Company Registration No. SC22899

William Hill (Strathclyde) Limited

Report and Financial Statements

27 December 2005



Report and financial statements 2005

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Report and financial statements 2005

Officers and professional advisers

Directors

Mr T D Singer Mr I J Spearing Mr S Wasani

Secretary

Ms S Anderson

Registered office

29/31 Barnton Street Stirling FK8 1HF

Auditors

Deloitte & Touche LLP Chartered Accountants London

Directors' report

The directors present their report and audited financial statements for the 52 week period ended 27 December 2005

Principal activity

The principal activity of the Company is the operation of Licensed Betting Offices (LBOs) The Company is a subsidiary of William Hill PLC, which together with other subsidiaries of that company forms the William Hill Group of companies ("the Group")

Review of business developments and future activities

The Company's affairs and trading results for the period are shown in the attached financial statements

On 19 December 2005 the company paid an interim dividend of £3,000,000 (Period ended 28 December 2004 – £nil)

The directors do not recommend payment of a final dividend (period ended 28 December 2004 -£nil)

Trading performance

Growth in gross profit reflected a number of factors including the continuing roll out of fixed odds betting terminals (FOBTs), extended trading hours, and an expansion in the number of betting opportunities. Whilst there has been a staff cost associated with taking an increased volume of bets and extending opening hours, there is clear evidence that these initiatives are helping to drive growth

Cost of content

In July 2005 the Court of Appeal agreed with the European Court of Justice (ECJ) interpretation of the Database Directive which had previously been referred to the ECJ by the Court of Appeal in relation to the dispute with the British Horseracing Board (BHB) on the use of certain racing data. This judgement supported the Group's position Subsequently the BHB has decided not to challenge this judgement thus bringing to an end a dispute that commenced in 2001.

Had the BHB been successful, their database would have been the basis of a commercial deal between racing and betting that would have allowed the statutory levy scheme to end As a result of the decision, the government has extended the Levy until 2009 and appointed a committee, under the chairmanship of Lord Donoghue, to find an alternative basis for a commercial arrangement. The committee issued its draft report in December 2005. It is anticipated that discussions will take place between the interested parties during 2006 in order to assess whether a viable alternative to the current statutory levy can be developed from the options identified by the committee

The betting industry has contractual arrangements in place with 58 of the country's 59 race tracks for the supply of horseracing pictures into licensed betting offices. These contracts expire between Spring 2007 and Summer 2009

Business development

The Company intends to continue its investment in its retail business and to introduce new initiatives and products aimed at both retaining existing and attracting new customers

Regulatory development

The Gambling Act 2005 passed its final parliamentary stage and received Royal Assent in April 2005 The directors are advised that it is unlikely to be fully implemented until the Gambling Commission is fully resourced and operational, which is unlikely to be before Autumn 2007

Directors' report (continued)

Directors

The present membership of the Board of Directors is set out on page 1

The directors who served throughout the period and subsequently, except as shown below, are

Mr D Lowrey (resigned 5 April 2006)

Mr T D Singer

Mr I J Spearing

Mr S Wasanı

The directors' interests in the shares and rights to subscribe for shares in the Company's ultimate parent company (William Hill PLC) are disclosed in the financial statements of William Hill Organization Limited Neither the directors nor the secretary had any interests in the share capital of the Company or any other Group company (except as disclosed in the accounts of William Hill Organization Limited) at any time during the period

Terms of payment

William Hill Organization Limited, another operating company within the Group discharges all expenditure on behalf of the Group's UK subsidiaries. William Hill Organization Limited's normal practice is to agree terms of trading, including payment terms, with suppliers to all UK Group undertakings and, provided suppliers perform in accordance with agreed terms, it is the Group's policy that payment should be made accordingly. At 27 December 2005 the number of creditor days for William Hill Organization Limited was 19 days (28 December 2004 – 20 days)

Adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)

The Group will adopt IFRS as the primary basis for reporting for the 52 week period ending 26 December 2006. It does not expect the adoption of IFRS to have a material impact on the reporting of financial performance as compared to results prepared in accordance with UK GAAP.

