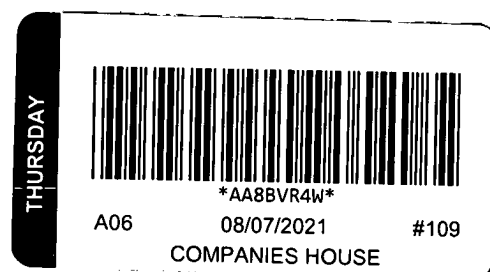


**AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC**  
**REPORT AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**



# AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

## STRATEGIC REPORT

### 1. RESULTS FOR THE YEAR

The profit for the year after taxation was £6,634,000 (2019: £6,048,000).

Autolink Concessionaires (M6) Plc (“the company”) paid interim dividends during the year of £3,549,000 (2019: £3,000,000). The directors do not recommend payment of a final dividend (2019: £Nil).

### 2. REVIEW OF THE BUSINESS AND PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Autolink Holdings (M6) Limited.

On 29 April 1997 the company entered into a Private Finance Initiative (“PFI”) contract (“the Contract”) with The Secretary of State for Scotland to Design, Build, Finance and Operate a motorway link between the existing A74(M) and the M74 and an extension to the existing M6 Motorway, linking it to the existing A74(M) (together “the Road”). The company commenced operation and maintenance of the Road on 29 July 1997. On 1 July 1999 the Contract was assigned to The Scottish Ministers under The Scotland Act 1998.

The operation of the Contract is the principal activity of the company. There have not been any significant changes in the company’s principal activities during the year, and no major changes are anticipated in the next year.

The company continues to meet its contractual obligations to The Scottish Ministers whilst also working to improve its efficiency in controlling costs. As shown in the company’s profit and loss account on page 16 the company made a profit before tax in the year of £8,414,000 (2019: £7,651,000). Turnover for the year was £9,710,000 (2019: £9,714,000) and operating costs were £9,456,000 (2019: £9,601,000). The level of costs and therefore revenue is similar to the prior year. The company incurred unavailability deductions of £327,000 (2019: £581,000), the majority of which were planned as part of the programme of major maintenance works. The operating profit for the year was £254,000 (2019: £113,000).

Interest income for the year is £11,409,000 (2019: £12,032,000) exceeded the interest expense for the year of £3,249,000 (2019: £4,494,000) by £8,160,000 (2019: £7,538,000). This net interest was the primary component of the profit for the year.

The balance sheet on page 17 of the financial statements shows that the company’s financial position at the year end remains robust, and that the company has sufficient funds to cover its liabilities as they fall due. The net asset position stands at £9,343,000 (2019: £6,258,000). The increase is due to total comprehensive income of £6,634,000 exceeding the interim dividends paid of £3,549,000. Debtors falling due within one year and after more than one year have decreased by £4,098,000, which is mainly due to the decrease in the finance debtor partially offset by the increase in trade debtors.

#### Key performance indicators

The directors have modelled the anticipated financial performance of the company’s concession across its full term. The directors monitor its actual performance against the anticipated performance. At 31 December 2020 the company’s performance against this measure was satisfactory.

The revenue of the company is dependent upon the unitary charge receivable from the authority and the expected costs over the lifetime of the project. The income receivable from the authority is dependent on traffic flows on the Road with the charge varying with reference to the traffic flow bands within the Contract. The nature of the bands means that traffic flows can vary significantly without changing the banding and hence the income receivable from the authority. The outbreak of Covid-19 has naturally adversely affected traffic flows on the Road. The Authority has confirmed that historic traffic figures will be applied during this time in calculating the unitary charge payment. A review of the risks arising from Covid-19 can be found in section 4 of this report.

The company’s operations are managed under the supervision of its directors in accordance with its funding arrangements. These operations are largely determined by the detailed terms of the Contract.

## AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

### STRATEGIC REPORT (CONTINUED)

#### 2. REVIEW OF THE BUSINESS AND PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Since 2018 the Company has been making a loan to its immediate and ultimate parent company, Autolink Holdings (M6) Limited. At 31 December 2020 the loan balance was £30,586,000 (2019: £30,248,000). The loan is repayable on demand and bears interest at a rate of 5% + 6 months LIBOR.

#### 3. PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The company's principal activities, now the design and build stage of the project is complete, are the finance and operation of the Road. It carries out these activities within the framework of contracts with its funders and sub-contractors to meet its obligations to The Scottish Ministers. Its main exposure is to financial and operational risks as detailed in the following section.

#### 4. FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT

The company has exposures to a variety of financial and operational risks which are managed with the purpose of minimising any potential adverse effect on the company's performance. The board has policies for managing each of these risks and they are summarised below:

##### *Interest rate risk*

The Secured debenture loans both have a fixed rate until repayment in June 2022, thus there is no interest rate risk associated with these financial liabilities. The company is exposed to interest rate risk on bank balances and Secured Bank loans, as both of these have floating interest rates, however the directors do not consider this exposure to be significant.

##### *Inflation risk*

The company's project revenue and most of its costs were linked to inflation at the inception of the project, resulting in the project being largely insensitive to inflation.

##### *Taxation risk*

The company must pay corporation tax on its profits, and therefore will pay more or less tax depending on whether corporation tax rates increase or decrease. The company models anticipated corporation tax liabilities and manages its cash flows to accommodate them.

##### *Liquidity risk*

The company adopts a prudent approach to liquidity management by maintaining sufficient cash and liquid resources to meet its forecast obligations. The nature of the project is such that cash flows are reasonably predictable. The company aims to mitigate liquidity risk by closely monitoring the timing of cash flows within the company.

##### *Credit risk*

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for that other party by failing to discharge an obligation. The Scottish Ministers are the primary client of the company. The directors consider that no significant risk arises from such a small client base since there are no indications that the Scottish Ministers will not be able to fulfil their obligations. The carrying value of the financial asset of £75,401,000 (2019: £82,776,000) together with trade debtors of £3,365,000 (2019: £550,000) is the maximum credit exposure arising from clients. Additional credit risk arises on the intragroup loan made to the company's parent of £30,586,000 (2019: £30,248,000). The company has modelled repayment of this loan and has no concerns that the loan will not be recovered.

