Uberior Fund Investments Limited

Annual report and accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2018

Registered office

The Mound
Edinburgh
United Kingdom
EH1 1YZ

Registered number

SC272465

Current directors

A Hulme
N S Burnett

Company Secretary

D D Hennessey

Member of Lloyds Banking Group

Directors' report
For the year ended 31 December 2018

The directors present their report and the audited financial statements of Uberior Fund Investments Limited ("the Company") for the year ended 31 December 2018.

General information

The Company is a limited company incorporated and domiciled in Scotland (registered number: SC272465).

The company operates as an investment holding company and there has been no change in that activity during the year. The company remains committed to the business of holding investments and will continue to manage existing investments in the future. In 2018, all investments were held at £nil value (2017:£nil)

The Company is funded entirely by other companies within the Lloyds Banking Group ("the Group").

The Company qualifies as a small company in accordance with Sections 381-382 of the Companies Act 2006 ("the Act") and the Directors' Report has therefore been prepared taking into consideration the provisions of Part 15 of the Act.

Principal risks and uncertainties

From the perspective of the Company, the principal risks and uncertainties are managed within the framework established for the Group and are not managed separately for the Company. Exposure to credit and equity risk arises in the normal course of the Company's business. Further details of the Company's and Group's risk management policy are contained in Note 15 to the financial statements. The Company is funded by its intermediate parent undertaking and as a result liquidity risk is managed within the Group.

Business Review

During the year the Company managed investments for value. On the basis that the Company is an investment holding company, its performance is considered in respect of the underlying investment portfolio performance and valuations. As such, the key financial performance indicators relate to dividend income from subsidiaries, investment gains on disposals, valuation movements taken to profits, including impairments, and to a lesser extent income received from investments. Further to the before mentioned, borrowed funds are also considered a key financial performance indicator for the Company.

The Company's profit before tax for the financial year is £718,000 (2017: profit of £27,666,000).

The Balance Sheet shows a net asset position of £904,000 (2017: £15,376,000).

The Company's actions are governed by the Codes of Business Responsibility of the ultimate parent undertaking, Lloyds Banking Group plc, which set out clear guidelines for responsible behaviour across the business, including human rights, social, ethical and environmental responsibilities. These guidelines can be viewed in the consolidated annual report and financial statements of Lloyds Banking Group plc.

The Company has no employees (2017: none) and therefore the Directors have not commented on employee matters.

Dividends

A dividend of £4,200,000, representing a dividend of £4,200,000 per share, was declared and paid during the year (2017: £28,000,000).

Going concern

The directors are satisfied that it is the intention of Lloyds Banking Group plc that its subsidiaries, including the Company, will continue to have access to adequate liquidity and capital resources for the foreseeable future and, accordingly, the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Directors

The directors of the company who were in office during the year and up to the date of signing the financial statements are shown on the front cover.

The following change has taken place between the beginning of the reporting period and the approval of the Annual report and accounts:

A C Bone	Resigned 22 February 2018
A Hulme	Appointed 22 February 2018

Directors' report
For the year ended 31 December 2018

Directors' indemnities

Lloyds Banking Group plc has granted to the directors of the Company a deed of indemnity through deed poll which constituted 'qualifying third party indemnity provisions' for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006. The deed was in force during the whole of the financial year and at the date of approval of the financial statements or from the date of appointment in respect of directors who join the board of the Company during the financial year. Directors no longer in office but who served on the board of the Company at any time in the financial year have the benefit of this contract of indemnity during that period of service. The indemnity remains in force for the duration of the directors' periods of office. The deed indemnifies the directors to the maximum extent permitted by law. Deeds for existing directors are available for inspection at the registered office of Lloyds Banking Group plc. In addition, the Group has in place appropriate directors and officers liability insurance cover which was in place throughout the financial year.

Statement of directors' responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual report and accounts in accordance with applicable law and regulation.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have prepared the financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRSs") as adopted by the European Union. Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the profit or loss of the Company for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- state whether applicable IFRSs as adopted by the European Union have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent; 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 also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Disclosure of information to auditors

In accordance with Section 418 of the Companies Act 2006, in the case of each director in office at the date the Directors' report is approved:

- so far as the director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditors are unaware; and
- they have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditors are aware of that information.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP are deemed to be re-appointed as auditors under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the board of directors and signed on its behalf by:

N S Burnett
Director

18 July 2019

Independent auditors' report to the members of Uberior Fund Investments Limited

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

In our opinion, Uberior Fund Investments Limited's financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2018 and of its profit and cash flows for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements, included within the Annual report and accounts (the "Annual Report"), which comprise: the balance sheet as at 31 December 2018; the income statement, the statement of comprehensive income, the cash flow statement, the statement of changes in equity for the year then ended; and the notes to the financial statements, which include a description of the significant accounting policies.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities under ISAs (UK) are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence

We remained independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, which includes the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

Conclusions relating to going concern

ISAs (UK) require us to report to you when:

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the above matters.

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. For example, the terms on which the United Kingdom may withdraw from the European Union are not clear, and it is difficult to evaluate all of the potential implications on the company's trade, customers, suppliers and the wider economy.

Reporting on other information

The other information comprises all of the information in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify an apparent material inconsistency or material misstatement, we are required to perform procedures to conclude whether there is a material misstatement of the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report based on these responsibilities.

With respect to the Directors' report, we also considered whether the disclosures required by the UK Companies Act 2006 have been included.

Based on the responsibilities described above and our work undertaken in the course of the audit, ISAs (UK) require us also to report certain opinions and matters as described below.

Directors' report

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, the information given in the Directors' report for the year ended 31 December 2018 is consistent with the financial statements and has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we did not identify any material misstatements in the Directors' report.

Responsibilities for the financial statements and the audit

Responsibilities of the directors for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of directors' responsibilities, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable framework and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The directors are also responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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.

Auditors' 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 auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the FRC's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditors' report.

