).

3. TURNOVER

	2003 £'000	2002 £'000
Shadow tolls Other revenue	22,026 107	21,959 280
Turnover for the year	22,133	22,239
,		

Turnover relates wholly to amounts paid under the Concession Agreement and is considered to be one class of business.

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2003 NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)

4. NET OPERATING COSTS

	2003	2002
7	£'000	£'000
Fees paid to auditors:		
Audit services	13	14
Other services	6	6
Major maintenance provision (see note 11)	4,971	4,581
UK Highways Services Ltd (see note 21)	7,200	6,831
Other operating charges – others	850	851
Operating charges	13,040	12,283
Depreciation	2,486	2,428
Net operating costs	15,526	14,711

Fees paid to the auditors for audit services on behalf of the Company amounted to £2,650 (2002: £2,000)

5. STAFF NUMBERS AND COSTS AND EMOLUMENTS OF DIRECTORS

The directors did not receive any remuneration during the year or the previous year. Fees are due to the shareholding companies for the services of the directors. The amounts were £15,000 (2002: £15,000) per shareholding, a total of £30,000 (2002: £30,000).

The group had no employees during either period.

6. INTEREST RECEIVABLE AND SIMILAR INCOME

		2003 £'000	2002 £'000
	Amounts receivable:		
	Bank accounts and deposits	527	757
	Interest on EIB zero coupon bonds	2,302	2,162
		2,829	2,919
7.	INTEREST PAYABLE AND SIMILAR CHARGES		
		2003	2002
	Amounts payable:	£'000	£'000
	On bank loans and overdrafts	7,123	7,204
	Interest on shareholder loan notes	1,718	1,776
	Amortisation of finance issue costs	201	200
		9,042	9,180
			

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2003 NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)

8. TAXATION

FAXATION	2003 £'000	2002 £'000
UK Corporation tax payable at 30%	2 000	2 000
Current year	_	226
Adjustment in respect of previous periods	(11)	_
Total current tax	(11)	226
Deferred tax (see note 15)		
Origination and reversal of timing differences	130	167
Adjustment in respect of previous periods	5	(14)
Total deferred tax	135	153
Total tax on profit on ordinary activities	124	379
Current tax reconciliation	2003 £000	2002 £000
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	394	1,267
Profit on ordinary activities multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 30% (2002: 30%)	119	381
Effects of:- Expenses not deductible for tax purposes Capital allowances for the period in excess of depreciation	6 (128)	8 (146)
Provisions not allowed until paid Movement in provisions not allowed for tax purposes Increase in trade losses carried forward	(8) 11	(9) (8)
Utilisation of non-trade debits Current tax charge for the year	(11) (11)	226
Current tax charge for the year		

Factors that may affect future tax charges

The company expects to be in a position to claim capital allowances in excess of depreciation in future periods.

The company has trade losses available to carry forward of around £2m, which will be available to set against trading profits arising in future periods (see note 15).

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2003 NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Short Leasehold Properties and Improvements	Infrastructure Asset	Vehicles, Plant and Equipment	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost or valuation				
At 1 January 2003	828	85,011	754	86,593
				
At 31 December 2003	828	85,011	754	86,593
Accumulated depreciation				
At 1 January 2003	85	8,955	320	9,360
Charge for the year	31	2,383	72	2,486
At 31 December 2003	116	11,338	392	11,846
S7.1 1 1			 -	
Net book value At 31 December 2003	712	73,673	362	74,747
At 31 December 2002	743	76,056	434	77,233

The Group has the right to the benefits derived from the operation of the Concession fixed assets throughout the term of the Concession, but in certain instances has no legal title to those assets. The Group's subsidiary has an obligation to maintain the Concession fixed assets throughout the Concession period and to hand them back to the Secretary of State at the end of the Concession in an agreed condition.

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2003 NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)

10. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Group EIB bond	Company Interest in Group Undertakings
Cost	£'000	£'000
At 1 January 2003 Interest	46,074 2,302	3,500
At 31 December 2003	48,376	3,500

The Company's subsidiary undertaking, UK Highways M40 Limited, holds seven zero coupon bonds which mature between 2010 and 2021. The average yield on these bonds is 5%. These bonds will be used to fund major maintenance works on the motorway as and when they fall due.

The interest is being recognised in the profit and loss account, even though no interest is received in cash, to spread the receipt of interest over the life of the bonds. The interest is being rolled up into the fixed asset investment and will be realised in cash when the bonds mature.

The only subsidiary undertaking is UK Highways M40 Limited, which is wholly owned and whose only activity is the design, building, finance and operation of the M40 motorway.

HSBC, acting as Security Trustee, has a registered mortgage over the whole of the share capital of UK Highways M40 Limited.

11. DEBTORS

	Gro	up	Company	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Due within one year:				
Amounts owed by subsidiary undertaking Dividends receivable from subsidiary	-	-	590	616
undertakings	-	-	700	500
Prepayments and accrued income	2,218	2,325	-	-
Other debtors	75	354	-	-
	2,293	2,679	1,290	1,116
Due after more than one year				
Major maintenance prepayment	8,827	11,656	_	-
Loan notes	-	-	11,298	11,608
	8,827	11,656	11,298	11,608

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2003 NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)

11. DEBTORS (continued)

The major maintenance prepayment is comprised of the following elements:

	£'000
Balance at 1 January 2003	11,656
Charge for the year	(4,971)
Spend in year – Carillion Construction Ltd	1,817
Spend in year – Hyder Consulting Ltd	242
Other	83
Balance at 31 December 2003	8,827

During the year the Company was repaid £310,000 on its loan notes to its subsidiary, UK Highways M40 Limited. Interest on the remaining loan notes is charged at 15% per annum and they are re-payable by 1 May 2026, or before if funds allow.

