# Liquidator's Progress Report

**S.192** 

Pursuant to Sections 92A and 104A and 192 of the Insolvency Act 1986

To the Registrar of Companies

Company Number

05011480

Name of Company

Westoak Construction Limited

1/We

David R Acland, 1 Winckley Court, Chapel Street, Preston, PR1 8BU

Lila Thomas, 1 Winckley Court, Chapel Street, Preston, PR1 8BU

the liquidator(s) of the company attach a copy of my/our Progress Report under section 192 of the Insolvency Act 1986

The Progress Report covers the period from 08/05/2014 to 07/05/2015

Signed

Date 03 JULY 2015

Begbies Traynor (Central) LLP 1 Winckley Court Chapel Street Preston PR1 8BU

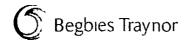
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#251



# Westoak Construction Limited (In Creditors' Voluntary Liquidation)

Progress report pursuant to Section 104A of the Insolvency Act 1986 and Rule 4.49C of the Insolvency Rules 1986

Period: 08 May 2014 to 07 May 2015

#### **Important Notice**

This progress report has been produced solely to comply with our statutory duty to report to creditors and members of the Company on the progress of the liquidation. 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 and members for any purpose other than this report to them, or by any other person for any purpose whatsoever

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## 1. INTERPRETATION

Expression	Meaning
"the Company"	Westoak Construction Limited (In Creditors' Voluntary Liquidation)
"the liquidation"	The appointment of liquidators pursuant to Section 98 of the Act on 8 May 2014
"the liquidators", "we", "our" and "us"	David Robert Acland and Lila Thomas of Begbies Traynor (Central) LLP, 1 Winckley Court, Chapel
"the Act"	The Insolvency Act 1986 (as amended)
"the Rules"	The Insolvency Rules 1986 (as amended)
"secured creditor" and "unsecured creditor"	Secured creditor, in relation to a company, means a creditor of the company who holds in respect of his debt a security over property of the company, and "unsecured creditor" is to be read accordingly (Section 248(1)(a) of the Act)
"security"	(i) In relation to England and Wales, any mortgage, charge, lien or other security (Section 248(1)(b)(i) of the Act), and
	(II) In relation to Scotland, any security (whether heritable or moveable), any floating charge and any right of lien or preference and any right of retention (other than a right of compensation or set off) (Section 248(1)(b)(II) of the Act)
"preferential creditor"	Any creditor of the Company whose claim is preferential within Sections 386, 387 and Schedule 6 to the Act

## 2. COMPANY INFORMATION

Trading name(s)

None

Company registered number

O5011480

Company registered office

1 Winckley Court, Chapel Street, Preston, PR1 8BU

Former trading address 2 St Georges Court, Altrincham Business Park, Altrincham, WA14 5UA

## 3. DETAILS OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATORS

Date winding up commenced 08 May 2014

Date of liquidators' appointment 08 May 2014

Changes in liquidator (if any) None

## PROGRESS DURING THE PERIOD

Attached at Appendix 1 is our abstract of receipts and payments for the period from 08 May 2014 to 07 May 2015. We would comment as follows

As creditors will recall the only assets deemed to hold realisable values in the liquidation were debtors and retentions, however, as these were contractual in nature the anticipated realisations were uncertain and values of £50,000 were included for illustrative purposes only Following appointment, Karen Assiak of the Vinden Partnership ("Vindens") was instructed to assess the recoverability of these assets. This matter is ongoing and Vindens have been liaising with the contractors, however to date no realisations have been made.

As anticipated the tangible assets, being leasehold improvements to a third party property and basic office equipment held no realisable value. During the current period the sole realisation was a sundry insurance refund of £20.

Due to the paucity of asset realisations no payments have been made during the period and disbursement costs have been met from our firm's office account

## ESTIMATED OUTCOME FOR CREDITORS

#### Secured creditor

National Westminster Bank PLC ("the Bank") by way of security hold a fixed and floating charge debenture dated 04 March 2006 Additional security is held by way of an Enterprise Finance Agreement Loan and personal guarantees, limited to £200,000, granted jointly and severally by the directors, Alexander Smith and Stephen John Martin

We are yet to receive a formal statement of claim from the Bank, however the indebtedness is estimated to be at £457,764. The prospect of a distribution to the Bank is purely dependant on realisations from the debtors and retentions. We anticipate that the Bank will have to rely on collateral security for any shortfall incurred.

#### Preferential creditors

Preferential claims of employees for arrears of wages, salary and holiday pay were estimated at £83,785 and we have received claims in the total sum of £86,107. Based upon realisations to date and estimated future realisations, it is anticipated that there will be insufficient funds available to enable a dividend to be paid to the preferential creditors.