Use of this report

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the company's members as a body in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving these opinions, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

Other required reporting

Companies Act 2006 exception reporting

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

Entitlement to exemptions

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion, the directors were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from preparing a strategic report. We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

Mark Hoskyns-Abrahall (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
Edinburgh
18 July 2019

Income statement
For the year ended 31 December 2018

	Note	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Income from investments	3	**770**	6,000
Profit on disposal of investments		**-**	21,765
Total income		**770**	27,765
Impairment gains/(losses)		**-**	(2)
Finance costs	4	**(52)**	(38)
Other operating expenses	5	**-**	(59)
Profit before tax		**718**	27,666
Taxation	6	**10**	(257)
Profit for the year		**728**	27,409
Attributable to:			
Owners of the parent		**728**	27,409
Profit for the year		**728**	27,409

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of comprehensive income
For the year ended 31 December 2018

	Note	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Profit for the year attributable to owners of the parent		**728**	27,409
Other comprehensive income			
Items that will not subsequently be reclassified to profit or loss:			
Movement in Investments classified as FVTOCI			
- changes in fair value		-	1,666
- tax charge		-	3,819
- amounts recognised in Income statement		-	(21,765)
Items that may subsequently be reclassified to profit or loss:			
Movement in available-for-sale financial assets:			
- other comprehensive income for the year		-	(16,280)
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to owners of the parent		**728**	**11,129**

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of these financial statements.

Balance sheet
As at 31 December 2018

	Note	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	8	**893**	15,366
Current tax asset	6	**10**	9
Investment in subsidiary undertakings	9	**1**	1
Total assets		**904**	15,376
LIABILITIES			
Borrowed funds	11	**-**	11,000
Total liabilities		**-**	11,000
EQUITY			
Share capital	13	**-**	-
Capital reserve		**226,614**	230,814
Accumulated losses		**(225,710)**	(226,438)
Total equity		**904**	4,376
Total equity and liabilities		**904**	15,376

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors and were signed on its behalf by:

N S Burnett
Director

18 July 2019

Statement of changes in equity
For the year ended 31 December 2018

	Share Capital	Capital Reserve	Available-for-sale-reserve	(Accumulated losses)/ Retained earnings	Total equity
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 January 2017	-	258,814	16,280	(253,847)	21,247
Profit for the year	-	-		27,409	27,409
Other comprehensive income for the year			(16,280)		(16,280)
Dividend paid	-	(28,000)	-	-	(28,000)
At 31 December 2017	-	**230,814**	-	**(226,438)**	**4,376**
Transition to IFRS 9 (see note 17)	-	-	-	-	
As at 1 January under IFRS 9	-	230,814	-	(226,438)	4,376
Profit for the year being total comprehensive income	-	-	-	728	728
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-			-
Dividend paid to equity holders of the Company	-	(4,200)	-	-	(4,200)
At 31 December 2018	-	**226,614**	-	**(225,710)**	**904**

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of these financial statements.

Cash flow statement
For the year ended 31 December 2018

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Cash flows generated from operating activities		
Profit before tax	**718**	**27,666**
Adjustments for:		
Profit on disposal of investment	**-**	(21,765)
Impairments	**-**	2
Finance costs	**52**	38
Cash generated from operations	**770**	5,941
Interest paid	**(52)**	(38)
Tax received	**9**	22
Net cash generated from operating activities	**727**	5,925
Cash flows generated from investing activities		
Proceeds from sale of investments	**-**	34,028
Net cash generated from investing activities	**-**	34,028
Cash flows used in financing activities		
Dividends paid	**(4,200)**	(28,000)
Repayment of borrowings	**(11,000)**	-
Net cash used in financing activities	**(15,200)**	(28,000)
Change in Cash and cash equivalents	**(14,473)**	11,953
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	**15,366**	3,413
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	**893**	15,366
Cash and cash equivalents comprise		
Cash at bank	**893**	15,366
Cash and cash equivalents	**893**	15,366

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of these financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2018

1. **Accounting policies**

1.1 **Basis of preparation**

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied in both years presented, unless otherwise stated.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable IFRSs as adopted by the European Union and the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies reporting under IFRSs. IFRSs comprise accounting standards prefixed IFRS issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB") and those prefixed IAS issued by the IASB's predecessor body, as well as interpretations issued by the IFRS Interpretations Committee ("IFRS IC") and its predecessor body.

The following new IFRS pronouncements relevant to the Company have been adopted in these financial statements:

(i) IFRS 9 'Financial Instruments': Annual improvement to IFRSs (issued December 2016) - Replaces IAS 39 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement. IFRS 9 requires financial assets to be classified into one of three measurement categories, fair value through profit or loss, fair value through other comprehensive income and amortised cost, on the basis of the objectives of the entity's business model for managing its financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the instruments. IFRS 9 also replaces the existing 'incurred loss' impairment approach with an expected credit loss approach. The hedge accounting requirements of IFRS 9 are more closely aligned with risk management practices and follow a more principle based approach than IAS 39.

(ii) Amendment to IAS 28 'Investment in Associates and Joint Ventures': Clarifies that the election to measure at fair value through profit or loss an investment in an associate or a joint venture that is held by an entity that is a venture capital organisation, or other qualifying entity, is available for each investment in an associate or joint venture on an investment-by-investment basis, upon initial recognition.

(iii) IFRIC 22 'Foreign Currency Transactions and Advance Consideration': The interpretation addresses foreign currency transactions or parts of transactions where (i) there is consideration that is denominated or priced in a foreign currency; (ii) the entity recognises a prepayment asset or a deferred income liability in respect of that consideration, in advance of the recognition of the related asset, expense or income; and (iii) the prepayment asset or deferred income liability is non-monetary. The Interpretations Committee came to the following conclusion: The date of the transaction, for the purpose of determining the exchange rate, is the date of initial recognition of the non-monetary prepayment asset or deferred income liability. If there are multiple payments or receipts in advance, a date of transaction is established for each payment or receipt.

Apart from IFRS 9, the application of these pronouncements have not had any impact for amounts recognised in these financial statements.