12. CREDITORS – amounts falling due within one year

	Group		Company	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Bank loans (see note 14)	2,993	2,806	_	-
Trade creditors:				
- Related Parties (see note 21)	533	802	416	439
- Others	375	395	_	_
Other creditors including tax and social				
security	139	_	-	_
Corporation tax	_	224	<u></u>	_
Accruals and deferred income	1,378	1,427	2	2
Dividend proposed	700	500	700	500
	6,118	6,154	1,118	941

13. CREDITORS – amounts falling due after more than one year

	Group		Company	
	2003 £'000	2002 £'000	2003 £'000	2002 £'000
Bank loans (see note 14)	120,295	123,086	-	-
Unsecured loan notes to shareholders	11,298	11,608	11,298	11,608
	131,593	134,694	11,298	11,608

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2003 NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)

13. CREDITORS – amounts falling due after more than one year (continued)

The borrowings are repayable as follows:

	2003 £'000	2002 £'000
Within one year	2,993	2,806
Between one and two years	3,179	2,993
Between two and five years	10,773	10,148
Greater than five years	110,603	114,406
	127,548	130,353
Less issue costs	(4,260)	(4,461)
	123,288	125,892

During the year £310,000 of unsecured loan notes were repurchased from the shareholders. Interest on the outstanding loan notes is charged at 15% per annum and they are repayable by 1 May 2026, or before if funds available.

Issue costs are amortised over the length of the loan in accordance with FRS 4.

14. BANK LOANS

The Group has a £133 million facility provided by a syndicate of banks with HSBC Bank plc acting as agent in order to finance the Project Road as contracted in the Concession Agreement. Interest on the facility is charged at a fixed rate above LIBOR. The loan is repayable in instalments over the next 22 years. The banks have step-in rights to replace the Group as the Concession Group in certain circumstances.

The Group has interest rate swaps with a total notional principal of £90 million at fixed rates payable at 5.155%. All the swaps expire in September 2008.

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2003 NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)

15. PROVISION FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES

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	Deferred	
	Tax	
	£'000	
At beginning of period	5,260	
Profit and loss account charge	135	
At end of period	5,395	
	2003	2002
The balance provided at 30% (2002: 30%) comprises:	£'000	£'000
Differences between accumulated depreciation and capital allowances	3,760	3,544
Other timing differences	2,253	2,324
Tax Losses	(618)	(608)
	5,395	5,260

16. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

There was no capital expenditure contracted but not provided at 31 December 2003 (2002: £nil)

17. CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL

	Authorised		Allotted, Issued & Fully Paid	
Ordinary Share Capital	No	£	No	£
At 31 December 2002 At 31 December 2003	40,000,000 40,000,000	40,000,000 40,000,000	3,550,000 3,550,000	3,550,000 3,550,000

18. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

	2003 £'000	2002 £'000
Profit for the financial year Dividends	270 (1,100)	888 (500)
Retained (Loss)/Profit for the financial year	(830)	388
Opening equity shareholders' funds	6,646	6,258
Closing equity shareholders' funds	5,816	6,646

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2003 NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)

19. RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING PROFIT TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2003	2002
	£'000	£,000
Operating profit	6,607	7,528
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	375	(257)
(Decrease) in creditors	(201)	(1,613)
Decrease/(Increase) in major maintenance prepayment	2,829	(3,720)
Non-cash expense (depreciation)	2,486	2,428
Net cash inflow from operating activities	12,096	4,366

20. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT

	2003	Cash Flow	Other non-cash Movement	2002
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cash at bank	14,679	(433)	-	15,112
Bank debt	(123,288)	2,805	(201)	(125,892)
Loan notes to shareholders	(11,298)	310	-	(11,608)
	(119,907)	2,682	(201)	(122,388)

21. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The shareholders of UK Highways M40 (Holdings) Ltd are Carillion Private Finance Ltd which owns 50%, Laing Infrastructure Holdings Ltd which owns 5% and Hyder Investments Ltd which owns 45%. Laing Infrastructure Holdings Ltd and Hyder Investments Ltd are both wholly owned subsidiaries of Laing Investments Ltd (a subsidiary of John Laing plc).

UK Highways Services Limited, which is a company jointly owned by Carillion Construction Limited, CDC Projects S.A. and Transroute International S.A., is contracted to carry out the routine operations and maintenance required on the motorway. The value of work done is disclosed in note 4.

Carillion Construction Limited has been appointed as major maintenance contractor. The value of work done by Carillion Construction Ltd is disclosed in note 11.

The shareholders and UK Highways Management Services Limited, a company controlled jointly by Carillion Private Finance Limited and Laing Investments Limited provide seconded staff and other support services to the Group to allow the Group to perform its functions. These costs are included within other operating costs in note 4.

The amounts outstanding from and to related parties at the year end are disclosed in notes 11 and 12 respectively.