The insolvency Act 1986

Administrative Receiver's Report

Pursuant to Section 48(1) of the Insolvency Act 1986 and Rule 3.8(3) of the Insolvency Rules 1986

To the Registrar of Companies

S.48(1)

For Official Use			
	_		

**Company Number** 4582001

Insert full name of

Company

Name of Company

Agora Shopping Centres Limited

Insert full name and Address

We Philip Stephen Bowers PO Box 810 66 Shoe Lane

London

Neville Barry Kahn PO Box 810 66 Shoe Lane London

Delete as appropriate

Administrative Receivers of the company attach a copy of our report to creditors and a copy of the statement of affairs of the company

Signed

Date 26/6/14

Presenter's name, address and reference (if any)

AGOR00L Agora Shopping Centres Limited

Philip Stephen Bowers Deloitte LLP PO Box 810 66 Shoe Lane London EC4A 3WA

For Official Use

Insolvency Section

Post Room



28/06/2014

**COMPANIES HOUSE** 

AGORA SHOPPING CENTRES LIMITED (IN ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERSHIP) ("the Company")

REPORT TO CREDITORS PURSUANT TO SECTION 48 OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 22 MARCH 2013

This report has been prepared for the sole purpose of updating the Creditors for information purposes. The report is private and confidential and may not be relied upon, referred to, reproduced or quoted from, in whole or in part, by Creditors for any purpose other than updating them for information purposes, or by any other person for any purpose whatsoever.

Philip Stephen Bowers and Neville Barry Kahn were appointed Joint Administrative Receivers of Agora Shopping Centres Limited on 11 January 2013

All licensed Insolvency Practitioners of Deloitte LLP are licensed in the UK to act as Insolvency Practitioners.

Philip Stephen Bowers and Neville Barry Kahn Deloitte LLP Athene Place 66 Shoe Lane London EC4A 3BQ

COI	NTENTS	Page
1.	INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND TO THE APPOINTMENT	2
2.	EVENTS LEADING UP TO APPOINTMENT OF THE RECEIVERS	4
3.	MANNER IN WHICH THE COMPANY'S AFFAIRS ARE BEING MANAGED BY THE RECEIVERS	5
4.	DIRECTORS' STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS	6
5.	OTHER MATTERS AND INFORMATION TO ASSIST CREDITORS	7
6.	RECEIVERS' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES	8

#### **APPENDICES**

- 1. STATUTORY INFORMATION
- 2. SUMMARY OF THE STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS DATED 28 FEBRUARY 2013
- 3. ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERS' RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD FROM 11 JANUARY 2013 TO 8 MARCH 2013

#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

For the purpose of this report the following abbreviations shall be used

"the Act" Insolvency Act 1986 (as amended)

"the Company" Agora Shopping Centres Limited (in Administrative

Receivership)

"the Debenture" A debenture held by the Governor and Company of the

Bank of Scotland, dated 5 March 2003 and registered at

Companies House on 13 March 2003

"Deloitte" Deloitte LLP

"LAMS" London and Associated Management Services Ltd

"LAP" London and Associated Properties Plc

"the Lender" The Bank of Scotland Plc

"the Properties" the properties subject to the fixed charge under the

Debenture and detailed at section 2 1

"the Receivers" The Joint Administrative Receivers, Philip Stephen

Bowers and Neville Barry Kahn of Deloitte LLP

"the Rules" Insolvency Rules 1986 (as amended)

"SIP7 (E&W)" Statement of Insolvency Practice 7 (England & Wales)

"SIP13 (E&W)" Statement of Insolvency Practice 13 (England & Wales)

#### 1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND TO THE APPOINTMENT

#### 1.1 Introduction

This report has been prepared in accordance with Section 48 of the Act to provide creditors with an account of the events leading up to the Receivers' appointment and subsequent handling of the Company's affairs

The report will be considered at a meeting of the Company's creditors which has been convened for 10 30 am on 11 April 2013 at 2 New Street Square, London EC4A 3BZ, as detailed in the notice attached to this report

A schedule of statutory information in respect of the Company is attached at Appendix 1

#### 1.2 Details of the appointment of the Receivers

Philip Stephen Bowers and Neville Barry Kahn of Deloitte were appointed Joint Administrative Receivers of the Company by the Lender on 11 January 2013 under their charge dated 5 March 2003

For the purposes of section 231 of the Act the Receivers confirm that they are authorised to carry out all functions, duties and powers by either of them jointly and severally

#### 1.3 Balance sheet information

# Agora Shopping Centres Limited (in Administrative Receivership) Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2011