These separate financial statements contain information about the Company and do not contain consolidated financial information as the parent of a group. The Company has taken advantage of the exemptions under IFRS 10 Consolidated Financial Statements and Section 400 of the Companies Act 2006 from the requirement to prepare consolidated financial statements. The Company and its subsidiaries are included in the consolidated financial statements of the Company's ultimate parent company.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as detailed in the Directors' report and under the fair value basis.

1.2 **Income recognition**

Revenue

Interest income and expense are recognised in the Income Statement for all interest-bearing financial instruments, using the effective interest method where it can be reliably estimated and recognised on a cash basis where it cannot be reliably measured. The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset or liability and of allocating the interest income or interest expense over the expected life of the financial instrument. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts the estimated future cash payments or receipts over the expected life of the financial instrument or, when appropriate, a shorter period, to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or financial liability.

The effective interest rate is calculated on initial recognition of the financial asset or liability by estimating the future cash flows after considering all the contractual terms of the instrument but not future credit losses. The calculation includes all amounts expected to be paid or received by the Company including expected early redemption fees and related penalties and premiums and discounts that are an integral part of the overall return. Direct incremental transaction cost to the acquisition, issue or disposal of a financial instrument are also taken into account in the calculation. Once a financial asset or a group of similar financial assets has been written down as a result of an impairment loss, interest income is recognised using the rate of interest used to discount the future cashflows for the purpose of measuring the impairment loss (see Note 1.5)

Fees and commission income which are not an integral part of the effective interest rate are generally recognised in the Income Statement within 'Other income' as the related service is provided.

Dividend income is recognised when the right to receive payment is established and recognised in the Income Statement as Investment income.

Gains and losses on disposal are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount and are recognised within 'Profit on disposal of investments' in the Income Statement.

Income and expense from financial instruments

Interest income and expense are recognised in the Income statement for all interest bearing financial instruments, including loans and advances, using the effective interest rate method. The effective interest rate method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset or liability and of allocating the interest income or interest expense to a period of account. The effective interest rate is the rate that discounts the estimated future cash payments or receipts over the expected life of the instrument to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or financial liability.

Once a financial asset or a group of similar financial assets has been written down as a result of an impairment loss, interest income is recognised on the net lending balance using the rate of interest used to discount the future cash flows for the purpose of measuring the impairment loss.

1.3 **Expenses recognition**

Finance costs

Interest expense for all interest bearing financial instruments is recognised in the Income statement as it accrues, within finance costs.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.4 Financial assets and liabilities

Management determines the classification of its financial assets and financial liabilities at initial recognition. Financial assets comprise Amounts due from group undertakings, Investments, Other trade receivables, Other debtors and Cash and cash equivalents. Financial liabilities comprise Amounts due to group undertakings, Bank overdraft and Trade and other payables.

On initial recognition, financial assets are classified as measured at amortised cost, fair value through other comprehensive income or fair value through profit or loss, depending on the Group's business model for managing the financial assets and whether the cash flows represent solely payments of principal and interest. The Group assesses its business models at a portfolio level based on its objectives for the relevant portfolio, how the performance of the portfolio is managed and reported, and the frequency of asset sales. Financial assets with embedded derivatives are considered in their entirety when considering their cash flow characteristics. The Group reclassifies financial assets when and only when its business model for managing those assets changes.

A reclassification will only take place when the change is significant to the Group's operations and will occur at a portfolio level and not for individual instruments; reclassifications are expected to be rare. Equity investments are measured at fair value through profit or loss unless the Group elects at initial recognition to account for the instruments at fair value through other comprehensive income. For these instruments, principally strategic investments, dividends are recognised in profit or loss but fair value gains and losses are not subsequently reclassified to profit or loss following derecognition of the investment.

Financial assets are derecognised when the contractual right to receive cash flows from those assets has expired or when the Group has transferred its contractual right to receive the cash flows from the assets and either: substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred; or the Group has neither retained nor transferred substantially all of the risks and rewards, but has transferred control.

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the obligation is discharged, cancelled or expires.

Financial instruments held at fair value through profit or loss

Financial assets are classified at fair value through profit or loss where they do not meet the criteria to be measured at amortised cost or fair value through other comprehensive income or where they are designated at fair value through profit or loss to reduce an accounting mismatch.

Trading securities, which are debt securities and equity shares acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the short term or which are part of a portfolio which is managed for short-term gains, do not meet these criteria and are also measured at fair value through profit or loss. Financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss are recognised in the balance sheet at their fair value. Fair value gains and losses together with interest coupons and dividend income are recognised in the income statement within investment income.

The fair values of assets and liabilities traded in active markets are based on current bid and offer prices respectively. If the market is not active the Group establishes a fair value by using valuation techniques.

They are initially recognised at fair value and transaction costs are expensed in the Income Statement. Financial instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss are carried on the Balance sheet at fair value. Any gains and losses arising from change in fair value are recognised in the Income Statement within changes in fair value of investments in the period in which they occur.

Financial instruments held at fair value through other comprehensive income

Financial assets that are held to collect contractual cash flows and for subsequent sale, where the assets' cash flows represent solely payments of principal and interest, are recognised in the balance sheet at their fair value, inclusive of transaction costs. Gains and losses arising from changes in fair value are recognised directly in other comprehensive income, until the financial asset is either sold or matures, at which time the cumulative gain or loss previously recognised in other comprehensive income is recognised in the income statement other than in respect of equity shares, for which the cumulative revaluation amount is transferred directly to retained profits. Interest calculated using the effective interest method and foreign exchange gains and losses on assets denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the income statement. In addition, the Group recognises a charge for expected credit losses in the income statement. As the asset is measured at fair value, the charge does not adjust the carrying value of the asset, it is reflected in other comprehensive income.

1.5 Impairment

Impairment of financial assets

The impairment charge in the income statement includes the change in expected credit losses and certain fraud costs. Expected credit losses are recognised for loans and advances to customers and banks, other financial assets held at amortised cost, financial assets measured at fair value through other comprehensive income, and certain loan commitments and financial guarantee contracts. Expected credit losses are calculated by using an appropriate probability of default, adjusted to take into account a range of possible future economic scenarios, and applying this to the estimated exposure of the Group at the point of default after taking into account the value of any collateral held or other mitigants of loss and including the impact of discounting using the effective interest rate.

