# Company Registration No. 07599922 (England and Wales)

# **STR GROUP LIMITED**

# REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

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# **COMPANY INFORMATION**

**Directors** 

R P Crawley

C J Hutchings

Company number

07599922

Registered office

1 Quay Point Northarbour Road

Portsmouth

Hampshire PO6 3TD

**Auditor** 

RSM UK Audit LLP

**Chartered Accountants** 

**Highfield Court** 

Tollgate

Chandlers Ford Eastleigh Hampshire SO53 3TY

# STRATEGIC REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

The directors present the strategic report for the year ended 31 December 2018.

#### Fair review of the business

STR Group is an international staffing group providing specialist contract and permanent services into the STEM sector. It operates six micro-specialist brands servicing the Advanced Engineering and Technology, Automation and Robotics, Life Sciences, Maritime and Built Environment sectors. In 2018 the group discontinued its procurement related business but also saw an opportunity to re-enter the Healthcare market, therefore maintaining its diverse brand portfolio.

2018 was a year of investment and strategic alignment. A significant IT investment and upgrading programme had commenced in 2017 with the roll out of market leading recruiter and candidate management software, completed at the end of 2018. It caused inevitable operational down time in the latter part of the year but is now fully functional across all brands. Alongside that the group initiated a review and major overhaul of all back office systems that is due for completion during 2019.

Other significant investments of note: a business and micro business complete rebrand, new investment into contractor support software, major refurbishment investment projects at Port Solent, Handcross and Quay Point offices including new furniture. We also redeveloped our training academy and have placed investment into the potential New York office.

The mix of contract revenues and permanent fees varies year on year according to market conditions, and also by brand. Consequently, there are no simple groupwide Key Performance Indicators ("KPI"). In terms of focus, the best indication of overall performance is net fee income ("NFI"), which in the context of statutory accounts is labelled as gross profit. That fell from £13m in 2017 to £9.8m in 2018. The overall cost base fell from £11.5m to £9.2m, largely in line with the reduced NFI, but with the costs of the investment programme noted above there was an overall reduction in pre tax profits from £1.2m to £321k.

Any drop in performance against a previous year is disappointing but the Board believes that the company has entered 2019 in good shape financially and operationally. They are expecting a solid and steady performance in 2019 but believe that the changes in the last year will bear fruit into 2020 and 2021.

### Principal risks and uncertainties

In the course of normal business, the board of directors regularly assesses significant risks faced and takes action to mitigate the potential impacts.

The group's activities and volume levels can be affected by external events (political/economic) over which the directors have no influence. However, to counter these, the group operates in several different specialist markets so that there is a degree of spread risk as well as supplying both contract and permanent staff.

Operationally, as in common in this sector, the business uses invoice discounting to help bridge the gap between paying contractors and collecting customer debt. It manages its finance function to ensure that it retains plenty of headroom in the facility. It also has insurance in place against non-payment of debts.

The introduction of legislation such as GDPR has meant an increase in the group's compliance team given the need to manage and protect data.

# STRATEGIC REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

## **Employees**

The group's policy is to consider all applications for employment irrespective of the applicant's race, colour, religion, nationality, ethnic or national origin, gender, marital status, age or sexual orientation. Applications from disabled persons are encouraged for posts compatible with their disability and reasonable adjustments will be made to accommodate them. Employees who become disabled during their service with the company are retained wherever practicable.

The participation of all staff in training and career development is encouraged.

On behalf of the board

R P Crawley

Director

Date: 10/9/19

### **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

The directors present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2018.

#### Principal activities

The principal activity of the group continued to be that of the rendering of recruitment agency services on both a temporary and permanent basis.

The principal activity of the company was that of a holding company.

#### Directors

The directors who held office during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were as follows:

R P Crawley C J Hutchings M A W Perrett

(Resigned 11 May 2018)

#### Results and dividends

The results for the year are set out on page 7.

Ordinary dividends were paid amounting to £300,000 (2017 - £360,904). The directors do not recommend payment of a further dividend.

#### Auditor

The auditor, RSM UK Audit LLP, is deemed to be reappointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

#### Statement of disclosure to auditor

So far as each person who was a director at the date of approving this report is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditor is unaware. Additionally, each director has taken all the necessary steps that they ought to have taken as a director in order to make themselves aware of all relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

### Strategic report

In accordance with the Companies Act 2006, S414C(11), information in respect of business activities, risk and future developments are shown in the Strategic Report on pages 1 - 2.

On behalf of the board

R P Crawley Director

Date: 10/9/19

# DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

The directors are responsible for preparing the Strategic Report and 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 United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). 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 group and company, and of the profit or loss of the group 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;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the group and company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the group's and company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the group and 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 group and company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF STR GROUP LIMITED

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of STR Group Limited (the 'parent company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 December 2018 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Consolidated and Company Statements of Financial Position, the Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity, the Company Statement of Changes in Equity, the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows 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 United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and the parent company's affairs as at 31 December 2018 and of the group's profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- · have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

#### 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 are independent of the group and parent 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, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the directors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the group's or the parent company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

#### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information. 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

## Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the strategic report and the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and the directors' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF STR GROUP LIMITED (CONTINUED)

### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report and the directors' report.

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:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent company, or returns adequate for our audit
  have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- · the parent company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- · certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- · we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

#### Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement set out on page 4, 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 group's and the parent 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 group or the parent 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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: 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 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 company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Paul Anthony (Senior Statutory Auditor)

September 2019

For and on behalf of RSM UK Audit LLP, Statutory Auditor

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**Chartered Accountants** 

Highfield Court

Toligate

Chandlers Ford

Eastleigh

Hampshire, SO53 3TY

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

|  | Notes | 2018<br>£    | 2017<br>£    |
|--|-------|--------------|--------------|
| Turnover                                 | 3     | 48,088,794   | 67,600,183   |
| Cost of sales                            |       | (38,329,886) | (54,641,012) |
| Gross profit                             |       | 9,758,908    | 12,959,171   |
| Administrative expenses                  |       | (9,245,132)  | (11,533,686) |
| Operating profit                         | 9     | 513,776      | 1,425,485    |
| Interest receivable and similar income   | 6     | -            | 251          |
| Interest payable and similar expenses    | 7     | (192,750)    | (231,725)    |
| Profit before taxation                   |       | 321,026      | 1,194,011    |
| Tax on profit                            | 11    | (64,179)     | (355,282)    |
| Profit for the financial year            |       | 256,847      | 838,729      |
| Other comprehensive income net of taxati | ion   |              |              |
| Currency translation differences         |       | (31,763)     | 11,367       |
| Total comprehensive income for the year  | •     | 225,084      | 850,096      |

Profit for the financial year is all attributable to the owners of the parent company.

