

# GENERAL CABLE LIMITED

## ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020



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## **GENERAL CABLE LIMITED**

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### **COMPANY INFORMATION**

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<b>Directors</b>	M O Hifzi R G McNeil C B E Withers
<b>Company secretary</b>	G E James
<b>Registered number</b>	04925679
<b>Registered office</b>	500 Brook Drive Reading United Kingdom RG2 6UU

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## GENERAL CABLE LIMITED

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## GENERAL CABLE LIMITED

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### STRATEGIC REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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#### Principal activities and business review

The principal activity of the company during the year was, and will continue to be, that of a holding company. The investments of the company are shown in note 17.

As at 31 December 2020, the company was a wholly owned subsidiary undertaking of Virgin Media Inc. (Virgin Media) which is itself a wholly owned subsidiary of Liberty Global plc (Liberty Global). As at 31 December 2020, the financial information of Virgin Media and its subsidiaries are included in the combined financial statements of the 'Virgin Media Group'. Virgin Media Group comprises of (i) Virgin Media and its subsidiaries and (ii) NewCo Holdco 5 Limited and its subsidiaries (Virgin Media Ireland). The combined financial statements of Virgin Media Group are available to the public and may be obtained from Liberty Global's website at [www.libertyglobal.com](http://www.libertyglobal.com).

On 30 November 2020, as part of a wider group restructure, the company disposed of its investment in UPC Broadband Ireland Limited. The company received consideration of £478,789,000 in respect of this and therefore made a £12,211,000 loss on disposal.

As of 1 June 2021, following the formation of the joint venture (see note 18), the Virgin Media Inc. group (the group) operates under the Virgin Media O2 brand in the United Kingdom (UK).

The group provides broadband internet, video, fixed-line telephony, mobile and broadcasting services in the UK and is one of the largest providers of residential communications services in these countries in terms of the number of customers. The group believes its advanced, *deep-fibre cable access network enables us to offer faster and higher quality broadband internet services than other digital subscriber line (DSL) market participants*. As a result, it provides its customers with a leading next generation broadband internet service and one of the most advanced interactive television services available in the UK markets.

The group provides mobile services to its customers using a third-party network through mobile virtual network operators (MVNO) arrangements.

In addition, through the Virgin Media Business brand, the group offers a broad portfolio of B2B voice, data, internet, broadband and managed services solutions to small businesses, medium and large enterprises and public sector organisations in the UK.

At 31 December 2020, the group provided services to 6 million residential cable customers on its network. The group provides mobile telephony services to 3 million contract mobile customers and 0.1 million prepay mobile customers over third party networks. As of December 31, 2020, 80% of the group's cable customers received multiple services and 58% were "triple-play" customers, receiving broadband internet, video and fixed-line telephony services.

Liberty Global is a world leader in converged broadband, video and mobile communication services. It delivers next generation products through advanced fibre and 5G networks that connect 87 million subscribers across Europe and the UK. Liberty Global's consolidated businesses operate under the consumer brands Telenet in Belgium, Sunrise UPC in Switzerland, Virgin Media in Ireland and UPC in Eastern Europe in addition to its two 50:50 joint ventures, VMED O2 in the UK and VodafoneZiggo in the Netherlands. Through Liberty Global's substantial scale and commitment to innovation, it is investing in the infrastructure and platforms that empower its customers to make the most of the digital revolution, while deploying the advanced technologies that nations and economies need to thrive. Liberty Global's consolidated businesses generate annual revenues of more than \$7 billion, while its joint ventures in the UK and the Netherlands generate combined annual revenue of more than \$17 billion.

On 7 May 2020, Liberty Global entered into a Contribution Agreement with, among others, Telefónica, SA (Telefónica). Pursuant to this agreement, Liberty Global and Telefónica agreed to form a 50:50 joint venture (UK JV). The joint venture combines the operations of Virgin Media Inc (Virgin Media) and its subsidiaries and the operations of O2 Holdings Limited and its subsidiaries (O2), to form Virgin Media O2. The formation of the joint venture was completed on 1 June 2021.

Prior to the completion of the UK JV, Virgin Media was a wholly owned subsidiary of Liberty Global plc.