At initial recognition, allowance (or provision in the case of some loan commitments and financial guarantees) is made for expected credit losses resulting from default events that are possible within the next 12 months (12-month expected credit losses). In the event of a significant increase in credit risk, allowance (or provision) is made for expected credit losses resulting from all possible default events over the expected life of the financial instrument (lifetime expected credit losses). Financial assets where 12-month expected credit losses are recognised are considered to be Stage 1; financial assets which are considered to have experienced a significant increase in credit risk are in Stage 2; and financial assets which have defaulted or are otherwise considered to be credit impaired are allocated to Stage 3.

An assessment of whether credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition considers the change in the risk of default occurring over the remaining expected life of the financial instrument. The assessment is unbiased, probability-weighted and uses forward-looking information consistent with that used in the measurement of expected credit losses. In determining whether there has been a significant increase in credit risk, the Group uses quantitative tests based on relative and absolute probability of default ("PD") movements linked to internal credit ratings together with qualitative indicators such as watch lists and other indicators of historic delinquency. However, unless identified at an earlier stage, the credit risk of financial assets is deemed to have increased significantly when more than 30 days past due. Where the credit risk subsequently improves such that it no longer represents a significant increase in credit risk since origination, the asset is transferred back to Stage 1.

Assets are transferred to Stage 3 when they have defaulted or are otherwise considered to be credit impaired. IFRS 9 contains a rebuttable presumption that default occurs no later than when a payment is 90 days past due.

1. Accounting policies

1.5 Impairment (continued)

In certain circumstances, the Group will renegotiate the original terms of a customer's loan, either as part of an ongoing customer relationship or in response to adverse changes in the circumstances of the borrower. In the latter circumstances, the loan will remain classified as either Stage 2 or Stage 3 until the credit risk has improved such that it no longer represents a significant increase since origination (for a return to Stage 1), or the loan is no longer in default (for a return to Stage 2). Renegotiation may also lead to the loan and associated allowance being derecognised and a new loan being recognised initially at fair value.

A loan or advance is normally written off, either partially or in full, against the related allowance when the proceeds from realising any available security have been received or there is no realistic prospect of recovery and the amount of the loss has been determined. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off decrease the amount of impairment losses recorded in the income statement. For both secured and unsecured retail balances, the write-off takes place only once an extensive set of collections processes has been completed, or the status of the account reaches a point where policy dictates that continuing concessions are no longer appropriate.

Financial assets designated at fair value

The Company assesses at each Balance sheet date whether there is objective evidence that an FVTPL financial asset is impaired. This assessment involves reviewing the current financial circumstances and future prospects of the issuer and assessing the future cash flows expected to be realised.

If an impairment loss has been incurred, the cumulative loss, measured as the difference between the acquisition cost (net of any principal repayment and amortisation) and the current fair value less any impairment loss on the asset previously recognised, is reclassified from equity to the Income statement. If in a subsequent period, the fair value increases and the increase can be objectively related to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised, an amount not greater than the original impairment loss is credited to the Income statement; any excess is taken to the Statement of comprehensive income.

1.6 Dividends paid

Dividends on ordinary shares are recognised through equity in the period in which they are paid.

1.7 Cash and cash equivalents

For the purposes of the Balance sheet and Cash flow statement, Cash and cash equivalents with related undertaking comprise balances with less than three months' maturity.

1.8 Taxation, including deferred income taxes

Tax expense comprises current and deferred tax. Current and deferred tax are charged or credited in the Statement of comprehensive income except to the extent that the tax arises from a transaction or event which is recognised, in the same or a different period, outside the Statement of comprehensive income (either in other comprehensive income, directly in equity, or through a business combination), in which case the tax appears in the same statement as the transaction that gave rise to it.

Current tax is the amount of corporate income taxes expected to be payable or recoverable based on the profit for the period as adjusted for items that are not taxable or not deductible, and is calculated using tax rates and laws that were enacted or substantively enacted at the Balance sheet date.

Current tax includes amounts provided in respect of uncertain tax positions when management expects that, upon examination of the uncertainty by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) or another tax authority, it is more likely than not that an economic outflow will occur. Provisions reflect management's best estimate of the ultimate liability based on their interpretation of tax law, precedent and guidance, informed by external tax advice as necessary. Changes in facts and circumstances underlying these provisions are reassessed at each Balance sheet date, and the provisions are re-measured as required to reflect current information.

1.9 Investments

Investment in subsidiary undertakings

Investment in subsidiary undertakings is stated in the Balance sheet at cost less any provision for impairment.

Investment in subsidiary undertakings is reviewed for impairment losses at the end of each period and whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised in the Income statement for the amount by which the carrying amount of the asset exceeds its recoverable amount, which is the higher of an asset's net realisable value and value in use. For the purposes of assessing impairment, investments are grouped at the lowest level at which cash flows are separately monitored by management.

1.10 Other financial liabilities

Other financial liabilities are initially recognised at fair value less directly attributable transaction costs and subsequently measured at amortised cost. In practice, the carrying value of these balances equates to the fair value due to the short term nature of the amounts included within other financial liabilities.

1.11 Borrowings

Borrowings are recognised initially at fair value, being their issue proceeds net of transaction costs incurred. These instruments are subsequently stated at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements in applying accounting policies

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires the use of estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Although those estimates are based on management's best knowledge of the amount, event or actions, actual results ultimately may differ from those estimates.

The following are critical accounting estimates that the directors have made in the process of applying the company's accounting policies and that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements:

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements in applying accounting policies (continued)

Fair value of financial instruments

The Company categorises financial instruments carried on the Balance sheet at fair value using a three level hierarchy. Financial instruments categorised as level 1 are valued using quoted market prices and therefore there is minimal judgement applied in determining fair value. However the fair value of financial instruments categorised as level 2 and, in particular, level 3 is determined using valuation techniques including discounted cash flow analysis and valuation models. Valuation techniques for level 2 financial instruments use inputs that are based on observable market data. Level 3 financial instruments are those where the instrument's valuation is not based on observable market data. These valuation techniques involve management judgement and estimates, the extent of which depends on the complexity of the instrument and the availability of market observable information.

