HITACHI
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Hitachi Capital (UK) PLC

Annual Report and Financial Statements
Year Ended 31 March 2014

Hitachi Capital (UK) PLC
Registered Office: Hitachi Capital House, Thorpe Road, Staines-upon-Thames, Surrey TW18 3HP.
Registered in Cardiff No: 1630491.

www.hitachicapital.co.uk

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Group Overview

Hitachi Capital (UK) PLC is a wholly owned subsidiary of Hitachi Capital Corporation, one of Japan's largest non-bank financial institutions. The ultimate parent company, Hitachi Limited, is a global supplier of technology and information systems.

Hitachi Capital (UK) PLC was established in 1982 and has since expanded to include four key finance divisions serving consumers and small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) through to corporate multi nationals. We provide finance and related products and services in a variety of sectors, whilst focusing on markets where we can offer innovative finance products and a very real commitment to customer care. We develop and deliver our products and services through the following specialist business units: Hitachi Capital Consumer Finance, Hitachi Capital Vehicle Solutions, Hitachi Capital Business Finance and Hitachi Capital Invoice Finance.

We finance the purchase of vehicles, specialist business equipment and consumer goods. Our customers invest in our knowledge, our commitment to world class service and our unique and market leading financial pedigree. We ensure that our customers also experience the qualities that characterise our Company and its people: integrity, enthusiasm, and a strong desire to build a mutually successful, long term relationship with each and every customer.

Principal Activities and Strategy

Group Strategy
Our long term vision is to be the leading non-bank asset finance, factoring, contract hire and consumer finance group in the UK. Alongside this we wish to establish a strong presence in Europe, both servicing Hitachi Europe operations through a network of joint ventures and via targeted acquisitions in our chosen markets.

Fair treatment of our customers is central to our business and is reflected in the company's culture, management, controls and communications. HCUK has obtained interim permission from the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and is progressing towards full FCA permission in 2015.

Operational Organisation
The Group operates through four core business units servicing both business to consumer and business to business markets.

Business Units

(a) Consumer Finance
The UK's retail finance leader, providing over £1 billion of consumer lending each year to almost 1 million UK customers. The business has over 30 years experience and works with some of the biggest names on the high street as well as providing motor finance and personal loans. It has supported retail in the UK by increasing lending year on year for the last seven years.

(b) Vehicle Solutions
Hitachi Capital Vehicle Solutions has more than 25 years experience of providing bespoke vehicle funding and fleet management services for business car leasing and specialist commercial vehicles. Offering a variety of financing options including contract hire, contract purchase, finance and operating leasing, Hitachi Capital Vehicle Solutions also provides advice regarding health and safety and fleet environmental impact.

(c) Business Finance
A leading provider of business asset finance in the transport, agriculture, construction, manufacturing, alternative energy and materials handling sectors, with additional expertise in block discounting and syndication services. Working through finance brokers and with vendor organisations, our products include hire purchase, operating lease and finance lease solutions.

(d) Invoice Finance
Hitachi Capital Invoice Finance provides cash flow solutions to over 500 clients across a wide range of sectors in the UK and places great emphasis on the proactive support it offers to UK SME's.

Strategic Report

Hitachi Capital (UK) PLC enjoyed a year of strong growth in assets and increased profitability as we are well funded (note 14) and do not enter into speculative transactions, but focus on providing a high level of service to our customers in our chosen markets. Utilising our industry knowledge we provide innovative financial solutions to help our customers finance the purchase or hire of assets. Upholding our brand and reputation is integral to being part of the Hitachi Group and therefore treating customers fairly is part of our culture and our financial products must be reliable and our people must be trustworthy. We are honest and open with our customers and business partners, which creates co-operation and a desire to provide financial solutions for our customers which meet their requirements. By pursuing these simple important values, the Group has enjoyed steady profitable growth throughout the recession in the UK and we are delighted that we have been able to provide a consistent level of service to support our customers and business partners during this difficult period. As the economic recovery in the UK takes hold we plan to continue growing the business supporting our UK customers and with a long-term goal of developing our relationship with our manufacturing parent company Hitachi Limited, to become a valued strategic partner throughout Europe.

In 2013/14 the Group transacted loan and leasing business of £2 billion, which represented a 26.8% increase over the prior year and an increase in profit before tax to £69.4m (2013 restated: £56.8m) as consumer finance and leasing solutions in the UK were sought from the non-bank sector. We expect this growth to continue as UK consumers and businesses place increasing reliance on the non-bank sector to provide financial solutions for asset purchases or hire. The new regulatory environment introduced by the FCA with a principles and rules based regime may result in the medium term exit of a number of finance providers, which will benefit well-funded, organised and controlled finance companies with additional new business opportunities.

Our focus has primarily been in the UK, where we benefit from very open disclosure of financial information and rich consumer credit information to enable us to make an appropriate assessment of risk. The Group charge for bad debt and impairment fell to £5.7m (2013: £9.1m), which is a result of the Group's management of credit risk, coupled with responsible borrowing by consumers and businesses after many years of surviving the recession. Over the long term, the Group does not expect this low level of bad debts to continue and we expect to move to an industry average of approximately 0.6% of assets.

To provide good service we need great staff. In 2013 the Group entered the Financial Times Best Company survey to independently assess staff engagement. The Group successfully entered the top 100 best companies to work for at number 68, earning a two star rating and detailed structured feedback to plan our future development.

The company significantly increased its charitable activities in the past year with the objective of increasing the charitable contribution to 0.25% of profit before tax and donation of an average of 7 hours per employee to charitable causes. The UK floods were particularly challenging for our customers in the agricultural sector. We provided financial support in the form of relief for current financial commitments and establishment of a short-term £4 million interest-free fund for the acquisition of assets as a consequence of the flood damage. Our charitable commitment effectively increased four fold from £37,000 in 2013 to £149,000.

The financial services we provided were recognised by customers and industry experts as our business units won numerous awards during the year including the Fleet News “Leasing Company of the Year” and Business Moneyfacts “Best Business Motor Finance Provider”.

The Consumer Finance (“HCCF”) operation has continued to grow and diversify the offering from retail point of sale to a direct offering to UK consumers. Retailer point of sale finance accounted for 80% of HCCF’s £1.29 billion new business for the year as we enabled retailers to sell more goods by providing a variety of financing arrangements to assist their customers. New business was 15.2% up over the previous year mainly due to HCCF’s successful diversification to direct to consumer personal finance and the provision of car loans. With significant retail partner wins in the last quarter and our marketing effort in establishing the Hitachi Personal Finance brand, we expect to see the growth of this division continue in the forthcoming year.

We experienced strong growth in our Vehicle Solutions division with organic growth of our existing fleet customers and the acquisition of a 9,000 vehicle portfolio from Lombard Vehicle Management Ltd with new business at £242m (2013: £213m). In conjunction with British Gas and Nissan, we launched the UK’s largest electric commercial vehicle programme. This programme is strongly aligned to our parent company’s vision to build “a better society through technology”.

The Business Finance operation grew new business volumes by 98.5% over the previous financial year to £433m as we developed our commercial offering through brokers. With the withdrawal from the UK by several large and successful competitors, we had the opportunity to obtain additional staff and business relationships, which have helped transform the business. With the introduction of on-line proposal input, and management and process improvement, our customer satisfaction rates have significantly improved which has directly resulted in more business and the ability to win vendor accounts with distributors and manufacturers.

Strategic Report (continued)

Invoice Finance increased new business by 32.9% and was named the fastest growing invoice finance provider in the UK by Business Money. With the take up of our "Inspired Cashflow product", which was designed to simplify factoring and our presence on the Web, the division has been able to grow profitably in a competitive market as most factoring companies have seen their volumes decline as their customers' sales decline. We expect to see our growth trend continue as the product becomes more acceptable to businesses that have not utilised factoring to grow their operations.

Our insurance business, which was placed in run off in April 2009, returned a profit of £0.6m (2013: £0.8m) as our claims experience was well below the actuarial forecasts which resulted in a release of reserves as the run off of the book draws to a close. We expect all policies to expire in 2014 and a plan of solvent liquidation to be adopted.