Total comprehensive income for the year is all attributable to the owners of the parent company.

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2018

|   |       | 20          | 18        | 2017         |           |
|---|-------|-------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|
|   | Notes | £           | £         | £            | £         |
| Fixed assets  |       |             |           |              |           |
| Goodwill  | 14    |             | 178,513   |              | 238,018   |
| Tangible assets   | 15    |             | 515,714   |              | 468,285   |
| •   |       |             | 694,227   |              | 706,303   |
| Current assets  |       |             |           |              |           |
| Debtors   | 18    | 6,377,250   |           | 9,734,896    |           |
| Cash at bank and in hand                                |       | 1,256,239   |           | 3,314,731    |           |
|   |       | 7,633,489   | •         | 13,049,627   |           |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year          | 19    | (5,852,070) | ٠         | (11,176,320) |           |
| Net current assets                                      |       |             | 1,781,419 |              | 1,873,307 |
| Total assets less current liabilities                   |       |             | 2,475,646 |              | 2,579,610 |
| Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year | 20    |             | ·<br>-    |              | (40,550)  |
| Provisions for liabilities                              | 23    |             | (67,990)  | •            | (56,488)  |
| Net assets  |       |             | 2,407,656 |              | 2,482,572 |
| Capital and reserves                                    |       |             |           |              |           |
| Called up share capital                                 | 27    |             | 216       |              | 216       |
| Share premium account                                   | 28    |             | 39,991    |              | 39,991    |
| Other reserves  | 28    |             | 1,081,104 |              | 1,081,104 |
| Profit and loss reserves                                | 28    |             | 1,286,345 |              | 1,361,261 |
| Total equity  |       |             | 2,407,656 |              | 2,482,572 |

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 10 Septembe 2019 and are signed on its behalf by:

R P Crawley **Director** 

# COMPANY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2018

|                                       |       | 20          | 18          | 20          | 17          |
|---------------------------------------|-------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|                                       | Notes | £           | £           | £           | £           |
| Fixed assets                          |       |             |             |             |             |
| Investments                           | 16    |             | 2,252,500   |             | 2,252,500   |
| Current assets                        |       | ~           |             | -           |             |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within | 40    | (4.404.400) |             | (4.404.400) |             |
| one year                              | 19    | (1,131,189) |             | (1,131,189) |             |
| Net current liabilities               |       |             | (1,131,189) |             | (1,131,189) |
| Total assets less current liabilities |       |             | 1,121,311   |             | 1,121,311   |
|                                       |       |             | ======      |             |             |
| Capital and reserves                  |       |             |             |             |             |
| Called up share capital               | 27    |             | 216         |             | 216         |
| Share premium account                 | 28    |             | 39,991      |             | 39,991      |
| Other reserves                        | 28    |             | 1,081,104   |             | 1,081,104   |
| Total equity                          |       |             | 1,121,311   |             | 1,121,311   |

As permitted by s408 Companies Act 2006, the company has not presented its own profit and loss account and related notes as it prepares group accounts. The company's profit for the year was £300,000 (2017 - £360,904 profit).

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 10 Suplembre 26.9 and are signed on its behalf by:

R P Crawley Director

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

|  | Notes | Share<br>capital<br>£ | Share premium account | Other reserves | Profit and<br>loss<br>reserves<br>£ | Total<br>£ |
|--|-------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|------------|
|  |       |                       |                       |                |                                     |            |
| Balance at 1 January 2017  |       | 207                   | -                     | 1,081,104      | 872,069                             | 1,953,380  |
| Year ended 31 December 2017: Profit for the year Other comprehensive income net of |       |                       |                       |                | 838,729                             | 838,729    |
| taxation: Currency translation differences   |       | _                     | -                     | -              | 11,367                              | 11,367     |
|  |       |                       | ·                     |                |                                     |            |
| Total comprehensive income for the   | year  | -                     | -                     | -              | 850,096                             | 850,096    |
| Issue of share capital   | 27    | 9                     | 39,991                | -              | -                                   | 40,000     |
| Dividends  | 12    | -                     | -                     | -              | (360,904)                           | (360,904)  |
| Balance at 31 December 2017  | ,     | 216                   | 39,991                | 1,081,104      | 1,361,261                           | 2,482,572  |
| Year ended 31 December 2018: Profit for the year Other comprehensive income net of |       | -                     | -                     | -              | 256,847                             | 256,847    |
| taxation:  |       |                       |                       |                | (24.762)                            | (24.762)   |
| Currency translation differences   |       |                       |                       |                | (31,763)                            | (31,763)   |
| Total comprehensive income for the   | year  | _                     | _                     | -              | 225,084                             | 225,084    |
| Dividends  | 12    | -                     | -                     | -              | (300,000)                           | (300,000)  |
| Balance at 31 December 2018  |       | 216                   | 39,991                | 1,081,104      | 1,286,345                           | 2,407,656  |

# COMPANY STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

|   | Notes | Share<br>capital<br>£ | Share premium account | Other reserves | Profit and<br>loss<br>reserves<br>£ | Total     |
|---|-------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Balance at 1 January 2017                                   |       | 207                   |                       | 1,081,104      | -                                   | 1,081,311 |
| Year ended 31 December 2017: Profit and total comprehensive |       |                       |                       |                |                                     |           |
| income for the year   |       | •                     | -                     | -              | 360,904                             | 360,904   |
| Issue of share capital                                      | 27    | 9                     | 39,991                | -              | -                                   | 40,000    |
| Dividends   | 12    | -                     | -                     | -              | (360,904)                           | (360,904) |
| Balance at 31 December 2017                                 |       | 216                   | 39,991                | 1,081,104      |                                     | 1,121,311 |
| Year ended 31 December 2018: Profit and total comprehensive |       |                       |                       |                |                                     | ,         |
| income for the year   |       | -                     | -                     | -              | 300,000                             | 300,000   |
| Dividends   | 12    | -                     | -                     | -              | (300,000)                           | (300,000) |
| Balance at 31 December 2018                                 |       | 216                   | 39,991                | 1,081,104      | -                                   | 1,121,311 |