Valuation techniques for Level 2 financial instruments use inputs that are based on observable market data. Level 3 financial instruments are those where at least one input which could have a significant effect on the instrument's valuation is not based on observable market data. At 31 December 2018 the Company classified £nil of financial assets (2017: £nil) as Level 3 financial instruments.

Fair value is defined as the value at which assets, liabilities or positions could be closed out or sold in a transaction with a willing and knowledgeable counterparty. Fair value is based upon Cash flow models which use, wherever possible, independently sourced market parameters such as interest yield curves and currency rates. Other factors are also considered, such as counterparty credit quality and liquidity.

Allowance for impairment losses

The calculation of the Group's expected credit loss (ECL) allowances and provisions against loan commitments and guarantees under IFRS 9 requires the Group to make a number of judgements, assumptions and estimates. The most significant are set out below.

Definition of default

The probability of default ("PD") of an exposure, both over a 12 month period and over its lifetime, is a key input to the measurement of the ECL allowance. Default has occurred when there is evidence that the customer is experiencing significant financial difficulty which is likely to affect the ability to repay amounts due. The definition of default adopted by the Group is described in note 1() Impairment of financial assets.

Lifetime of an exposure

The PD of a financial asset is dependent on its expected life. A range of approaches, segmented by product type, has been adopted by the Group to estimate a product's expected life. Changes to the assumed expected lives of the Group's assets could have a material effect on the ECL allowance recognised by the Group.

Significant increase in credit risk

Performing assets are classified as either Stage 1 or Stage 2. An ECL allowance equivalent to 12 months expected losses is established against assets in Stage 1; assets classified as Stage 2 carry an ECL allowance equivalent to lifetime expected losses. Assets are transferred from Stage 1 to Stage 2 when there has been a significant increase in credit risk (SICR) since initial recognition.

The Group uses a quantitative test together with qualitative indicators to determine whether there has been a SICR for an asset.

The setting of precise trigger points combined with risk indicators requires judgement. The use of different trigger points may have a material impact upon the size of the ECL allowance.

Origination PDs

The assessment of whether there has been a significant increase in credit risk is a relative measure, dependent on an asset's PD at origination. For assets existing at 1 January 2018, the initial application date of IFRS 9, this information is not, generally, available and consequently management judgement has been used to determine a reasonable basis for estimating the original PD. Management used various information sources, including regulatory PDs and credit risk data available at origination, or where this is not available the first available data. In addition, the Group has not created a forward looking view of PDs at initial recognition for the back book as to do so would involve the use of hindsight and could introduce the risk of bias. The use of proxies and simplifications is not considered to materially impact the ECL allowance on transition.

Post-model adjustments

Limitations in the Group's impairment models may be identified through its on-going assessment of the models. In these circumstances, management judgement is used to make appropriate adjustments to the Group's allowance for impairment losses. At 31 December 2018, no post-model adjustments were made.

Impairment of investments

As explained in the accounting policy, investment securities are continually reviewed at the specific investment level for impairment. Impairment is recognised when there is objective evidence that a specific financial asset is impaired. Objective evidence of impairment might include a significant or prolonged decline in market value below the original cost of a financial asset and, in the case of debt securities, non-receipt of due interest or principal repayment, a breach of covenant within the security's terms and conditions or a measurable decrease in the estimated future cash flows since their initial recognition. The disappearance of active markets, declines in market value and ratings downgrades do not in themselves constitute objective evidence of impairment and, unless a default has occurred on a debt security, the determination of whether or not objective evidence of impairment is present at the Balance sheet date requires the exercise of management judgement.

In determining whether an impairment loss has been incurred in respect of an available-for-sale financial asset, the Company performs an objective review of the current financial circumstances and future prospects of the issuer and, in the case of equity shares, considers whether there has been a significant or prolonged decline in the fair value of that asset below its cost. This consideration requires management judgement. Among factors considered by the Company is whether the decline in fair value is a result of a change in the quality of the asset or a downward movement in the market as a whole.

3. Income from investments

Income from investments relates to dividends received from its subsidiary undertakings of £770,000 (2017: £6,000,000).

4. Finance costs

Finance costs comprise interest payable on borrowings. Interest payable is recognised in the Income Statement using the effective interest rate method. The effective interest rate is established on initial recognition of the financial liability and is not subsequently revised. Bank borrowings are interest bearing and during the year rates of interest of between 0.36% and 0.59% (2017: between 0.36% and 0.59%) were charged.

5. Other operating expenses

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Administrative expenses	-	59
	-	59

For the year ended 31 December 2018 and 31 December 2017, the audit fee has been accrued and paid centrally by a fellow group subsidiary, Bank of Scotland plc, which makes no recharge to the Company.

The Company has no employees (2017: nil).

The Directors, who are considered to be key management, received no remuneration in respect of their services to the Company. The emoluments of the Directors are paid by a fellow group undertaking on behalf of the ultimate parent, Lloyds Banking Group plc, which makes no recharge to the Company. The Directors are also directors of a number of other subsidiaries of the Group and are also substantially engaged in managing their respective business areas within the Group, it is therefore not possible to make an accurate apportionment of Directors emoluments in respect of their services to each of the subsidiaries. Accordingly, these financial statements include no emoluments in respect of the Directors.

6. Taxation

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
a) Analysis of (credit)/charge for the year		
UK corporation tax:		
- Current tax on taxable profit for the year	**(10)**	(9)
Current tax credit	**(10)**	(9)
UK deferred tax:		
- Origination and reversal of timing differences	**-**	266
Deferred tax charge (see note 12)	**-**	266
Tax (credit)/charge	**(10)**	257

Corporation tax is calculated at a rate of 19.00% (2017: 19.25%) of the taxable profit for the year.

b) Factors affecting the tax (credit)/charge for the year

A reconciliation of the charge that would result from applying the standard UK corporation tax rate to the profit before tax to the actual tax charge for the year is given below:

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Profit before tax	**718**	27,666
Tax charge thereon at UK corporation tax rate of 19.00% (2017: 19.25%)	**136**	5,326
Factors affecting charge:		
- Disallowed and non-taxable items	**(146)**	(1,145)
- Other	**-**	(3,924)
Tax (credit)/charge on profit on ordinary activities	**(10)**	257
Effective rate	**1.40%**	0.93%

The Finance Act 2016 reduced the main rate of corporation tax to 17% with effect from 1 April 2020.