The Company has evaluated the benefits of adopting IFRS and does not currently consider it beneficial to move away from producing financial statements under UK GAAP. This decision will be reassessed from time to time

Auditors

Deloitte & Touche LLP have expressed their willingness to continue in office as auditors and a resolution to reappoint them will be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting

Approved by the Board of Directors and signed on behalf of the Board

S Anderson

Secretary

23 October 2006

Statement of directors' responsibilities

United Kingdom company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company as at the end of the financial period and of the profit or loss of the Company for that period In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- · make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- · state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for the system of internal control, for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Independent auditors' report to the members of William Hill (Strathclyde) Limited

We have audited the financial statements of William Hill Strathclyde Limited for the 52 weeks ended 27 December 2005 which comprise the profit and loss account, the balance sheet and the related notes 1 to 15 These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein

This report is made solely to the Company's members, as a body, in accordance with section 235 of the Companies Act 1985. 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 auditors' 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

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described in the statement of directors' responsibilities the Company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice)

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant United Kingdom legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland)

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework, and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the directors' report is not consistent with the financial statements, if the Company has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding directors' remuneration and other transactions is not disclosed.

We read the directors' report for the above period as described in the contents section and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements

Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion

- the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, of the state of the Company's affairs as at 27 December 2005 and of its profit for the period then ended, and
- the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985

Deloitte & Touche LLP

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

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Profit and loss account 52 week period ended 27 December 2005

	N. A	52 week period ended 27 December 2005	28 December 2004
	Notes	£'000	£,000
Turnover Cost of sales	1	119,121 (111,107)	95,591 (87,918)
Gross profit		8,014	7,673
Net operating expenses		(5,611)	(5,342)
Operating profit	2	2,403	2,331
Net interest receivable	4	104	34
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation		2,507	2,365
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	5	(778)	(771)
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation		1,729	1,594
Dividends paid	6	(3,000)	
Retained (loss)/profit for the period transferred (from)/to reserves	14	(1,271)	1,594

There have been no recognised gains or losses other than those included in the profit and loss account for the current and preceding periods and accordingly no statement of total recognised gains and losses has been presented

All transactions in the current and preceding financial periods are attributable to continuing activities

Balance sheet 27 December 2005

	Notes	27 December 2005 £'000	28 December 2004 £'000
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets goodwill	7 8	16	16
Tangible assets	8	1,910	2,034
		1,926	2,050
Current assets			
Debtors	9		411
Cash at bank and in hand		161	243
		161	654
Creditors: amounts falling due	10	(640)	
within one year	10	(639)	
Net current (liabilities)/assets		(478)	654
Total assets less current liabilities		1,448	2,704
Provisions for liabilities and charges	11	(29)	(14)
Net assets		1,419	2,690
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	13, 14	10	10
Profit and loss account	14	1,409	2,680
Equity shareholders' funds	14	1,419	2,690

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 23 October 2006 Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors

T D Singer Director

Notes to the accounts 52 week period ended 27 December 2005

1 Accounting policies

The significant accounting policies of the Company are as follows. They have all been applied consistently throughout the current and prior period.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and accounting standards and under the historical cost convention

A cash flow statement, as required by Financial Reporting Standard ("FRS") 1 (Revised) 'Cash flow statements', has not been prepared, as the Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of William Hill PLC, a company incorporated in Great Britain and the consolidated accounts of William Hill PLC include a cash flow statement in the form prescribed by FRS 1 (see note 15)

William Hill Organization Limited, another operating company within the Group discharges all expenditure including auditors' remuneration on behalf of the Group's UK subsidiaries with appropriate charges being made to the Company for its share of the cost

Revenue recognition and turnover

Revenue is recognised under an exchange transaction with a customer, when, and to the extent that, the Group obtains the right to consideration in exchange for its performance

Turnover is the revenue resulting from exchange transactions under which the Group supplies to customers the services that it is in business to provide as set out below

In the case of Amusements with Prizes (AWPs) turnover represents the net winnings (excluding VAT) from customers on gaming activity completed by the period end

In the case of other LBO betting activity (including Fixed Odds Betting Terminals and other numbers bets), turnover represents the gross takings receivable from customers in respect of individual bets placed, on events that have occurred by the period end

Turnover arises exclusively in the United Kingdom

Acquisitions

On the acquisition of Licenced Betting Offices the excess of the purchase consideration over the fair value of tangible fixed assets, other assets and liabilities acquired represents goodwill, which is accounted for in accordance with the policy set out under intangible fixed assets