The directors do not use key performance indicators (KPI's) to assess the performance of the company as its principal activity is that of a holding company to provide funding to, and hold investments in, fellow group companies.

The company has received a dividend in specie of £1,078,000 from its subsidiaries during the year (2019 - £12,345,276,000).

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## GENERAL CABLE LIMITED

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

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#### Principal risks and uncertainties

Financial and operational risk management is undertaken as part of the group operations as a whole. The company's operations expose it to a variety of operational and financial risks. These are considered in more detail in the Annual Report of Virgin Media Group, which is available to the public and may be obtained from Liberty Global's website at [www.libertyglobal.com](http://www.libertyglobal.com).

#### **Brexit**

The UK's departure from the European Union (EU) could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or liquidity. On 23 June 2016, the UK held a referendum in which voters approved, on an advisory basis, an exit from the EU, commonly referred to as "Brexit".

The UK formally exited the EU on 31 January 2020. On 24 December 2020, the UK and the EU reached the "Trade and Cooperation Agreement," referred to as the EU-UK Agreement. On 30 December 2020, the EU-UK Agreement was approved by the UK Parliament, with retrospective ratification from the EU Parliament on 28 April 2021.

The EU-UK Agreement focuses on four main sectors, namely trade, economic and social cooperation, security and governance.

Examples of the potential impact Brexit could have on our business, financial condition or results of operations include:

- changes in foreign currency exchange rates and disruptions in the capital markets;
- shortages of labour necessary to conduct our business, including our Network Extension in the UK;
- disruption to our UK supply chain and related increased cost of supplies;
- a weakened UK economy resulting in decreased consumer demand for our products and services in the UK;
- legal uncertainty and potentially divergent national laws and regulations as the UK determines which EU laws and directives to replace or replicate, or where previously implemented by enactment of UK laws or regulations, to retain, amend or repeal; and
- various geopolitical forces may impact the global economy and our business, including, for example, other EU member states (in particular those member states where we have operations) proposing referendums to, or electing to, exit the EU.

#### **COVID-19**

In March 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 to be a global pandemic. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, emergency measures have been imposed by governments worldwide, including travel restrictions, restrictions on social activity and the shutdown of non-essential businesses.

The global COVID-19 pandemic continues to adversely impact the economy of the UK. However, during the year ended 31 December 2020, the adverse impact on the group was relatively minimal as demand for our products and services was strong. It is not currently possible to estimate the duration and severity of the COVID-19 pandemic or the full adverse economic impact resulting from the preventative measures taken to contain or mitigate its outbreak, therefore no assurance can be given that an extended period of global economic disruption would not have a material adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations in future periods.

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## GENERAL CABLE LIMITED

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

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#### Future outlook

The directors will continue to review management policies in light of changing trading and market conditions. Further detail of the future outlook of the group is provided in Virgin Media Group's Annual Report for 2020, which is available to the public and may be obtained from Liberty Global's website at [www.libertyglobal.com](http://www.libertyglobal.com).

#### Section 172 Statement

This statement is intended to disclose how our directors have approached and met their responsibilities under s172 Companies Act 2006.

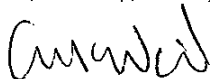
In line with group's goal of enhancing the long-term value for the benefit of its shareholders, the directors of the company have been elected by our shareholders to oversee the management of the company, to help assure that the interests of our shareholders are served.

The following factors are considered as part of group operations as a whole, to maintain highest standards of corporate governance, essential to our business integrity and performance:

- long-term consequences of decisions;
- employees' interests;
- business relationships with suppliers and customers;
- the impact of our operations on the environment and communities in which we operate; and
- the need to act fairly between shareholders.

Consideration of these factors and other relevant matters is embedded into all Virgin Media group decision-making, strategy development and risk assessment throughout the year. Further information is considered in more detail in the Annual Report of Virgin Media Finance PLC which is available from the company secretary at Virgin Media, 500 Brook Drive, Reading, United Kingdom, RG2 6UU.

This report was approved by the board on <sup>25<sup>th</sup></sup>25 September 2021 and signed on its behalf.