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

|  |       | 20        | )18                    | 20        | )17                        |
|--|-------|-----------|------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|
|  | Notes | £         | £                      | £         | £                          |
| Cash flows from operating activities                                     |       |           |                        |           |                            |
| Cash generated from operations   | 29    |           | 1,976,093              |           | 4,272,169                  |
| Interest paid Income taxes paid  |       |           | (192,750)<br>(170,000) |           | (231,725)<br>(297,618)     |
| moome taxee paid   |       |           | <del></del>            |           |                            |
| Net cash inflow from operating activities                                | s     |           | 1,613,343              |           | 3,742,826                  |
| Investing activities   |       |           |                        |           |                            |
| Cash acquired on purchase of business                                    |       | -         |                        | 335       |                            |
| Purchase of tangible fixed assets Proceeds on disposal of tangible fixed |       | (225,730) |                        | (386,973) |                            |
| assets   |       | -         |                        | 7,826     |                            |
| Interest received  |       | •         |                        | 251       |                            |
| Net cash used in investing activities                                    |       |           | (225,730)              |           | (378,561)                  |
| Financing activities   |       |           |                        |           |                            |
| Payment of finance leases obligations                                    |       | (13,132)  |                        | (12,132)  |                            |
| Dividends paid to equity shareholders                                    |       | (300,000) |                        | (360,904) |                            |
| Net cash used in financing activities                                    |       |           | (313,132)              |           | (373,036)                  |
| Net increase in cash and cash equivaler                                  | nts   |           | 1,074,481              |           | 2,991,229                  |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of                                | year  | •         | (3,503,261)            |           | (6,487,523)                |
| Effect of foreign exchange rates   |       |           | (83,638)               |           | (6,967)                    |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of year                                 | ar    |           | (2,512,418)            |           | (3,503,261)                |
| Relating to:   |       |           | <del></del>            |           | - <del></del>              |
| Cash at bank and in hand   |       |           | 1,256,239              |           | 3,314,731                  |
| Bank overdrafts included in creditors                                    |       | •         | (3,768,657)            |           | (6 g17 002\                |
| payable within one year  |       |           | (3,700,037)            |           | (6,817,992)<br>=========== |

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

### 1 Accounting policies

#### Company Information

STR Group Limited ("the company") is a private company limited by shares and is registered and incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 1 Quay Point, Northarbour Road, Portsmouth, Hampshire, PO6 3TD.

The group consists of STR Group Limited and all of its subsidiaries.

The company's and the group's principal activities and nature of its operations are disclosed in the Directors' Report.

### **Accounting convention**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

The company is a qualifying entity for the purposes of FRS 102, being a member of a group where the parent of that group prepares publicly available consolidated financial statements, including this company, which are intended to give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the group. The company has therefore taken advantage of exemptions from the following disclosure requirements for parent company information presented within the consolidated financial statements:

- Section 4 'Statement of Financial Position' Reconciliation of the opening and closing number of shares;
- Section 7 'Statement of Cash Flows' Presentation of a statement of cash flow and related notes and disclosures:
- Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instrument Issues' —
  Carrying amounts, interest income/expense and net gains/losses for each category of financial
  instrument; basis of determining fair values; details of collateral, loan defaults or breaches, details
  of hedges, hedging fair value changes recognised in profit or loss and in other comprehensive
  income:
- Section 26 'Share based Payment' Share-based payment expense charged to profit or loss, reconciliation of opening and closing number and weighted average exercise price of share options, how the fair value of options granted was measured, measurement and carrying amount of liabilities for cash-settled share-based payments, explanation of modifications to arrangements;
- Section 33 'Related Party Disclosures' Compensation for key management personnel.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

#### 1 Accounting policies (Continued)

#### Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate those of STR Group Limited and all of its subsidiaries (i.e. entities that the group controls through its power to govern the financial and operating policies so as to obtain economic benefits). Subsidiaries acquired during the year are consolidated using the purchase method. Their results are incorporated from the date that control passes.

All financial statements are made up to 31 December 2018. Where necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring the accounting policies used into line with those used by other members of the group.

All intra-group transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between group companies are eliminated on consolidation. Unrealised losses are also eliminated unless the transaction provides evidence of an impairment of the asset transferred.

The cost of a business combination is the fair value at the acquisition date of the assets given, equity instruments issued and liabilities incurred or assumed, plus costs directly attributable to the business combination. The excess of the cost of a business combination over the fair value of the identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities acquired is recognised as goodwill.

#### Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the group and company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the directors continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

#### **Turnover**

Turnover is recognised at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable for goods and services provided in the normal course of business, and is shown net of VAT and other sales related taxes.

Turnover arising from the provision of temporary labour services is recognised over the period that temporary workers are provided.

Turnover arising from the placement of permanent candidates is recognised at the time the candidate commences employment. Provision is made for liabilities arising where employees do not fulfil their specified contractual period.

### Intangible fixed assets - goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of the cost of acquisition of a business over the fair value of net assets acquired. It is initially recognised as an asset at cost and is subsequently measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses. Goodwill is considered to have a finite useful life and is amortised on a systematic basis over its expected life, which is between two and ten years.

#### Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold improvements25% straight lineFixtures and fittings25% straight lineComputer equipment25% straight line

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

### 1 Accounting policies (Continued)

#### Fixed asset investments

In the separate accounts of the company, interests in subsidiaries are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost less any accumulated impairment losses. The investments are assessed for impairment at each reporting date and any impairment losses or reversals of impairment losses are recognised immediately in profit or loss.

A subsidiary is an entity controlled by the group. Control is the power to govern the financial and operating policies of the entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

### Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting period end date, the group reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

The carrying amount of the investments accounted for using the equity method is tested for impairment as a single asset. Any goodwill included in the carrying amount of the investment is not tested separately for impairment.

Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset for which the estimates of future cash flows have not been adjusted.

If the recoverable amount of an asset is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss, unless the relevant asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease.

#### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are basic financial instruments and include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, bank overdrafts and invoice discounting facilities that are repayable on demand and therefore are considered to be an integral part of the groups cash management. Bank overdrafts and invoice discounting facilities are shown within cash and cash equivalents.

