

STANDARD LIFE LIFETIME MORTGAGES LIMITED

Scotland Registration Number: SC193441

STRATEGIC REPORT, DIRECTORS' REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 December 2021



STANDARD LIFE LIFETIME MORTGAGES LIMITED

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STANDARD LIFE LIFETIME MORTGAGES LIMITED

Strategic report

The Directors present the strategic report, their report and the audited financial statements of Standard Life Lifetime Mortgages Limited (the Company) for the year ended 31 December 2021.

The financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2021 have been prepared in accordance with UK adopted international accounting standards.

Business review**Principal activities**

The principal activity of the Company is to operate as a mortgage provider for equity release products. The Company ceased lending to new customers during 2006 and since then has operated a closed book of loans. The Company has an agreement with Computershare under which it is provided with administration and operational services for an agreed service charge. The Company is domiciled in the UK where all its business activities take place.

Strategy

The Company's closed mortgage book is funded by Standard Life Assurance Limited ('SLAL'). The equity release products were originally priced to include the risk of falls in house prices therefore loan to value (LTV) ratios remain low. The objective of the Company is to realise the value in the mortgage book through an orderly run off. No future changes in activity are envisaged.

Key performance indicators

The Company's performance is measured and monitored by the Board with particular regard paid for the following key performance indicators (KPIs):

KPI	2021	2020	Definition, method of calculation and analysis
Profit after tax (PAT) £'000	351	458	PAT = profit after tax for the year attributable to equity holders per the Income Statement. This KPI shows the movement in dividend paying capacity of the Company. The reduction in PAT is a reflection of a lower loan book revenue during the year.
Return on equity (ROE)	4%	6%	ROE = PAT divided by shareholders' equity at the beginning of the year. This KPI measures the return on equity capital being generated for the immediate parent company SLAL. The reduction in ROE is a reflection of the increased retained earnings year on year and the reduction in earnings.
Interest margin (IM)	3.17%	3.32%	IM = Net interest income as a % of average total assets during the year. This KPI indicates how much income the Company is generating on its lending activities. The LIBOR loan was settled in the current year. The settlement of this loan has resulted in a slightly lower IM.

Directors' duties under section 172 of the Companies Act

Section 172 of the Companies Act 2006 requires each director of a company to act in the way he or she considers, in good faith, would most likely promote the success of the company for the benefit of its members as a whole. In doing so, each director must have regard, amongst other matters, to the:

- likely consequences of any decisions in the long term;
- interests of the company's employees;
- need to foster the company's business relationships with suppliers, customers and others;
- impact of the company's operations on the community and the environment;
- desirability of the company maintaining a reputation for high standards of business conduct; and
- need to act fairly as between members of the company.

During the year, the directors of the Company have applied section 172 of the Companies Act 2006 in a manner consistent with the overall purpose, values and strategic priorities of the Phoenix Group. When considering issues of strategic importance, and making key decisions about the Company (or those that impact the wider Group), the directors have acted in a way which they consider, in good faith, is most likely to promote the success of the Company for the benefit of its members as a whole.

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The Board recognises that a company's stakeholders are integral to its success. During the year, the Company's directors ensured that considerations and decision-making processes took into account their impact on its own stakeholders, namely:

- The Company's customers for whom it acts as a mortgage provider for equity release products;
- Employees engaged by the Company via service companies within the Phoenix Group;
- Its regulator, the Financial Conduct Authority;
- Its outsourced service provider who, on behalf of the Company, is responsible for day to day management and oversight of customers;
- The Company's immediate parent, Standard Life Assurance Limited and ultimate parent, Phoenix Group Holdings plc.

Significant decisions that show how the Board considered relevant matters set out in section 172 are outlined in the table below, demonstrating how the directors of the Company have carried out their duties under section 172 of the Companies Act 2006 during the year ended 31 December 2021.

KEY BOARD DECISION	Approval of the Tariff of Charges and Terms and Conditions
STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE Other considerations	CONSIDERATION OF S172 MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fostering relationships with customers: one of the ways that the Board ensures that due regard is paid to the interests of the Company's customers, is that they continue to be treated fairly and that the products they purchased continue to deliver good customer outcomes, is by annually reviewing the tariff of charges and terms and conditions for its products.. • Long term consequences: in reviewing the tariff of charges and terms and conditions, the Board considered financial metrics and how it compared to its competitors. It recognised that the existing tariff was broadly aligned to those of its competitors and that the potential risks and associated costs of introducing changes would outweigh the additional income any increase would generate. The Board also noted that there were no legislative or regulatory changes that necessitated changes to the existing terms and conditions. • Maintaining a reputation for high standards: prior to approving the YE20 accounts, the Board considered the paperwork presented by the Financial Reporting team including assessments relating to the impact of COVID 19 on the Company, together with the outcome of an external audit for the accounts.
OUTCOME	Following due consideration of the matters set out in section 172, the Board approved that the Tariff of Charges and Terms and Conditions remained unchanged.
KEY BOARD DECISION	Approval of YE20 Annual Accounts
STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE Other considerations	CONSIDERATION OF S172 MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long term consequences: as part of the year-end accounts approval process the Board considered whether the expectation that the Company would continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future was appropriate. Such consideration enabled the Board to reach a decision to approve the YE20 accounts, within which a going concern statement was included (relied upon by others assessing the business). The long term impact of the decision to approve the YE20 accounts therefore included the potential reliance of those reading the accounts on the going concern statement, which the Board considered to be relevant and accurate. • Maintaining a reputation for high standards of business conduct: prior to approving the YE20 accounts, the Board considered the outcome of an external audit for the accounts, including assessments relating to the impact of COVID 19 on the Company. By ensuring that clearance had been received from the external auditor, the Board was able to ensure that the Company's reputation for high standards of business conduct was maintained, expected by all stakeholders.
OUTCOME	Following due consideration of the matters set out in section 172, the Board approved the YE20 accounts.
KEY BOARD DECISION	Approval of Credit Risk Policy and policy application documents
STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE	CONSIDERATION OF S172 MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining a reputation for high standards of business conduct: the Board undertook an annual review of its Credit Risk Policy and related documents, to ensure it remained fit for purpose. In doing so, it considered the policy's alignment