**R G McNeil**  
Director

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## GENERAL CABLE LIMITED

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### DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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The directors present their report and the non-audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

#### Results and dividends

The profit for the year, after tax, amounted to £73,749,000 (2019 - £7,062,046,000).

On 2 December 2020, the company paid a dividend in specie of £1,078,000 (2019 - cash dividend of £500,000,000).

#### Directors

The directors who served the company during the year and thereafter were as follows:

W T Castell (resigned 9 March 2020)  
M O Hifzi  
R G McNeil (appointed 3 March 2020)  
L Milner (appointed 1 March 2021, resigned 31 August 2021)  
S-P Pascu (appointed 3 March 2020, resigned 16 November 2020)  
C B E Withers (appointed 23 April 2020)

The directors of the company have been indemnified against liability in respect of proceedings brought by third parties, subject to the conditions set out in the Companies Act 2006. Such qualifying third party indemnity provision is in force for directors serving during the financial year and as at the date of approving the Directors' Report.

#### Going concern

After making suitable enquiries, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing these financial statements. Consideration of the on-going impact of COVID-19 has not altered this conclusion.

#### Audit exemption

Virgin Media Finance PLC issued a guarantee against all outstanding liabilities to which the company is subject as at 31 December 2020, until they are satisfied in full. The guarantee is enforceable against Virgin Media Finance PLC by any person to whom the company is liable in respect of those liabilities. Since Virgin Media Finance PLC is the smallest group to which the company's accounts are consolidated, the company has taken advantage of the exemption from audit of its individual accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020 by virtue of section 479A of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the board on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2021 and signed on its behalf.



**C B E Withers**  
Director

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## GENERAL CABLE LIMITED

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### DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK accounting standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 101 Reduced Disclosure Framework. Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting 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 responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.



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GENERAL CABLE LIMITED

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PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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	Note	2020 £000	2019 £000
Administrative expenses		(16,941)	(5,173,466)
<b>Operating loss</b>	4	<b>(16,941)</b>	<b>(5,173,466)</b>
Income from subsidiary	6	1,078	12,345,276
Finance income	8	89,612	19,246
Finance costs	9	-	(129,010)
<b>Profit before tax</b>		<b>73,749</b>	<b>7,062,046</b>
Income tax expense	10	-	-
<b>Profit for the year</b>		<b>73,749</b>	<b>7,062,046</b>

The notes on pages 10 to 22 form part of these financial statements.

There was no other comprehensive income or expenditure for 2020 or 2019 other than that included in the profit and loss account.

All results were derived from continuing operations.

**GENERAL CABLE LIMITED**  
**REGISTERED NUMBER: 04925679**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Note	2020 £000	2019 £000
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Investments in subsidiaries	11	9,461,121	9,953,198
		<u>9,461,121</u>	<u>9,953,198</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors: amounts falling due after more than one year	12	2,672,082	1,535,638
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	12	266,700	188,810
		<u>2,938,782</u>	<u>1,724,448</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>			
		<u>2,938,782</u>	<u>1,724,448</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>12,399,903</u>	<u>11,677,646</u>
<b>Capital and reserves</b>			
Share capital	13	-	-
Share premium	14	3,967,573	3,317,987
Capital contribution reserve	14	302,123	302,123
Merger reserve	14	13,082	13,082
Retained earnings	14	8,117,125	8,044,454
		<u>12,399,903</u>	<u>11,677,646</u>
<b>Total shareholder's funds</b>		<u>12,399,903</u>	<u>11,677,646</u>

The directors consider that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under the provisions of section 479A of the Companies Act 2006 ("the Act") and members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board and were signed on its behalf on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2021.



**R G McNeil**  
Director

The notes on pages 10 to 22 form part of these financial statements.

**GENERAL CABLE LIMITED**

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Share capital £000	Share premium £000	Capital contribution reserve £000	Merger reserve £000	Retained earnings £000	Total shareholder's funds £000
Balance as at 1 January 2020	-	3,317,987	302,123	13,082	8,044,454	11,677,646
<b>Comprehensive income for the year</b>						
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	73,749	73,749
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	-	-	-	-	73,749	73,749
<b>Transactions with owners of the company</b>						
Dividends paid	-	-	-	-	(1,078)	(1,078)
Shares issued during the year	-	649,586	-	-	-	649,586
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2020</b>	-	3,967,573	302,123	13,082	8,117,125	12,399,903

The notes on pages 10 to 22 form part of these financial statements.