We stated last year that, over the medium term, Hitachi Capital has a desire to deepen its relationship with Hitachi Limited in Europe. We aspire to be the principal partner of Hitachi Limited, structuring and leading financial solutions for their operations in Europe. As a business we believe the strengthening of this relationship will be beneficial for the Hitachi Group. During the year we have organised financing programmes for Hitachi Group companies in Turkey, Poland and France with programmes to commence in 2014 in Spain, Italy and the Netherlands. The programmes are set up with partners who we support with sales and marketing support and guarantees for which we earn fee income. We expect this business to develop rapidly over the forthcoming year as our coverage of Europe increases and we make small acquisitions in Europe to support our existing business segments. On 3 April 2014 we acquired Corpo Flota sp zoo, a Polish fleet management business, for PLN 18.5m (£3.7m) (note 30).

The results for the Company and the Group are set out in the financial statements on pages 13 to 16, and the analysis of operating segments and revenue is detailed in notes 4 and 5 respectively.

The Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) presented below reflect the indicators management used during 2013-14.

KPIs	**2014**	2013
Profit before Tax	**£69.4m**	£56.8m
Pre-Tax Return on Assets	**3.0%**	3.2%
Bad Debt Ratio	**0.2%**	0.5%
Average Principal Employed	**£2.3b**	£1.8b
Number of Employees	**918**	818

Profit before tax was £69.4m, £12.6m higher than prior year. This significant increase over the prior year has been largely driven by growth in revenue of 24.8% and reduced bad debts as reflected in the improvement in Bad Debt Ratio year on year.

Average Principal Employed increased by 28% year on year whereas the Pre-Tax Return on Assets decreased by 6% due to a number of factors including Fee Income growing at a slower rate of 15% and higher sundry costs of sales offset by lower bad debt charges. The number of employees grew by 12% to meet the growing needs of the Group.

Administration expenses for the year increased by 31% to £86m due to our significant growth and expenditure directed at information technology, which is essential for us to effectively compete in the future.

The effective tax rate was 21% (2013: 22%). It is expected that the effective rate of tax will be stable for the coming year.

The post-tax return on equity was 27.4% (2013: 29.5%) driven by continued business growth and management of credit risk. The Group operates a dividend policy to distribute up to 30% of profit after tax. An interim dividend of 10.9p per share was paid during the year (2013: 14.6p) and the directors have recommended that a further dividend of 27.8p per share be proposed and paid for the year ended 31 March 2014 (2013: 16.6p).

For 2014-15 we have implemented a balanced scorecard, which sets out 5 specific areas of focus for the Group (Financial, Customer, Business Process, Innovation & Growth and Talent Management & Succession), laying out the initiatives required to achieve our long-term objectives. We monitor progress against these regularly at Board Committees, to ensure that we have a clear link between our strategic objectives and the initiatives undertaken by each business unit to achieve these.

A recently completed interim valuation of our final salary pension scheme and consultation with the trustees has concluded that the current plan is in surplus. The surplus calculated on the IAS19 basis at 31 March 2014 was £4.2m (2013: £0.7m).

The Group has a central treasury function, which manages the Group's borrowings in accordance with agreed policies and procedures. Debt is raised taking into account each business unit's requirements and portfolio maturity profile. We

raise multi-currency fixed and floating debt in the major global markets. Derivatives are utilised to mitigate currency and interest rate risks. Analysis of borrowings is detailed in note 14 and derivative financial instruments are summarised in

note 13. The gearing, after reflecting the effect of currency risk hedging, is 11.2 (2013: 11.1) and is well within the limit of 25 times equity set out in the Company's Articles of Association.

Principal risks and uncertainties are set out in notes 2 and 29. In addition, during the year a number of risks were considered and dealt with in order to minimise the impact on the Group's performance and ability to meet its objectives. These included the uncertain economic environment, including GDP growth, inflation and unemployment, which is mitigated by a mixed portfolio of financing products and a cautious approach to lending, ensuring our customers can afford their commitments. In addition, the potential operational risk of service disruption to customers as a result of failed systems, cyber-attacks or breaches of security, with adverse effects on the Group's reputation, operations and financial condition are mitigated through our Board Committees, including the Information Security Committee, ISO 27001 accredited information security management system and business continuity planning. We also face a changing and uncertain regulatory environment, with FCA regulation of our industries for the first time. This risk is being mitigated through an experienced FCA Project Team, sponsored by an Executive Director, focusing on our transition to FCA regulation. Management of employees is detailed in the directors' report.

Our strategy of offering value added financial products and superior customer service in our chosen markets will produce positive results in the forthcoming years and we remain confident we can continue to build on the Hitachi brand. Hitachi Capital (UK) PLC will continue to co-operate with other Hitachi Capital Corporation and Hitachi Limited companies worldwide in developing business opportunities.

The names of the directors who served during the year are detailed in the Directors' Report on page 9.

On behalf of the board, I thank all our employees for their commitment and contribution and our bankers, funders and customers for their continuing loyalty and support.

By order of the Board.

C.Shirai
Chief Executive Officer
13 June 2014

Corporate Governance Statement

The Board is committed to high standards of corporate governance. Although the Company is not subject to the UK Corporate Governance Code, the Board takes into account the principles and provisions of the Code to the extent that the Board considers them to be proportionate and relevant to the Company, bearing in mind the size and complexity of the Company and the nature of the risks and challenges it faces. This corporate governance statement describes the Company's corporate governance structure and the main features of its internal control and risk management systems in relation to the financial reporting process.

Board of Directors
The Board currently comprises one non executive director and five executive directors. The Board holds formal meetings on a quarterly basis but informal meetings are held much more frequently. There is a formal schedule of matters specifically reserved for decision by the Board, underpinned by policies which describe those matters in more detail. The types of matters reserved for the Board include approval of business strategy, operating budgets and financial statements and monitoring performance against them, approving Group policies, reviewing the Company's overall corporate governance arrangements and authorising transactions which fall outside the ordinary course of the Company's business or are of major significance to the Group.

The day to day responsibility for managing the Group's business is delegated to the executive directors and the senior managers of the Group, who implement the decisions made, and policies approved, by the Board and deal with matters within the ordinary course of business.

Board Committees
The Board delegates certain defined responsibilities to committees, each of which have written terms of reference which are reviewed regularly. The composition and work of these committees is described below.

Group Planning and Strategy Committee
The Board may also delegate matters to the Group Planning and Strategy Committee, which comprises the executive directors, the managing directors of the Group's respective divisions and subsidiaries and selected heads of function. The committee normally meets quarterly and requires the attendance of three executive directors and representatives from each of the Group's four main business units in order to be quorate. The committee provides a forum for the review and evaluation against the vision of the Group of the detailed strategies formulated in the business units and functions. The committee may make recommendations to the Board on matters referred for consideration by the Board.

Audit and Risk Committee
The Audit and Risk Committee carries out the functions required by rule 7.1.3 of the Disclosure and Transparency Rules The committee comprises N.Carter (chair), who is a chartered accountant, R.Dibble and C.Shirai and has a quorum of two. In the opinion of the Board, N.Carter is independent and has competence in accounting and auditing as required by rule 7.1.1 of the Disclosure and Transparency Rules.

The committee met three times in the year under review, coinciding with key dates in the financial reporting and audit cycle. The external auditors and the Chief Operating Officer attended meetings by invitation in order to ensure that all the information required by the committee was available for it to operate effectively. Other directors also attended the meetings at the invitation of the committee. The committee meets separately with the external auditors whenever it considers appropriate.

The committee's responsibilities are set out in its terms of reference, which are regularly reviewed. They include monitoring the financial reporting process and the statutory audit of the annual consolidated accounts, reviewing the findings of the external auditors and reviewing the effectiveness of the Group's internal control risk management systems. The committee keeps under review the independence and objectivity of the Group's external auditor, value for money of the audit and the nature, extent and cost effectiveness of the non audit services provided by the auditor.

The committee satisfies itself that any safeguards required by ethical guidance regarding the provision of non audit services are implemented. The committee also receives regular updates on the implementation of, and compliance with, certain aspects of Japan's Financial Instruments and Exchange Law (J-SOX) in order, for example, to assure itself that the Group continues to satisfy its ultimate parent company, Hitachi Limited, that it remains compliant with the legislation.

Since the end of the year under review, the Company has established a centralised Compliance function, which is independent of the business units. The terms of reference of the committee are being reviewed and revised to ensure that the Group Head of Compliance has access to the committee and that the committee is able to make an effective contribution to the "third line of defence" in the management of compliance risk.