#### Prescribed Part for unsecured creditors pursuant to Section 176A of the Act

Section 176A of the Act provides that, where the company has created a floating charge on or after 15 September 2003, the liquidator must make a prescribed part of the Company's net property available for the unsecured creditors and not distribute it to the floating charge holder except in so far as it exceeds the amount required for the satisfaction of unsecured debts. Net property means the amount which would, were it not for this provision, be available to floating charge holders out of floating charge assets (i.e. after accounting for preferential debts and the costs of realising the floating charge assets). The prescribed part of the Company's net property is calculated by reference to a sliding scale as follows.

- 50% of the first £10,000 of net property,
- 20% of net property thereafter,

Up to a maximum amount to be made available of £600,000

A liquidator will not be required to set aside the prescribed part of net property if

- the net property is less than £10,000 <u>and</u> the liquidator thinks that the cost of distributing the prescribed part would be disproportionate to the benefit, (Section 176A(3)) or
- the liquidator applies to the court for an order on the grounds that the cost of distributing the prescribed part would be disproportionate to the benefit and the court orders that the provision shall not apply (Section 176A(5))

The directors' statement of affairs estimated the net property to be £16,215 and the prescribed part of the Company's net property to be £6,243. However, after taking into account the costs of realisation it is anticipated these balances will be £NIL and £NIL.

On present information we do not intend to make an application to court under Section 176A(5) of the Act for an order not to distribute the prescribed part of net property to the unsecured creditors. However, we reserve our position generally in this regard should circumstances materially change.

#### **Unsecured creditors**

Unsecured creditors were estimated at £1,955,572. The following claims have been received to date

Classification	Statement of Affairs	Received
	£	£
Trade & Expense	653,599	183,827
Director's Loan Account	26,000	0
Shareholders' Loan Accounts	62,000	0
A Castle Loan Account	45,264	45,264
RPO/Employees (Redundancy & Notice Pay)	457,115	499,650
HM Revenue & Customs – VAT	145,690	184,852
HM Revenue & Customs – PAYE / NIC	565,904	643,632
Totals	<u>1,955,572</u>	<u>1,557,225</u>

Based upon realisations to date and estimated future realisations it is anticipated there will be insufficient funds available to enable a dividend to be paid to the unsecured creditors

## REMUNERATION & DISBURSEMENTS

Our remuneration has been fixed by a resolution of creditors at the meeting held pursuant to Section 98 of the Act by reference to the time properly given by us (as liquidators) and the various grades of our staff calculated at the prevailing hourly charge out rates of Begbies Traynor (Central) LLP in attending to matters ansing in the liquidation and we are authorised to draw disbursements, including disbursements for services provided by our firm (defined as category 2 disbursements in Statement of Insolvency Practice 9) in accordance with our firm's policy, details of which accompanied the Statement of Affairs and other information presented to the meeting of creditors convened pursuant to Section 98 of the Act and which is attached at Appendix 2 of this report

Our time costs for the period from 08 May 2014 to 07 May 2015 amount to £17,238 which represents 77 hours at an average rate of £223 87 per hour

The following further information in relation to our time costs and disbursements is set out at Appendix 2

- Begbies Traynor (Central) LLP's policy for re-charging disbursements
- Begbies Traynor (Central) LLP's charge-out rates

To 07 May 2015 we have incurred category 2 disbursements representing mileage costs of £255 05. No fees nor disbursements have been drawn to date

A copy of 'A Creditors' Guide to Liquidators Fees (E&W) 2011' which provides guidance on creditors' rights on how to approve and monitor a Liquidator's remuneration and on how the remuneration is set can be obtained online at <a href="https://www.begbies-traynor.com/creditorsguides">www.begbies-traynor.com/creditorsguides</a> Alternatively, if you require a hard copy of the Guide, please contact our office and we will arrange to send you a copy

## LIQUIDATORS' EXPENSES

A statement of the expenses incurred during the period of this progress report is attached at Appendix 3

#### **Professional Fees**

Begbies Traynor's professional fees for assisting the Company and its Directors in fulfilling the statutory requirements for placing the Company into Creditors Voluntary Liquidation were fixed at a maximum of £7,500 plus VAT and disbursements. Total pre appointment time spent on this assignment amounted to 87.20 hours at an average composite rate of £233.22 per hour resulting in total time costs of £20,337. No fees of disbursements have been drawn in respect of this

Furthermore, as detailed above Vindens have been instructed to assist with the debt collection process and it is anticipated that fees will be incurred on fixed cost basis and a percentage of recoveries made

## 8 ASSETS THAT REMAIN TO BE REALISED

As detailed above the collection exercise for the debtors and retentions is ongoing