**GENERAL CABLE LIMITED**

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019**

	Share capital £000	Share premium £000	Capital contribution reserve £000	Merger reserve £000	Retained earnings £000	Total shareholder's funds £000
Balance as at 1 January 2019	-	3,317,987	302,123	13,082	1,482,408	5,115,600
<b>Comprehensive Income for the year</b>						
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	7,062,046	7,062,046
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	-	-	-	-	7,062,046	7,062,046
<b>Transactions with owners of the company</b>						
Dividends paid	-	-	-	-	(500,000)	(500,000)
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2019</b>	-	3,317,987	302,123	13,082	8,044,454	11,677,646

The notes on pages 10 to 22 form part of these financial statements.

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## GENERAL CABLE LIMITED

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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#### 1. Company information

General Cable Limited (the "company") is a private company incorporated, domiciled and registered in the UK. The registered number is 04925679 and the registered address is 500 Brook Drive, Reading, United Kingdom, RG2 6UU.

The company is exempt by virtue of s400 of the Companies Act 2006 from the requirement to prepare group financial statements. These financial statements present information about the company as an individual undertaking and not about its group.

#### 2. Accounting policies

A summary of the principal accounting policies is set out below. All accounting policies have been applied consistently, unless noted below.

##### 2.1 Basis of accounting

These financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis and under the historical cost basis in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and Financial Reporting Standard 101 Reduced Disclosure Framework ("FRS 101").

In preparing these financial statements, the company applies the recognition, measurement and disclosure requirements of International Accounting Standards in conformity with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and has set out below where advantage of the FRS 101 disclosure exemptions has been taken.

The company's intermediate parent undertaking, Virgin Media Finance PLC includes the company in its consolidated financial statements. The consolidated financial statements of Virgin Media Finance PLC are prepared in accordance with International Accounting Standards in conformity with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and are available to the public and may be obtained from 500 Brook Drive, Reading, United Kingdom, RG2 6UU.

In these financial statements, the company has applied the exemptions available under FRS 101 in respect of the following disclosures:

- a cash flow statement and related notes;
- comparative period reconciliations for share capital;
- disclosures in respect of related party transactions with fellow group undertakings;
- disclosures in respect of capital management;
- the effects of new but not yet effective IFRSs;
- disclosures in respect of the compensation of key management personnel; and
- disclosures of transactions with a management entity that provides key management personnel services to the company.

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## GENERAL CABLE LIMITED

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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#### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

##### 2.2 Going concern

The financial statements have been approved on the assumption that the company remains a going concern. The following paragraphs summarise the basis on which the directors have reached their conclusion.

It is Virgin Media O2's practice for operational and financial management to be undertaken at a group level rather than for individual entities that are wholly owned by the group. Treasury operations and cash management for all of VMED O2 UK Limited wholly owned subsidiaries are managed on a Virgin Media O2 group basis. As part of normal business practice, regular cash flow forecasts for both short and long term commitments are undertaken at group level.

Forecasts and projections prepared for the Virgin Media O2 group as a whole, indicate that cash on hand, together with cash from operations and undrawn revolving credit facilities, are expected to be sufficient for the Virgin Media O2 group's and hence the company's cash requirements through to at least 12 months from the approval of these financial statements. The group has indicated its intention to continue to make such funds available to the company as are needed. In addition VMED O2 UK Limited has formally indicated its intention to continue to support the company financially for at least this period.

Whilst the detailed cash flow forecasts are prepared at the group level, the directors have also assessed the position of the company. This assessment indicates that, taking account of reasonably possible downsides, the company will have sufficient resources, through funding from fellow subsidiary companies to meet its liabilities as they fall due for that period.

As with any company placing reliance on other group entities for financial support, the directors acknowledge that there can be no certainty that this support will continue although, at the date of approval of these financial statements, they have no reason to believe that it will not do so. 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 have prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis. Consideration of the on-going impact of COVID-19 has not altered this conclusion.