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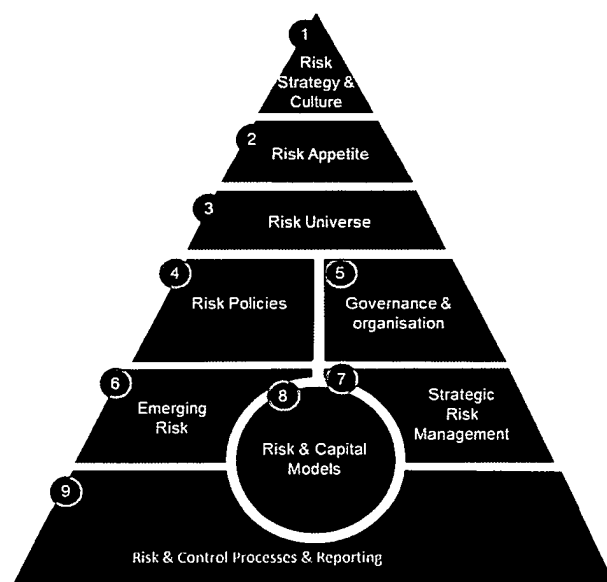
Enhancing our operating model and culture	to existing Group policies and appropriateness of some differences given the size of the portfolios, lack of activity on them and their closed book status. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fostering relationships with suppliers: the Board noted that the annual review had sought the views of its key service provider, Computershare, in the context of policy application and that no issues had been raised.
OUTCOME	Following due consideration of the matters set out in section 172, the Board approved a number of small amendments to the Credit Risk Policy.
KEY BOARD DECISION	Approval of outsourced service provider contract changes
STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE	CONSIDERATION OF S172 MATTERS
Enhancing our operating model and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fostering relationships with suppliers: the Board was asked to consider a small number of changes to the contract with key service provider, Computershare. In doing so, the Board noted the key areas of negotiation between the parties prior to reaching consensus. Long term consequences and maintaining a reputation for high standards of business conduct: as part of its considerations, the Board noted the measures proposed to safeguard continuity of service and continued fair treatment of customers in the event of termination by either party.
OUTCOME	Following due consideration of the matters set out in section 172, the Board approved a small number of changes to the outsourced service provider contract, effective from the date of renewal.

In order to support the board's consideration of the matters set out in section 172 (1) (a)-(f) each proposal submitted to the board must include detail about directors' duties including those set out above.

Risk Management Framework

The Company adopts the Phoenix Group's Risk Management Framework (RMF). The Phoenix Group's RMF embeds proactive and effective risk management. It seeks to ensure that risks are identified and managed effectively and that the Phoenix Group is appropriately rewarded for the risks it takes.

The nine components of the harmonised RMF are illustrated in the diagram below. Further details on each component are outlined in the Strategic Report of the Phoenix Group's Annual Report and Accounts 2021.

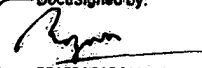


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Principal risks and uncertainties

During 2021, for the purposes of managing risks of the Company, including those impacting the Company's financial assets and financial liabilities, the Company considered the following Risk Universe categories: Financial Soundness; Market; Credit; Operational; Customer; and Strategic. Sources of these risks, and an explanation of actions taken to manage risk exposures during the year, are outlined in note 14.

On behalf of the Board

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Rizwan Sheriff, Director

27 April 2022

 STANDARD LIFE LIFETIME MORTGAGES LIMITED

Directors' report

The Company operates as a mortgage provider for equity release products, incorporated in Scotland, Its registration number is SC193441 and its registered office is Standard Life House, 30 Lothian Road, Edinburgh, EH1 2DH. It is a wholly owned subsidiary of SLAL.

Results and dividend

The Company recorded a profit after tax of £351k (2020: £458k) which has been transferred to retained earnings. The Directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend in respect of 2021 (2020: £nil).

Going Concern

The Strategic report and Directors' report summarise the Company's activities, its financial performance and financial position together with any factors likely to affect its future development. In addition, they discuss the principal risks and uncertainties it faces. Note 14 to the financial statements summarise the Company's capital management and risk objectives and policies together with its financial risks.

The Board has followed the UK Financial Reporting Council's "*Going Concern Basis of Accounting and Reporting on Solvency and Liquidity Risks (April 2016)*" when performing their going concern assessment. To this end, the Board has undertaken a review of solvency, liquidity and cash flow projections under normal and stressed conditions. The Board has considered the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the UK residential property market to which the Company is exposed. The company is monitoring the situation closely.

Liquidity is considered to be adequate to meet liabilities as they fall due.

As a result of this review, the Directors believe the Company has adequate resources to meet its capital requirements and to continue in operational existence over the going concern period assessed up to 30 June 2023. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Business relationships with customers

Customer matters are key for the Company and play a significant part of the rationale for decision-making that takes place. Board papers require authors to consider and provide detail relating to the potential impact of proposals on customers, ensuring that the Board is able to pay due regard to such matters.

Business relationships with partners and suppliers

The Service Companies within the Phoenix Group are the principal leads on maintaining relationships with suppliers. However, Computershare and Standard Life Assets and Employees Limited (key suppliers for the Company), are responsible for the day to day management and oversight of the Company's customers and the Board monitors their performance, during the year, accordingly.

Climate change

Climate change is one of the greatest global challenges we face today. The Group's ambition is to be a net zero business by 2050 and we believe the Group has a significant role to play in helping to address the climate emergency and accelerating the transition to a net zero economy. This is intrinsically linked to our purpose of helping people secure a life of possibilities.

The Group is engaging to multiply impact by working collaboratively with partners to deliver cross-sector change and thought leadership. The Group joined the Net Zero Asset owners alliance in May 2021, the Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials UK in June 2021 and signed up to the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures in November 2021.

More information can be found in the principal risks section of this report, and in the Group's Annual Report and Accounts and standalone Sustainability Report in line with the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures recommendations.

Energy and carbon reporting

Energy and Carbon usage information is disclosed in the Group's annual report and accounts and accordingly the Company has not reported on this in these individual financial statements.

Directors

The names of those individuals who served as Directors of the Company during the year and who held office at the date of signature of this report are as follows:

Samuel Lever (appointed 1 February 2021)
 Rizwan Sheriff (appointed 30 April 2021)
 Stephen Percival (resigned 30 April 2021)
 Ciaran McGuigan (resigned 1 February 2021)

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Our people

The staff who manage the affairs of the Company are employed by Standard Life Assets and Employee Services Limited ('SLAESL'), Pearl Group Management Services Ltd ('PGMS') and Pearl Group Services Limited ('PGS'), however costs are not recharged to the Company.

The Company is subject to the Senior Manager and Certification Regime following its extension on 9 December 2019. The requirements for the Company have been embedded within the existing processes of the Phoenix Group and the Company was in full compliance on that date and up to the date of this report.

Secretary

Pearl Group Secretariat Services Limited acted as Secretary throughout the year.

Matters disclosed in strategic report

The Directors' duties section of the strategic report covers stakeholder engagement. Any dividends paid are also disclosed in the strategic report.

Disclosure of indemnity

Qualifying third party indemnity arrangements (as defined in section 234 of the Companies Act 2006) were in force for the benefit of the Directors of the Company during the year and remain in place at the date of approval of this report.