	31 March 2011 £'000	31 March 2010 £'000
Fixed assets		
Investment Properties	150,099	152,687
Current assets		
Debtors	2,730	3,138
Cash at bank and in hand	4,253	5,450
	6,983	8,588
Creditors - Amount falling due within one year	(188,644)	(190,391)
Net current liabilities	(181,661)	(181,803)
Total assets less current liabilities	(31,562)	(29,116)
Creditors - Amount falling due after more than one year		(320)
Net assets	(31,562)	(29,436)

Source Audited Accounts as at 31 March 2011 and 31 March 2010

Investment properties comprise the Properties as detailed at section 2.1. The Properties were valued at 31 March 2011 by professional valuers working for the company of DTZ Debenham

Tie Leung, Chartered Surveyors, acting in the capacity of external valuers. The Properties were valued at market value. This information is contained in audited accounts, the Receivers have not taken steps to verify it.

#### 1.4 Management and employees

As detailed in section 3.1 LAMS were the incumbent property managers at the date of appointment. The Company has no employees, all staff at the shopping centres are employed by LAMS on behalf of the Company.

Statutory information on the Company, including details of the Directors and Company Secretary, Bankers and Shareholders is provided at Appendix 1

#### 2. EVENTS LEADING UP TO APPOINTMENT OF THE RECEIVERS

### 2.1 Background

The Company operates a portfolio of six shopping centres which are located around the North West of the England The portfolio is comprised of the following properties,

- 1 The Victoria & Albert Buildings, Preston
- 2 The Fishergate Centre, Preston
- 3 Middleton Shopping Centre, Manchester
- 4 Cavern Walks Centre, Liverpool
- 5 The Market Place, Bolton
- 6 28 Corporation Street, Bolton

Following a deterioration in trading conditions the Lender appointed the Receivers under its powers contained within the Debenture

#### 2.2 Events leading up to the Receivers' appointment

The Receivers' appointment followed a period of difficult trading. Macroeconomic factors, including pressure on consumers' discretionary spending have significantly impacted the tenants of the Properties.

This pressure on retailers has resulted in increased vacancy rates and put downward pressure on rents. As such, declining income has adversely impacted the Company's ability to service its debt, ultimately leading to the Lender appointing the Receivers on 11 January 2013.

# 3. MANNER IN WHICH THE COMPANY'S AFFAIRS ARE BEING MANAGED BY THE RECEIVERS

#### 3.1 Post Appointment Strategy

The Receivers have entered into a property and asset management agreement with LAMS

This has ensured the continuation of trading with minimal disruption to the business. The Receivers are working with LAMS to stabilise the business and review realisation strategy proposals.

Immediately following their appointment the Receivers, in conjunction with LAMS, notified all of the tenants at the Properties of the insolvency event and also confirmed the continued involvement of LAMS. Contact details for the Receivers were also provided to enable tenants to liaise directly as required.

#### 3.2 Sale of business and realisation of assets

Given the condition of the commercial property market in the North West of England, the current strategy is to realise the assets over the short to medium term. The maximum realisations will likely be achieved through an orderly realisation of the portfolio over the next 18 to 36 months.

The Receivers are working in conjunction with LAMS to stabilise the business of the Company before the marketing strategy is adopted

#### 4. DIRECTORS' STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS

#### 4.1 Introduction

The Receivers served notice on the Directors that they were required, in accordance with Section 47(1) of the Insolvency Act 1986, to lodge with the Receivers a Statement of Affairs for the Company On 7 February 2013 a Statement of Affairs as at 11 January 2013 was submitted, a summary of which is attached at Appendix 2

The Receivers would like to state the following with regard to the summary Statement of Affairs

- No provision has been made for the costs of the Receivership (including agents, legal and other professional fees)
- The Receivers have not carried out any work of the nature of an audit on the information provided in the Statement of Affairs

#### 4.2 Floating charge creditor

The Company's bank debt at the date of the appointment of the Receivers was £229,929,926. It is not expected that the Lender will recover its lending in full

#### 4.3 Preferential creditors

The Receivers are not aware of any preferential creditors of the Company

#### 4.4 Unsecured creditors

The majority of unsecured creditors of the Company at the date of appointment have been paid in full in order to minimise disruption to the business. The Receivers, with the agreement of the Lender, have undertaken this action in order to maintain the relationships between the Company and its suppliers. Supplier relations are critical to the ongoing operation of the Properties and therefore necessary to maintain the realisable value of the assets.