Corporate Governance Statement (continued)

Disclosure Committee
Although no longer subject to the UK Listing Authority's listing rules, the Company has retained its Disclosure Committee. The role of this committee is to identify and assess matters which could have a material effect on the Company's financial performance and to ensure that such matters are communicated to the Board, the Company's parent (Hitachi Capital Corporation) and the trustees of the Group's pension scheme. The committee comprises each of the executive directors of the Company, has a quorum of two and normally meets twice a year.

Remuneration Committee
The role of this committee includes agreeing the policy for remuneration of the executive management and approving their individual remuneration packages, ensuring that appropriate incentives exist at all levels and overseeing any major changes in employee benefit structures across the Group. The committee also reviews and approves the design of long term incentive plans, bonus and commission schemes operated by the Group. The members of the committee are N.Carter (chair), R.Dibble and C.Shirai. The committee has a quorum of two and normally meets twice a year.

Treasury Committee
The purposes of this committee include determining the Group's funding plans within parameters set by the Board, reviewing and approving transactions proposed or conducted by the Group Treasurer, implementing the Group hedging strategy and ensuring borrowing covenants and limits are not breached.
Chaired by the Chief Operating Officer, the committee also includes the Chief Executive Officer, Director of Finance and Group Treasurer. The committee meets monthly and has a quorum of two, which must include the Chief Operating Officer and Group Treasurer.

Investment Management Committee
The role of this committee is to determine an annual budget based upon the Group strategic plan and make recommendations to the Board for approval, for both capital and operating expenditure within the budgets agreed by the Board, to decide the priorities for investment and resources in line with the Group strategic plan, and to set the governance process for change management for the business units and the Group as a whole.
The committee is chaired by the Chief Operating Officer and its members include other executive directors as well as the heads of relevant business units and functions. The committee meets every month (and otherwise as required) and has a quorum of three, including at least two Board members.

Credit Risk Committee
This committee provides a key element of an effective second line of defence to the risk management functions within the Group's business units. Its functions include setting the Group's risk appetite, optimising the quality of the Group's earnings and customer base, and managing exceptional risks and major exposures by sanctioning applicable credit proposals.
Voting rights are restricted to full members of the committee, being the Chief Operating Officer (chair), Director of Credit Risk, Director of Finance and the risk managers from the four business units in the Group. Meetings of the committee are held at least every quarter and a minimum of three full members (including the chair or his nominee) must be present for a meeting to be quorate.

European Business Development Committee
The Group's stated strategy includes expansion into European markets, particularly in order to support other companies within the Hitachi group. The European Business Development Committee was formed to evaluate potential opportunities in such markets and, after careful review and analysis, to make appropriate recommendations to the Board. The committee is also responsible for ensuring that, where such recommendations are approved by the Board, they are implemented in an efficient, consistent and methodical manner.
Members of the committee include the European Business Development Director (chair), Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operating Officer and Group Business Development Director. Other executive officers, such as the Director of Finance and the Director of Credit Risk, regularly attend. The committee meets on a monthly basis and requires a quorum of three members.

Information Security Committee
During the year, the Company formally adopted a written information security policy and an information security management system, based on the requirements of the international standard for information security management (ISO 27001). This included the establishment of an Information Security Committee. Amongst other things, this committee is responsible for formulating, reviewing and recommending appropriate improvements to the Company's information security policies and information security system. The committee also has responsibility for promoting awareness of information security, ensuring that the information security system is implemented and reviewing internal information security audits and information security incidents.

Corporate Governance Statement (continued)

Members of the Committee include the Head of IT (chair), Chief Operating Officer, Head of Information Security, HR Director and Head of Service Delivery. The committee meets monthly and requires at least three members, including the Head of IT or the Chief Operating Officer, to be quorate.

Internal Control

The Board is responsible for the Group's system of internal control and for reviewing its effectiveness. The system of internal control includes controls designed to safeguard assets against unauthorised use, to maintain proper accounting records and to ensure the reliability of financial information. The system of internal control is designed to manage, but not eliminate, the risk of failure to achieve business objectives and can provide only reasonable rather than absolute assurance against material misstatement, loss or fraud.

The Board confirms that there is an appropriate ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the significant risks faced by the Group which has been in place throughout the year ended 31 March 2014 and up to the date of approval by the Board of the annual report and financial statements.

The key elements of the internal control system include the following:

- There is a clearly defined board and board committee structure in place, with terms of reference setting out membership, roles and responsibilities.
- Organisational structures are in place which allow clear delegation of authorities and responsibilities throughout the Group.
- Detailed annual budgets aligned with the corporate strategy are reviewed and approved by the Board. Regular progress reports and results are reviewed by the Board and actions taken as appropriate.
- Systems and procedures are in place to identify, control and report on the major risks facing the Group. The Audit and Risk Committee is responsible for co-ordinating this process and for making recommendations to the Board.
- The Chief Operating Officer maintains an overview of the areas of greatest risk to the business, along with the internal control processes designed to address those risks, and monitors compliance with policies and the effectiveness of the control structures across the Group. The Group SOX Manager reports to the Chief Operating Officer and also has direct access to the chairman of the Audit and Risk Committee. In addition there are regular internal audit reviews of key business units in the Group by the internal audit teams of Hitachi Capital Corporation and Hitachi Limited.

The Board, through the Audit and Risk Committee, has reviewed the effectiveness of the system of internal control, including financial, operational and compliance controls and risk management through representations from management and the independent monitoring undertaken by the internal control function. In addition, the Group's external auditor presents to the Audit and Risk Committee reports that include details of any significant internal control matters which it has identified. Weaknesses identified during the course of these reviews have been incorporated into action plans. None of the weaknesses have given rise to material loss, contingency or uncertainty requiring disclosure in the annual accounts.

Throughout the year ended 31 March 2014, the Group complied with the J-SOX legislation, using the COSO framework, as a consequence of Hitachi Limited being listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange. The key elements of the process included the following:

- Detailed scoping and planning from a quantitative and qualitative perspective, identification of the key processes and mapping of significant accounts with associated financial statement assertions.
- Documenting and walk through of entity level, IT general controls and business process controls to ensure design effectiveness.
- Extensively testing all key controls to ensure operational effectiveness.
- A remediation management programme to resolve exceptions as they arose.
- Final management assessment of all controls.
- Audit of the process through monitoring by internal auditors from Hitachi Capital Corporation.

Consolidated accounts are prepared using Oracle Financials and key balances are reconciled on a regular basis to relevant information to ensure their integrity.

By order of the Board.

J.N.M.Sims
Company Secretary
13 June 2014

Directors' Report

The Board of Directors present their annual report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2014 for Hitachi Capital (UK) PLC (registered company number 1630491).

Results and Dividends
The results of the Group for the year ended 31 March 2014 are set out in the consolidated income statement on page 13. An interim dividend of £4,651,000, 10.9p per share, was paid during the year (2013: £6,217,000, 14.6p). The directors recommend a final dividend of 27.8p per share (2013: 16.65p), giving a total dividend for the year of 38.7p per share (2013: 31.2p). The total distribution of dividends for the year to 31 March 2014 will be £16,516,000 (2013: £13,321,000). Further details regarding the dividend are set out in note 20 to the financial statements.

Employees
The Board is conscious that the Group's ability to succeed is driven by the need to attract, develop and retain the right employees. Our employee relations policy is designed to encourage an atmosphere of trust and harmony across the organisation and the Group is committed to the personal development of its employees.

The Group is committed to regular and timely communication to staff of information on matters of concern to them as employees, including both briefings and written communications. The Group has an intranet site which acts as the main reference point in the provision of a wide variety of information to employees. Staff briefings are held at the various sites to disseminate key information and regular team and one to one meetings are encouraged. During the year the Group has maintained the arrangements aimed at ensuring that employees' views can be taken into account in making decisions which are likely to affect their interests. Employee representatives are elected as and when necessary to meet the Group's consultation requirements.

The Group takes part in the Best Companies to work for survey, measuring on an annual basis the key themes leading to improved employee engagement. In addition to demonstrating where we can build on our strengths, the survey also highlights areas for continued improvement. Focus this year has been on corporate social responsibility activity through our charitable and environmental activities as well as building and strengthening our leadership teams across the Group. Hitachi Capital (UK) PLC was rated as the 68th best small to medium sized company to work for in the Sunday Times top 100 listings and achieved a two star Best Companies rating.