##### *Major Maintenance risk*

A risk borne by the company is that major maintenance costs exceed those forecast in the financial model agreed at financial close. Increased major maintenance costs are therefore a significant risk to breaching the ratio covenants in the finance contracts. This risk is mitigated by future estimates of major maintenance expenditure being prepared by experienced individuals on an asset by asset basis and by the periodic technical evaluations of the physical condition of the assets subject to major maintenance.

**STRATEGIC REPORT (CONTINUED)**

**4. FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)**

*Brexit risk*

The risks from Brexit are a result of the risk it poses to the sub-contracted service providers, rather than the company itself. The risk is linked to the service performance. The company is insulated from these risks because contractually, any non-performance will result in deductions being passed down to the service provider.

The service provider has performed a review of their respective exposure to Brexit. The relevant concerns relate to materials with primary concerns revolving around delays in delivery and increased transportation costs of any supplies which come from the EU. There have not been any issues to date, and while there could be some disruption in the future, the service provider has a strategy in place to keep this to a minimum. This could result in higher costs to the service provider; however, this is not expected to impact the company itself as the contract price is fixed. On 24 December 2020 the UK Government announced that a Brexit trade agreement had been reached, such that there would be no tariffs or quotas on the movement of goods, originating in either place, between the EU and the UK, when the UK left the EU's single market and customs union from 23:00 on 31 December 2020.

The company is comfortable that any potential for increased costs and disruption will not threaten the service provider to such an extent as to put the project at risk.

*Covid-19 risk*

The outbreak of Covid-19 and the associated restrictions set out by both the Scottish and UK governments have naturally reduced traffic flows on the Road. Under the terms of the Contract with the Scottish Ministers, this is classed as a Relevant Traffic Effect, and therefore the company is entitled to compensation for loss of income. The Authority has confirmed that historic traffic figures will be applied, during the time impacted by the pandemic, in calculating the company's revenue, to avoid any financial penalty to the company as there has been no reduction in the service provided. This is in line with the Scottish Government's Policy Note SPPN 5/2020 on supplier relief in relation to the Covid-19 situation. The toll revenue payments to be made on account during the 12 months to July 2021 have been agreed on this basis. Routine operations are continuing as normal and the company has deferred some major maintenance expenditure to a later date. The company therefore expects that Covid-19 should not have any significant adverse effect on the project.

**5. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

The company has outsourced the financial reporting function to Sir Robert McAlpine Limited. Authorities remain vested in the board members of the company. Sir Robert McAlpine Limited reports regularly to the board of the company. The Board receives monthly reports from Sir Robert McAlpine Limited which specifically summarise and address the financial, contractual and commercial risks that the company is exposed to and are pertinent to the industry in which the company operates. The board also receives monthly management accounts with explanations of variances from annual budgets and forecasts, which are in turn compared to the Financial Model, which represents the long term business plan of the company and outlines its ability to comply with its debt obligations and covenants. Material deviations from the business plan are investigated and reported on.

The company has constituted an Audit Committee, comprising of an independent chairman (non-executive director) and a further director. The Audit Committee is responsible for satisfying itself that the financial affairs of the company are conducted with openness, integrity and accountability and in accordance with the statutory and regulatory requirements.

The primary duties of the Audit Committee are to monitor the integrity of the financial statements of the company and to review significant judgements contained therein, to monitor the level and effectiveness of internal financial control; to assess the scope and effectiveness of systems to identify, assess, manage and monitor financial and non-financial risk, to make recommendations concerning the appointment and terms of engagement of external auditors, to review and monitor the independence of the statutory auditor and in particular the provision of additional services by the auditor to the company.

**STRATEGIC REPORT (CONTINUED)**

**6. SECTION 172 COMPANIES ACT 2006 STATEMENT**

The directors have a duty to promote the success of the company for the benefit of the shareholders as a whole and to describe how this duty has been performed with regard to those matters set out in Section 172 of the Companies Act 2006 ("Section 172").

The directors have identified the company's main stakeholders as the following:

*(i) The company's shareholders, bondholders and credit providers*

Principal considerations of the board are whether the investment objective of the company is meeting shareholder, credit provider and bondholder expectations and how Sir Robert McAlpine Limited ("the manager") implements the objective. These are discussed at all board and shareholder meetings, which are held regularly throughout the year. The bonds and loan are secured by an irrevocable financial guarantee policy issued by Assured Guaranty. The board regularly discusses the obligations under this policy and how the manager is fulfilling these at board meetings and through engagement with the senior management of the manager. The board also ensures that senior management communicate regularly with the credit providers to ensure their engagement is optimised, and to keep them updated on matters as required.

*(ii) The client*

The board recognises the importance of working in partnership with its public sector client to successfully deliver a key public infrastructure asset. On behalf of the company, the manager fosters this partnership through regular meetings with the client representative and other key managers. The manager provides regular monthly reporting to the public sector client on the performance of its obligations under the PFI arrangement. The directors are always available should the public sector client wish to meet.

*(iii) The service providers*

On behalf of the company, the manager seeks to maintain a constructive relationship with the service providers by meeting regularly. The service provider reports provided to the company contain service provision information and relevant information about the performance of the PFI contract. These reports are reviewed by both the manager and the board. Periodically the directors will also meet with the service providers to discuss key service delivery matters.

*(iv) The management services provider*

The company has outsourced the management of the company to the manager. The delivery by the manager of its services is fundamental to the long term success of the company. The board seeks to engage regularly with the manager, including at board meetings and through engagement with the manager's senior leadership team. Regular reporting is provided to the board by the manager, which will alert the board to changes to regulation or market practice and will inform the board's decision making.

Throughout the year the board has given due consideration during its discussions and decision-making of the matters set out in Section 172 and below is a description of how the directors have had regard to these matters when performing their duties:

*(a) The likely consequences of any decision in the long term*

The services delivered by the manager and the communication and reporting provided, as noted in section (iv), ensure that the board is fully informed and able to make appropriate decisions.

*(b) The interests of the company's employees*

As an externally managed company, the company's activities are all outsourced and therefore it does not have any employees. The company does however, pay due regard to the interests and safety of all those engaged by contractors to the company to perform services on its behalf.