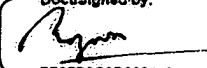
Disclosure of information to auditor

So far as each of the Directors is aware, there is no relevant audit information (as defined in the Companies Act 2006) of which the Company's auditor is unaware, and each of the Directors has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a Director to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information (as defined) and to establish that the Company's auditor is aware of that information. This confirmation is given and should be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of section 418(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

Re-appointment of auditor

In accordance with section 487 of the Companies Act 2006, the Company's auditor, Ernst & Young LLP, will be deemed to have been re-appointed at the end of the period of 28 days following circulation of copies of these financial statements as no notice has been received from members pursuant to section 488 of the Companies Act 2006 prior to the end of the accounting reference period to which these financial statements relate.

On behalf of the Board

DocuSigned by:

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Rizwan Sherif, Director

27 April 2022

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Statement of Directors' responsibilities

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Strategic report, the Directors' report and the Company's financial statements ("the financial statements") in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and regulations.

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under the law the Directors have elected to prepare those statements in accordance with international accounting standards ('IFRS') in conformity with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. Under company law, the Directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they present fairly the financial performance, financial position and cash flows of the Company for the accounting period. A fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with International Reporting Standards ('IFRS') requires the Directors to:

- select suitable accounting policies in accordance with IAS 8: *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors* and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- present information, including accounting policies, in a manner that provides relevant, reliable, comparable and understandable information;
- provide additional disclosures when compliance with the specific requirements in IFRS is insufficient to enable users to understand the impact of particular transactions, other events and conditions on the Company's financial position and financial performance;
- state that the Company has complied with applicable IFRS, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; 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 adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF STANDARD LIFE LIFETIME MORTGAGES LIMITED**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Standard Life Lifetime Mortgages Limited for the year ended 31 December 2021 which comprise the Statement of comprehensive income, Statement of financial position, Statement of changes in equity and the related notes 1 to 17 (except those elements of notes 1 and 14 that are marked unaudited), including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and UK adopted international accounting standards.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2021 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with UK adopted international accounting standards; and
- 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 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

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period up to 30 June 2023.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report. However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this statement is not a guarantee as to the company's ability to continue as a going concern.

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 contained within the annual report.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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 course of 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of the 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 the audit:

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- 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 directors' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report or 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, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the 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 8, 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 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 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.

Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect irregularities, including fraud. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both those charged with governance of the entity and management.

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the company and determined that the most significant are Companies Act 2006, tax legislation and the financial reporting framework. Our considerations of other laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements included the permissions and supervisory requirements of the Financial Conduct Authority ('FCA').
- We understood how the Company is complying with those frameworks by:
 - Making enquiries of management and those responsible for legal and compliance matters;
 - Reviewing correspondence between the Company and UK regulatory bodies; reviewing minutes of the Board meetings and evaluating whether the reporting to the Board provided a robust framework for the Directors to monitor compliance; and
 - Understanding the process by which the financial statements are produced and the process by which those charged with governance approve the financial statements prior to issuance.
- Based on this understanding we designed our audit procedures to identify noncompliance with such laws and regulations. Our procedures involved:

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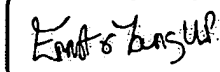
- o Making enquiries of senior management for their awareness of any non-compliance of laws or regulations;
 - o Reviewing Board minutes;
 - o Inspecting significant correspondence with the regulatory authorities; and
 - o Making enquiries of those charged with governance.
- We assessed the susceptibility of the Company's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur by considering both the risks inherent in the business and the processes and associated controls over financial reporting, specifically income recognition and the assessment of impairment. Our assessment of the Company's control environment included reviewing the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (ISAE) 3402 report produced in respect of the Company's service organisation as well as management's assessment of that report's conclusions as they impact the Company's financial reporting process. We also considered the impact of COVID-19 on the Company's control environment. We designed and carried out a suite of tests to address the identified risks, including testing a sample of journal entries.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at <https://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.

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Giles Watson (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of Ernst & Young LLP, Statutory Auditor

Leeds

27 April 2022

 STANDARD LIFE LIFETIME MORTGAGES LIMITED

Statement of comprehensive income
 for the year ended 31 December 2021

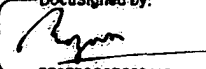
	Note	2021 £'000s	2020 £'000s
Net interest income	4	<u>523</u>	<u>608</u>
Other operating expenses	5	(89)	(43)
Total operating expenses		<u>(89)</u>	<u>(43)</u>
Profit for the year before tax		434	565
Tax charge	6	(83)	(107)
Profit for the year		<u><u>351</u></u>	<u><u>458</u></u>

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Statement of financial position
 as at 31 December 2021

	Note	2021 £'000s	2020 £'000s
ASSETS			
Loans and deposits	7	14,274	17,259
Current tax receivable	9	4	4
Cash and cash equivalents	10	706	708
Total assets		14,984	17,971
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
Equity attributable to owners of the parent			
Share capital	11	250	250
Retained earnings		8,559	8,208
Total equity		8,809	8,458
Financial liabilities			
Other financial liabilities	12	6,088	9,403
Other payables	13	87	110
Total liabilities		6,175	9,513
Total equity and liabilities		14,984	17,971

On behalf of the Board

DocuSigned by:

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Rizwan Sheriff, Director
 27 April 2022

STANDARD LIFE LIFETIME MORTGAGES LIMITED

Statement of changes in equity
for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	Share capital £000	Retained earnings £000	Total £000
At 1 January 2021	11	250	8,208	8,458
Profit for the year			351	351
Total comprehensive income for the year as at 31 December 2021		250	8,559	8,809

		Share capital £000	Retained earnings £000	Total £000
At 1 January 2020	11	250	7,750	8,000
Profit for the year		-	458	458
Total comprehensive income for the year as at 31 December 2020		250	8,208	8,458

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Statement of cash flows

for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	2021 £000	2020 £000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Profit before tax		434	565
Net interest income	4	(523)	(608)
Net increase in operating assets and liabilities			
Changes in operating assets			
Receipts from loans and advances to customers		2,864	878
Interest received		1,088	1,177
Increase in other financial and other assets		41	32
		<u>3,993</u>	<u>2,087</u>
Changes in operating liabilities			
Repayment of loans from parent company		(2,443)	(362)
Interest paid		(1,357)	(1,338)
Increase in other liabilities		1	2
		<u>(3,799)</u>	<u>(1,698)</u>
Taxation paid		<u>(107)</u>	<u>(118)</u>
Net cash flows (used in) / generated from operating activities		<u>(2)</u>	<u>228</u>
Net (decrease) / increase in cash and cash equivalents		<u>(2)</u>	<u>228</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		708	480
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	10	<u><u>706</u></u>	<u><u>708</u></u>

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Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Basis of preparation

The financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021, set out on pages 12 to 31, were authorised by the Board of Directors for issue on 27 April 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis.

The principal accounting policies set out below have been consistently applied to all financial reporting periods presented in these financial statements, unless otherwise stated.

Going concern

The Company's business activities, together with the factors likely to affect its future development, performance and position are set out in the Strategic Report on pages 2 to 5.