#### **Financial instruments**

The group has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised when the group becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amounts presented in the financial statements when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

## Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include trade and other debtors, and amounts owed to group undertakings and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the financial asset is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

## 1 Accounting policies (Continued)

#### Impairment of financial assets

Financial assets, other than those held at fair value through profit and loss, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting end date.

Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset, the estimated future cash flows have been affected. If an asset is impaired, the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the estimated cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. The impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

If there is a decrease in the impairment loss arising from an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the impairment is reversed. The reversal is such that the current carrying amount does not exceed what the carrying amount would have been, had the impairment not previously been recognised. The impairment reversal is recognised in profit or loss.

### Derecognition of financial assets

Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the group transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another entity, or if some significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained but control of the asset has transferred to another party that is able to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party.

### Classification of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the group after deducting all of its liabilities.

#### Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including trade and other creditors, and loans from fellow group companies, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

### Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when, and only when, the group's contractual obligations are discharged, cancelled, or they expire.

#### **Equity instruments**

Equity instruments issued by the group are recorded at the fair value of the proceeds received, net of direct issue costs. Dividends payable on equity instruments are recognised as liabilities once they are no longer at the discretion of the group.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

#### 1 Accounting policies (Continued)

#### Taxation

The tax expense represents the sum of the current tax expense and deferred tax expense. Current tax assets are recognised when tax paid exceeds the tax payable.

Current and deferred tax is charged or credited to profit or loss, except when it relates to items charged or credited to other comprehensive income or equity, when the tax follows the transaction or event it relates to and is also charged or credited to other comprehensive income, or equity.

Current tax assets and current tax liabilities and deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities are offset, if and only if, there is a legally enforceable right to set off the amounts and the entity intends either to settle on the net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Current tax is based on taxable profit for the year. Current tax assets and liabilities are measured using tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date.

Deferred tax is calculated at the tax rates that are expected to apply to the period when the asset is realised or the liability is settled based on tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date.

Deferred tax liabilities are recognised in respect of all timing differences that exist at the reporting date. Timing differences are differences between taxable profits and total comprehensive income that arise from the inclusion of income and expenses in tax assessments in different periods from their recognition in the financial statements. Deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that it is probable that they will be recovered by the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future taxable profits.

#### **Provisions**

Provisions are recognised when the group has a legal or constructive present obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that the group will be required to settle that obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting end date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the amount expected to be required to settle the obligation is recognised at present value. When a provision is measured at present value, the unwinding of the discount is recognised as a finance cost in profit or loss in the period in which it arises.

#### **Employee benefits**

The costs of short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense.

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

### Retirement benefits

For defined contribution schemes the amount charged to profit or loss is the contributions payable in the year. Differences between contributions payable in the year and contributions actually paid are shown as either accruals or prepayments.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

### 1 Accounting policies (Continued)

#### Share-based payments

The company participates in a share-based payment arrangement granted to its employees and employees of its subsidiaries. The company has elected to recognise and measure its share-based payment expense on the basis of a reasonable allocation of the expense for the group recognised in its consolidated accounts. The directors consider the number of unvested options granted to the company's employees compared to the total unvested options granted under the group plan to be a reasonable basis for allocating the expense.

The expense in relation to options over the company's shares granted to employees of a subsidiary is recognised by the company as a capital contribution, and presented as an increase in the company's investment in that subsidiary.

Equity-settled share-based payments are measured at fair value at the date of grant by reference to the fair value of the equity instruments granted. The fair value determined at the grant date is expensed on a straight-line basis over the vesting period, based on the estimate of shares that will eventually vest. A corresponding adjustment is made to equity.

#### ومودم ا

Leases are classified as finance leases whenever the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to the lessees. All other leases are classified as operating leases.

Assets held under finance leases are recognised as assets at the lower of the assets fair value at the date of inception and the present value of the minimum lease payments. The related liability is included in the statement of financial position as a finance lease obligation. Lease payments are treated as consisting of capital and interest elements. The interest is charged to the income statement so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability.

Rentals payable under operating leases, including any lease incentives received, are charged to income on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease except where another more systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which economic benefits from the leased asset are consumed.

### Foreign exchange

Transactions in currencies other than the functional currency (foreign currency) are initially recorded at the exchange rate prevailing on the date of the transaction.

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange ruling at the reporting date. Non-monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate ruling at the date or the transaction, or, if the asset or liability is measured at fair value, the rate when that fair value was determined.

All translation differences are taken to profit or loss, except to the extent that they relate to gains or losses on non-monetary items recognised in other comprehensive income, when the related translation gain or loss is also recognised in other comprehensive income.

Assets and liabilities of overseas subsidiaries are translated into the group's presentational currency at the ruling rate at the reporting date. Income and expenses of overseas subsidiaries are translated at the average rate for the year as the directors consider this to be a reasonable approximation to the rate at the date of the transaction. Transactions are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity.

## **Dividends**

Dividends are recognised as liabilities once they are no longer at the discretion of the company.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

### 2 Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the group's accounting policies, the directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. 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 where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

The directors do no believe there are any material judgements or key sources of estimation uncertainty in the financial statements.

#### 3 Turnover and other revenue

An analysis of the group's turnover is as follows:

|  | 2018       | 2017       |
|--|------------|------------|
|  | £          | £          |
| Turnover analysed by class of business   |            |            |
| Recruitment agency services              | 48,088,794 | 67,600,183 |
|  |            |            |
| Turnover analysed by geographical market |            |            |
|  | 2018       | 2017       |
|  | £          | £          |
| United Kingdom                           | 36,623,238 | 51,184,977 |
| Europe                                   | 3,043,673  | 5,159,195  |
| Rest of the World                        | 8,421,883  | 11,256,011 |
|  | 48,088,794 | 67,600,183 |
|  |            |            |

### 4 Employees

The average monthly number of persons (including directors) employed during the year was:

|                         | Group                                   |        | Company |        |
|-------------------------|---|--------|---------|--------|
|                         | 2018                                    | 2017   | 2018    | 2017   |
|                         | Number                                  | Number | Number  | Number |
| Directors               | 5                                       | 6      | -       | -      |
| Administrative staff    | 35                                      | 25     | -       | -      |
| Recruitment consultants | 116                                     | 139    | -       | -      |
|                         | 156                                     | 170    |         |        |
|                         | 150                                     | 170    | -       | -      |
|                         | ======================================= |        |         |        |