##### 2.3 Finance income

Finance income is recognised as interest accrues according to the effective interest rate method, which uses the rate that discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial instrument to the net carrying amount.

##### 2.4 Dividend income

Income is recognised when the company's right to receive payment is established.

##### 2.5 Investments in subsidiaries

Investments are recorded at cost, less provision for impairment as appropriate. The company assesses at each reporting date whether there is an indication that an investment may be impaired. If any such indication exists, the company makes an estimate of the investment's recoverable amount. Where the carrying amount of an investment exceeds its recoverable amount, the investment is considered impaired and is written down to its recoverable amount. A previously recognised impairment loss is reversed only if there was an event not foreseen in the original impairment calculations, such as a change in use of the investment or a change in economic conditions. The reversal of impairment loss would be to the extent of the lower of the recoverable amount and the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the investment in prior years.

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## GENERAL CABLE LIMITED

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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#### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

##### 2.6 Trade receivables and other debtors

Trade receivables and other debtors are initially measured at fair value and subsequently reported at amortised cost, net of an allowance for impairment of trade receivables.

The company uses a forward looking impairment model which uses a lifetime expected loss allowance which is estimated based upon our assessment of anticipated loss related to uncollectible accounts receivable. We use a number of factors in determining the allowance, including, among other things, collection trends, prevailing and anticipated economic conditions, and specific customer credit risk. The allowance is maintained until either payment is received or the likelihood of collection is considered to be remote.

#### 3. Judgements in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In preparing these financial statements, management has made estimates and judgements that affect the application of the company's accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses.

##### Estimates and assumptions

###### *Carrying value of investments*

Investments are held at cost less any necessary provision for impairment. Where the impairment assessment did not provide any indication of impairment, no provision is required. If any such indications exist, the carrying value of an investment is written down to its recoverable amount.

###### *Recoverability of intercompany receivables*

Intercompany receivables are stated at their recoverable amount less any necessary provision. Recoverability of intercompany receivables is assessed annually and a provision is recognised if any indications exist that the receivables are not considered recoverable.

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## GENERAL CABLE LIMITED

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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#### 4. Operating loss

The operating loss is stated after charging:

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Loss on disposal of investments	(12,211)	-
Provision for impairment of investments	(1,077)	(5,168,696)
Provision for impairment of intercompany debtor	-	(2)

*Loss on disposal of investments of £12,211,000 is disclosed in note 11.*

The carrying value of investments is assessed annually. Based on these reviews, and following a wider group restructure, the directors concluded on a provision for impairment of £1,077,000 (2019 - £5,168,696,000).

Recoverability of intercompany debtors is assessed annually. Based on the impairment review of intercompany indebtedness as at 31 December 2020, and a wider group restructure, the directors concluded no provision for impairment was required in the year (2019 - provision of £2,000).

Certain expenses are specifically attributed to the company. Where costs are incurred by other group companies on behalf of the company, expenses are allocated to the company on a basis that, in the opinion of the directors, is reasonable.

The directors received no remuneration for the qualifying services as directors of this company. All directors' remuneration for those which were in office during 2020 and 2019 was paid by and disclosed in the financial statements of Virgin Media Limited.



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## GENERAL CABLE LIMITED

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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**5. Employees**

The company does not have any directly employed staff and is not charged an allocation of staff costs by the group.

**6. Income from subsidiary**

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Dividends received	1,078	12,345,276

On 2 December 2020 the company received a dividend in specie of £1,078,000 from Telewest Communications Networks Limited. During 2019, the company received dividends of £12,345,276,000 from its subsidiaries.

**7. Dividends paid**

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Dividends paid	1,078	500,000

On 2 December 2020 the company paid a dividend in specie of £1,078,000 to Virgin Media Senior Investments Limited. On 25 November 2019, the company paid cash dividends of £500,000,000 to Virgin Media Senior Investments Limited.