The Strategic report and the Directors' report summarise the Company's activities, its financial performance and its financial position together with any factors likely to affect its future development.

Note 14 to the financial statements summarises the Company's capital management and risk management objectives and policies together with its financial risks.

The Directors have followed the UK Financial Reporting Council's "Guidance on the Going Concern Basis of Accounting and Reporting on Solvency and Liquidity Risks" (issued April 2016) when performing their going concern assessment. As part of their comprehensive assessment of whether the Company is a going concern, the Directors considered the possible impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on the solvency, liquidity and cash flow of the Company. Specifically, the Directors have taken note of the fact the business continued to operate uninterrupted throughout the lockdown period, with the net current asset position of £8,934k (unaudited) which is predominately held in loans and advances to customers and the £8,782k (unaudited) capital surplus position of the Company as at 31 March 2022.

As a result of this review, the Directors believe the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the period up to 30 June 2023. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

The financial statements are presented in sterling (£) rounded to the nearest £thousand except where otherwise stated.

The Company presents its Statement of financial position broadly in order of liquidity. An analysis regarding recovery or settlement more than twelve months after the period end is presented in the notes.

Many of the effects arising from climate change will be longer term in nature, with an inherent level of uncertainty, and have been assessed as having a limited effect on accounting judgments and estimates for the current period.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2021 have been prepared in accordance with UK adopted international accounting standards.

2. Accounting Policies

(a) Critical accounting estimates and judgement in applying accounting policies

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses. Disclosures of judgements made by management in applying the Company's accounting policies include those that have the most significant effect on the amounts that are recognised in the Company's financial statements. Disclosures of estimates and associated assumptions include those that have a significant risk of resulting in a material change to the carrying value of assets and liabilities within the next year. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances,

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the results of which form the basis of the judgements about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Financial statement area	Critical judgements in applying accounting policies	Related notes
Loans and advances to customers	Expected life of mortgage lending The valuation of assets or liabilities measured at amortised cost is calculated using the effective interest method. The effective interest rate method (the EIR) implies an interest rate which discounts the future forecast cash flows of an asset over its expected life back to its carrying value. The expected life of mortgage lending is determined on experience data and management judgement.	7
Financial statement area	Critical accounting estimates and assumptions	Related notes
Loans and advances to customers	Impairment of financial assets The impairment provisions for financial assets disclosed in note 14 are based on assumptions about risk of default and expected loss rates. The company uses judgement in making these assumptions and selecting the inputs to the impairment calculation, based on the company's past history and existing market conditions as well as forward looking estimates at the end of each reporting period. For details of the key assumptions and inputs used, see accounting policy (f) Impairment of financial assets.	7 and 14

(b) Interest income and interest expense

For all financial instruments measured at amortised cost, interest income is recognised as income in the Statement of comprehensive income as it accrues using the effective interest method.

Charges in relation to provision of loans are accounted for using the effective interest method where they are directly attributable to the acquisition of that loan. Charges not regarded as integral to the overall return on financial instruments are recognised on an accruals basis according to when the relevant service is provided or on the performance of a significant act.

(c) Administrative expenses

Administrative expenses are recognised on an accruals basis.

(d) Income tax

Income tax comprises current and deferred tax. Income tax is recognised as income or an expense in profit and loss except to the extent that it relates to items recognised as other comprehensive income, in which case it is recognised in other comprehensive income.

Current tax is the expected tax payable on the taxable income for the year, using tax rates and laws enacted or substantively enacted at the date of the Statement of financial position together with adjustments to tax payable in respect of previous years.

Deferred tax is provided for on temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes. The amount of deferred tax provided is based on the expected manner of realisation or settlement of the carrying amount of assets and liabilities, using tax rates and laws enacted or substantively enacted at the period end.

A deferred tax asset is recognised only to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which the asset can be utilised. Deferred tax assets are reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that the related tax benefit will be realised.

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(e) Financial instruments**(e)(i) Classification of Financial assets**

Financial assets are measured at amortised cost where they have:

- contractual terms that give rise to cash flows on specified dates, that represent solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding; and
- are held within a business model whose objective is achieved by holding to collect contractual cash flows.

These financial assets are initially recognised at cost, being the fair value of the consideration paid for the acquisition of the financial asset. All transaction costs directly attributable to the acquisition are also included in the cost of the financial asset. Subsequent to initial recognition, these financial assets are carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest method.

The measurement of credit impairment is based on the three-stage expected credit loss model see accounting policy (f). Financial assets measured at amortised cost are included in note 8.

The Company measures all of its financial liabilities at amortised cost.

(e)(ii) Loans and receivables and financial liabilities at amortised cost

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. Deposits with credit institutions, loans and advances to customers and other financial asset balances are classified as loans and receivables. Debt securities in issue, loans from parent undertaking and other financial liabilities are classified as financial liabilities. Both loans and receivables are measured as described in accounting policy (d).

(e)(iii) Offsetting financial instruments

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the statement of financial position where there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or realise the asset and liability simultaneously.

(e)(iv) Loans from parent undertaking

Loans from the parent undertaking are classified as financial liabilities and are measured at fair value at the date of the issuance (being proceeds net of directly associated issue costs) and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the EIR method (see accounting policy (b)).

(e)(v) Derecognition of financial assets and financial liabilities

Derecognition is the point at which the Company removes an asset or liability from the statement of financial position.

A financial asset (or, where applicable, a part of a financial asset or part of a group of similar financial assets) is derecognised where the rights to receive cash flows from the asset have expired. A financial liability is derecognised when the obligation under the liability is discharged, cancelled or expires.

(f) Impairment of financial assets

The Company applies a three-stage approach to measuring expected credit losses (ECLs) for financial assets measured at amortised cost.

Financial assets migrate through the following three stages based on the change in credit risk since initial recognition:

- Stage 1: For credit exposures for which there has not been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, the Company provides for credit losses that result from default events 'that are possible' within the next 12 months ('12 month ECL'). Interest revenue is recognised on a gross basis.
- Stage 2: For those credit exposures for which there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, a loss allowance is recognised by the Company for credit losses expected over the remaining life of the exposure, irrespective of the timing of the default ('Lifetime ECL'). Interest revenue is recognised on a gross basis.
- Stage 3: If the financial asset becomes 'credit-impaired' (following significant financial difficulty of issuer/borrower, or a default/breach of a covenant), the Company will recognise a lifetime ECL as in (2) above and interest revenue is calculated by applying the EIR to the amortised cost (gross carrying amount net of loss allowance).

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The loss allowance reduces the carrying value of the financial asset and is reassessed at each reporting date.