7. Dividends

In 2018, dividends totalling £4,200,000 were paid (2017: £28,000,000).

8. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents for the purposes of the Cash flow statement include the following:

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Cash at bank, held with group undertakings	893	15,366
	893	15,366

9. Investment in subsidiary undertakings

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Cost		
Cost brought forward	1	1
Cost at 31 December	1	1
Carrying value of investments at 31 December	1	1

Investment in subsidiary undertakings is stated at cost less impairment. As permitted by section 611 of the Companies Act 2006, where the relief afforded under section 612 of the Companies Act 2006 applies, cost is the aggregate of the nominal value of the relevant number of the Company's shares and the fair value of any other consideration given to acquire the share capital of the subsidiaries.

Subsidiary undertakings	Company interest	Principal activities	Registered Address
Uberior Co-Investments Limited	100%	Investment	The Mound, Edinburgh, EH1 1YZ

The Company's interest in each of these entities is in the form of ordinary share capital. The proportion of the voting rights in the subsidiary undertaking held directly by the Company do not differ from the proportion of ordinary shares held.

10. Investments

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Investments		
Equity securities	-	-
	-	-

Equity securities

The movement in Equity securities can be summarised as follows:

For the year ended 31 December 2018	Designated at fair value through profit and loss £'000	Designated at fair value through other comprehensive income £'000	Total £'000
At 1 January 2018	-	-	-
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2018	-	-	-

For the year ended 31 December 2017	Designated at fair value through profit and loss £'000	Designated at fair value through other comprehensive income £'000	Total £'000
At 1 January 2017	32,365	-	32,365
Movements in AFS equity securities	(20,099)	-	(20,099)
Disposals	(12,264)	-	(12,264)
Impairment	(2)	-	(2)
At 31 December 2017	-	-	-

The AFS Equity Investments were transferred as a part of IFRS 9 in January 2018 to FVTPL Equity Investments and will be continued to held at £nil value.

11. Borrowed funds

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Unsecured bank loan (see note 14)	-	11,000
	-	11,000

12. Deferred tax asset

The movement in the Deferred tax asset is as follows:

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Brought forward	-	(3,553)
Credit for the year (see note 6)	-	(266)
	-	(3,819)
Amount charged to equity		
- Available-for-sale financial assets	-	3,819
At 31 December	-	-

The deferred tax credit in the Income statement comprises the following temporary differences:

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Accelerated capital allowances	-	-
Allowances for impairment losses	-	-
Pension	-	-
Share based payments	-	-
Other temporary differences	-	(266)
	-	(266)

Deferred tax asset comprises:	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Accelerated capital allowances	-	-
Allowances for impairment losses	-	-
Pension	-	-
Share based payments	-	-
Other temporary differences	-	-
Cash flow hedges	-	-
	-	-

13. Share capital

	2018 £	2017 £
Allotted, issued and fully paid		
1 ordinary shares of £1 each	1	1

All ordinary shares rank pari passu in all respects including the right to receive all dividends and other distributions declared, made or paid on the ordinary share capital of the Company.

14. Related party transactions

The Company has a related party relationship with a fellow subsidiary company Bank of Scotland plc. A number of transactions are entered into with Bank of Scotland plc in the normal course of business, including raising loans and deposits. A summary of the outstanding balances at the year end and the related expense for the year are set out below:

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Amounts due to group undertakings		
Bank of Scotland plc	-	11,000
Total Amounts due to group undertakings (see note 11)	-	11,000

14. Related party transactions (continued)

Cash and cash equivalents held with group undertakings		
Bank of Scotland plc	**893**	15,366
Finance costs		
Bank of Scotland plc	**52**	36
Finance costs	**52**	36

During the year the Company paid a dividend of £4,200,000 (2017: £28,000,000) to its immediate parent Uberior Investments Limited.

Related party	Registered address
Bank of Scotland	The Mound, Edinburgh EH1 1YZ
Uberior Investments Ltd	The Mound, Edinburgh EH1 1YZ

Key management personnel

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning and controlling the activities of the Company. Accordingly, key management is comprised of the directors of the Company and Lloyds Banking Group plc. There were no transactions between the Company and key management personnel during the current or preceding year. Key management personnel are employed by other companies within the Group and consider that their services to the Company are incidental to their other activities within the Group.

15. Financial risk management

The Company's operations expose it to a variety of financial risks: credit risk, liquidity risk, market risk (including interest rate risk, exchange risk, and equity risk). Responsibility for the control of overall risk lies with the board of directors, operating within a management framework established by Lloyds Banking Group plc, and the ultimate parent, Lloyds Banking Group plc. Interest rate and liquidity risk faced by the Company is in substance managed and borne by other group undertakings which fund the Company and credit risk is carefully monitored by the Retail Division's credit committee and credit functions. Market risk is managed by the Company through the terms negotiated in commercial agreements and management regularly reviewing its portfolio of leases for impairment. Business risk is managed through regular reporting and oversight.

A description of the Company's financial assets/liabilities and associated accounting is provided in note 1.

15.1 Credit risk

Credit risk management

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss from a counterparty's failure to settle financial obligations as they fall due.

Cash and cash equivalents and Amounts due from other group undertakings are held with other companies within the Group. The credit risk associated with these financial assets is not considered to be significant.

Credit risk mitigation

- Credit principles and policy: Group Risk sets out the group credit principles and policy according to which credit risk is managed, which in turn is the basis for divisional and business unit credit policy. Principles and policy are reviewed regularly and any changes are subject to a review and approval process. Business unit policy includes lending guidelines, which define the responsibilities of lending officers and provide a disciplined and focused benchmark for credit decisions.