## 9. OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

#### Report on directors conduct

You may be aware that a liquidator has a duty to enquire into the affairs of an insolvent company to determine its property and liabilities and to identify any actions which could lead to the recovery of funds. In addition, as explained in the report circulated at the meeting of creditors convened pursuant to Section 98 of the Act, such report having also been sent to creditors following the meeting, a liquidator is also required to consider the conduct of the Company's directors and to make an appropriate submission to the Department for Business Innovation and Skills. We can confirm that we have discharged our duties in these respects

#### Investigations

We have undertaken investigations into the conduct of the directors prior to the liquidation of the Company, including specific matters raised at the meeting of creditors, in order to assess potential recoveries for the liquidation estate. These matters are ongoing and further information will be provided in subsequent reports as applicable.

## 10. CREDITORS' RIGHTS

## 10. CREDITORS' RIGHTS

#### Right to request further information

Pursuant to Rule 4 49E of the Rules, within 21 days of the receipt of this report a secured creditor, or an unsecured creditor with the concurrence of at least 5% in value of the unsecured creditors, including that creditor, (or an unsecured creditor with less than 5% in value of the unsecured creditors, but with the permission of the court) may request in writing that the we provide further information about our remuneration or expenses which have been detailed in this progress report

#### Right to make an application to court

Pursuant to Rule 4 131 of the Rules, any secured creditor or any unsecured creditor with the concurrence of at least 10% in value of the unsecured creditors including that creditor, (or any unsecured creditors with less than 10% in value of the unsecured creditors, but with the permission of the court) may, within 8 weeks of receipt of this progress report, make an application to court on the grounds that the remuneration charged or the expenses incurred as set out in this progress report are excessive or, the basis fixed for our remuneration is inappropriate

## 11. CONCLUSION

We will report again in approximately twelve months time or at the conclusion of the liquidation, whichever is the sooner

D R Acland
Joint Liquidator

Dated 03 July 2015

## ACCOUNT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

Period<sup>.</sup> 08 May 2014 to 07 May 2015

# Westoak Construction Limited (In Liquidation) Joint Liquidators' Abstract of Receipts & Payments

Statement of Affairs		From 08/05/2014 To 07/05/2015
	ASSET REALISATIONS	
Uncertain	Tangible Assets	NIL
50,000 00	Debtors	NIL
50,000 00	Retentions	NIL
	Sundry Refund	20 00
	Bank Interest Gross	0 05
		20 05
	COST OF REALISATIONS	
	Statutory Advertising	<u>253 80</u>
		(253 80)
	PREFERENTIAL CREDITORS	
(83,785 00)	RPO/Employees (Arrears & Hol Pay)	NIL
, ,		NIL
	FLOATING CHARGE CREDITORS	
(453,764 00)	National Westminster Bank PLC	NIL_
, ,		NIL
	UNSECURED CREDITORS	
(653,598 82)	Trade Creditors	NIL
(45,264 00)	A Castle Loan Account	NIL
(457,115 00)	RPO/Employees (Redundancy & Notic	NIL
(26,000 00)	Director's Loan Account	NIL
(565,904 00)	HMRC - PAYE & NIC	NIL
(145,690 00)	HMRC - VAT	NIL
(62,000 00)	Shareholders' Loan Accounts	NIL
		NIL
	DISTRIBUTIONS	
(60 00)	Ordinary A Shareholders	NIL
(20 00)	Ordinary B Shareholders	NIL
(20 00)	Ordinary C Shareholders	NIL NII
		NIL
(2,393,220.82)		(222 75)
(2,393,220.62)		(233 75)
	REPRESENTED BY	
	Bank 2 Current	70 81
	Office	(304 56)
		(233 75)
		(

David R Aclard Joint Liquidator

## TIME COSTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

- a Begbies Traynor (Central) LLP's policy for re-charging expenses/disbursements,
- b Begbies Traynor (Central) LLP's charge-out rates, and
- c Table of time spent and charge-out value for the period from 08 May 2014 to 07 May 2015

#### **BEGBIES TRAYNOR CHARGING POLICY**

#### INTRODUCTION

This note applies where a licensed insolvency practitioner in the firm is acting as an office holder of an insolvent estate and seeks creditor approval to draw remuneration on the basis of the time properly spent in dealing with the case. It also applies where further information is to be provided to creditors regarding the office holder's fees following the passing of a resolution for the office holder to be remunerated on a time cost basis. Best practice guidance 1 requires that such information should be disclosed to those who are responsible for approving remuneration.