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

| 4 | Employees (Continued)   |                                 |                                |                      |                        |
|---|---|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
|   | Their aggregate remuneration comprised:   | Group<br>2018<br>£              | 2017<br>£                      | Company<br>2018<br>£ | 2017<br>£              |
|   | Wages and salaries<br>Social security costs<br>Pension costs  | 6,160,164<br>694,830<br>122,983 | 7,236,245<br>746,745<br>85,290 | -<br>-<br>-          | -<br>-<br>-            |
|   |   | 6,977,977                       | 8,068,280                      | -                    | <u> </u>               |
| 5 | Directors' remuneration   |                                 |                                | 2018<br>£            | 2017<br>£              |
|   | Remuneration for qualifying services Company pension contributions to defined con                       | tribution schemes               | <b>.</b>                       | 24,282<br>12,000     | 67,434<br>12,850       |
|   |   |                                 |                                | 36,282               | 80,284                 |
|   | The number of directors for whom retirement amounted to 2 (2017 - 3).                                   | t benefits are acc              | cruing under de                | fined contribution   | on schemes             |
| 6 | Interest receivable and similar income  |                                 |                                | 2018<br>£            | 2017<br>£              |
|   | Interest income<br>Interest on bank deposits  |                                 |                                |                      | 251                    |
| 7 | Interest payable and similar expenses   |                                 |                                | 2018<br>£            | 2017<br>£              |
|   | Interest on invoice finance arrangements Interest on finance leases and hire purchase of Other interest | ontracts                        |                                | 191,291<br>1,459     | 229,168<br>2,459<br>98 |
|   | Total finance costs   |                                 |                                | 192,750              | 231,725                |

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

## 8 Share-based payment transactions

## Equity-settled share option plan - 2017 scheme

Under the group plan, share options are granted at the average price of the Company's shares at the grant date. The employee is only entitled to exercise the share options on an exit event and they must have worked for the group for at least 25 hours a week or 75% of their working time. If options remain unexercised after a period of 10 years from the date of grant, the options expire. Furthermore, options are forfeited if the employee leaves the group before they become entitled to exercise the share options.

| Group                           | Number of sha | re options  |  |
|---------------------------------|---------------|-------------|--|
|                                 | 2018          | 2017        |  |
|                                 | Number        | Number      |  |
| Outstanding at 1 January 2018   | 200,140       | -           |  |
| Granted                         | -             | 200,140     |  |
| Forfeited                       | (128,860)     | -           |  |
|                                 |               |             |  |
| Outstanding at 31 December 2018 | 71,280        | 200,140     |  |
|                                 |               | =           |  |
| Exercisable at 31 December 2018 | -             | -           |  |
|                                 | <del></del>   | <del></del> |  |

Non-vesting conditions have been taken into account when estimating the fair value of the option at grant date. Service conditions are taken into account by adjusting the number of options expected to vest at each reporting date.

The options outstanding at 31 December 2018 had an exercise price of £0.0001 each and an expiry date ranging between 25 and 31 October 2027.

No charge has been made to profit and loss in respect of this, on the grounds of immateriality.

### 9 Operating profit

|   | 2018           | 2017    |
|---|----------------|---------|
|   | £              | £       |
| Operating profit for the year is stated after charging:         |                |         |
| Exchange losses   | 30,494         | 129,943 |
| Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets                     | 164,442        | 128,545 |
| Depreciation of tangible fixed assets held under finance leases | 9,843          | 9,843   |
| Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets                       | 4,123          | 8,366   |
| Amortisation of intangible assets                               | 59,505         | 198,056 |
| Impairment of intangible assets                                 | -              | 391,123 |
| Operating lease charges   | 182,461        | 308,192 |
|   | <del>===</del> |         |

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

|    | Auditor's remuneration   | 2018              | 2017           |
|----|--|-------------------|----------------|
|    | Fees payable to the company's auditor:   | £                 | £              |
|    | For audit services   |                   |                |
|    | Audit of the financial statements of the group and company  Audit of the financial statements of the                             | 2,700             | 5,250          |
|    | company's subsidiaries   | 24,300            | 21,000         |
|    |  | 27,000            | 26,250         |
|    |  |                   | ,              |
| 11 | Taxation   | 2018              | 2017           |
|    |  | £                 | 2017<br>£      |
|    | Current tax  |                   |                |
|    | UK corporation tax on profits for the current period   | 3,103             | 387,880        |
|    | Adjustments in respect of prior periods  | 654               | 1,346          |
|    | Total current tax  | 3,757             | 389,226        |
|    | Deferred tax   |                   |                |
|    | Origination and reversal of timing differences   | 61,050            | (33,944        |
|    | Adjustment in respect of prior periods   | (628)             | -              |
|    | Total deferred tax   | 60,422            | (33,944)       |
|    | Total tax charge for the year  | 64,179<br>————    | 355,282        |
|    | The total tax charge for the year included in the income statement can be recomultiplied by the standard rate of tax as follows: | nciled to the pro | fit before tax |
|    |  | 2018              | 2017           |
|    |  | £                 | £              |
|    | Profit before taxation   | 321,026           | 1,194,011      |
|    |  |                   |                |
|    | Expected tax charge based on the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19.00% (2017: 19.25%)                             | 60,995            | 229,847        |
|    | Tax effect of expenses that are not deductible in determining taxable profit   | 18,960            | 134,011        |
|    |  |                   | •              |
|    | Adjustments in respect of prior years  | 26                | 1,346          |
|    | Overseas tax losses not recognised as a deferred tax asset Adjustment to losses  | -<br>-            | 52,604         |
|    | Anniciment in Income   | 50,990            | -              |
|    |  |                   | (00 F00)       |
|    | Utilisation of losses  | (66,792)          | (62,526)       |

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

# 11 Taxation (Continued)

The headline UK corporation tax rate was 20% up until 1 April 2017 when it reduced to 19%. This is due to fall to 17% with effect from 1 April 2020. As this change was substantively enacted at the balance sheet date and no material amount is expected to unwind prior to 1 April 2020, deferred tax is recognised at 17% in the current period.