- Stress testing and scenario analysis at a divisional level: The credit portfolio is also subjected to stress testing and scenario analysis, to simulate outcomes and calculate their associated impact.

Financial assets subject to credit risk

The maximum exposure to credit risk arising on the Company's financial assets at the reporting date is disclosed in the table below and equates to carrying value.

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Cash and cash equivalents	**893**	15,366
	893	15,366

15.2 Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Company is unable to meet its obligations as they fall due. To manage this risk extensive borrowing facilities are available from within the Group.

The Company is funded entirely by companies within the Group. Such funding is repayable on demand, although there is no expectation that such a demand would be made. All other financial liabilities are repayable on demand.

The table below sets put the cash flows payable by the Company in respect of Amounts due to related undertakings, by remaining contractual undiscounted repayments of principal and interest, at the Balance sheet date.

As at 31 December 2018

	Up to 1 month £'000	**1-3 months £'000**	**3-12 months £'000**	**1-5 years £'000**	**Total £'000**
Interest - bearing loans and borrowings	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-

As at 31 December 2017

	Up to 1 month £'000	1-3 months £'000	3-12 months £'000	1-5 years £'000	Total £'000
Interest - bearing loans and borrowings	-	11,000	-	-	11,000
	-	11,000	-	-	11,000

All other funding is repayable on demand, although there is no expectation that such a demand would be made. All other financial liabilities are repayable on demand.

15.3 Market risk

The Company is exposed to market risk, however the directors do not consider it to be a material exposure, and believe the exposure to be fully managed.

Market risk is defined as the potential loss in value or earnings of the Company arising from changes in external market factors such as:

- Interest rates (interest rate risk);
- Foreign exchange rates (foreign exchange risk);
- Equity markets (equity risk);

At the reporting date, the Company's exposure to market risk arose from equity risk.

15.4 Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk exists where the Company's financial assets and liabilities have interest rates set under different bases, or which reset at different times. The Company has had no borrowings during the year, or at the Balance Sheet date, therefore it is not considered to have any interest rate risk.

15.5 Business risk

Business risk is the risk that the Company's earnings are adversely impacted by a suboptimal business strategy or the suboptimal implementation of the strategy. In assessing business risk consideration is given to internal and external factors such as products, funding, resource capability and economic, political and regulatory factors.

Through regular reports and oversight business risk is managed by corrective actions to plans and reductions in exposures where necessary.

15.6 Financial strategy

The Company uses financial instruments to mitigate interest rate risk. However, the Company does not trade in financial instruments.

15.7 Fair values of financial assets and liabilities

The fair value of a financial instrument is the amount at which the instrument could be exchanged in a current transaction between willing parties, other than in a forced or liquidation sale.

Fair value of financial assets carried at fair value

The valuations of financial instruments have been classified into three levels according to the quality and reliability of information used to determine the fair values.
Fair value hierarchy

Level 1 portfolios

Level 1 fair value measurements are those derived from unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. Products classified as Level 1 predominantly comprise listed equity shares, treasury bills and other government securities.

15.7 Fair values of financial assets and liabilities (continued)

Level 2 portfolios

Level 2 valuations are those where quoted market prices are not available, for example where the instrument is traded in a market that is not considered to be active or valuation techniques are used to determine fair value and where these techniques use inputs that are based significantly on observable data.

Level 3 portfolios

Level 3 portfolios are those where at least one input which could have a significant effect on the instrument's valuation is not based on observable market data. Such instruments include the Company's venture capital and unlisted equity investments which are valued using various valuation techniques that require significant management judgment in determining appropriate assumptions, including earnings multiples and estimated future cash flows.

The tables below provide an analysis of the financial assets of the Company that are carried at fair value in the Company's Balance sheet, grouped into Levels 1 to 3 based on the degree to which the inputs to fair value are observable.

At 31 December 2018	**Level 1 £'000**	**Level 2 £'000**	**Level 3 £'000**	**Total £'000**
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-

At 31 December 2017	Level 1 £'000	Level 2 £'000	Level 3 £'000	Total £'000
Financial assets classified as available-for -sale	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-

The following table shows the reconciliation from the opening balances to the closing balances for fair value movement in Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy:

	Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss £'000	**Financial assets classified as available-for -sale £'000**	**Total £'000**
At 1 January 2018	-	-	-
Gains/(losses) recognised in:			
- Income Statement	-	-	-
- Other comprehensive income	-	-	-
Additions	-	-	-
IFRS 9 transfer of AFS	-	-	
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2018	-	-	-
For assets held at the end of the reporting year:			
Total gains/(losses) included in Income statement during the year	-	-	-
Total gains/(losses) included in Other comprehensive income during the year	-	-	-

All of the FVTPL Level 3 investments are held at £nil value (2017: £nil).

15. Financial risk management (continued)

15.7 Fair values of financial assets and liabilities (continued)

	Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss £'000	Financial assets classified as available-for -sale £'000	Total £'000
At 1 January 2017	-	32,365	32,365
Gains/(losses) recognised in:			
- Income Statement	-	(21,765)	(21,765)
- Other comprehensive income	-	1,666	1,666
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	(12,264)	(12,264)
Impairment charge	-	(2)	(2)
At 31 December 2017	-	-	-
For assets held at the end of the reporting year:			
Total gains/(losses) included in Income statement during the year	-	(21,765)	(21,765)
Total gains/(losses) included in Other comprehensive income during the year	-	1,666	1,666

Although the Company believes that its estimates of fair values are appropriate, the use of different methodologies or assumptions could lead to different measurements of fair value. The valuation techniques used for unlisted equities and venture capital investments vary depending on the nature of the investment. Further details of these are given below. As these factors differ for each investment depending on the nature of the valuation technique used and the inputs there is no single common factor that could be adjusted to provide a reasonable alternative valuation for these investments portfolios.

Changing one or more of the unobservable inputs used to reasonably possible alternative assumptions would have the following effects:

	As at 31 December 2018				As at 31 December 2017
	Favourable changes £'000	**Unfavourable changes £'000**	Fair value £'000	Favourable changes £'000	Unfavourable changes £'000
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss					
Equity Securities	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-

All of the FVTPL Level 3 investments are held at £nil value (2017: £nil).