LAMS confirm that those creditors listed in the attachment to the Statement of Affairs have had their debts settled in full. As such they no longer constitute creditors of the Company

#### 4.5 Creditors Meeting

The Receivers have convened a creditors meeting at 10 30am on 11 April 2013 at 2 New Street Square, London EC4A 3BZ Notice of that meeting has been provided to unsecured creditors on the notice accompanying this report

#### 5. OTHER MATTERS AND INFORMATION TO ASSIST CREDITORS

#### 5.1 Investigations

As part of the Receivers' statutory duties they are required to carry out an investigation into the conduct of the directors of the Company

In this regard, a confidential report will be submitted by the Receivers, within six months of their appointment

As part of their investigations the Receivers will consider, among other matters, the following

- statutory compliance issues,
- misfeasance or breach of duty, and
- antecedent transactions (including transactions at under value and preferences)

Creditors who wish to draw any matters to the attention of the Receivers should write to the Receivers at the address given on the front of this report

#### 5.2 SIP13 (E&W) - Transactions with connected parties

Agora Shopping Centres Limited has two members, LAP and Uberior Ventures Limited Each owns 50 per cent of the issued share capital of the Company

In accordance with the guidance given in SIP13 (E&W), details of the Company's transactions with connected parties during the period of this report and the two years prior to our appointment are provided below

12 month period to	Details of transaction	Purchases (£'000)	Name of counterparty	Connection
31 March 2011	Property management fees, Employee costs	(930)	The Warner Estate Holdings PLC Group	Ultimate parent of 50% shareholder in the Company
31 March 2011	Equity monitoring fees, Loan interest	(10,035)	The Lloyds Banking Group PLC	Ultimate parent of 50% shareholder in the Company
31 March 2010	Property management fees, Employee costs	(917)	The Warner Estate Holdings PLC Group	Ultimate parent of 50% shareholder in the Company
31 March 2010	Equity monitoring fees, Loan interest	(10,985)	The Lloyds Banking Group PLC	Ultimate parent of 50% shareholder in the Company

We have reviewed these transactions and are of the opinion that that they are reasonable and at arms' length

#### 6. RECEIVERS' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

The remuneration to be paid to the Receivers will be determined by agreement between the Receivers and the secured creditor by virtue of the floating charge by which the Receivers were appointed

No fees or expenses have been approved or drawn to date

# AGORA SHOPPING CENTRES LIMITED (IN ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERSHIP)

#### STATUTORY INFORMATION

Company Name	Agora Shopping Centres Limited
Previous Names	-
Proceedings	In Administrative Receivership
Date of Appointment	11 January 2013
Joint Receivers	Philip Stephen Bowers and Neville Barry Kahn Deloitte LLP 66 Shoe Lane London EC4A 3BQ
Registered office Address	c/o Deloitte LLP Hill House 1 Little New Street London EC4A 3TR
Company Number	4582001
Incorporation Date	5 November 2002
Company Secretary	Ms Heather Curtis
Bankers	The Bank of Scotland Plc
Auditors	PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Appointment by	The Bank of Scotland Plc
Floating Charge dated	5 March 2003
Directors at date of Appointment	Mr David Edward Brown, Mr Neil Scott Burnett
Directors' Shareholdings	-

Rule 3 4

Signed

Dated

28 Fabruary 2013

Form 3 2

## **Statement of Affairs**

AGERA SHOPPING CENTRES LIMITED  On the 11 January 2013 the date of the Administrative Receiver's Appointment  Statement of truth  I believe that the facts stated in this Statement of Affairs are true  Full name ROBIERT John Corry	Stateme	nt as to affairs o		CONTRES	Linerah
Statement of truth  I believe that the facts stated in this Statement of Affairs are true		AG BICK	SHOPPING	CE/4160 S	CHITED
I believe that the facts stated in this Statement of Affairs are true	On the _	11 Jan	20 <b>ي</b> the	date of the Admin	istrative Receiver's Appointment
believe that the facts stated in this Statement of Affairs are true					
believe that the facts stated in this Statement of Affairs are true					
believe that the facts stated in this Statement of Affairs are true		. 4			
	Stateme	ent of truth			
Full name ROBIERT JOHN CORRY	believe	that the facts s	tated in this Stateme	nt of Affairs are tru	ıe
full name . Solicity Carry		Page	T Lower Co	00 W	
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Signed + Com	Signed	+24	(Comy		

## A - Summary of Assets

Book Value	Estimated to Realise
£	£
	1 . (
28,400,000	27, 903,000
1,568,712	1,568,712
1018,186	
46,127	46,127
155,372	77,686
35%	_
1,844,803	_
9109346	87,647,711
	58,050,000 28,400,000 1,568,712 1,018,186 46,127 155,372 350