Measurement of ECLs

ECLs are derived from unbiased and probability-weighted estimates of expected loss, and are measured as follows:

- 1) 12 month ECLs are calculated by multiplying the probability of a default occurring in the next 12 months with the lifetime ECLs that would result from that default, regardless of when those losses occur. Therefore 12 month ECLs represent an asset's lifetime ECLs that are expected to arise from default events that are possible within the 12 month period following origination of the asset, or from each reporting date for that asset.
- 2) Lifetime ECLs are the PV of ECLs that arise if a borrower defaults on its obligation at any point throughout the term of the lender's financial asset. This requires the Company to consider all possible default events during the term of the financial asset in the analysis. Lifetime ECLs are calculated based on a weighted average of the ECLs, with the weightings being based on the respective probabilities of default. ECLs are recognised using a provision for doubtful debts account in the income statement.

As the Company operates a closed book of mortgage business with a low loan to value ratio, credit risk is therefore considered small. No significant changes to estimation techniques or assumptions were made during the reporting period.

(g) Receivables

Receivables are recognised when due and measured on initial recognition at the fair value of the amount receivable. Subsequent to initial recognition, these receivables are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

(h) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits, money held at call and short notice with banks and any highly liquid investments with less than 3 months to maturity from the date of acquisition. Cash and cash equivalents are categorised for measurement purposes as loans and receivables and are therefore measured at amortised cost.

(i) Share capital

An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of an entity after deducting all of its liabilities. An instrument is classified as an equity instrument when there is no contractual obligation to deliver cash or other assets to another entity on terms that may be unfavourable. The difference between the proceeds received on issue of the shares and the nominal value of the shares issued is recorded in the share premium reserve. Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of new equity instruments are shown as a deduction from the proceeds, net of tax. Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of equity instruments in a business combination are excluded in the cost of acquisition.

(j) Provisions and contingent liabilities

Provisions are recognised when the Company has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is more likely than not that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation and the amount has been reliably estimated. Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses. Where there are a number of similar obligations, the likelihood that an outflow will be required in settlement is determined by considering the class of obligations as a whole.

Contingent liabilities are possible obligations of the Company of which timing and amount are subject to significant uncertainty. Contingent liabilities are not recognised on the statement of financial position but are disclosed, unless they are considered remote. If such an obligation becomes probable and the amount can be measured reliably it is no longer considered contingent and is recognised as a liability.

Contingent assets are disclosed if the inflow of economic benefits is probable, but not virtually certain.

(k) Payables

Payables are recognised when due and are measured on initial recognition at the fair value of the consideration payable. Subsequent to initial recognition, these payables are measured at amortised cost using the EIR method.

(l) Dividends

Final dividends on share capital classified as equity instruments are recognised in equity when they have been approved by shareholders. Interim dividends on these shares are recognised in equity in the period in which they are paid.

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3. New and amended accounting standards**Adoption of New Accounting Pronouncements in 2021**

In preparing the financial statements, the Company has adopted the following standards, interpretations and amendments effective from the dates as shown in brackets below:

- Interest Rate Benchmark Reform (1 January 2021) – The changes introduced in Phase 2 of the Interest Rate Benchmark Reform project relate to the modification of financial assets, financial liabilities and lease liabilities (introducing a practical expedient for modifications required by the IBOR reform), specific hedge accounting requirements to ensure hedge accounting is not discontinued solely because of the IBOR reform, and disclosure requirements applying IFRS 7 to accompany the amendments regarding modifications and hedge accounting. The Company has completed its transition away from IBOR rates and there are no material financial instruments still subject to interest rate benchmark reform risk.

New Accounting Pronouncements Not Yet Effective

The IASB has issued new or amended standards and interpretations in current year. The Company has considered these to not have a significant impact on the Company's financial statements or accounting policies.

4. Net interest income

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Interest Income		
Mortgage interest income	1,008	1,147
Interest expense		
Interest expense on intercompany loan from parent	(485)	(539)
	<u>523</u>	<u>608</u>

5. Other operating expenses

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Administrative and operational expenses	42	43
Movement in loss provision	47	-
	<u>89</u>	<u>43</u>

The operating expenses consist mainly of service charges paid to Computershare Limited, for the provision of administrative and operational services to the Company.

The staff who manage the affairs of the Company are employed by Standard Life Assets and Employee Services Limited ('SLAESL'), Pearl Group Management Services Limited ('PGMS') and Pearl Group Services Limited ('PGS').

Auditors' remuneration in respect of the audit of the Company's financial statements amounted to £20k (2020: £20k) and was borne by the parent company SLAL.

6. Tax Charge**Current year tax charge**

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Current tax:		
UK Corporation tax	83	107
Total current tax	<u>83</u>	<u>107</u>

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Reconciliation of tax charge

	2021	2020
	£000	£000
Profit for the year before tax	434	607
Tax at standard UK rate of 19% (2020: 19%)	83	107
Total tax charge	83	107

7. Loans and deposits

	2021	2020
	£000	£000
Loans and advances to customers		
Loans secured by mortgages	14,274	17,259
Total loans and deposits	14,274	17,259

Loans and advances to customers are shown inclusive of accrued interest and net of impairment losses.

All loans and advances to customers are denominated in sterling, fully secured on residential property, and are at fixed rates of interest.

All loans and advances are recoverable from the sale of the property on the death of the customer or if the customer moves into long term care and therefore have no fixed maturity.

8. Fair Value**(a) Fair value of financial assets and liabilities carried at amortised cost**

The table below presents estimated fair values of assets and liabilities whose carrying value does not approximate fair value. Fair values of assets and liabilities are based on observable market inputs where available, or are estimated using other valuation techniques.

	Fair value 2021 £000	Book value 2021 £000	Fair value 2020 £000	Book value 2020 £000
Financial assets				
Loans and advances to customers	18,286	14,274	22,058	17,259
Total Financial assets	18,286	14,274	22,058	17,259

	Fair value 2021 £000	Book value 2021 £000	Fair value 2020 £000	Book value 2020 £000
Financial liabilities				
Loans from parent undertaking:				
- Variable rate loan – 3 month LIBOR	-	-	869	869
- Fixed rate loan – 5.90%	7,714	6,088	12,604	8,534
Total financial liabilities	7,714	6,088	13,492	9,403

(b) Determination of the fair value hierarchy

To provide further information on the approach used to determine and measure the fair value of certain assets and liabilities, the following fair value hierarchy categorisation has been used:

- Level 1:** Fair values measured using quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
Level 2: Fair values measured using inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (i.e. as prices) or indirectly (i.e. derived from prices).
Level 3: Fair values measured using inputs that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

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For loans and advances to customers and the fixed rate loan from parent undertaking, the estimated fair value represents the discounted amount of estimated future cash flows expected to be received/paid. Expected cash flows are discounted at current market rates to determine fair value and are deemed to be Level 2 (2020: Level 2). The carrying value of all other financial assets and liabilities approximate their fair value. There are no level 3 assets.

9. Tax assets and liabilities

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Current Tax		
Current tax recoverable	4	4
	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

All amounts are denominated in sterling and are expected to be settled within 12 months.

Following the cancellation of the planned tax rate reduction from 19% to 17% announced in the March 2020 Budget, UK deferred tax assets and liabilities, where provided, are reflected at a rate of 19%.