*(c) The need to foster the company's business relationships with suppliers, customers and others*

The company is committed to upholding the underlying principle of PFI of working in partnerships with all parties to the arrangement. As noted above, the company has policies and procedures to ensure regular communication is maintained between the parties and ensure that the supply chain is managed effectively in order that company obligations to its public sector client and service providers can be upheld.

## AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

### STRATEGIC REPORT (CONTINUED)

#### 6. SECTION 172 COMPANIES ACT 2006 STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

*(d) The impact of the company's operations on the community and the environment*

The company has very limited direct impact on the environment as it has no greenhouse gas emissions. Notwithstanding that the company is committed to minimizing environmental disruption from its activities. The board upholds the company's environmental policy in all its activities and requires all parties to the arrangement to do the same. The board recognises that the company is a key partner in the delivery of public infrastructure and encourages its partners in considering and delivering Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) values and initiatives to achieve socially responsible investing.

*(e) The desirability of the company maintaining a reputation for high standards of business conduct*

The company is committed in its day to day operations and dealings with all affiliates to uphold the highest standard of business conduct and integrity. The directors are not responsible for setting a "business culture" in the traditional sense but are committed to understanding the culture of the manager and service providers and raise any concerns in this regard if necessary.

*(f) The need to act fairly between members of the company*

The members of the company are represented at board meetings by their appointed director(s). Conflicts on matters to be discussed are identified at each meeting of the board. Directors representing a member with a conflict of interest may therefore be excluded from any discussion or vote in regard to it.

The directors are cognisant of their duty under Section 172 in their deliberation as a board on all matters. Decisions made by the board consider the interests of all the company's key stakeholders and reflect the board's belief that the long term sustainable success of the company is linked directly to its key stakeholders.

#### 7. ENERGY AND CARBON REPORT

As the company has not consumed more than 40,000 kWh of energy in this reporting period, it qualifies as a low energy user under these regulations and is not required to report on its emissions, energy consumption or efficiency activities.

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:



C James  
Director

Registered Office:  
Eaton Court  
Maylands Avenue  
Hemel Hempstead  
Hertfordshire  
HP2 7TR

30 June 2021

## **AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC**

### **REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

The directors present their report together with the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

#### **1. DIRECTORS**

Directors: R J W Wotherspoon  
A R Gates  
B C J Dean  
D Honeyman  
C James

Secretary: K J Pearson

#### **2. DIVIDENDS**

The company paid interim dividends during the year of £3,549,000 (2019: £3,000,000). The directors do not recommend payment of a final dividend (2019: £Nil).

#### **3. MATTERS INCLUDED IN STRATEGIC REPORT**

Financial risk management, the corporate governance statement and future developments are discussed in the Strategic Report.

#### **4. POLITICAL DONATIONS**

The company has not made any political donations (2019: £Nil).

#### **5. DIRECTORS' LIABILITIES**

Third party indemnity provisions made by the company's ultimate shareholders were in force during the year for the benefit of the directors of the company.

#### **6. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS**

The successful development and roll-out of effective COVID-19 vaccines are clearly a positive and welcome step in the global fight against the pandemic. However, the discovery of various mutations, together with continued growth in numbers of new cases globally, are such that considerable uncertainty remains as to the timing of social and economic recovery from the virus.

A review of the risks due to Covid-19 can be found in the Strategic Report. Based on those risks and due to the Government's actions in responding to Covid-19, in particular providing guidance that public bodies should continue to pay their suppliers in full, there is not expected to be any significant financial impact on the company.

The directors continue to monitor the situation and the impact on the company.

## AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

### REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (CONTINUED)

#### 7. DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITOR

The directors who held office at the date of approval of this directors' report confirm that:

- so far as they are each aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditor is unaware; and
- each director has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a director to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

BDO LLP were appointed as auditor to the Company and in accordance with Section 489 of the Companies Act 2006 a resolution to reappoint BDO LLP, as auditor will be put to the forthcoming annual general meeting.

This information is given and should be interpreted in accordance with Section 418 of the Companies Act 2006.

By Order of the Board



C James  
Director

Registered Office:  
Eaton Court  
Maylands Avenue  
Hemel Hempstead  
Hertfordshire  
HP2 7TR

30 June 2021



## AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

### STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE DIRECTORS' REPORT, THE STRATEGIC REPORT AND THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law), 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 its profit or loss for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- assess the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern; and
- use the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The directors are responsible for ensuring that the annual report and accounts, taken as a whole, are fair, balanced, and understandable and provide the information necessary for shareholders to assess the company's performance, business model and strategy.

Under applicable law and regulations, the directors are also responsible for preparing a Strategic Report and Directors' Report that complies with that law and those regulations.

#### **Directors' responsibility statement pursuant to DTR4**

We confirm that to the best of our knowledge:

- the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the applicable set of accounting standards and give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit and loss of the company; and
- the annual report includes a fair review of the development and performance of the business and the financial position of the company, together with a description of the principal risks and uncertainties that they face.



C James  
Director

30 June 2021

## **AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC**

#### **Opinion on the financial statements**

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31 December 2020 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements of Autolink Concessionaires (M6) Plc (the 'Company') for the year ended 31 December 2020 which comprise the profit and loss account and statement of other comprehensive income, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Changes in Equity and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and UK 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 believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. Our audit opinion is consistent with the additional report to the audit committee.

#### *Independence*

Following the recommendation of the audit committee, we were appointed by the Board of Directors on 12 February 2021 to audit the financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2020 and subsequent financial periods. This is the first period of engagement. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard as applied to listed public interest entities, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. The non-audit services prohibited by that standard were not provided to the Company.

#### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate. Our evaluation of the Directors' assessment of the Company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting included:

- We critically assessed the directors' going concern assessment, including the reasonableness of the key assumptions used in the cash flow forecast. The key assumption was identified as the determination of future lifecycle costs, with the cash flow forecast stress-tested to consider the impact of increasing the future cost profile.
- We evaluated the achievability of the actions the Directors consider they would take to improve the position should risks materialise in relation to COVID 19. This evaluation considered the potential impact of COVID 19 on the counterparty's contract performance, subcontractor performance and compliance with borrowing covenants.
- We assessed the accuracy and completeness of the matters covered in the going concern disclosure.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

## AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC (continued)

#### Overview

	2020
<b>Key audit matters</b>	Revenue recognition Lifecycle costs Financial model
<b>Materiality</b>	<i>Financial statements as a whole</i>  £1.28m based on 1% total assets

#### An overview of the scope of our audit

Our audit was scoped by obtaining an understanding of the Company and its environment, including the Company's system of internal control, and assessing the risks of material misstatement in the financial statements. We also addressed the risk of management override of internal controls, including assessing whether there was evidence of bias by the Directors that may have represented a risk of material misstatement.