The Group operates an annual bonus scheme for all staff levels where over 50% of bonus potential is based on the Group and individual business unit financial performance thereby encouraging the involvement of all employees in the Company's performance. Regular updates on performance ensure that all employees are aware of the financial and economic factors affecting the Company's performance.

The Group operates an equal opportunities policy and opposes all forms of unlawful discrimination on the grounds of sex, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, race, creed, colour, nationality, religion, age, or any other personal characteristics. The Group's selection criteria and procedures will ensure that individuals are treated on the basis of their abilities so that all employees are given equal opportunity to progress within the Group. The Group's policy and practice is to encourage the recruitment, training, career development and promotion of disabled persons having regard to their particular aptitudes and abilities and to retain and re-train employees who become disabled whilst in the employment of the Group.

Directors

The directors who served during the year and to the date of this report were:

- N.Carter
- R.Gordon
- G.Grimes
- K.Kuchimura
- S.Oliphant
- C.Shirai
- H.Tozawa (resigned on 31 March 2014)

In accordance with the Company's Articles of Association, each of the directors serving at the date of this report will retire by rotation at the 2014 AGM and, being eligible to be re-appointed, will offer themselves for re-appointment at that meeting.

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities
The directors are responsible for preparing the Strategic Report and the Directors' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Directors' Report (continued)

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS's), as adopted by the European Union, and ensure that such financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. 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 the profit or loss of the Company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable.
- State whether applicable IFRS's have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- 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 for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Each of the persons who is a director at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- So far as the director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Group's auditors are unaware.
- The director has taken all the steps that he ought to have taken as a director in order to make himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Group's auditors are aware of that information.

This confirmation is given and should be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of section 418 of the Companies Act 2006.

Qualifying Indemnity Provisions
By virtue of Article 85 of the Articles of Association of the Company, qualifying indemnity provision (within the meaning given by sections 234 and 235 of the Companies Act 2006) is in force at the date of this report in respect of each director of the Company (and each director of its subsidiaries) and was in force throughout the year ended 31 March 2014 in respect of each person who was a director of the Company (or one of its subsidiaries) at any time during that year.

Going Concern
The Group's business activities, together with the factors likely to affect its future development, performance and position are set out in the Strategic Report starting on page 3. The financial position of the Group, its cash flows, liquidity position and borrowing facilities are described in the Strategic Report, the financial statements starting on page 13 and the notes to the financial statements. In addition, the notes to the financial statements include the Group's objectives, policies and processes for managing its capital, its financial risk management objectives, details of its financial instruments and hedging activities, and its exposures to credit risk and liquidity risk.

As part of the directors' ongoing assessment of going concern, they have considered the budget forecasts for the Group as well as cash flow projections for at least 18 months from the date of approval of the financial statements. The Group has strong long term prospects and has access to considerable financial resources. We expect that we will continue to grow our assets and increase profitability in our chosen financial markets in the coming year. As a consequence, the directors believe that the Group is well placed to manage its business risks successfully despite the current uncertain economic outlook.

The directors are satisfied that appropriate facilities are currently, and will continue to be, available for the foreseeable future. A central treasury function provides finance for the Group's operations and manages treasury risks in accordance with policies approved by the Board and the Treasury Committee. The Group has access to, and capacity in, existing funding programmes. These programmes include:

- Euro medium term note and commercial paper programmes for which Hitachi Capital Corporation acts as guarantor.
- A securitisation facility with RBS and Mizuho, which management renegotiates at each annual maturity consistent with prior years.
- Group loan facilities available from the wider Hitachi Limited group.

It is the directors' intention to continue to utilise existing facilities and seek additional funding as required to meet the funding needs of the business. Liquidity risk and funding management issues are covered in more detail within note 29 of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2014.

Directors' Report (continued)

The directors have a reasonable expectation that the Group has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual financial statements.

Financial Instruments
The Group uses financial instruments to mitigate risk which are detailed in note 29.

Auditors
In accordance with section 489 of the Companies Act 2006, a resolution for the re-appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as auditors of the Company is to be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Corporate Governance Statement
The corporate governance statement is on pages 6 to 8 of this annual report.

Matters included in the Strategic Report
The following areas are required in the Directors' Report and have been included in the Strategic Report

- Business Review
- Description of principal risks and uncertainties
- Principal activities
- Future developments
- Post Balance Sheet Events.

By order of the Board.

J.N.M.Sims
Company Secretary
13 June 2014

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hitachi Capital (UK) PLC

We have audited the financial statements of Hitachi Capital (UK) PLC for the year ended 31 March 2014 which comprise the consolidated income statement, the consolidated statement of comprehensive income, the statement of financial position – consolidated and company, the statement of changes in equity – consolidated and company, the statement of cash flows – consolidated and company and the related notes 1 to 30. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union and, as regards the parent company financial statements, as applied in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006.

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.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities set out on pages 9 and 10, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the group's and the parent company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Annual Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion:

- The financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent company's affairs as at 31 March 2014 and of the group's profit for the year then ended;
- The group financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with IFRSs as adopted by the European Union;
- The parent company financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with IFRSs as adopted by the European Union and as applied in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006; and
- The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

Robert McCracken (Senior statutory auditor)
for and on behalf of Ernst & Young LLP, Statutory Auditor
London
20 June 2014

Consolidated Income Statement

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

	Note	**2014 £'000**	2013 £'000 Restated
Revenue	5	**523,891**	379,743
Finance costs		**(33,674)**	(30,025)
Depreciation and impairment of operating leased assets	10	**(140,342)**	(107,923)
Maintenance expense on operating leased vehicles		**(28,769)**	(25,756)
Other cost of sales	6	**(160,055)**	(84,129)
Cost of sales		**(362,840)**	(247,833)
Gross profit		**161,051**	131,910
Bad debts impairment charge	12	**(5,690)**	(9,124)
Administrative expenses	7	**(85,990)**	(65,928)
		(91,680)	(75,052)
Profit before additional finance items		**69,370**	56,858
Fair value profit/(loss) on derivative financial instruments	13	**53**	(33)
Profit before tax		**69,424**	56,825
Income tax expense	8	**(14,370)**	(12,613)
Profit after tax		**55,054**	44,212

Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

	Note	**2014 £'000**	2013 £'000 Restated
Profit after tax		**55,054**	44,212
Other comprehensive income			
Items not reclassified to profit or loss			
Re-measurement of defined benefit pension plan	22	**149**	(1,554)
Income tax effect	8	**(31)**	357
Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss			
Profit/(loss) on cash flow hedges taken to cash flow hedge reserve		**8,519**	(3,480)
Income tax effect	8	**(1,998)**	731
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax		**6,639**	(3,946)
Total comprehensive income for the year, net of tax		**61,693**	40,266