An increase from the current 19% UK corporation tax rate to 25%, effective from 1 April 2023, was announced in the Budget on 3 March 2021. No deferred tax assets or liabilities are recognised at 31 December 2020 – no impact is therefore expected to the balance sheet from the announcement.

10. Cash and cash equivalents

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Bank and cash balances	706	708
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>706</u>	<u>708</u>

Cash in hand is non-interest bearing. All other cash and cash equivalents are subject to variable interest rates.

11. Share capital

	2021 Number	2021 £000	2020 Number	2020 £000
Issued share capital				
Share Capital	250,000	250	250,000	250

All shares are owned by the immediate parent undertaking, SLAL.

12. Other financial liabilities

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Variable rate loan-3 month Libor	-	869
Fixed rate loan- 5.9%	6,088	8,543
Loans from parent undertaking	<u>6,088</u>	<u>9,403</u>

The variable rate loan has been repaid in the current year. The remaining fixed rate loan is provided from SLAL to the Company and is used to fund loans to customers under mortgage agreements. Under the terms of the fixed rate agreement with SLAL there is no fixed date for repayment of the outstanding amount. All amounts due to the parent company are denominated in sterling.

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13. Other payables

	2021	2020
	£000	£000
Group relief payable	83	107
Amounts due to related parties	4	3
	<u>87</u>	<u>110</u>

All amounts are denominated in sterling and are expected to be settled within 12 months.

14. Risk management**(a) Overview*****Risk Management Framework***

The Group's RMF (applicable to the Company) embeds proactive and effective risk management across the Phoenix Group. It seeks to ensure that all material risks are identified, assessed, controlled, monitored, managed within approved risk appetites and reported through agreed governance routes in line with delegated authorities. Detail on each of the nine elements of the RMF is included in the Group's 2021 Annual Report and Accounts.

Risk Universe

The Group's Risk Universe summarises the comprehensive set of risks to which the Company is exposed. The risk profile of each is an assessment of the impact and likelihood of those risks crystallising and the Company failing to achieve its strategic objectives. Changes in the risk profile are influenced by the commercial, economic and non-economic environment and are identified, assessed, managed, monitored and reported through the Group's RMF.

There are three levels of Risk Universe categories; the highest is Level 1 and includes:

Level 1 category	Definition
Strategic risk	A possible source of loss that might arise from the pursuit of an unsuccessful business plan; this source of loss can be to the shareholders and / or to the policyholders, and may drive reputational damage which could further impact the Group's ability to meet its strategic objectives.
Financial soundness	The risk of financial failure, reputational loss, loss of earnings and/or value arising from a lack of liquidity, funding or capital, and/or the inappropriate recording, reporting and disclosure of financial, taxation and regulatory information.
Market risk	The risk of reductions in earnings and/or value, through financial or reputational loss, from unfavourable movements. The risk typically arises from exposure to equity, property and fixed income asset classes and the impact of interest rates, inflation rates and currency exchange rates.
Credit risk	The risk of reductions in earnings and/or value, through financial or reputational loss, as a result of the default of a counterparty or an associate of such a counterparty to a financial transaction (i.e. failure to honour their financial obligations, or failing to perform them in a timely manner), whether on or off balance sheet.
Customer risk	The risk of financial failure, reputational loss, loss of earnings, and/or value arising from inappropriate or poor customer treatment (including poor advice).
Operational risk	The risk of reductions in earnings and/or value, through financial or reputation loss, from inadequate or failed internal processes and systems, or from people related or external events.

The Company has also defined a more granular categorisation for Level 2 risks. This helps to further explain our attitude to these risks.

(b) Strategic risk

Strategic risks threaten the achievement of the Company and Group strategy through poor strategic decision-making, implementation or response to changing circumstances. The Company recognises that core strategic

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activity brings with it exposure to strategic risk. However, the Company seeks to proactively review, manage and control these exposures.

The Company's strategy and business plan are exposed to external events that could prevent or impact the achievement of the strategy; events relating to how the strategy and business plan are executed; and events that arise as a consequence of following the specific strategy chosen. The identification and assessment of strategic risks is an integrated part of the RMF. Strategic Risk should be considered in parallel with the Risk Universe as each of the risks within the Risk Universe can impact the Group and Company's strategy.

A Strategic Risk Policy is maintained and reported against regularly, with a particular focus on risk management, stakeholder management, corporate activity and overall reporting against the Company and Group's strategic ambitions.

(c) Financial risks

The use of financial instruments naturally exposes the Company to the risks associated with them which comprise mainly financial soundness risk, market risk, and credit risk. Financial soundness is a broad risk category encompassing liquidity and funding risk, capital management risk and tax risk.

(d) Financial Soundness: Liquidity and funding risk

Liquidity risk in its broadest sense can be defined as failure to maintain adequate levels of financial resources to meet obligations as they fall due. Funding risk relates to the potential inability to raise additional capital or liquidity when required in order to maintain the resilience of the balance sheet. The Company has exposure to liquidity risk as a result of any failure to meet its short-term cash flow requirements.

The Board has defined a number of governance objectives and principles and the liquidity risk framework is designed to ensure that:

- Liquidity risk is managed in a manner consistent with the Board's strategic objectives and risk appetite;
- Cash flows are appropriately managed and the reputation of the Company and the Group are safeguarded; and
- Appropriate information on liquidity risk is available to those making decisions.

A significant proportion of the Company's financial assets are held in cash which the Company considers sufficient to meet the liabilities as they fall due.

(e) Contractual undiscounted maturities

The following table provides a maturity analysis showing the remaining contractual maturities of the Company's undiscounted financial liabilities and associated interest.

	Within one year	No defined maturity	Total
As at 31 December 2021	£000	£000	£000
Assets:			
Loans and advances to customers	-	14,274	14,274
Cash and cash equivalents	706	-	706
	706	14,274	14,980
Liabilities:			
Loans from parent undertaking	-	6,088	6,088
As at 31 December 2020	£000	£000	£000
Assets:			
Loans and advances to customers	-	17,259	17,259
Cash and cash equivalents	708	-	708
	708	17,259	17,967
Liabilities:			
Loans from parent undertaking	-	9,403	9,403

There is no defined maturity as the nature of the mortgage arrangement is such that the loans are repayable upon death, or the customer selling their property to enter long term care.

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Assets available to meet liabilities as they fall due are cash and cash equivalents and loans and advances to customers.

(f) Financial Soundness: Capital management risk

Capital management risk is defined as the failure of the Company to maintain sufficient capital to provide appropriate security for stakeholders and meet all regulatory capital requirements whilst not retaining unnecessary capital. The Company has exposure to capital management risk through the regulatory capital requirements mandated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).