#### *Key audit matters*

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the financial statements of the current period and include the most significant assessed risks of material misstatement (whether or not due to fraud) that we identified, including those which had the greatest effect on: the overall audit strategy, the allocation of resources in the audit, and directing the efforts of the engagement team. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters. In addition to the matters described in the Conclusions relating to going concern section we have determined the matters below to be the key audit matters to be communicated in our report.

# AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC (continued)

Key audit matter		How the scope of our audit addressed the key audit matter
<b>Revenue Recognition</b>	<p>Revenue is accounted for as detailed in note 1(c), with a service margin added to the relevant cost base. The margin applied is determined by the forecasted results of the Public Finance Initiative ('PFI') contract. Management use a financial model to forecast the results of the contract for the period until completion.</p> <p>As explained in note 17, the determination of the service margins is a key area of estimates and judgement and we therefore consider this to be an area of significant risk and key area of focus.</p>	<p>Our audit work included, but was not restricted to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We tested the mark-up applied within the financial model and investigated differences from that applied in prior year, corroborating changes to supporting documents and Board approvals.</li> <li>• We checked that mark-up had been applied to appropriate costs, and that it was based on contractual entitlements.</li> <li>• We checked the allocation of the unitary charge account between revenue, interest and amortisation of the finance debtor to the financial model and compared the total unitary charge to contractual obligations.</li> <li>• We reviewed transactions around the year end, to ensure cut-off had been applied correctly to costs and consequently revenue.</li> </ul> <p>Key observations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on the work performed, we consider that the service margin has been appropriately applied.</li> </ul>
<b>Lifecycle Costs</b>	<p>As explained in note 17, determination of the lifecycle costs over the duration of the contract requires significant management judgement and estimate.</p> <p>There is a risk that future lifecycle costs may not have been accurately forecasted in the financial model for future periods which could lead to incorrect determination of profit margin and recognition of profits.</p> <p>As such, lifecycle costs represent a significant risk and key area of focus for our audit.</p>	<p>Our audit work included, but was not restricted to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We critically challenged management over the estimates of future lifecycle costs. In particular, this included consideration and assessment of the long term lifecycle plan, lifecycle budgets and overall condition of the core assets maintained by the Company</li> <li>• We checked a sample of lifecycle costs to supporting documentation.</li> <li>• We have considered the completeness of the forecasted lifecycle profile included in the financial model by reviewing board minutes as well as holding a number of discussions with Management in regards to the lifecycle costs.</li> <li>• We checked that the latest lifecycle plan has been appropriately reflected in the financial model.</li> </ul> <p>Key observations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on the work performed we consider that management's key estimates in respect of lifecycle costs are reasonable.</li> </ul>

## AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC (continued)

<b>Financial Model</b>	<p>The financial model drives a number of transactions and balances recorded in the financial statements.</p> <p>There is a risk that inputs in the model are inaccurate, compromising the integrity of the model resulting in incorrect outputs and cash flow projections.</p>	<p>Our audit work included, but was not restricted to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We compared the model with the model used in the 2019 financial statement audit and the original audited model (audited by an independent third party as part of a detailed review of the mechanics and formulae contained within the model). For any amendments identified, we obtained supporting evidence to consider appropriateness of the changes made to inputs.</li><li>• We assessed the adequacy of the key inputs in the model by vouching key inputs back to valid supporting documents.</li><li>• We compared the results for the 2020 financial year with the project's projected results for 2021, to identify any anomalies that would be indicative of manipulation of the future profit margin.</li><li>• We ensured that the finance debtor was forecast to fully amortise and the debt profile be settled over the life of the service concession agreement.</li></ul> <p>Key observations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Based on the work performed we consider that the inputs to the financial model were reasonable.</li></ul>
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#### **Our application of materiality**

We apply the concept of materiality both in planning and performing our audit, and in evaluating the effect of misstatements. We consider materiality to be the magnitude by which misstatements, including omissions, could influence the economic decisions of reasonable users that are taken on the basis of the financial statements.

In order to reduce to an appropriately low level the probability that any misstatements exceed materiality, we use a lower materiality level, performance materiality, to determine the extent of testing needed. Importantly, misstatements below these levels will not necessarily be evaluated as immaterial as we also take account of the nature of identified misstatements, and the particular circumstances of their occurrence, when evaluating their effect on the financial statements as a whole.

## AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC (continued)

Based on our professional judgement, we determined materiality for the financial statements as a whole and performance materiality as follows:

	2020 £m
<b>Materiality</b>	£1.28 million
<b>Basis for determining materiality</b>	Benchmark of total assets of £136m of which it represents approximately 1%
<b>Rationale for the benchmark applied</b>	The PFI project is asset driven and the success of the project is measured through the overall return of the project, with the Finance Debtor representing the right for future distributions.
<b>Performance materiality</b>	65% of financial statement materiality to reflect that this is the first year audited by BDO LLP.
<b>Cost testing threshold</b>	We set a lower cost testing threshold of £110,000, which is based on 1.25% of operating costs to ensure adequate testing of the cost base.

#### *Reporting threshold*

We agreed with the Audit Committee that we would report to them all individual audit differences in excess of £25,000. We also agreed to report differences below this threshold that, in our view, warranted reporting on qualitative grounds.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### **Other Companies Act 2006 reporting**

Based on the responsibilities described below and our work performed during the course of the audit, we are required by the Companies Act 2006 and ISAs (UK) to report on certain opinions and matters as described below.

## AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC (continued)

<b>Strategic report and Directors' report</b>	<p>In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the information given in the strategic report and the report of the Directors for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and</li><li>• the strategic report and the report of the Directors have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.</li></ul> <p>In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report or the report of the Directors.</p>
<b>Matters on which we are required to report by exception</b>	<p>We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 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</li><li>• the Company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or</li><li>• certain disclosures of Directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or</li><li>• we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.</li></ul>

#### **Responsibilities of Directors**

As explained more fully in the statement of directors' responsibilities in respect of the directors' report, the strategic report and the financial statements, 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.

## AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC (continued)

#### *Extent to which the audit was capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud*

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Based on our understanding of the Company and industry, we identified the principal risk of non-compliance with laws and regulations to be UK tax legislation, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that might have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as Companies Act 2006.

We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to management bias in accounting estimates and posting inappropriate journal entries to manipulate the fair value of the Company's assets.

Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Evaluation of management's controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities;
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in areas involving significant estimates, with the key sources of estimation identified as the determination of service margins and lifecycle costs; and
- Identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any material journal entries posted and/or with unusual descriptions.

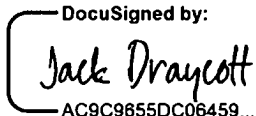
Our audit procedures were designed to respond to risks of material misstatement in the financial statements, recognising that the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery, misrepresentations or through collusion. There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures performed and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we are to become aware of it.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

#### **Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the Parent 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 Parent 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 Parent Company and the Parent Company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

DocuSigned by:

  
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Jack Draycott (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of BDO LLP, Statutory Auditor  
London

30 June 2021

BDO LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales (with registered number OC305127).



## AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

### PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME for the year ended 31 December 2020

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
		£000	£000
Turnover	2	9,710	9,714
Operating costs		(9,456)	(9,601)
Operating profit		254	113
Other interest receivable and similar income	3	11,409	12,032
Interest payable and similar expenses	4	(3,249)	(4,494)
Profit before taxation	5	8,414	7,651
Taxation on profit	7	(1,780)	(1,603)
Total comprehensive income for the year		6,634	6,048

All of the company's activities during the year were continuing operations, and all turnover is generated within the United Kingdom.

Movements on reserves are shown in the Statement of Changes in Equity.

The notes on pages 19 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

# AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

## BALANCE SHEET at 31 December 2020

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
		£000	£000
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year	8	18,047	13,746
Debtors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	9	91,715	100,114
Cash at bank and in hand	1g	26,585	25,447
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		136,347	139,307
<b>CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR</b>	10	(17,226)	(15,860)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		119,121	123,447
<b>CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR</b>	11	(109,291)	(116,695)
<b>PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES</b>	13	(487)	(494)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		9,343	6,258
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>CAPITAL AND RESERVES</b>			
Called up share capital	14	79	79
Profit and loss account		9,264	6,179
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Shareholders' funds</b>		9,343	6,258
		<hr/>	<hr/>

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 30 June 2021.

The notes on pages 19 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

They were signed on its behalf by:



C James  
Director

Company registration number: 03201364

# AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

	Called up Share Capital £000	Profit and Loss Account £000	Total  £000
At 1 January 2019	79	3,131	3,210
Profit for the financial year	-	6,048	6,048
Interim dividends paid of £37.85 per Ordinary share	-	(3,000)	(3,000)
At 31 December 2019	<u>79</u>	<u>6,179</u>	<u>6,258</u>

	Called up Share Capital £000	Profit and Loss Account £000	Total  £000
At 1 January 2020	79	6,179	6,258
Profit for the financial year	-	6,634	6,634
Interim dividends paid of £44.78 per Ordinary share	-	(3,549)	(3,549)
At 31 December 2020	<u>79</u>	<u>9,264</u>	<u>9,343</u>

The notes on pages 19 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

## AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Autolink Concessionaires (M6) PLC is a company limited by shares and incorporated and domiciled in England, United Kingdom.

On 29 April 1997 the company entered into a Private Finance Initiative ("PFI") contract with The Secretary of State for Scotland to Design, Build, Finance and Operate a motorway link between the existing A74(M) and the M74 and an extension to the existing M6 Motorway, linking it to the existing A74(M). The company commenced operation and maintenance of the road on 29 July 1997 for a 30 year concession period. On 1 July 1999 the contract was assigned to The Scottish Ministers under The Scotland Act 1998. The company receives revenue based upon the level of traffic on the road and is required to undertake routine and major maintenance of the road. Further information regarding the company's business activities is set out in the Strategic Report.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and Financial Reporting Standard 102, *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* ("FRS 102"). The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the current and preceding years under the historical cost convention.

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. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £000.

The company's parent undertaking, Autolink Holdings (M6) Limited includes the company in its consolidated financial statements. The consolidated financial statements of Autolink Holdings (M6) Limited are prepared in accordance with FRS 102 and are available to the public and may be obtained from Companies House.

In these financial statements, the company is considered a qualifying entity (for the purpose of this FRS) and has applied the exemptions available under FRS 102 in respect of the following disclosures:

- Reconciliation of number of shares outstanding from the beginning to the end of the period;
- Cash flow statement and related notes; and
- Key management personnel compensation.

As the company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Autolink Holdings (M6) Limited, the company has taken advantage of the exemption in section 33 of FRS 102 to not disclose transactions entered into between itself and the other members of the group.

Judgements made by the directors, in the application of these accounting policies that have significant effect on the financial statements and estimates with a significant risk of material adjustment in the next year are discussed in note 17.

The particular accounting policies adopted by the directors are described below.

##### (a) Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which the directors consider to be appropriate for the following reasons.

The directors have prepared cash flow forecasts covering a period of 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements through to 30 June 2022 which indicate that, taking account of severe but plausible downsides, the company will have sufficient funds to meet its liabilities as they fall due for that period. Those forecasts are dependent on the underlying customer continuing to meet its obligations under the Project Agreement which are underwritten by The Scottish Ministers ("the Authority").

In making this assessment the directors have considered the potential impact of Covid-19.

The company's operating cash inflows are largely dependent on unitary charge receipts receivable from the Authority. The income receivable from the Authority is dependent on traffic flows on the Road, with the income varying with reference to the traffic flow bands within the Contract.

## AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

##### (a) Going Concern (continued)

Actual traffic flows over the Road have been significantly impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. Toll revenue for each year (29th July – 28th July) is invoiced monthly based on an estimate agreed in advance for that year (the provisional payment). Once the actual traffic flows for the year are available there is an annual reconciliation, that once agreed, results in a balancing payment to or from the Authority. The Authority has made all the provisional payments for the toll year to 28 July 2020, and all those invoiced to date for the year 2020-2021 based on the estimate agreed in 2020.

The Authority has agreed that under the Contract the impact of Covid-19 is classed as a Relevant Traffic Effect, and therefore the company is entitled to compensation for this loss of income. The Authority has agreed that an estimate of normal traffic, based upon historic traffic figures, will be applied in the calculation of the provisional monthly payments for 2020-2021. The calculation of the provisional payment for the year 2020-2021 has been agreed and amounts invoiced to date have been paid by the Authority. It is expected that income will continue to be received on this basis for as long as the Relevant Traffic Effect continues, however forecasts prepared assuming estimated actual traffic levels to calculate toll revenue with effect from July 2021 show the company would still be able to comply with its debt covenants and meet all of its liabilities as they fall due, including debt repayments and forecast operational costs.

The directors have assessed the viability of its main sub-contractors and are satisfied in their ability to provide the services in line with the Contract without significant additional costs to the company, even in downside scenarios, due to the underlying contractual terms. To date, there has been no adverse impact on the services provided by the company or its sub-contractors arising from Covid-19. However, in the unlikely event of a subcontractor failure, the company has its own business continuity plans to ensure that service provision will continue.

The directors believe the company has sufficient funding in place and expect the company to be in compliance with its debt covenants even in severe but plausible downside scenarios.

Consequently, the directors are confident that the company will have sufficient funds to continue to meet its liabilities as they fall due for at least 12 months from the date of approval of the financial statements and therefore have prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis.

##### (b) Service concession accounting

The company is an operator of a Private Finance Initiative ("PFI") contract. The company entered into a project agreement (the "Contract") with The Secretary of State for Scotland (the "Authority") to Design, Build, Finance and Operate a motorway link between the existing A74(M) and the M74 and an extension to the existing M6 Motorway, linking it to the existing A74(M). Under the contract operations include the provision of routine maintenance of the road. The company has passed this obligation down to Sir Robert McAlpine Limited via a subcontract. The obligation to provide major maintenance works (lifecycle) is retained by the company, who will generally procure this from Sir Robert McAlpine Limited. The timing and extent of the major maintenance works is a key assumption that will affect the cashflows of the company; further information is shown in note 17. The Contract does not entitle the Authority to any share of the profits of the company. The Authority is entitled to terminate the Contract at any time by giving 5 working days written notice. If the Authority exercises this right it is liable to pay the company compensation as set out in the Contract, which would include any amounts due (including breakage costs) regarding the secured debenture loans and secured bank loans, any operational sums due, any termination costs and a fair market value of the shares in the company.

As the company entered into the contract prior to the date of transition to FRS102, the company has taken advantage of the exemption in section 35.10 (i) of FRS102 which permits it to continue to account for the service concession arrangements under the accounting policies adopted under old UK GAAP. In particular, the underlying asset is not deemed to be an asset of the company under old UK GAAP, because the risks and rewards of ownership as set out in that standard are deemed to lie principally with the Authority.

**Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**(b) Service concession accounting (continued)**

During the construction phase of the project, all attributable expenditure was included in amounts recoverable on contracts and turnover. Upon becoming operational, the costs were transferred to the finance debtor. During the operational phase, the PFI unitary charge income is allocated between the capital repayment of the finance debtor and interest receivable using a project specific interest rate. The remainder of the PFI unitary charge income is included within turnover in accordance with FRS102 section 23. The company recognises revenue in respect of the services provided, including major maintenance (lifecycle) services, as it fulfils its contractual obligations in respect of those services and in line with the fair value of the consideration receivable in respect of those services. Where income has been received and the services have not yet been provided this is recognised as deferred service concession income.

**(c) Turnover**

Turnover credited to the profit and loss account is calculated by applying a margin to costs incurred in the year. This margin is calculated as total income forecast to be receivable over the concession, less amounts applied to the finance debtor as set out above less, all major maintenance, routine maintenance and other operating costs forecast to be payable over the concession. Management model these costs over the lifetime of the project to estimate the likely total costs.

**(d) Other Income**

Other income is in respect of additional services and works requested by the client that are not included under the standard contract.

**(e) Maintenance**

Routine maintenance and major maintenance costs are charged to the profit and loss account as incurred.

**(f) Taxation**

Tax on the profit or loss for the year comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in the profit and loss account except to the extent that it relates to items recognised directly in equity or other comprehensive income, in which case it is recognised directly in equity or other comprehensive income.

Current tax is the expected tax payable or receivable on the taxable income or loss for the year, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date, and any adjustment to tax payable in respect of previous years.

Deferred tax is provided on timing differences which arise from the inclusion of income and expenses in tax assessments in periods different from those in which they are recognised in the financial statements. Deferred tax is not recognised on permanent differences arising because certain types of income or expense are non-taxable or are disallowable for tax or because certain tax charges or allowances are greater or smaller than the corresponding income or expense.

Deferred tax is measured at the tax rate that is expected to apply to the reversal of the related difference, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date. Deferred tax balances are not discounted.

**(g) Basic financial instruments**

Financial instruments are recognised when the company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. The principal financial assets and liabilities of the company are as follows:

*Finance Debtor*

The finance debtor is accounted for as a basic financial instrument in accordance with FRS102 section 11 and is discussed in more detail in accounting policy note 1(b).

# AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### (g) Basic financial instruments (continued)

##### *Trade and other receivables*

Trade and other receivables are initially measured at transaction price calculated on the effective interest rate basis, less any impairment.

##### *Current asset investments and cash at bank and in hand*

Current asset investments are short term deposits of cash which are initially recognised at fair value and then are stated at amortised cost calculated on the effective interest rate basis.

Cash at bank and in hand is carried in the balance sheet at nominal value.

The company is obligated to keep separate cash reserves in respect of requirements in the company's funding agreements. This restricted cash balance, which is shown on the balance sheet within the "cash at bank and in hand" balance, amounts to £19,565,000 at the year end (2019: £19,655,000).