Statement of Financial Position – Consolidated and Company

As at 31 March 2014

	Note	**Group 2014 £'000**	Group 2013 £'000 Restated	**Company 2014 £'000**	Company 2013 £'000 Restated
Assets:					
Non current assets:					
Intangible assets	11	**16,997**	17,190	**8,013**	7,919
Investment in subsidiaries	3	**-**	-	**8,853**	10,753
Property, plant and equipment	10	**524,726**	454,207	**46,011**	48,229
Loans and receivables	12	**1,023,863**	946,510	**1,384,864**	1,263,144
Derivative financial instruments	13	**3,484**	19,010	**3,484**	19,010
Deferred tax asset	9	**-**	-	**50**	3,132
Retirement benefit asset	22	**4,217**	670	**4,217**	670
		1,573,287	1,437,587	**1,455,492**	1,352,857
Current assets:					
Loans and receivables	12	**1,118,361**	640,788	**1,116,917**	640,004
Derivative financial instruments	13	**275**	8,485	**275**	8,485
Inventories	16	**9,598**	7,479	**315**	216
Trade receivables and other assets	17	**47,843**	36,248	**16,175**	9,224
Current tax asset		**-**	5,649	**-**	-
Cash and cash equivalents	18	**18,946**	16,841	**-**	-
		1,195,023	715,490	**1,133,682**	657,929
Total assets		**2,768,310**	2,153,077	**2,589,174**	2,010,786
Equity and liabilities:					
Equity and reserves attributable to equity holders:					
Share capital	19	**10,669**	10,669	**10,669**	10,669
Share premium account		**15,559**	15,559	**15,559**	15,559
Retained earnings		**175,865**	132,448	**103,579**	74,463
Cash flow hedge reserve		**(1,432)**	(7,953)	**(1,432)**	(7,953)
Total equity		**200,661**	150,723	**128,375**	92,738
Non current liabilities:					
Interest bearing borrowings	14	**1,166,206**	930,835	**1,166,206**	930,835
Derivative financial instruments	13	**104,693**	35,285	**104,693**	35,285
Other liabilities	23	**48,032**	39,158	**36,990**	28,156
Provisions	21	**1,679**	1,353	**1,412**	1,159
Deferred tax liability	9	**12,666**	18,387	**-**	-
		1,333,276	1,025,018	**1,309,301**	995,435
Current liabilities:					
Bank overdrafts	18	**4,041**	11,644	**4,041**	11,644
Interest bearing borrowings	14	**1,037,611**	820,616	**1,037,611**	820,616
Derivative financial instruments	13	**12,987**	14,650	**12,987**	14,650
Current tax liability		**13,898**	-	**1,724**	2,789
Provisions	21	**21,081**	14,339	**20,014**	12,998
Trade and other payables	23	**144,755**	116,087	**75,121**	59,916
		1,234,373	977,336	**1,151,499**	922,613
Total liabilities		**2,567,649**	2,002,354	**2,460,799**	1,918,048
Total equity and liabilities		**2,768,310**	2,153,077	**2,589,174**	2,010,786

The financial statements were approved by the board, authorised for issue on 13 June 2014 and signed on its behalf by:

C.Shirai
Chief Executive Officer

R.Gordon
Chief Operating Officer

Statement of Changes in Equity – Consolidated and Company

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

	Note	**Share capital £'000**	**Share premium account £'000**	**Retained earnings £'000**	**Cash flow hedge reserve £'000**	**Total £'000**
Group:						
At 31 March 2012		**10,669**	**15,559**	**103,750**	**(5,204)**	**124,774**
Profit for the period		-	-	44,212	-	44,212
Other comprehensive income		-	-	(1,197)	(2,749)	(3,946)
Total comprehensive income		-	-	43,015	(2,749)	40,266
Dividends	20	-	-	(14,317)	-	(14,317)
At 31 March 2013		**10,669**	**15,559**	**132,448**	**(7,953)**	**150,723**
Profit for the period		-	-	55,052	-	55,052
Other comprehensive income		-	-	118	6,521	6,639
Total comprehensive income		-	-	55,170	6,521	61,691
Dividends	20	-	-	(11,755)	-	(11,755)
At 31 March 2014		**10,669**	**15,559**	**175,865**	**(1,432)**	**200,661**
Company:						
At 31 March 2012		**10,669**	**15,559**	**54,457**	**(5,204)**	**75,481**
Profit for the period		-	-	35,520	-	35,520
Other comprehensive income		-	-	(1,197)	(2,749)	(3,946)
Total comprehensive income		-	-	34,323	(2,749)	31,574
Dividends	20	-	-	(14,317)	-	(14,317)
At 31 March 2013		**10,669**	**15,559**	**74,463**	**(7,953)**	**92,738**
Profit for the period		-	-	40,754	-	40,754
Other comprehensive income		-	-	118	6,521	6,639
Total comprehensive income		-	-	40,871	6,521	47,392
Dividends	20	-	-	(11,755)	-	(11,755)
At 31 March 2014		**10,669**	**15,559**	**103,579**	**(1,432)**	**128,375**

Statement of Cash Flows – Consolidated and Company

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

	Note	**Group 2014 £'000**	Group 2013 £'000 Restated	**Company 2014 £'000**	Company 2013 £'000 Restated
Operating activities:					
Profit before tax		**69,424**	56,825	**51,754**	45,304
Non cash adjustment to reconcile profit before tax to net cash flows:					
Depreciation and impairment of property, plant and equipment	10	**142,014**	109,710	**9,743**	8,007
Depreciation and impairment of Intangible Assets	11	**1,604**	1,460	**1,319**	1,160
Net (gain)/loss on disposal of operating leased assets		**(5,250)**	(3,624)	**904**	460
Net (gain)/loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment		**241**	150	**187**	125
Net gain/loss on disposal of intangible assets		**314**	91	**312**	74
Fair value (gain)/loss on derivative financial instruments	13	**(53)**	33	**(53)**	33
Defined benefit pension scheme charge to income statement	22	**648**	483	**648**	483
Working capital adjustments:					
Increase in receivables		**(566,522)**	(330,898)	**(605,584)**	(352,310)
Increase in payables & provisions		**44,610**	37,426	**31,308**	24,314
Decrease/(increase) in inventories		**(2,119)**	146	**(99)**	762
Cash contributions to defined benefit pension scheme	22	**(4,046)**	(1,191)	**(4,046)**	(1,191)
Purchase of operating leased assets	10	**(314,828)**	(228,749)	**(8,928)**	(33,613)
Proceeds from sale of operating leased assets	10	**114,206**	53,287	**1,369**	602
Income tax paid		**(2,573)**	(6,746)	**(11,012)**	(6,746)
Net cash flows from/(used in) operating activities		**(522,329)**	(311,597)	**(532,178)**	(312,536)
Investing activities:					
Purchase of property, plant and equipment (non-operating leases)	10	**(6,968)**	(4,949)	**(1,065)**	(4,031)
Capitalised software purchase & development costs	11	**(1,725)**	(1,974)	**(1,724)**	(1,828)
Proceeds from sales of property, plant and equipment (non-operating leases)		**65**	173	**5**	-
Write down of investment in subsidiary		**-**	-	**-**	150
Repayment of capital contribution from Hitachi Capital Insurance Europe Limited		**-**	-	**1,900**	-
Net cash flows used in investing activities		**(8,628)**	(6,750)	**(884)**	(5,709)
Financing activities					
Dividends paid to shareholders	20	**(11,755)**	(14,317)	**(11,755)**	(14,317)
Funding received		**1,398,263**	522,121	**1,398,263**	522,121
Funding repaid		**(845,843)**	(200,681)	**(845,843)**	(200,681)
Net cash flows from financing activities		**540,665**	307,123	**540,665**	307,123
Net increase/(decrease)in cash and bank overdrafts		**9,708**	(11,223)	**7,603**	(11,122)
Cash and bank overdrafts at beginning of year		**5,197**	16,421	**(11,644)**	(522)
Cash and bank overdrafts at end of year		**14,905**	5,197	**(4,041)**	(11,644)
Current assets – cash and cash equivalents		**18,946**	16,841	**-**	-
Current liabilities – bank overdrafts	18	**(4,041)**	(11,644)	**(4,041)**	(11,644)
Cash and bank overdrafts at end of year		**14,905**	5,197	**(4,041)**	(11,644)

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

1. Corporate Information

The consolidated financial statements of the Group for the year ended 31 March 2014 were authorised for issue by the directors on 13 June 2014. Hitachi Capital (UK) PLC is a public limited company incorporated in the United Kingdom. The address of the registered office is given at the end of this report as is information on the ultimate parent undertaking. The principal activities of the Group are described in note 4.

2. Accounting Policies

2.1 Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), as adopted by the European Union, and applied in accordance with the Companies Act 2006. Under section 408 (3) of the Companies Act 2006 the Company has not included its own statement of comprehensive income or income statement.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the going concern principle under the historical cost basis, except for derivative financial instruments which are measured at fair value. The financial statements are presented in pound sterling and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand (£'000), except when otherwise indicated.

2.2 Basis of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements comprise the financial statements of the Group and its subsidiaries as at 31 March 2014. Subsidiaries are fully consolidated from the date of acquisition, being the date on which the Group obtains control, and continue to be consolidated until the date when such control ceases. The financial statements of the subsidiaries are prepared for the same reporting period as the parent Company, using consistent accounting policies. All intra Group balances, transactions and dividends are eliminated in full.

2.3 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Goodwill
Goodwill on acquisition is initially measured at cost, being the excess of the aggregate of the consideration transferred and the amount recognised for non controlling interest over the net identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed. If this consideration is lower than the fair value of the net assets of the subsidiary acquired, the difference is recognised in profit or loss.