### 12 Dividends

|              | 2018    | 2017    |
|--------------|---------|---------|
|              | £       | £       |
| Interim paid | 300,000 | 360,904 |
|              |         |         |

### 13 Impairments

Impairment tests have been carried out where appropriate and the following impairment losses have been recognised in profit or loss:

|                         |       | 2018 | 2017    |
|-------------------------|-------|------|---------|
|                         | Notes | £    | £       |
| In respect of:          |       |      |         |
| Goodwill                | 14    | -    | 391,123 |
| Investments             | •     | -    | 40,209  |
|                         |       |      |         |
|                         |       |      |         |
| Recognised in:          |       |      |         |
| Administrative expenses |       | -    | 431,332 |
|                         |       |      |         |

The impairment losses in respect of financial assets are recognised in administrative expenses in the income statement.

## 14 Intangible fixed assets

| Group                                  | Goodwill  |
|--|-----------|
| Cost                                   | £         |
| At 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2018 | 1,350,318 |
| Amortisation and impairment            |           |
| At 1 January 2018                      | 1,112,300 |
| Amortisation charged for the year      | 59,505    |
| At 31 December 2018                    | 1,171,805 |
| Carrying amount                        |           |
| At 31 December 2018                    | 178,513   |
|  | •         |
| At 31 December 2017                    | 238,018   |
| ·                                      |           |

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

# 14 Intangible fixed assets (Continued)

The company had no intangible fixed assets at 31 December 2018 or 31 December 2017.

The amortisation of goodwill is included within administrative expenses.

# 15 Tangible fixed assets

| Group                              | Leasehold<br>improvements | Fixtures and fittings | Computer equipment | Total     |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------|
|                                    | £                         | £                     | £                  | £         |
| Cost                               |                           |                       |                    |           |
| At 1 January 2018                  | 239,226                   | 220,135               | 356,111            | 815,472   |
| Additions                          | 57,318                    | 17,362                | 151,050            | 225,730   |
| Disposals                          | -                         | (3,408)               | (12,400)           | (15,808)  |
| Exchange adjustments               | -                         | 39                    | 144                | 183       |
| At 31 December 2018                | 296,544                   | 234,128               | 494,905            | 1,025,577 |
| Depreciation and impairment        |                           |                       |                    |           |
| At 1 January 2018                  | 43,603                    | 66,783                | 236,801            | 347,187   |
| Depreciation charged in the year   | 73,029                    | 54,318                | 46,938             | 174,285   |
| Eliminated in respect of disposals | -                         | (2,266)               | (9,419)            | (11,685)  |
| Exchange adjustments               | -                         | 14                    | 62                 | 76        |
| At 31 December 2018                | 116,632                   | 118,849               | 274,382            | 509,863   |
| Carrying amount                    |                           |                       |                    |           |
| At 31 December 2018                | 179,912                   | 115,279               | 220,523            | 515,714   |
| At 31 December 2017                | 195,623                   | 153,352               | 119,310            | 468,285   |
|                                    |                           |                       |                    |           |

The company had no tangible fixed assets at 31 December 2018 or 31 December 2017.

The net carrying value of tangible fixed assets includes the following in respect of assets held under hire purchase agreements:

| ,  | Group  |        | Company |      |
|--|--------|--------|---------|------|
|  | 2018   | 2017   | 2018    | 2017 |
|  | £      | £      | £       | £    |
| Computer equipment   | 19,686 | 29,529 | -       | -    |
| Depreciation charge for the year in respect of leased assets | 9,843  | 9,843  | -       | -    |
|  |        |        |         | ==== |

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# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

|   | Notes | Group<br>2018<br>£ | 2017<br>£ | Company<br>2018<br>£ |   |
|---|-------|--------------------|-----------|----------------------|---|
| Investments in subsidiaries                   | 17    | -                  |           | 2,252,500            | 2,252,500                               |
| Movements in fixed asset investi<br>Company   | ments |                    |           |                      | Shares in<br>group<br>undertakings<br>£ |
| Cost or valuation At 1 January 2018 Disposals |       |                    |           |                      | 2,292,709<br>(40,209)                   |
| At 31 December 2018                           |       |                    |           |                      | 2,252,500                               |
| Impairment<br>At 1 January 2018<br>Disposals  |       |                    |           |                      | 40,209<br>(40,209)                      |
| At 31 December 2018                           |       |                    |           |                      | -                                       |
| Carrying amount At 31 December 2018           |       |                    |           |                      | 2,252,500                               |
| At 31 December 2017                           |       |                    |           |                      | 2,252,500                               |

The following subsidiaries were dissolved during the financial year on 20 March 2018: Biovere Resoucing Limited
Geostaff Group Limited
I - Vere Consulting Limited
Kasus Consulting Limited
Medicor Global Limited
MGC Contract Recruitment Limited
Oleum Resoucing Limited
Validus Associates Interims Limited
Vortice Aviation Limited
Zavendi Limited

The following subsidiaries were dissolved during the financial year on 21 August 2018: Validus Associates Ltd

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

## 17 Subsidiaries

Details of the company's subsidiaries at 31 December 2018 are as follows:

| Name of undertaking                | Registered office  | Nature of business | Class of shares held | % Held<br>Direct Indirect |
|------------------------------------|--|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Blackfield Associates<br>Limited** | 1 Quay Point,<br>Northarbour<br>Road,<br>Portsmouth,<br>Hampshire, PO6<br>3TD                                      | Dormant            | Ordinary             | 100.00                    |
| Excipion Limited**                 | 1 Quay Point,<br>Northarbour<br>Road,<br>Portsmouth,<br>Hampshire, PO6<br>3TD                                      | Dormant            | Ordinary             | 100.00                    |
| Navis Consulting Limited**         | 1 Quay Point,<br>Northarbour<br>Road,<br>Portsmouth,<br>Hampshire, PO6<br>3TD                                      | Dormant            | Ordinary             | 100.00                    |
| STR Group USA Inc*                 | 14460 Lakeside<br>Circle, Suite<br>140, Sterling<br>Heights,<br>Michigan,<br>48313, United<br>States of<br>America | Recruitment        | Ordinary             | 100.00                    |
| STR Holdings Limited               | 1 Quay Point,<br>Northarbour<br>Road,<br>Portsmouth,<br>Hampshire, PO6<br>3TD                                      | Holding            | Ordinary             | 100.00                    |
| STR Limited                        | 1 Quay Point,<br>Northarbour<br>Road,<br>Portsmouth,<br>Hampshire, PO6<br>3TD                                      | Recruitment        | Ordinary             | 100.00                    |
| Stream Resourcing<br>Limited**     | 1 Quay Point,<br>Northarbour<br>Road,<br>Portsmouth,<br>Hampshire, PO6<br>3TD                                      | Dormant            | Ordinary             | 100.00                    |
| Stride Recruitment<br>Limited**    | 1 Quay Point,<br>Northarbour<br>Road,<br>Portsmouth,<br>Hampshire, PO6<br>3TD                                      | Dormant .          | Ordinary             | 100.00                    |