Capital management policies and objectives

Managing capital is the on-going process of determining and maintaining the quantity and quality of capital appropriate for the Company and ensuring such capital is deployed in a manner consistent with the expectations of our stakeholders. For these purposes, the Company consider our key stakeholders to be the providers of capital and the FCA.

The primary objective of capital management in the Company is to ensure that capital is, and will continue to be, adequate to maintain the required level of safety and stability of the Company and hence to provide an appropriate degree of security to our stakeholders.

The capital requirements of the Company are routinely forecast on a periodic basis, and the requirements are assessed against forecast available capital requirements. Capital plans are ultimately subject to approval by the Board.

Regulatory capital

The Company undertakes mortgage provision business in the UK and is regulated by the FCA. The FCA specifies rules and guidance for the minimum level of capital required to meet regulatory requirements. The FCA requires all mortgage provision companies to maintain Capital Resources (CR) in excess of their Capital Resources Requirement (CRR). CR includes the assets in excess of liabilities, valued on a regulatory basis, and certain other components of capital.

Capital requirement

Based on the Company's regulatory return at 31 December 2021, the Company had available capital resources of £8,843k (unaudited) (2020: £8,458k (unaudited)) and a CRR of £150k (unaudited) (2020: £180k (unaudited)).

The Company has not breached any regulatory capital requirements at any time during the year.

(g) Financial Soundness: Tax risk

Tax risk is defined as the risk of financial failure, reputation damage, loss of earnings/value arising from a lack of liquidity, funding or capital, and/or the inappropriate recording, reporting, understanding of tax legislation and disclosure of financial, taxation and regulatory information.

Tax risk can be caused by: the Company making a material error in its tax reporting; incorrect calculation of tax provisions and failure to implement the optimum financial arrangements to underpin a commercial transaction.

Tax risk is managed by maintaining an appropriately-staffed tax team who have the qualifications and experience to make judgements on tax issues, augmented by advice from external specialists where required. In addition, the Group has a formal tax risk policy, which sets out its risk appetite in relation to specific aspects of tax risk, and which details the controls the Company has in place to manage those risks.

(h) Market risk

Market risk is defined as the risk of reductions in earnings and/or value, through financial or reputational loss, from unfavourable market movements. The main elements of market risk to which the Company is exposed are property risk and interest rate risk which are discussed below.

(h)(i) Property risk

Property risk is the risk of adverse property market movements. The Company is exposed to property risk as the loans and advances are repayable from the sale of the property. This risk is mitigated as the equity release products were originally priced to include the risk of falls in house prices therefore loan to value (LTV) ratios remain low. On an ongoing basis the finance team monitor LTV ratios taking into account movements in house price valuations and

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assess the loans for impairment under the expected credit loss approach as detailed within the credit risk section below.

(h)(ii) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in long term interest rates or inflation rates (or the volatilities of these rates) could lead to reduction in asset values relative to liabilities which may result in losses for shareholders.

The main financial assets held by the Company which give rise to interest rate risk are loans and deposits, cash and cash equivalents.

The Company is exposed to fair value interest rate risk on its fixed rate lending to customers, part of which is funded by variable rate borrowings. The directors monitor this risk and whether or not to mitigate it through the use of interest rate swaps. The result of interest rate sensitivity analysis on an accounting basis for +/- 100 basis points scenarios based on the year end statement of financial position, and the risk exposures in existence at that date, is given below (a positive number represents a positive impact to the income statement).

The Bank of England base rate prevailing at 31 December 2021 was 25 basis points (2020: 10 bps) and therefore the sensitivity to a fall in rates has been limited to 20 basis points (2020: 10 bps).

The interest rate profile of financial assets and liabilities is as follows:

	Variable rate	Fixed rate	Non-interest bearing	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000
As at 31 December 2021				
Assets:				
Loans and advances to customers	-	14,274	-	14,274
Cash and cash equivalents	706	-	-	706
	706	14,274	-	14,980
Liabilities:				
Loan from parent undertaking	-	6,088	-	6,088
Other liabilities	-	-	87	87
	-	6,088	87	6,175
Interest sensitivity gap	706	8,186	(87)	8,805
As at 31 December 2020				
Assets:				
Loans and advances to customers	-	17,259	-	17,259
Cash and cash equivalents	708	-	-	708
	708	8,534	-	17,967
Liabilities:				
Loan from parent undertaking	869	8,534	-	9,403
Other financial liabilities	-	-	110	110
	869	8,534	-	9,513
Interest sensitivity gap	(161)	8,725	(110)	8,454

All variable rate financial assets and liabilities re-price in a period of less than three months. All fixed rate financial assets re-price in five years or more. The non-interest bearing financial assets and liabilities relate to short-term debtors and creditors which do not have a defined interest rate.

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(h)(iii) Sensitivity analysis – market risk

	+100 basis points	-10 basis points
	£000	£000
Impact on profit after tax as at 31 December 2021	7	(2)
Impact on profit after tax as at 31 December 2020	7	(1)

Limitations

The sensitivity analysis represents the post-tax impact on profits at the reporting date that the specified changes in assumptions would have if they had persisted throughout the year. The sensitivity will vary with time, both due to changes in market conditions and the changes in the actual statement of financial position mix, this mix being actively managed. This sensitivity analysis is non-linear and larger or smaller impacts should not be derived from these results.

The Company considers this to be representative of risk exposure during the reporting period. However these sensitivities are hypothetical and should not be considered to be predictive of future performance.

(i) Strategy in using financial instruments

Financial instruments comprise the majority of the Company's assets and liabilities. The Company does not trade in financial instruments. The key financial risk arises in relation to interest rate risk on fixed rate loans and advances to customers. This risk arises due to sensitivity to changes in interest rates as interest rates paid on part of the funding are variable whilst interest rates received on loans and advances are fixed. The Company's policies are set out in the accounting policies with the following disclosures made in respect of the financial instruments.

(j) Reconciliation by category of financial instruments

The following tables reconcile the Company's financial instruments by IFRS 9 category to the line items presented in the statement of financial position.

All financial assets are as follows:

	2021	2020
	£000	£000
Loans and advances to customers	14,274	17,259
Cash and cash equivalents	706	708
Other financial assets	4	4
Total financial assets	14,984	17,971

All financial liabilities are categorised as held at amortised cost as follows:

	2021	2020
	£000	£000
Loans from parent undertaking	6,088	9,403
Total financial liabilities	6,088	9,403

(k) Credit risk

Credit risk is defined as the risk of reductions in earnings and/or value, through financial or reputational loss, as a result of the default of a counterparty or an associate of such a counterparty to a financial transaction (i.e. failure to honour their financial obligations, or failing to perform them in a timely manner), whether on or off balance sheet.

The Company's credit risk exposure mainly arises from its investments in loans and receivables. Concentrations of credit risk are managed by setting maximum exposure limits to types of financial instruments and counterparties.