After initial recognition, goodwill is measured at cost less any accumulated impairment losses. For the purpose of impairment testing, goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the Group's cash generating units that are expected to benefit from the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the acquiree are assigned to those units.

(b) Foreign Currency Translation
The presentational currency of the Group and functional currency of the Company and its subsidiaries is pound sterling, which is the currency of the primary environment in which the Group operates.

Transactions in currencies other than pound sterling are recorded at the rates of exchange prevailing on the dates of the transactions. At each reporting date, monetary assets and liabilities that are denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the rates prevailing on the reporting date. Exchange differences arising on the settlement of monetary items, and on the retranslation of monetary items, are included in the income statement for the period.

In order to hedge its exposure to foreign exchange risks, the Group mostly enters into cross currency swaps, the accounting policies of which are set out in notes 2.3(k) and 2.3(l).

(c) Revenue Recognition
Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Group and the revenue can be reliably measured, regardless of when the payment is being made. Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, taking into account contractually defined terms of payment and excluding taxes.

Interest Income
Interest and other charges earned on instalment finance and other loan agreements are credited to the income statement over the life of the agreement using the effective interest rate method such that a constant rate of return is earned in proportion to the capital balances outstanding. Initial direct costs are recognised over the life of the agreement, on the same basis as revenues.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

2.3 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(c) Revenue Recognition (continued)

Lease Income
Amounts due from lessees under finance lease or hire purchase agreements are recorded as receivables at the amount of the Group's net investment in the leases. Finance lease income is allocated to accounting periods so as to reflect a constant periodic rate of return on the Group's net investment outstanding in respect of the leases.

Rental income from operating leases is recognised on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease.

Insurance Premiums
Insurance premiums, net of reinsurance and an allowance for cancellations, are recognised over the period of the policy written on a basis which reflects the expected profile of the risk undertaken.

Sale of Inventory
Revenue from the sale of inventory is recognised when the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods have passed to the buyer, usually on transfer of the physical goods.

(d) Leases
The determination of whether an arrangement is, or contains, a lease is based on the substance of the arrangement at inception date, whether fulfilment of the arrangement is dependent on the use of a specific asset or assets or the arrangement conveys a right to use the asset, even if that right is not explicitly specified in an arrangement.

Group as a Lessor
Lease and hire purchase agreements are classified as finance leases whenever the terms of the agreement transfer substantially all the risks and benefits of ownership to the lessee. All other leases are classified as operating leases.

The initial recognition of a finance lease includes all initial direct costs of the lease and the present value of the minimum lease payments under the lease terms. Assets leased under operating leases are included in property, plant and equipment and depreciated over their estimated useful lives. The basis for recognition of finance lease income and rental income is outlined in 2.3(c) above.

Group as a Lessee
Operating lease payments are recognised as an administrative expense in the income statement on a straight line basis over the lease term.

(e) Insurance
Acquisition costs, which represent commission and other related expenses, are amortised on the same basis and over the same period as the related premiums, subject to recoverability. Provision is made for the estimated cost of reported claims not settled at the reporting date and for estimated claims incurred but not reported (IBNR) at that date. Provision is also made, where the expected value of claims attributable to policies in force at the reporting date exceeds the net unearned premiums on these policies.

The Group performs liability adequacy testing on its claims liabilities to ensure that the carrying amount of its insurance liabilities, including the provision for unearned reinsurance premiums net of related deferred acquisition costs, is sufficient in view of estimated future cash flows.

The Group ceded reinsurance in the normal course of business for the purpose of limiting its net loss potential. Assets, liabilities, income and expense arising from ceded reinsurance contracts are presented separately from the related assets, liabilities, income and expense from the related insurance contracts because the reinsurance arrangements do not relieve the Group from its direct obligations to the policyholders.

Reinsurance premiums for ceded reinsurance are recognised as an expense on a basis that is consistent with the recognition basis for the premiums on the related insurance contracts. Reinsurance assets include recoveries due from reinsurance companies in respect of claims paid and are included in trade and other receivables in the statement of financial position.

In terms of accounting for the run off of the insurance book, IFRS 4 has been applied and, where this standard does not provide sufficient guidance, the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) has been used.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

2.3 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(f) Taxes

Current Income Tax
Current income tax assets and liabilities for the current period are measured at the amount expected to be recovered from or paid to the taxation authorities. The tax rates and tax laws used to compute the amount are those that are enacted or substantively enacted at the reporting date. Current income tax relating to items recognised directly in equity is recognised in equity and not in the income statement.

Deferred Tax
Deferred tax is provided using the liability method on temporary differences between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts for financial reporting purposes at the reporting date. Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognised for all taxable temporary differences and deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that taxable profits will be available, against which deductible temporary differences can be utilised. Such assets and liabilities are not recognised if the temporary difference arises from goodwill or from the initial recognition (other than in a business combination) of other assets and liabilities in a transaction that affects neither the tax profit nor the accounting profit.

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at each reporting date and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profit will be available to allow all or part of the deferred tax asset to be utilised.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the year when the asset is realised or the liability is settled, based on tax rates and tax laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted at the reporting date.

Deferred tax relating to items recognised outside profit or loss is recognised outside profit or loss. Deferred tax items are recognised in correlation to the underlying transaction either in other comprehensive income or directly in equity.

The deferred tax assets and liabilities have been offset for reporting purposes on the basis that deferred tax predominantly arises in respect of items taxable within the same jurisdiction (UK) and it is expected that a right of set-off will exist when the items reverse, in accordance with IAS 12.

(g) Property, Plant and Equipment
Property, plant and equipment is stated at cost, net of accumulated depreciation and/or accumulated impairment losses, if any. Such cost includes expenditure directly attributable to the acquisition of property and equipment. Subsequent cost is included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the Group and the cost can be measured reliably. Maintenance and repairs, which do not meet these criteria, are charged against income as incurred.

Depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets as follows:

- Freehold buildings — 50 years
- Leasehold improvements — Remaining term of the lease
- Fixtures, fittings and computer equipment — 4 years
- Motor vehicles — 3 to 6 years
- Operating leased assets — Term of the lease

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal. Any gain or loss arising on derecognition of the asset (calculated as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset) is included in the income statement when the asset is derecognised. The assets' residual values, useful lives and methods of depreciation are reviewed at least annually and adjusted prospectively, if appropriate. Where the Group has an interest in the residual value of certain operating leased assets, these values are reviewed on a regular basis and, where necessary, any variance from the exposure recognised by the Group charged or credited to the income statement.

(h) Intangible Assets
Intangible assets acquired separately are measured on initial recognition at cost. The cost of intangible assets acquired in a business combination is their fair value as at the date of acquisition. Following initial recognition, intangible assets are carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Acquired intangible assets are amortised over the useful economic life and assessed for impairment whenever there is an indication that the intangible asset may be impaired. The amortisation period and the amortisation method for an acquired intangible asset is reviewed at least annually. The amortisation expense on acquired intangible assets is recognised in the income statement.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

2.3 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(h) Intangible Assets (continued)
An internally generated intangible asset arising from the Group's software development projects is recognised only if all of the following conditions are met:

- An asset is created that can be identified, and
- It is probable that the asset created will generate future economic benefits, and
- The development cost of the asset can be reliably measured.

Internally generated software development assets are amortised on a straight line basis over their useful lives, determined to be four years. The amortisation period and amortisation method are reviewed at least annually. Where no internally generated intangible asset can be recognised, development expenditure is recognised as an expense in the period. At each reporting date, the Group reviews the carrying amount of its intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss, if any. Irrespective of whether there is any indication of impairment, the Group also tests the recoverable amount of intangible assets not yet available for use at least annually.

Any gains or losses arising from the derecognition of intangible assets are measured as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and are recognised in the income statement when the asset is derecognised.

(i) Financial Assets
Financial assets are classified as financial assets at fair value through profit or loss, loans and receivables, held to maturity investments, available for sale financial assets, or as derivatives designated as hedging instruments in an effective hedge, as appropriate. The Group determines the classification of its financial assets at initial recognition. All financial assets are recognised on the trade date initially at fair value plus transaction costs, except in the case of financial assets recorded at fair value through profit or loss. Subsequent to initial recognition, investments in subsidiaries are measured at cost.