Intangible fixed assets

The Company's intangible assets represent licence value, goodwill and brand value. Intangible assets such as licences and brands that are purchased as part of a business cannot be measured reliably and are therefore subsumed within purchased goodwill in accordance with paragraph 13 of FRS 10 'Goodwill and Intangible Assets'

The Companies Act 1985 requires goodwill and intangible assets to be amortised over a finite period. The directors consider that the Company's intangible assets have an indefinite life due to, the fact that the Company is a significant operator in a well established market, the proven and sustained demand for bookmaking services, the operation of current law that acts as a barrier to entry for new entrants, and the Company's track record of successfully renewing its betting permits and licences

Notes to the accounts 52 week period ended 27 December 2005

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Intangible fixed assets (continued)

Consequently, the directors consider that to amortise these assets would not provide a true and fair view and so the financial statements depart from this specific requirement of the Companies Act 1985. If this departure from the Companies Act 1985 had not been made the profit for the financial period would have been reduced by amortisation. The amount of this amortisation cannot be quantified because of the indefinite life of these assets.

The non amortisation of the intangible assets means that they are subject to annual impairment testing in accordance with FRS 10 and FRS 11 'Impairment of Fixed Assets and Goodwill'

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed are stated in the balance sheet at cost, less provision, if any, for impairment together with additions at cost, less cumulative depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a straight line basis over its expected useful life, as follows

Freehold buildings
Short leasehold properties
Fixtures, fittings, equipment, plant and machinery

50 years
over the unexpired period of the lease
at variable rates between three and ten years

Tax

Current tax, including UK corporation tax and foreign tax, is provided at amounts expected to be paid (or recovered) using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date where transactions or events that result in an obligation to pay more tax in the future or a right to pay less tax in the future have occurred at the balance sheet date. Timing differences are differences between the Company's taxable profits and its results as stated in the financial statements that arise from the inclusion of gains and losses in tax assessments in periods different from those in which they are recognised in the financial statements.

A net deferred tax asset is regarded as recoverable and therefore recognised only when, on the basis of all available evidence, it can be regarded as more likely than not that there will be suitable taxable profits from which the future reversal of the underlying timing differences can be deducted.

Deferred tax is not recognised when fixed assets are sold and it is more likely than not that the taxable gain will be rolled over, being charged to tax only if and when the replacement assets are sold

Deferred tax is measured at the average tax rates that are expected to apply in the periods in which the timing differences are expected to reverse, based on tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date. Deferred tax is measured on a non-discounted basis

Notes to the accounts 52 week period ended 27 December 2005

2. Operating profit

Operating profit is stated after charging	52 week period ended 27 December 2005 £'000	52 week period ended 28 December 2004 £'000
Administrative expenses Depreciation	220	199
Management charge Total administrative expenses	5,391	5,019
Loss on disposal of fixed assets		124
Net operating expenses	5,611	5,342

Expenses of the Company and auditors' remuneration, which as explained in note 1 are borne by William Hill Organization Limited, are recharged to the Company and disclosed in total above as a management charge

3. Staff costs

There are no employees of the Company in either the current or preceding financial period. All UK employees of the Group are employed by William Hill Organization Limited or William Hill Holdings Limited. The details of the average monthly number of employees and remuneration in the period are disclosed in the financial statements of William Hill Organization Limited.

The directors of the Company are also directors of other trading and holding companies within the group and it is not practicable to allocate their remuneration for the current or preceding period between their services to each company. Therefore details of their remuneration, for the 52 week period ended 27 December 2005 and the 52 week period ended 28 December 2004 are disclosed in the financial statements of William Hill Organization Limited.

52 week	52 week
period ended	period ended
27 December	28 December
2005	2004
No	No
The number of directors who are members of	
Defined benefit pension scheme 4	4
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Disclosures in respect of the defined benefit pension scheme, which has a deficit at 27 December 2005 of £31,772,000 (2004 £38,473,000), are provided in the financial statements of William Hill Organization Limited