**8. Finance income**

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Interest on amounts owed by group undertakings	89,612	19,246

**9. Finance costs**

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Interest on amounts owed to group undertakings	-	129,010

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**GENERAL CABLE LIMITED**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

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**10. Income tax expense**

	2020 £000	2019 £000
<b>Current tax</b>	-	-
<b>Total current tax</b>	-	-
<b>Deferred tax</b>		
<b>Total deferred tax</b>	-	-
<b>Tax on profit</b>	-	-

The tax assessed for the year is lower than (2019 - lower than) the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19.00% (2019 - 19.00%). The differences are explained below:

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Profit before tax	73,749	7,062,046
Profit multiplied by standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19.00% (2019 - 19.00%)	14,012	1,341,789
<b>Effects of:</b>		
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	2,525	982,053
Income not taxable	(205)	(2,345,603)
Group relief surrendered/(claimed)	(16,332)	21,761
<b>Tax expense</b>	-	-

**Factors affecting current and future tax charges**

In the 11 March 2020 Budget it was announced that the UK tax rate will remain at 19% and not reduce to 17% from 1 April 2020. The 19% rate was substantively enacted in the Finance Bill 2020 on 17 March 2020. In the 3 March 2021 Budget, it was announced that the UK tax rate would increase to 25% from 1 April 2023, substantively enacted on 24 May 2021. This will have a consequential effect on the company's future tax charge.

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GENERAL CABLE LIMITED

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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11. Investments

	Investments in subsidiaries £000
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 January 2020	16,423,293
Disposals	(491,000)
<b>At 31 December 2020</b>	<b>15,932,293</b>
<b>Impairment</b>	
At 1 January 2020	6,470,095
Provision for impairment	1,077
<b>At 31 December 2020</b>	<b>6,471,172</b>
<b>Net book value</b>	
<b>At 31 December 2020</b>	<b>9,461,121</b>
At 31 December 2019	9,953,198

**Subsidiary undertakings**

The investments in which the company holds at least 20% of the nominal value of any class of share capital, all of which are unlisted, are shown in note 17.

In the opinion of the directors the aggregate value of the investments in subsidiary undertakings is not less than the amount at which they are stated in the financial statements.

During the year, as part of a wider group restructure, General Cable Limited disposed of its investment in UPC Broadband Ireland Limited. The company received consideration of £478,789,000 in respect of this and therefore made a £12,211,000 loss on disposal.

**GENERAL CABLE LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**12. Debtors**

	2020 £000	2019 £000
<b>Due after one year</b>		
Amounts owed by group undertakings	<u>2,672,082</u>	<u>1,535,638</u>
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Amounts owed by group undertakings	<u>266,700</u>	<u>188,810</u>
The analysis of amounts owed by group undertakings is:		
	2020 £000	2019 £000
Loans advanced to group undertakings	2,851,997	1,711,461
Other amounts owed by group undertakings	86,785	12,987
	<u>2,938,782</u>	<u>1,724,448</u>

Amounts owed by group undertakings due after more than one year represents loan notes which had a carrying value of £2,672,082,000 (2019 - £1,535,638,000) at the balance sheet date. Loan notes are denominated in sterling, which bore interest ranging from 4.59% and 4.95% at the balance sheet date, and mature between 2027 and 2028.

Amounts owed by group undertakings due within one year include loan notes which had a carrying value of £179,915,000 (2019 - £175,822,000) at the balance sheet date. Loan notes are denominated in sterling, which bear interest of 7.53%, and are repayable on demand.

Other amounts owed by group undertakings are unsecured, interest free and repayable on demand.

**13. Share capital**

	2020 £	2019 £
<b>Allotted, called up and fully paid</b>		
143 (2019 - 141) Ordinary shares fully paid of £1 each	<u>143</u>	<u>141</u>

**£1 Ordinary shares**

The right to attend speak and vote at all general meetings of the company.

On 30 November 2020, the company issued two ordinary shares for non-cash consideration of £649,586,000.

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## GENERAL CABLE LIMITED

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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#### 14. Reserves

##### Share premium

Includes any premiums received on issue of share capital. Any transaction costs associated with the issuing of shares are deducted from share premium.

##### Capital contribution reserve

Includes all capital contributions from parent undertakings.