Loans and Receivables
Trade receivables, instalment finance agreements and other loans and advances that have fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted on an active market are classified as loans and receivables. Loans and receivables are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method less impairment. Interest is recognised by applying the effective interest rate, except for short term receivables when the recognition of interest would be immaterial.

Amounts included in the statement of financial position under loans and receivables that represent amounts due from lessees under finance lease agreements are recognised in accordance with the Group's accounting policy on leases.

The effective interest rate method calculates the amortised cost of a financial asset and allocates interest income over the relevant period. The effective interest rate discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset, or, where appropriate, a shorter period to the net carrying amount of the financial asset.

Impairment of Financial Assets
Financial assets other than those at fair value through the profit and loss are assessed for indicators of impairment at each quarter end. Impairment is recognised when there is objective evidence that loss has been incurred in relation to an exposure.

For finance leases and other commercial loans and advances, the allowance for impairment losses is determined on an individual basis by reference to past default experience and other recoverability information relating to the specific loan or other receivable. Management assesses each impairment on a case by case basis where evidence of impairment exists and calculations of incurred loss are performed by considering current facts and circumstances of the exposure. Recoverable amounts are assessed with reference to the expected future cash flows on the loan arrangements, including considering estimates of security value (internal or professional valuation) as well as capacity for payment and timing of recoveries.

For consumer finance agreements, which comprise large numbers of small homogenous assets with similar risk characteristics, allowance for impairment losses is supplemented by statistical techniques used to calculate impairment allowance on a portfolio basis. Agreements which are known to be impaired, such as when a counterparty is declared bankrupt, are fully impaired in the first instance. For all other agreements, where an indicator of potential impairment exists, such as payment default, the portfolio approach is adopted whereby historical write off percentages are applied by product, retailer and arrears category. Likeliness of customer default and losses incurred is estimated regularly and these estimates are modelled on historical experience, which factors in past behaviours to determine loss rates. The portfolio is

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

2.3 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Impairment of Financial Assets (continued)

segmented by current payment status and incurred loss is calculated using the probabilities applied against payment data.

If, in a subsequent period, the amount of the impairment loss decreases and the decrease can be objectively related to an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the previously recognised impairment loss is reversed through the allowance account to the extent the carrying amount of the asset at the date of impairment is reversed does not exceed what the amortised cost would have been had the impairment not been recognised.

Amounts charged to the allowance account are written off against the carrying amount of the impaired financial asset when all avenues to recover the asset have been fully utilised and management deems further recovery remote.

The Group does not renegotiate the terms of financial assets as a matter of course. However, when the terms of financial assets that are past due or impaired are renegotiated (by exception only), the income statement is charged with the write down of the asset to its revised carrying value, and credited with any previous provision made against the asset.

(j) Financial Liabilities
Financial liabilities are classified as financial liabilities at amortised cost or as derivatives designated as hedging instruments in an effective hedge, as appropriate. All financial liabilities are recognised initially at fair value plus, in the case of loans and borrowings, directly attributable transaction costs.

Interest Bearing Borrowings
Borrowings are normally measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method, with interest expense measured on an effective yield basis. However, where the borrowings are in a fair value hedging relationship they are recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs.

The effective interest rate method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial liability and of allocating interest expense over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that discounts estimated future cash payments through the expected life of the financial liability or, where appropriate, a shorter period, to the net carrying amount of the financial liability.

Retailer Liability
The retailer liability arises through contractual terms with certain retailers whereby a portion of the cash flows financed are deferred and held by the Group to cover possible future losses. These deferred amounts are therefore recorded as liabilities by the Group, as they remain the property of the retailer until either losses arise or each vintage of financing agreements matures. As credit losses arise on finance agreements which are subject to these contractual terms, the associated amount of deferral is released to the extent necessary to cover credit losses on each finance agreement and is off set against the associated bad debt charge in accordance with the contractual terms established with the retailer. As a result, credit losses arising from agreements which are subject to these contractual terms have no effect on the Group's income statement unless the amount of credit loss recorded is greater than the amount of deferred retailer cash held by the Group. In the event that the retailer liability is not consumed by losses before the end of the related loan period, the balance is returned to the retailer upon final maturity of each annual vintage of agreements. Retailer liability is recorded within other liabilities on the statement of financial position.

(k) Derivative Financial Instruments
The Group enters into a variety of derivative financial instruments to hedge its exposure to variation in interest and foreign exchange rates including cross currency swaps and interest rate swaps. The Group does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

Wherever possible the Group designates derivatives as either hedges of the fair value of recognised assets or liabilities (fair value hedges) or hedges of foreign currency and, or, interest rate risk of firm commitments and recognised liabilities (cash flow hedges). The Group may also from time to time employ hedges that do not satisfy the strict eligibility requirements for hedge accounting contained within IAS 39 and are, as a result, ‘non designated’ for hedge accounting purposes but which nevertheless make an effective hedge against a particular financial risk in accordance with the principles of risk management.

Derivative financial instruments are initially recorded at fair value at the time the derivative contract is entered into. After initial recognition they are re-measured to their fair value at each reporting date. The resulting gains or losses are taken to the income statement immediately unless the derivative is within a designated cash flow hedging relationship, in which event, the timing of the recognition in profit or loss depends on the nature of the underlying hedged item.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

2.3 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

For derivatives where hedge accounting is not applied, the fair value movement is recorded in profit and loss as fair value movement on derivative financial instruments. Interest accrued on derivatives that are not part of a hedging relationship is included in fair value gains and losses in the income statement.

(l) Hedge Accounting

At inception, each hedge relationship is designated as being either;

- A hedge of the fair value of a recognised asset or liability or firm commitment (fair value hedge), or
- A hedge of a highly probable future cash flow attributable to either a recognised asset or liability or a forecast transaction (cash flow hedge).

A hedging relationship can only be recognised for the purposes of IAS 39 hedge accounting when all of the following are true:

- At the inception of the hedge there is formal documentation of the hedge.
- The hedge is expected to be highly effective.
- The effectiveness of the hedge can be reliably measured.
- The hedge is highly effective throughout its life to maturity.
- For a hedge of a forecast transaction, the transaction is highly probable and presents an exposure to variations in cash flows that will ultimately affect net profit.

Derivative financial instruments included in hedging relationships are measured at fair value

Hedge accounting is discontinued if the hedging relationship is no longer effective, as defined by IAS39, or no longer meets the hedging and business objectives. Note 13 contains details of the fair values of the derivative instruments used for hedging purposes. Movements in the cash flow hedge reserve in equity are detailed in the statement of changes in equity on page 15.

Fair Value Hedge

Changes in fair value of derivatives that are in designated fair value hedge relationships are recorded in profit and loss immediately, together with any changes in fair value of the hedged asset or liability that are attributable to the hedged risk. Gains or losses on the revaluation of both the fair value hedge instrument and the hedged item are recognised in the income statement as they occur. Fair value adjustments relating to the hedged instrument are allocated to the same income statement category as the related hedged item.

Fair value hedge accounting is discontinued when the Group revokes the hedging relationship, the hedge instrument expires or is sold, terminated or exercised, or no longer qualifies for hedge accounting. The brought forward cumulative adjustment to the carrying amount of the hedged item arising from the hedged risk is, from the point of dedesignation, then amortised through the profit and loss account over the remaining life of the hedged item.

Cash Flow Hedge

The change in the fair value of derivatives in cash flow hedge relationships is in each accounting period split between that part which is effective in hedging, that is offsetting, the change in value of the underlying item and that part which is deemed to be ineffective. That is, that part of the change in value of derivatives that does not offset the movement in the underlying hedged item.

That part of the change in value of a derivative that is deemed to be ineffective in its designated hedge relationship, is recognised immediately in the profit or loss account line ‘fair value gain/loss on derivative financial instruments’. Gains or losses on derivatives that are deemed effective in hedging the underlying risk are deferred in the Cash-flow Hedge Reserve and released to profit or loss in the periods as and when the underlying hedged item is recognised in profit or loss.

Cash flow hedge accounting is discontinued when the Group revokes the hedging relationship, the hedging instrument expires, is sold, terminated, exercised, or no longer qualifies for hedge accounting. At the point of de-designation the cumulative gain or loss that had previously been deferred in the Cash-flow Hedge Reserve is charged to the income statement, unless the hedged item is a forecast transaction in which case the deferred gain or loss is transferred to the income statement as and when the forecast transaction occurs.