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

#### 17 Subsidiaries (Continued)

Talos Automation Limited\*\* 1 Quay Point,

Dormant

Ordinary

100.00

Northarbour Road. Portsmouth, Hampshire, PO6 3TD

#### **Debtors** 18

|                                      | Group       |           | Company     |      |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|------|
|                                      | 2018        | 2017      | 2018        | 2017 |
| Amounts falling due within one year: | £           | £         | £           | £    |
| Trade debtors                        | 5,663,360   | 8,253,601 |             | -    |
| Unpaid share capital                 | 4           | 4         | -           | -    |
| Corporation tax recoverable          | 3,363       | -         | -           | -    |
| Other debtors                        | 3,382       | 2,611     | -           | _    |
| Prepayments and accrued income       | 707,141     | 1,468,398 | -           | -    |
|                                      | 6,377,250   | 9,724,614 | -           |      |
| Deferred tax asset (note 24)         | -           | 10,282    | -           | -    |
|                                      |             |           |             |      |
|                                      | 6,377,250   | 9,734,896 | -           | -    |
|                                      | <del></del> | =====     | <del></del> |      |

During the year a bad debt charge of £6,288 (2017 - £123,980) was recognised in respect of trade receivables due from customers known to be in financial difficulty or substantially overdue.

<sup>\*</sup> These subsidiary companies have taken the exemption in section 479A of the Companies Act 2006 from the requirements in the Act for their individual accounts to be audited.

<sup>\*\*</sup> These subsidiary companies have taken the exemption in section 349A of the Companies Act 2006 from the requirements in the Act for their individual accounts to be audited.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

|                                    |       | Group     |            | Company   |           |
|------------------------------------|-------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
|                                    |       | 2018      | 2017       | 2018      | 2017      |
|                                    | Notes | £         | £          | £         | £         |
| Bank loans and overdrafts          | 21    | 3,768,657 | 6,817,992  | -         | -         |
| Obligations under finance leases   | 22    | 13,042    | 13,124     | -         | -         |
| Trade creditors                    |       | 269,208   | 242,392    | -         | -         |
| Amounts due to group undertakings  |       | -         | -          | 1,130,987 | 1,130,987 |
| Corporation tax payable            |       | -         | 162,880    | -         | -         |
| Other taxation and social security |       | 509,983   | 1,194,479  | -         | -         |
| Other creditors                    |       | 91,600    | 408,187    | 202       | 202       |
| Accruals and deferred income       |       | 1,199,580 | 2,337,266  | -         | -         |
|                                    |       | 5,852,070 | 11,176,320 | 1,131,189 | 1,131,189 |

Included within bank loans and overdrafts is £3,768,657 (2017 - £6,817,992) relating to invoice discounting facilities with the Royal Bank of Scotland and are secured by a fixed and floating charge on all assets of the group.

# 20 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

|    |   | Notes  | Group<br>2018<br>£ | 2017<br>£        | Company<br>2018<br>£ | 2017<br>£ |
|----|---|--------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|-----------|
|    | Obligations under finance leases<br>Other creditors | 22     | -                  | 13,050<br>27,500 | -                    |           |
|    |   |        | -                  | 40,550           |                      | -         |
| 21 | Borrowings  |        | Group<br>2018<br>£ | 2017<br>£        | Company<br>2018<br>£ | 2017<br>£ |
|    | Bank overdrafts and invoice discount facility       | ting . | 3,768,657          | 6,817,992        | <u>.</u>             |           |
|    | Payable within one year                             |        | 3,768,657          | 6,817,992        | <u>.</u>             |           |

Included within bank overdrafts and invoice discounting facilities is £3,768,657 (2017 - £6,817,992) relating to invoice discounting facilities with the Royal Bank of Scotland and are secured by a fixed and floating charge on all assets of the group.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) - FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

| 22 | Finance lease obligations                               |        |        |             |      |
|----|---|--------|--------|-------------|------|
|    |   | Group  |        | Company     |      |
|    |   | 2018   | 2017   | 2018        | 2017 |
|    |   | £      | £      | £           | £    |
|    | Future minimum lease payments due under finance leases: |        |        |             |      |
|    | Less than one year                                      | 13,042 | 13,124 | -           | -    |
|    | Between one and five years                              | -      | 13,050 | -           | -    |
|    | •   |        |        | <del></del> |      |
|    |   | 13,042 | 26,174 | •           | -    |
|    |   |        |        |             |      |

Finance lease payments represent rentals payable by the company for certain items of plant and machinery. The average lease term is 1 year. All leases are on a fixed repayment basis and no arrangements have been entered into for contingent rental payments.

## 23 Provisions for liabilities

|                          |       | Group       |        | Company |          |
|--------------------------|-------|-------------|--------|---------|----------|
|                          |       | 2018        | 2017   | 2018    | 2017     |
|                          | Notes | £           | £      | £       | £        |
| Onerous future costs     |       | 17,850      | 17,850 | -       | -        |
| Onerous lease costs      |       | -           | 38,638 | -       | · -      |
|                          |       | <del></del> |        |         |          |
|                          |       | 17,850      | 56,488 | -       | _        |
| Deferred tax liabilities | 24    | 50,140      | -      | -       | -        |
|                          |       |             |        |         |          |
|                          |       | 67,990      | 56,488 | -       | <u>.</u> |
|                          |       | ===         |        |         |          |