##### Merger reserve

Includes the excess of fair value of shares issued over nominal value when shares are issued in exchange for obtaining at least a 90% interest in the equity share capital of another entity.

##### Retained earnings

Includes all current and prior period retained profits and losses net of dividends paid.

#### 15. Guarantees

The company, along with fellow group undertakings, is party to a senior secured credit facility with a syndicate of banks. As at 31 December 2020, this comprised term facilities that amounted to £3,982 million (2019 - £4,015 million) and revolving credit facilities of £1,000 million (2019 - £1,000 million), which were undrawn as at 31 December 2019 and 2020. Borrowings under the facilities are secured against the assets of certain members of the group including those of this company.

In addition, a fellow group undertaking has issued senior secured notes which, subject to certain exceptions, share the same guarantees and security which have been granted in favour of the senior secured credit facility. The amount outstanding under the senior secured notes at 31 December 2020 amounted to £4,400 million (2019 - £4,491 million). Borrowings under the notes are secured against the assets of certain members of the group including those of this company.

Furthermore, a fellow group undertaking has issued senior notes for which the company, along with certain fellow group undertakings, has guaranteed the notes on a senior subordinated basis. The amount outstanding under the senior notes as at 31 December 2020 amounted to approximately £1,127 million (2019 - £1,194 million).

Following the formation of the UK JV (see note 18), the group form part of the Virgin Media O2 group, as result the group is party to the below loans and borrowings.

In September 2020, a fellow group undertaking outside the Virgin Media Inc. group, entered into (a) a £1,500 million term loan facility and (b) a €750 million term loan facility. A subsidiary of the group entered into a \$1,300 million term loan facility. As at 31 December, the term loan facilities were undrawn and only available to be drawn and utilised upon consummation of the UK JV.

In addition, a fellow group undertaking outside the Virgin Media Inc. group, entered into (a) \$1,350 million senior secured notes, (b) €950 million senior secured notes and (c) £600 million senior secured notes.

In July 2021, a fellow group undertaking outside the Virgin Media Inc. group, entered into (a) \$1,400 million senior secured notes, (b) £675 million senior secured notes.

The new term loan facilities and senior secured notes rank pari-passu with the group's existing senior secured notes and senior secured credit facilities, and subject to certain exceptions, share in the same guarantees and security granted in favour of its existing senior secured notes.

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## GENERAL CABLE LIMITED

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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#### 16. Controlling parties

The company's immediate parent undertaking is Virgin Media Senior Investments Limited.

The smallest and largest groups of which the company is a member and in to which the company's accounts were consolidated at 31 December 2020 are Virgin Media Finance PLC and Liberty Global plc, respectively.

The company's ultimate parent undertaking and controlling party at 31 December 2020 was Liberty Global plc.

Copies of group accounts referred to above which include the results of the company are available from the company secretary, Virgin Media, 500 Brook Drive, Reading, United Kingdom, RG2 6UU.

In addition copies of the consolidated Liberty Global plc accounts are available on Liberty Global's website at [www.libertyglobal.com](http://www.libertyglobal.com) or from the company secretary, Liberty Global plc, Griffin House, 161 Hammersmith Road, London, United Kingdom, W6 8BS.