##### *Trade and other creditors*

Trade and other creditors are recognised initially at transaction price plus attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

##### *Loans*

Debenture and bank loans are initially measured at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Interest on the loans is recognised as it accrues using the effective interest method.

#### (h) Equity instruments

Equity instruments issued by the company are recorded at the proceeds received, net of transaction costs. Dividends payable on equity instruments are recognised as liabilities once they are no longer at the discretion of the company.

### 2. REVENUE

	<u>2020</u> £000	<u>2019</u> £000
Contract income	9,059	9,233
Other income	651	481
	<u>9,710</u>	<u>9,714</u>

All revenue was earned in the United Kingdom.

### 3. OTHER INTEREST RECEIVABLE AND SIMILAR INCOME

	<u>2020</u> £000	<u>2019</u> £000
Finance debtor interest receivable	9,565	10,365
Other interest receivable	107	237
Intercompany interest receivable	1,737	1,430
	<u>11,409</u>	<u>12,032</u>

# AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

### 4. INTEREST PAYABLE AND SIMILAR EXPENSES

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£000	£000
Debenture loans	3,242	4,479
Bank loans	7	15
	<u>3,249</u>	<u>4,494</u>

### 5. PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£000	£000
Profit is stated after charging:		
Fees paid to the auditor for audit services	<u>28</u>	<u>38</u>

### 6. INFORMATION REGARDING DIRECTORS AND EMPLOYEES

The company had no employees during the year (2019: None) and therefore no staff costs (2019: £Nil) and no emoluments were paid to key management personnel or the directors for their services (2019: £Nil). £56,000 was paid to the shareholders for directors' services (2019: £64,000).

### 7. TAXATION ON PROFIT

On the results for the year at 19% (2019: 19.00%):

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£000	£000
Current year tax:		
United Kingdom corporation tax	1,787	1,656
Total United Kingdom corporation tax	<u>1,787</u>	<u>1,656</u>
Deferred taxation		
Origination/reversal of timing differences (note 13)	(65)	(59)
Effects of changes in tax rates (note 13)	58	6
Total deferred taxation	<u>(7)</u>	<u>(53)</u>
Tax on profit	<u>1,780</u>	<u>1,603</u>

Factors affecting the total tax charge for the current period:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£000	£000
Profit before tax	<u>8,414</u>	<u>7,651</u>
Tax at 19% (2019: 19%)	1,599	1,454
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	453	414
Difference in tax rate on deferred tax balances	58	6
Group relief not paid for	(330)	(271)
	<u>1,780</u>	<u>1,603</u>



## AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

#### 7. TAXATION ON PROFIT (CONTINUED)

The United Kingdom Corporation Tax rate fell from 20% to 19% with effect from 1 April 2017. The Finance Act 2016 (enacted on 15 September 2016) proposed a reduction to the corporation tax main rate to 17% with effect from 1 April 2020. The government subsequently put this rate reduction on hold, maintaining the corporation tax main rate at 19%. The amending legislation to defer the rate reduction was substantively enacted on 17 March 2020.

The March 2021 Budget announced a further increase to the main rate of corporation tax to 25% from April 2023. This rate has not been substantively enacted at the balance sheet date, and therefore deferred tax balances as at 31 December 2020 continue to be measured at 19%. If all of the timing differences were to reverse at the amended rate this would increase the deferred tax liability by £154,000 as at 31 December 2020.

#### 8. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£000	£000
Trade debtors	3,365	550
Finance debtor	8,272	7,375
Amounts owed by parent undertaking (note 9)	6,000	5,535
Prepayments and accrued income	410	286
	<u>18,047</u>	<u>13,746</u>

#### 9. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£000	£000
Finance debtor	67,129	75,401
Amounts owed by parent undertaking	24,586	24,713
	<u>91,715</u>	<u>100,114</u>

Amounts owed by parent undertaking, included in debtors: amounts falling due within one year and after more than one year, relates to a loan to Autolink Holdings (M6) Limited which is the Company's immediate and ultimate parent company. The loan is repayable on demand, and repayments commenced in 2020. The loan bears interest at a rate of 5% + 6 months LIBOR.

#### 10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£000	£000
Secured debenture loans (note 11)	14,809	13,531
Secured bank loan (note 11)	348	348
Trade creditors	35	53
Corporation tax	897	814
VAT payable	340	374
Accruals and deferred income	797	740
	<u>17,226</u>	<u>15,860</u>

# AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

### 11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	<u>2020</u> £000	<u>2019</u> £000
Secured debenture loans (a)	7,927	22,679
Secured bank loan (b)	174	521
Deferred service concession income	101,190	93,495
	<u>109,291</u>	<u>116,695</u>

- (a) The secured debenture loans are secured by a fixed and floating charge on the assets of the company. The loans are repayable by instalments from 15 December 2007 to 15 June 2022.
- (b) The bank loan is secured by a financial guaranty policy, and is repayable by equal semi-annual instalments from 15 June 2004 to 15 June 2022. The interest rate is variable and determined quarterly in advance in accordance with the standard procedures of the lending bank.

The loans are repayable as follows:

	<u>2020</u> £000	<u>2019</u> £000
Within one year:		
A1 secured debenture loan at 8.39% per annum	13,279	12,255
B1 secured debenture loan at 11.27% per annum	1,679	1,505
Secured bank loan	349	349
	<u>15,307</u>	<u>14,109</u>
Between one and two years:		
A1 secured debenture loan at 8.39% per annum	7,064	13,279
B1 secured debenture loan at 11.27% per annum	913	1,679
Secured bank loan	174	349
	<u>8,151</u>	<u>15,307</u>
Between two and five years:		
A1 secured debenture loan at 8.39% per annum	-	7,064
B1 secured debenture loan at 11.27% per annum	-	913
Secured bank loan	-	174
	<u>-</u>	<u>8,151</u>
	<u>23,458</u>	<u>37,567</u>
Less: effective interest rate adjustments	(200)	(488)
	<u>23,258</u>	<u>37,079</u>
Included in creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15,157	13,879
Included in creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	8,101	23,200
	<u>23,258</u>	<u>37,079</u>

## AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

#### 12. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

##### Financial Assets

The carrying amount of the financial assets of the company are as follows:

	<u>2020</u> £000	<u>2019</u> £000
Assets measured at amortised cost		
- Trade debtors	3,365	550
- Amounts owed by parent undertaking	30,586	30,248
- Finance debtor	75,401	82,776
- Cash at bank and in hand	26,585	25,447
	<u>135,937</u>	<u>139,021</u>

##### Financial Liabilities

The carrying amount of the financial liabilities of the company are as follows:

	<u>2020</u> £000	<u>2019</u> £000
Liabilities measured at amortised cost		
- Trade creditors	35	53
- Accruals	797	740
- Listed debenture loans	22,736	36,210
- Secured bank loans	522	869
	<u>24,090</u>	<u>37,872</u>

Listed debenture loans were issued to provide funding to finance the construction phase of the Contract. As part of the company's risk-averse funding policy the company issued fixed interest rate bonds at inception in order to mitigate the risk of sudden and unexpected changes in financing costs.