Movements on provisions apart from deferred tax liabilities:

|                          | Onerous future costs | Onerous<br>lease costs | Total    |
|--------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------|
| Group                    | ·                    | £                      | £        |
| At 1 January 2018        | 17,850               | 38,638                 | 56,488   |
| Utilisation of provision | -                    | (32,203)               | (32,203) |
| Exchange difference      | -                    | (6,435)                | (6,435)  |
|                          |                      | <del></del>            |          |
| At 31 December 2018      | 17,850               | -                      | 17,850   |
|                          |                      |                        |          |

Onerous future costs relate to capitalised IT project costs for a project that will no longer be implemented. Onerous lease costs relate to the US offices which are no longer occupied. The directors are unsure when these costs are likely to be paid.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

#### 24 Deferred taxation

The major deferred tax liabilities and assets recognised by the group and company are:

|                                | Liabilities<br>2018 | Liabilities<br>2017 | Assets<br>2018 | Assets<br>2017 |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Group                          | £                   | £                   | £              | £              |
| Accelerated capital allowances | 50,140              | -                   | -              | 10,282         |
|                                | <del></del>         | <del></del>         |                |                |

The company has no deferred tax assets or liabilities.

|  | Group<br>2018      | Company<br>2018 |
|--|--------------------|-----------------|
| Movements in the year:                                       | £                  | £               |
| Liability/(asset) at 1 January 2018 Charge to profit or loss | (10,282)<br>60,422 | -               |
| Liability at 31 December 2018                                | 50,140             | •               |

Of the deferred tax liability set out above, £6,000 is expected to reverse within 12 months in relation to accelerated capital allowances that are expected to mature in the same period.

### 25 Financial instruments

| · ·   | Group     |           | Company |      |
|---|-----------|-----------|---------|------|
|   | 2018      | 2017      | 2018    | 2017 |
|   | £         | £         | £       | £    |
| Carrying amount of financial assets         |           |           |         |      |
| Debt instruments measured at amortised cost | 5,666,746 | 9,274,208 | n/a     | n/a  |
|   |           |           |         |      |
| Carrying amount of financial liabilities    |           |           |         |      |
| Measured at amortised cost                  | 5,329,045 | 9,819,767 | n/a     | n/a  |
|   |           |           |         |      |

As permitted by the reduced disclosure framework within FRS 102, the company has taken advantage of the exemption from disclosing the carrying amount of certain classes of financial instruments, denoted by 'n/a' above.

### 26 Retirement benefit schemes

| Defined contribution schemes  | 2018<br>£ | 2017<br>£      |
|---|-----------|----------------|
| Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes | 122,983   | 85,290<br>———— |

A defined contribution pension scheme is operated for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the group in an independently administered fund. Contributions totalling £23,061 (2017 - £15,153) were payable to the fund at the year end and are included within creditors.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

| 27 | Share capital                             |           |         |
|----|---|-----------|---------|
|    |   | Group and | company |
|    |   | 2018      | 2017    |
|    | Ordinary share capital                    | £         | £       |
|    | Issued and fully paid                     |           |         |
|    | 2,000,000 Ordinary shares of £0.0001 each | 200       | 200     |
|    | 156,300 A Ordinary share of £0.0001 each  | 16        | 16      |

Both Ordinary and Ordinary A shares have attached to them full voting, dividends and capital distribution rights. On a return of capital, ordinary shares receive 92.75% of the balance and ordinary A shares 7.25%.

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#### 28 Reserves

### Share premium

Consideration received for shares issued above their nominal value net of transaction costs.

#### Other reserve

The other reserve is in relation to group reconstructions which have taken place historically.

### Profit and loss reserves

Cumulative profit or loss net of distribution to owners.

### 29 Cash generated from group operations

|  | 2018<br>£   | 2017<br>£ |
|--|-------------|-----------|
| Profit for the year after tax                        | 256,847     | 838,729   |
| Adjustments for:                                     |             |           |
| Taxation charged                                     | 64,179      | 355,282   |
| Finance costs  | 192,750     | 231,725   |
| Investment income                                    | -           | (251)     |
| Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets            | 4,123       | 8,366     |
| Amortisation and impairment of intangible assets     | 59,505      | 589,179   |
| Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets | 174,285     | 138,388   |
| (Decrease)/increase in provisions                    | (37,304)    | 56,488    |
| Movements in working capital:                        |             |           |
| Decrease in debtors                                  | 3,333,483   | 1,232,786 |
| (Decrease)/increase in creditors                     | (2,071,775) | 821,477   |
| Cash generated from operations                       | 1,976,093   | 4,272,169 |
|  |             |           |

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

## 30 Operating lease commitments

#### Lessee

At the reporting end date the group had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases on vehicles and leasehold buildings, which fall due as follows:

|                            | Group   |         | Company |      |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|------|
|                            | 2018    | 2017    | 2018    | 2017 |
|                            | £       | £       | £       | £    |
| Within one year            | 195,532 | 351,756 | -       | -    |
| Between one and five years | 240,590 | 545,891 |         | -    |
|                            |         |         |         |      |
|                            | 436,122 | 897,647 | -       | -    |
|                            |         | ======  |         |      |

### 31 Capital commitments

Amounts contracted for but not provided in the financial statements:

|                                      | Group  | Company |      |      |
|--------------------------------------|--------|---------|------|------|
|                                      | 2018   | 2017    | 2018 | 2017 |
| •                                    | £      | £       | £    | £    |
| Acquisition of tangible fixed assets | 50,000 | 76,313  | -    | -    |
|                                      |        | =       |      |      |

### 32 Related party transactions

# Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel of the group, who are selected members of the senior management team and the directors of group companies, is as follows.

| •                      | 2018        | 2017    |
|------------------------|-------------|---------|
|                        | £           | £       |
| Aggregate compensation | 581,046     | 814,292 |
| ,                      | <del></del> |         |

## Transactions with related parties

During the year the group entered into the following transactions with related parties:

|                       | Remu   | neration paid |
|-----------------------|--------|---------------|
|                       | 2018   | 2017          |
|                       | £      | £             |
| Group                 |        |               |
| Other related parties | 35,646 | 44,200        |
|                       |        |               |

Other related parties relate to remuneration paid to close family members of directors of group companies.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

## 33 Controlling party

The company and group was under the control of R P Crawley during the current and previous year by virtue of his majority shareholding.

## 34 Directors' transactions

Dividends totalling £300,000 (2017 - £358,844) were paid in the year in respect of shares held by the company's directors.