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A1 – Summary of Liabilities		
		Estimated to realise
		£
Estimated total assets available for preferential creditors (carried from page A)	£	87,447,711
Liabilities Preferential creditors -	£ MIL	
Estimated deficiency/surplus as regards preferential creditors	£	87,647,711
Estimated prescribed part of net property where applicable (to carry forward)	ENIL	
Estimated total assets available for floating charge holders	£	87,447,711
Debts secured by floating charges	£ (2	  29,029,726
Estimated deficiency/surplus of assets after floating charges	(	41,382,015
Estimated prescribed part of net property where applicable (brought down)	£ NIL	
Total assets available to unsecured creditors	1 4	41,382,015
Unsecured non-preferential claims (excluding any shortfall to floating charge holders)	£	(506,554)
Estimated deficiency/surplus as regards non-preferential creditors (excluding any shortfall to floating charge holders)		(140'812'4PI)
Shortfall to floating charge holders (brought down)	HIL	
Estimated deficiency/surplus as regards creditors		
Issued and called up capital	£	140,875,461) (3820000
Estimated total deficiency/surplus as regards members	(	179,075,461)
AGORA SHOPPING CENTRES LTD		
Signature Description Date 28 February 20	ાઉ	

ADR2010\_008

## **COMPANY CREDITORS**

Note: You must include all creditors and identify any creditors under hire-purchase, chattel leasing or coi customers claiming amounts paid in advance of the supply of goods or services *and* creditors claiming reticompany's possession

Name of creditor or claimant	Address (with postcode)	Amount of debt	Details of any security creditor
	See Cosses		
	SOL SEPERATE SCHEDULG		
			Dota 28
DR2010_008	Signature 2 Contra		Date 28 February 2013

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#### **Agora Shopping Centres Limited - Schedule of Creditors**

Amspec Limited ANSA Elevators Ltd

APCOA PARKING (UK) LTD

Ashworth Developments (NW) Ltd Assetera Limited

Astra Signs Ltd Awkcomputers Ltd

Azzum Communications Ltd

Bauer Radio Ltd

**BIFM** 

Bill Markland

Bithell's Waste Disposal Ltd

Bolton MBC

Boss Direct Limited

**Brady Chartered Surveyors** 

British Gas

**BT Payment Services Limited** 

C3 Midlands Ltd

Cannon Electrical Contractors Ltd

Captive Music Centre Radio

Cheetman & Mortimer

Chess Ltd Clifford Chance

Craig Foster Architect 43079687

DB\$ (NW) LTD

Deedman Tropical Plant Hire Ltd Dunbar & Boardman Partnership Ltd

Dundas & Wilson E L.I Consulting Ltd

**EON** 

EDF ENERGY 1 LTD
EDPI Limited

**Entertaining Options Ltd** 

E-ON Energy Electricity

Experian Ltd

Face

Farigton Moss Property Services
FHP Engineering Services Solutions
FISHER HARGREAVES PROCTOR
Franklin Hodge Industries Ltd

61125970

Fuzzwire

G4S Cash Solutions (UK) Ltd

Gazprom Energy

GCW Chartered Surveyors Gooch Cunliffe Whale Ltd Haven Power Limited Height Tec Limited Hilton Window Cleaning Services Ltd

Hi-Tec Controls (Bolton) Ltd Initial Washroom Solutions

Insitu Services Jennifer Morris Jones Lang LaSalle Keith Mitchell

KONE PLC 0% Deduction Loomis UK Limited Master Lock & Safe MITIE Security Limited Monro White Hilton

**MORRIS & SPOTTISWOOD LIMITED (GROSS)** 

Norland Managed Services Ltd

Ofcom Olswang LLP

Opus Energy (Corperate) Ltd

P G Builders Ltd

Pakawaste Engineering Services Parkland Mechanical Services Ltd

Plan London

PROCYON FIRE AND SECURITY LTD No Bank detail

Riviera Networks Ltd

Rochdale Development gency Ltd Rochdale Metropolitan Borough

Roydon Recycling UK Ltd

S2 Partnership Ltd

SCHEIDT & BACHMANN (UK) LTD SCOTTISH HYDRO-ELECTRIC Scottish Power Group Securitas Security Services Service Scan Evaluations Ltd SFL Mobile Radio Limited

Shire Leasing Plc Siemens Plc Signs Express Slip Test Ltd Southern Electric

Spirit Media Scotland Limited

STEVE CAUNCE
Store Financial UK Ltd
The Parr Group
Think Publicity Limited

THYSSENKRUPP ELEVATOR UK LTD

TowerFM
United Utilities
Vodafone Limited

White Hindle & Partners Ltd

# Agora Shopping Centres Limited (In Administrative Receivership)

### Receivers' Abstract of Receipts and Payments From 11 January 2013 to 19 March 2013

	Total (£)
Receipts	
Payments	<u>-</u>
Balance in Hand	

The Receivers appointed property managers, LAMS, conduct and manage the day-to-day trading of the Properties, as such the Receivers have not received any funds or made any payments in the period