See note 11 for the repayment terms of the debenture loans.

#### 13. PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES

	<u>Deferred</u> <u>Tax</u> £000	<u>Total</u> £000
At 1 January 2020	494	494
Charged to the profit and loss account	(7)	(7)
At 31 December 2020	<u>487</u>	<u>487</u>

## AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

#### 13. PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES (CONTINUED)

The deferred tax liability is provided for at a rate of 19% (2019: 17%) and is recognised in the accounts as follows:

	<u>2020</u> £000	<u>2019</u> £000
Accelerated capital allowances	385	380
Short term timing differences	102	114
	<u>487</u>	<u>494</u>

The deferred tax liability has been calculated at 19% as this was the rate substantively enacted at the balance sheet date.

There were no unprovided deferred tax assets or liabilities at the year end (2019: £Nil).

#### 14. CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL

	<u>2020</u> £000	<u>2019</u> £000
Allotted, called up and fully paid: 79,253 Ordinary shares of £1 each	79	79

#### 15. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The company entered into the following material transactions with related parties:

On 29 July 2013 the company entered into a four year Routine Operating and Maintenance contract with Sir Robert McAlpine Limited, a group member of one of the parent company's shareholders. This contract was amended and restated in February 2016 and now expires at the end of the concession. A total of £7,207,000 (2019: £8,114,000) was payable during the year under this contract. At the financial year end £593,000 (2019: £448,000) was owed to Sir Robert McAlpine Limited, and included in creditors: amounts falling due within one year.

£505,000 (2019: £481,000) was payable during the year to Sir Robert McAlpine Limited for the provision of staff and other services. At the financial year end £41,000 (2019: £40,000) was owed to Sir Robert McAlpine Limited, and included in creditors: amounts falling due within one year.

Directors fees of £56,000 (2019: £64,000) were payable by the company to group members of the shareholders of its immediate parent during the year, and £nil (2019: £nil) was unpaid at the year end and included in creditors: amounts falling due within one year as follows:

	Fees payable <u>2020</u> £000	Fees payable <u>2019</u> £000	Fees accrued <u>2020</u> £000	Fees accrued <u>2019</u> £000
Innisfree Limited	28	27	-	-
Sir Robert McAlpine Capital Ventures Limited	28	27	-	-
Laing Investments Management Services Limited	-	10	-	-
	<u>56</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

## AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

#### 16. ULTIMATE PARENT COMPANY

The immediate and ultimate parent company is Autolink Holdings (M6) Limited which is registered in England and Wales. This is the only company to prepare consolidated accounts which include the results of this entity. Copies of the group accounts can be obtained from the registered address, Eaton Court, Maylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, HP2 7TR.

#### 17. ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with FRS102 requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based upon historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making judgements about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily available from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Certain critical accounting judgements in applying the company's accounting policies are described below:

##### **Critical judgements and estimates**

###### *Service concession accounting*

Accounting for the service concession contract and finance debtor requires an estimation of service margins, finance debtor interest rates and associated amortisation profile which is based on forecasted results of the service concession contract. Major maintenance costs are a significant proportion of future expenditure. Given the length of the company's service concession contract, the forecast of major maintenance costs is subject to significant estimation uncertainty and changes in the amount and timing of expenditure could have material impacts. As a result, there is a significant level of judgement applied in estimating future major maintenance costs. To reduce the risk of misstatement, future estimates of major maintenance expenditure are prepared by maintenance experts on an asset by asset basis and periodic technical evaluations of the physical condition of the facilities are undertaken. In addition, comparisons of actual expenditure are compared to the major maintenance forecast. If major maintenance costs cumulatively over the remainder of concession increase by 10% the impact would be a decrease in revenue in the current year of £349,000 (2019: £345,000) and a decrease in the profit before taxation of £349,000 (2019: £345,000). If major maintenance costs cumulatively over the remainder of concession decrease by 10% the impact would be an increase in revenue in the current year of £379,000 (2019: £373,000) and an increase in the profit before taxation of £379,000 (2019: £373,000).

###### *Finance debtor*

Accounting for the construction of the underlying asset requires an assessment to be made in respect of its treatment on the balance sheet. The underlying asset has been treated as a finance debtor because the risks and rewards of ownership were deemed to lie principally with The Scottish Ministers.

###### *Amounts owed by parent undertaking*

Accounting for the carrying value of the amounts owed by the parent undertaking requires the determination of the future cash flows over the remaining concession life. Due to the uncertainty of the major maintenance spend, management undertake a review of the forecasted costs on a continuous basis. The carrying value of the amounts owed by the parent undertaking may therefore be sensitive to significant increases to the major maintenance spend profile, however at the year end an increase in major maintenance costs of 10% does not impair the carrying value of the amounts owed.

## **AUTOLINK CONCESSIONAIRES (M6) PLC**

### **Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020**

#### **18. EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING DATE**

The successful development and roll-out of effective COVID-19 vaccines are clearly a positive and welcome step in the global fight against the pandemic. However, the discovery of various mutations, together with continued growth in numbers of new cases globally, are such that considerable uncertainty remains as to the timing of social and economic recovery from the virus.

A review of the risks due to Covid-19 can be found in the Strategic Report. Based on those risks and due to the Government's actions in responding to Covid-19, in particular providing guidance that public bodies should continue to pay their suppliers in full, there is not expected to be any significant financial impact on the company.

The directors continue to monitor the situation and the impact on the company.