In addition, this note applies where creditor approval is sought to make a separate charge by way of expenses or disbursements to recover the cost of facilities provided by the firm. Best practice guidance<sup>2</sup> indicates that such charges should be disclosed to those who are responsible for approving the office holder's remuneration, together with an explanation of how those charges are calculated

#### OFFICE HOLDER'S FEES IN RESPECT OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF INSOLVENT ESTATES

The office holder has overall responsibility for the administration of the estate. He/she will delegate tasks to members of staff. Such delegation assists the office holder as it allows him/her to deal with the more complex aspects of the case and ensures that work is being carried out at the appropriate level. There are various levels of staff that are employed by the office holder and these appear below.

The firm operates a time recording system which allows staff working on the case along with the office holder to allocate their time to the case. The time is recorded at the individual's hourly rate in force at that time which is detailed below.

### EXPENSES INCURRED BY OFFICE HOLDERS IN RESPECT OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF INSOLVENT ESTATES

Best practice guidance classifies expenses into two broad categories

- □ Category 1 disbursements (approval not required) specific expenditure that is directly related to the case and referable to an independent external supplier's invoice. All such items are charged to the case as they are incurred.
- Category 2 disbursements (approval required) items of expenditure that are directly related to the case which include an element of shared or allocated cost and are based on a reasonable method of calculation, but which are not payable to an independent third party
  - (A) The following items of expenditure are charged to the case (subject to approval)
    - Internal meeting room usage for the purpose of statutory meetings of creditors is charged at the rate of £100 (London £150) per meeting,
    - Car mileage is charged at the rate of 45 pence per mile,
    - Storage of books and records (when not chargeable as a Category 1 disbursement) is charged
      on the basis that the number of standard archive boxes held in storage for a particular case
      bears to the total of all archive boxes for all cases in respect of the period for which the storage
      charge relates,
  - (B) The following items of expenditure will normally be treated as general office overheads and will not be charged to the case although a charge may be made where the precise cost to the case can be determined because the item satisfies the test of a Category 1 disbursement

2 lbid 1

<sup>1</sup> Statement of Insolvency Practice 9 (SIP 9) - Remuneration of insolvency office holders in England & Wales

- Telephone and facsimile
- Printing and photocopying
- Stationery

#### **BEGBIES TRAYNOR CHARGE-OUT RATES**

Begbies Traynor is a national firm. The rates charged by the various grades of staff that may work on a case are set nationally, but vary to suit local market conditions. The rates applying to the Preston office as at the date of this report are as follows.

Grade of staff	Charge-out rate (£ per hour) 1 May 2011 – until further notice
Partner	395
Director	345
Senior Manager	310
Manager	265
Assistant Manager	205
Senior Administrator	175
Administrator	135
Trainee Administrator	110
Support	110

Time spent by support staff such as secretarial, administrative and cashiering staff is charged directly to cases it is not carried as an overhead

Time is recorded in 6 minute units

					r		-						
Staff Grade		Partner	Director	Snr Mngr	Mngr	Asst Mngr	Snr Admin	Admin	Jnr Admin	Support	Total Hours	Time cost £	Average hourly rate £
Administration	Appointment and case planning	110			6.2				13		18 50	6,131 00	331 41
and Planning		03		\	80			3.5	8.2		12 80	1 705 00	133 20
	Statutory reporting and statement of affairs								3.0		3 00	330 00	110 00
Investigations	CDDA and investigations	90			4 5				4 4		9 50	1 913 50	201 42
Realisation of	Debt collection	0.7		!	23				0 1		3 10	897 00	289 35
assets	Property, business and asset sales				0.2						0 20	53 00	265 00
	Retention of Title/Third party assets				17						1 70	450 50	265 00
Trading	Trading												
Creditors	Secured	03			90						080	251 00	313 75
	Others	10			7.2			0.2	63		14 70	3,023 00	205 65
	Creditors committee												
Other matters	Meetings				2.0						2 00	230 00	265 00
	Other				1 9				42		6 10	965 50	158 28
	Tax	03						10	60		2 20	352 50	160 23
	Lingation				24						2 40	636 00	265 00
Total hours by staff grade	staff grade	142			29 7			4.7	28 4		0 22 0		
Total time cost by staff grade £	by staff grade £	5,609 00			7,870 50			634 50	3 124 00			17,238 00	
Average hourly rate £	rate £	395 00			265 00			135 00	110 00				223 87
Total fees drawn to date E	n to date £											00 0	

# STATEMENT OF EXPENSES

Type of expense	Name of party with whom expense incurred	Amount incurred	Amount discharged	Balance (to be discharged)
		£	£	£
Statutory Advertising	Courts Advertising Limited	253 80	-	253 80
Bordereau	AUA Insolvency Risk Services	67 50	-	67 50
Company Searches	Companies House	16 00	-	16
Postage	Royal Mail Group PLC	82 60	-	82 60
Total		419 90		419 90