The limits are established using the following controls:

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Financial instrument with credit risk exposure	Control
Cash and cash equivalents	Maximum counterparty exposure limits are set with reference to internal credit assessments.
Loans and receivables	The Company operates a closed book of business and does not make new loans. There are therefore no controls required with respect to credit exposures on loans.
Other financial instruments	Appropriate limits are set for other financial instruments to which the Company may have exposure at certain times, for example, commission terms paid to intermediaries.

Credit risk management

The Company's current credit risk grading framework comprises the following categories:

Category	Description	Basis for recognising ECL
Performing	The counterparty has a low risk of default and does not have any past-due amounts	12 month ECL
Doubtful	There has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition	Lifetime ECL – not credit impaired
In default	There is evidence indicating the asset is credit-impaired	Lifetime ECL – credit impaired
Write-off	There is evidence indicating that the debtor is in severe financial difficulty and the Group has no realistic prospect of recovery	Amount is written off

The tables below details the credit quality of the Company's financial assets, as well as the Company's maximum exposure to credit risk by credit risk rating grades:

		External credit rating	Internal credit rating	12 month ECL or lifetime ECL?	Gross carrying amount £'000	Loss allowance £000	Net carrying amount £000
31 December 2021	Note						
Loans and advances to customers	7	N/A	Performing	12m ECL	14,315	41	14,274
Cash and cash equivalents	10	A	N/A	12m ECL	706	-	706
Total					15,021	41	14,980

31 December 2020

Loans and advances to customers	7	N/A	Performing	12m ECL	17,259	-	17,259
Cash and cash equivalents	10	A	N/A	12m ECL	708	-	708
Total					17,967	-	17,967

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At each reporting date, the Company assesses whether there has been a significant increase in credit risk for exposures since initial recognition by comparing the risk of default occurring over the remaining expected life from the reporting date and the date of initial recognition. The Company considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort for this purpose. This includes quantitative and qualitative information and also, forward-looking analysis.

A significant increase in credit risk can arise following:

- Changes in general economic and/or market conditions; and
- Expected delays in payments.

The principal credit risk to the Company is that proceeds from the sale of the borrower's property upon death or entry into long-term care will not cover the outstanding loan amount. This risk is mitigated by the credit policies on origination of the loans, which included setting maximum initial LTV ratios and the holding of a first charge over the property on which the loan is granted.

Concentrations of credit risk

Due to the nature of the Company's business and the extent of its activities, management is of the opinion that there are no significant concentrations of credit risk in terms of geographical areas, customer or industry groups, or any other areas. All asset counterparties are domiciled in the UK.

Credit exposure of financial assets that are neither past due nor impaired

The financial assets of the Company that are neither past due nor impaired at the Statement of financial position date are classified according to external rating agencies credit ratings of the counterparties. The Company's assets which are placed with external counterparties are its holdings in cash and cash equivalents, which have a credit rating of A. All exposures to loans and advances to customers are internally rated.

Credit exposure to financial assets that are past due or impaired

Assets are deemed to be past due when a counterparty has failed to make a payment when contractually due. At 31 December 2021 the Company did not have other assets which were deemed to be past due but not impaired (2020: £nil).

At 31 December 2021 the Company has impaired an asset to the value of £41k (2020: £nil).

(I) Customer risk

Customer risk is defined as the risk of financial failure, reputational loss, loss of earnings, and/or value arising from inappropriate or poor customer treatment (including poor advice). It can arise as a result of:

- **Customer Treatment:** Failure to have a customer centric culture which drives appropriate behaviours and decisions leading to customer interactions and outcomes which meet or exceed reasonable customer and regulator expectations and which take account of potential customer vulnerability.
- **Customer Transformation:** The design, governance and oversight of Strategic Customer Transformation Activity in retained functions and service providers, fails to deliver on reasonable customer expectations, taking account of the Phoenix Group customer treatment risk appetites and regulatory requirements.
- **Product and Propositions:** Failure to design and/or manage products/propositions appropriately, or failure of the manufacturer to ensure that products/ propositions are distributed to the appropriate target market, perform as intended and in line with the expectations set. This element of customer risk is minimal in respect of the Company.
- **Sales and Distribution:** Inappropriate (unclear, unfair or misleading) financial promotions, sales practices and/or distribution agreements resulting in poor customer outcomes leading to reputational, financial and/or operational detriment. This element of customer risk is minimal in respect of the Company.

The Group's Conduct Risk Appetite (which applies to the Company), sets the boundaries within which the Company expect customer outcomes to be managed. In addition, the Group Conduct Risk Framework ('CRF'; applies to the Company), which overarches our Risk Universe and all risk policies, consists of a set of outcomes, intents and standards for all Group staff to follow to ensure that the Company has embedded and effective controls in place across our business activities to detect where our customers are at risk of poor outcome, minimise conduct risks, and respond with timely and appropriate mitigating actions.

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The Company also has a suite of customer policies which set out the key customer risks and minimum control standards in place to mitigate them.

(m) Operational risk

Operational Risk is defined as the risk of reductions in earnings and/or value, through financial or reputation loss, from inadequate or failed internal processes and systems, or from people related or external events.

Operational risk arises due to failures in one or more of the following aspects of our business:

- indirect exposures through our outsourcing service providers (OSPs) and suppliers;
- direct exposures through internal practices, actions or omissions;
- external threats from individuals or groups focused on malicious or criminal activities, or on external events occurring which are not within the Company's control; and
- negligence, mal-practice or failure of employees, or suppliers to follow good practice in delivering operational processes and practices.

It is accepted that it is neither possible, appropriate nor cost effective to eliminate operational risks from the Company as operational risk is inherent in any operating environment particularly given the regulatory framework under which the Company operates. As such the Company will tolerate a degree of operational risk subject to appropriate and proportionate levels of control around the identification, management and reporting of such risks.

The Company also has a set of operational risk policies that set out the nature of the risk exposure and minimum control standards in place to control the risk.

15. Related parties**(a) Transactions with related parties**

In the normal course of business, the Company enters into transactions with related parties that relate to the provision of mortgage business. The Company also has transactions with SLAESL, a fellow subsidiary which provide employment of staff and provision of services, in addition it recharges service costs paid to Computershare Limited, for the provision of administrative and operational services to the Company.

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Expenses:		
Interest on loan from parent	485	539
Service cost recharge from SLAESL	42	43
Total expenses	527	582
 Group relief movement	 24	 2

(b) Balances due from/to related parties

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Due to related parties:		
Ultimate parent	83	107
Parent	6,088	9,403
Fellow subsidiary	4	3
Total due to related parties	6,175	9,513

16. Events after reporting period

The Company is continuing to monitor developments regarding the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. As at 31 December 2021, the Company had no direct exposure to Russia and Ukraine.

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17. Ultimate parent undertaking and controlling party

The immediate parent is Standard Life Assurance Limited, a company incorporated and resident in Scotland. The Company's ultimate parent company is Phoenix Group Holdings plc, a company incorporated and resident in England and Wales.