Notes to the accounts 52 week period ended 27 December 2005

4. Net interest receivable

4.	Net interest receivable		
		<u>-</u>	52 week period ended 28 December 2004 £'000
	Interest payable on loans from Group undertakings Interest receivable on loans to Group undertakings	(213) 317	(120) 154
		104	34
5	Tax on profit on ordinary activities		
		52 week period ended 27 December 2005 £'000	
	Current taxation UK corporation tax Group relief	763	759
	Current tax	763	759
	Deferred tax (note 12)	15	12
	Total tax on profit on ordinary activities	778	771
	Reconciliation to current tax charge:		 -
		52 week period ended 27 December 2005 £'000	
	Profit before tax	2,507	2,365
	Tax at 30% (2004 30%) Permanent differences Accelerated capital allowances Held over gains crystallising	752 26 (15)	709 62 (31) 19
	Current tax charge	763	759

Notes to the accounts 52 week period ended 27 December 2005

6. Dividends paid

52 week	52 week
period ended	period ended
27 December	28 December
2005	2004
£,000	£'000
Interim dividend paid of £300 per share	
(2004 £nil per share) 3,000	
	
Intangible fixed assets	
	£'000

7.

£'000 At cost and net book value At 29 December 2004 and 27 December 2005 16

Intangible fixed assets represents licence value, goodwill and brand value. Intangible assets such as licences and brands that are purchased as part of a business cannot be measured reliably and are therefore subsumed within purchased goodwill in accordance with paragraph 13 of FRS 10 'Goodwill and Intangible Assets'

Following the annual review for impairment, in the opinion of the directors the recoverable amount of intangible assets is not less than as stated in the balance sheet

Notes to the accounts 52 week period ended 27 December 2005

8. Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £'000	Fixtures, fittings, equipment, plant and machinery £'000	Total £'000
Cost:	1 (00		• • • •
At 29 December 2004 Additions	1,683 44	2,310 51	3,993 95
Additions			
At 27 December 2005	1,727	2,361	4,088
Accumulated depreciation:			
At 29 December 2004	435	1,524	1,959
Charge for period	72	147	219
At 27 December 2005	507	1,671	2,178
Net book value:			
At 27 December 2005	1,220	690	1,910
At 28 December 2004	1,248	786	2,034
	27	December	28 December
		2005	2004
		£'000	£,000
The net book value of land and buildings comprises		201	200
Freehold Short lessehold		391 829	398 850
Short leasehold			850
		1,220	1,248

Notes to the accounts 52 week period ended 27 December 2005

27 December 28 I 2005 £'000 Amounts due from Group undertakings	December 2004 £'000
£'000	£'000
Amounts due from Group undertakings	
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=======================================	
10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	
27 December 28 I	
2005 £'000	2004 £'000
Other taxation 3	
Amounts owed to Group undertakings 636	
Total Creditors 639	
11. Provisions for liabilities and charges	
27 December 28 I 2005	
£'000	2004 £'000
Deferred tax (note 12) 29	14
12. Deferred taxation	
27 December 28 I 2005	December 2004
£,000	£'000
Accelerated capital allowances 29	14
Deferred tax liability 29	14
The deferred taxation liabilities have been computed at 30% (28 December $2004 - 30\%$)	
The amount of unprovided deferred tax in relation to rolled over capital gains is £5,485 (2004 £5,00	00)
Movement in the period:	
	£'000
At 29 December 2004	14
Amount charged to profit and loss account (note 5)	15
At 27 December 2005	29

Notes to the accounts 52 week period ended 27 December 2005

13. Called up share capital

	27 December	28 December
	2005	2004
	£'000	£'000
Authorised, allotted, called up and fully paid:		
10,000 (2004 10,000) ordinary shares of £1 each	10	10
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14. Reconciliation of movement in equity shareholders' funds and statement of movements in reserves

	Share capital £'000	Profit and loss account £'000	Total £'000
At 29 December 2004	10	2,680	2,690
Retained loss for the financial period		(1,271)	(1,271)
Balance at 27 December 2005	10	1,409	1,419

15. Ultimate parent company and related party transactions

The Company is taking advantage of the exemption granted by paragraph 3(c) of FRS 8, Related Party Disclosures, not to disclose transactions with companies within the William Hill PLC Group which are related parties

At the balance sheet date, the Company's ultimate parent company and controlling party was William Hill PLC, a company incorporated in Great Britain The Company's immediate parent company and controlling entity is William Hill Organization Limited, a company incorporated in Great Britain

The parent company of the largest and smallest groups for which group accounts are prepared of which this company is a member is William Hill PLC, a company incorporated in Great Britain

Copies of the financial statements of William Hill PLC and William Hill Organization Limited are available from Companies House, Crown Way, Maindy, Cardiff CF14 3UZ