Both favourable and unfavourable movements in respect of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss would be recognised in the Income Statement. Favourable movements in respect of financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income would be recognised in other comprehensive income.

The main instruments where Level 3 valuations have been used are described below:

Equity investments (including venture capital)

Unlisted equities and fund investments are accounted for as financial assets at fair value through profit or loss or fair value through other comprehensive income. These investments are valued using different techniques as a result of the variety of investments across the portfolio in accordance with the Group's valuation policy and are calculated using International Private Equity and Venture Capital Guidelines.

Depending on the business sector and the circumstances of the investment, unlisted equity valuations are based on earnings multiples, net asset values or discounted cash flows.

- A number of earnings multiples are used in valuing the portfolio including price earnings, earnings before interest and tax and earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA). The particular multiple selected being appropriate for the type of business being valued and is derived by reference to the current market-based multiple. Consideration is given to the risk attributes, growth prospects and financial gearing of comparable businesses when selecting an appropriate multiple, and as such this multiple has been considered in establishing the possible alternatives above.

- Discounted cash flow valuations use estimated future cash flows, usually based on management forecasts, with the application of appropriate exit yields or terminal multiples and discounted using rates appropriate to the specific investment, business sector or recent economic rates of return. Recent transactions involving the sale of similar businesses may sometimes be used as a frame of reference in deriving an appropriate multiple. The rates of discount applied have been considered in establishing the possible alternatives above.

- For fund investments the most recent capital account value calculated by the fund manager is used as the basis for the valuation and adjusted, if necessary, to align valuation techniques with the Group's valuation policy. In line with International Private Equity and Venture Capital Guidelines the values of underlying investments in these portfolios have been considered, and possible alternatives considered on both a positive and negative basis.

15. Financial risk management (continued)

The directors consider that there are no significant differences between the carrying amounts shown in the Balance sheet and the fair value.

The carrying value of Debtors and all other financial assets and liabilities is considered an approximation of fair value.

15.8 Capital disclosures

The Company's objectives when managing capital are to safeguard the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, provide an adequate return to its shareholders through pricing products and services commensurately with the level of risk and, indirectly, to support the Group's regulatory capital requirements.

The Company's capital comprises all components of equity, movements in which appear in the Statement of changes in equity. The Company receives its funding requirements from its fellow group undertakings and does not raise funding externally.

16. Post balance sheet events

There are no post balance sheet events requiring disclosure in these financial statements.

17. Transition to IFRS 9

17.1 Implementation of IFRS 9 Financial Instruments

The following table summarises the adjustments arising on the adoption of IFRS 9 to the Companies Balance sheet as at 1 January 2018.

This note explains the impact of the adaptation of IFRS 9 Financial Instruments on the Company's financial statements.

IFRS 9 replaces the provisions of IAS 39 that relate to the recognition, classification and measurement of the financial assets and financial liabilities, derecognition of financial instruments, impairment of financial assets and hedge accounting.

Classification and measurement

IFRS 9 requires financial assets to be classified into one of three measurement categories, fair value through profit or loss, fair value through other comprehensive income or amortised cost.

Financial assets will be measured at amortised cost if they are held within a business model the objective of which is to hold financial assets in order to collect contractual cashflows, and their contractual cashflows represent solely payments of principle and interest. Financial assets will be measured at fair value through other comprehensive income if they are held within a business model the objective of which is achieved by collecting contractual cashflows and selling financial assets and their contractual cashflows represent solely payments of principle and interest. Financial assets not meeting either of these two business models; and a equity instruments (unless designated at inception to fair value through other comprehensive income); and all derivatives are measured at fair value through profit and loss.

An entity may, at initial recognition, designate a financial asset as measures at fair value through profit and loss if doing so eliminates or significantly reduces an accounting mismatch.
Impairment

IFRS 9 replaces the existing "incurred loss" impairment approach with an expected credit loss ("ECL") model resulting in earlier recognition of credit losses compared with IAS 39. The ECL model has three stages. Entities are required to recognise a 12 month expected loss allowance on initial recognition (stage 1) and a lifetime expected loss allowance when there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition (stage 2). Stage 3 requires objective evidence that an asset is credit impaired, which is similar to the guidance on incurred losses in IAS 39.

Impact on the financial statements

The Company has adopted IFRS 9 from 1 January 2018. In accordance with the transition requirements of IFRS 9, comparative information for 2017 has not been restated and transitional adjustments have been accounted for through retained earnings as at 1 January 2018.

The company has conducted an analysis of these changes and does not consider there to be any significant impact of applying IFRS 9 to the financial statements

18. Future developments

The following pronouncement will be relevant to the Company but was not effective at 31 December 2018 and has not been applied in preparing these financial statements.

Pronouncement	Nature of change	Effective date
Amendments to other accounting standards	The IASB has issued a number of minor amendments to IFRSs effective 1 January 2019 and 1 January 2020 (including IAS 19 Employee Benefits, IAS 12 Income Taxes and IFRIC 23 Uncertainty over Income Tax Treatments). The changes to IAS 12 Income Taxes will result in the presentation of the tax benefit of distributions on other equity instruments in being recognised in the Income statement; these impacts are currently recognised directly in equity. Comparative information will be restated.	Annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019

The full impact of this pronouncement is being assessed by the Company. However, the initial view is that this is not expected to cause any material adjustments to the reported numbers in the financial statements.

19. Ultimate parent undertaking and controlling party

The immediate parent company is Uberior Investments Limited. The company regarded by the directors as the ultimate parent company and controlling party is Lloyds Banking Group plc (incorporated in Scotland), which is also the parent undertaking of the largest group of undertakings for which group financial statements are drawn up and of which the Company is a member. Copies of the financial statements of both companies may be obtained from Group Secretariat, Lloyds Banking Group plc, 25 Gresham Street, London, EC2V 7HN. The Lloyds Banking Group plc financial statements may be downloaded via www.lloydsbankinggroup.com.