## GENERAL CABLE LIMITED

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

#### 17. List of investments

Name of company		Holdings	Proportion held	Nature of business
<b>Direct shareholdings</b>				
BCMV Limited		Ordinary	100%	Telecoms
Flextech Limited		Ordinary	100%	Dormant
Telewest Communications (Dundee & Perth) Limited	Σ	Ordinary	100%	Dormant
Telewest Communications (Glenrothes) Limited	Σ	Ordinary	100%	Dormant
Telewest Communications (Scotland) Limited	Σ	Ordinary	100%	Dormant
Telewest Communications Cable Limited		Ordinary	100%	Dormant
Telewest Communications Networks Limited		Ordinary	100%	Holding
Virgin Media Operations Limited	μ	Ordinary	47%	Holding
VM Transfers (No 4) Limited		Ordinary	100%	Dormant
Yorkshire Cable Communications Limited		Ordinary	100%	Dormant
<b>Indirect shareholdings</b>				
Bitbuzz UK Limited		Ordinary	100%	Telecoms
Cable London Limited		Ordinary	100%	Holding
CableTel Herts and Beds Limited		Ordinary	100%	Dormant
CableTel Northern Ireland Limited	β	Ordinary	100%	Dormant
CableTel Surrey and Hampshire Limited		Ordinary	100%	Dormant
Channel 6 Broadcasting Limited	ψ	Ordinary	100%	Telecoms
Cullen Broadcasting Limited	ψ	Ordinary	100%	Telecoms
Eurobell (Holdings) Limited		Ordinary	100%	Dormant
Kish Media Limited	ψ	Ordinary	100%	Telecoms
Matchco Limited		Ordinary	76%	Dormant
ntl Business Limited		Ordinary	100%	Telecoms
ntl CableComms Surrey		Ordinary	100%	Dormant
ntl Glasgow	Σ, μ	Ordinary	71%	Telecoms
ntl Glasgow Holdings Limited	μ	Ordinary	51%	Holding
ntl Kirklees	μ	Ordinary	98%	Telecoms
ntl Kirklees Holdings Limited	μ	Ordinary	51%	Holding
ntl National Networks Limited		Ordinary	100%	Dormant
ntl Pension Trustees II Limited		Ordinary	100%	Corporate Trustee
ntl Pension Trustees Limited		Ordinary	100%	Corporate Trustee

**GENERAL CABLE LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

Name of company		Holdings	Proportion held	Nature of business
<b>Indirect shareholdings (continued)</b>				
ntl South Central Limited		Ordinary	100%	Dormant
ntl Telecom Services Limited		Ordinary	100%	Non-Trading
ntl Trustees Limited		Ordinary	100%	Corporate Trustee
Telewest Communications (Midlands and North West) Limited		Ordinary	100%	Dormant
Telewest Limited		Ordinary	100%	Holding
Theseus No.1 Limited		Ordinary	100%	Investment
Theseus No.2 Limited		Ordinary	100%	Investment
Tullamore Beta Limited	ψ	Ordinary	100%	Telecoms
TV Three Enterprises Limited	ψ	Ordinary	100%	Telecoms
TV Three Sales Limited	ψ	Ordinary	100%	Telecoms
Virgin Media Business Limited		Ordinary	100%	Telecoms
Virgin Media Intermediary Purchaser Limited		Ordinary	100%	Non-Trading
Virgin Media Limited		Ordinary	100%	Telecoms
Virgin Media Payments Limited		Ordinary	100%	Collections
Virgin Media PCHC Limited		Ordinary	100%	Dormant
Virgin Media Secretaries Limited		Ordinary	100%	Finance
Virgin Media Television Limited	ψ	Ordinary	100%	Telecoms
Virgin Media Trade Receivables Intermediary Financing Limited		Ordinary	100%	Non-Trading
Virgin Media Wholesale Limited		Ordinary	100%	Telecoms
Virgin Mobile Telecoms Limited		Ordinary	100%	Telecoms
Virgin WiFi Limited		Ordinary	100%	Telecoms

All companies are registered at 500 Brook Drive, Reading, United Kingdom, RG2 6UU, unless otherwise noted below:

β	Unit 3, Blackstaff Road, Kennedy Way Industrial Estate, Belfast, BT11 9AP
ψ	Macken House, 39-40 Mayor Street Upper, North Wall, Dublin 1
Σ	1 South Gyle Crescent Lane, Edinburgh, EH12 9EG
μ	Remainder of shares held by group undertakings



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## GENERAL CABLE LIMITED

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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#### 18. Post balance sheet events

##### *Joint venture transaction*

On 7 May 2020, Liberty Global entered into a Contribution Agreement with, among others, Telefónica, SA (Telefónica). Pursuant to this agreement, Liberty Global and Telefónica agreed to form a 50:50 joint venture (UK JV). The joint venture combines the operations of Virgin Media Inc (Virgin Media) and its subsidiaries and the operations of O2 Holdings Limited and its subsidiaries (O2), to form Virgin Media O2. The formation of the joint venture was completed on 1 June 2021.

Prior to the completion of the UK JV, Virgin Media was a wholly owned subsidiary of Liberty Global plc.