(m) Inventories

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Inventories represent assets that have come off a lease arrangement pending disposal. Net realisable value takes into account prevailing market values and cost of sale.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

2.3 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)
(n) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Group has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. The expense relating to any provision is presented in the income statement net of any reimbursement.

(o) Cash and Cash Equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents in the statement of financial position and disclosed in the statement of cash flows comprise cash at banks and on hand and short term deposits with a maturity of three months or less.

(p) Securitisation transactions
Where the Group has issued debt securities or entered into funding arrangements with lenders in order to finance specific loans and advances to customers all the financial assets concerned continue to be held on the Group statement of financial position, and a liability recognised for the proceeds from the funding transaction, unless one of the following applies;

- substantially all of the risks and rewards associated with the financial assets have been transferred, in which case the assets are derecognised in full,
- the assets are also derecognised in their entirety where a significant portion but not all of the risks and rewards have been transferred and the transferee has the right to sell the financial assets,
- where a significant portion but not substantially all of the risks and rewards have been transferred and the transferee does not have the ability to sell the assets then the assets are recognised in the Group's balance sheet, but only to the extent of the Group's continuing involvement,
- where any of the above applies to a fully proportionate share of all, or specifically identified cash flows of all the assets, then the relevant accounting treatment is applied to that proportion of the identified assets

(q) Impairment of Non Financial Assets

Operating Leased Property, Plant and Equipment
Residual Value exposure occurs due to the uncertain nature of the value of an asset at the end of an agreement. Throughout the life of an asset its residual value will fluctuate because of the uncertainty of the future market for that asset as well as general economic conditions. Residual values are set at the commencement of the lease based upon management's expectation of future sale proceeds. During the course of the lease, residual values are monitored so as to identify any impairment required. The monitoring takes account of the Company's past history for residual values and projections of the likely future market for each group of assets. Any impairment in the residual value of each group asset is immediately charged to the profit and loss account.

Other Assets
The Group assesses at least annually whether there is an indication that a non financial asset, e.g. goodwill, may be impaired. If any indication exists, or when annual impairment testing for an asset is required, the Group estimates the asset's recoverable amount. An assets recoverable amount is the higher of value in use and fair value less costs of disposal and is determined for an individual asset or cash generating unit (CGU), unless the asset does not generate cash inflows that are largely independent of those from other assets or groups of assets. When the carrying amount of an asset or CGU exceeds its recoverable amount, the asset is considered impaired and is written down to its recoverable amount. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. The Group bases its impairment calculation on detailed budget calculations, which are prepared separately for each of the Group's CGU's. These budgets generally cover a period of five years; for longer periods, a long term growth rate is calculated and applied to project future cash flows after the fifth year. Impairment losses are recognised in the income statement.

(r) Pension Benefits
The Group operates a defined benefit pension scheme and a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost relating to the defined benefit scheme is assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries using the projected unit credit method which attributes entitlements to benefits to the current period (to determine current service cost) and to the current and prior periods (to determine the present value of defined benefit obligations).

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

2.3 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Actuarial gains and losses are recognised, in full, in the statement of comprehensive income in the periods in which they arise. The Group's contributions to the defined contribution scheme are charged to the income statement in the period to which the contributions relate.
The defined benefit asset or liability comprises the present value of the defined benefit obligation less past service costs not yet recognised and less the fair value of plan assets out of which the obligations are to be settled directly, less actuarial losses not yet recognised. The value of any asset is the present value of any economic benefits available in the form of refunds from the plan or reductions in the future contributions to the plan.

2.4 Changes to Standards and Interpretations

The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous financial year except where new accounting standards have been adopted. Changes in accounting policies and reclassifications have been made to reflect the operating activities of the Group. Prior year comparatives have been restated for consistency with current year presentation.

Accounting policy changes and Reclassifications made during the year

Operating leased assets are transferred from Property, Plant and Equipment to Inventory at their carrying amount when they cease to be rented and the intention is to sell them. Proceeds on disposal of these leased assets £114,206,000 (2013: £53,287,000) are recognised as revenue with the respective carrying amounts expensed in cost of sales £113,924,000 (2013: £53,059,000). In addition, fee income related to leased asset disposals of £5,246,000 (2013: £2,509,000) are recognised as revenue. These items were previously reported as a net gain or loss in the income statement. Cashflows arising on purchase £314,828,000 (2013: £228,749,000) and disposal of leased assets £114,206,000 (2013: £53,287,000) are presented under operating activities (previously presented under investing activities) in the Cashflow statement. Customer claims have been classified as current liabilities which is consistent with our legal obligations (refer note 21). The amount reclassified from non-current liabilities to current liabilities for prior year comparative is £7,227,000. Pension disclosure has been undertaken in accordance with IAS19R as detailed below and note 22. Directors' remuneration has been disclosed on a cash basis, with an overall impact of £952,000 on the 2013 disclosure.

(a) New and Amended Standards and Interpretations

IFRS 7 Disclosures – Offsetting Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities - amendments to IFRS 7
These amendments require an entity to disclose information about rights of set off and related arrangements (e.g. collateral agreements). The disclosures will provide users with information that is useful in evaluating the effect of netting arrangements on an entity's financial position. The effective date is for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2013.

IFRS 13 Fair Value Measurement and amendments
It becomes effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2013. IFRS 13 does not change when an entity is required to use fair value, but rather, provides guidance on how to measure the fair value of financial and non financial assets and liabilities when required or permitted by IFRS.

In addition, the new amendment clarifies in the Basis for Conclusion that short-term receivables and payables with no stated interest rates can be measured at invoice amounts when the effect of discounting is immaterial. The amendment is effective immediately. The new standard did not have a material impact on the Group. Additional disclosures where required are provided in the individual note relating to the assets and liabilities whose fair values were determined. Fair value hierarchy is provided in note 15.

IAS 19 Employees Benefits (Revised)
The revised standard includes a number of amendments that range from fundamental changes to simple clarifications and re-wording. These changes represent a significant further step in reporting gains and losses outside of profit or loss, with no subsequent recycling. Actuarial gains and losses will be excluded permanently from profit or loss. It is effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2013. Refer to note 22 for the additional disclosures and for the impact of the adoption of IAS 19 (Revised 2011).

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

2.4 Changes to Standards and Interpretations (continued)

Improvements to IFRS's

Other amendments relating to the following standards did not have any impact on the accounting policies, financial position or performance of the Group:

- IFRS 1 Government Loans - Amendments to IFRS 1
- IFRS 1 First – time Adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards
- IFRS 11 Joint Arrangements
- IFRS 12 Disclosure of Interests in Other Entities
- IFRIC 20 Stripping Costs in the Production Phase of a Surface Mine
- IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements
- IAS 16 Property, Plant and Equipment
- IAS 27 Separate Financial Statements
- IAS 28 Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures
- IAS 32 Financial Instruments: Presentation
- IAS 34 Interim Financial Reporting

(b) Standards Issued but not yet Effective

IFRS 3 Business Combinations – Amendments

The amendments clarify that all contingent consideration arrangements classified as liabilities (or assets) arising from a business combination should be subsequently measured at fair value through profit or loss whether or not they fall within the scope of IFRS 9 (or IAS 39, as applicable). The amendments also clarify that joint arrangements, not just joint ventures, are outside the scope of IFRS 3, and the scope exception applies only to the accounting in the financial statements of the joint arrangement itself. The change is effective from 1 July 2014 and is applied prospectively. These amendments are not expected to have a material impact on the Group.

IFRS 8 Operating Segments – Amendments

The amendments clarify that an entity must disclose the judgments made by management in applying the aggregation criteria in IFRS 8, including a brief description of operating segments that have been aggregated and the economic characteristics used to assess whether the segments are similar. It also clarifies that the reconciliation of segment assets to total assets is only required to be disclosed if the reconciliation is reported to the chief operating decision maker, similar to the required disclosure for segment liabilities. The changes are effective from 1 July 2014 and are applied retrospectively. These amendments are not expected to have a material impact on the Group.

IFRS 9 Financial Instruments

IFRS 9, as issued, reflects the first phase of the IASB's work on the replacement of IAS 39 and applies to classification and measurement of financial assets and liabilities as defined in IAS 39. As the impact of adoption depends on the assets held by the Group at the date of adoption, it is not practical to quantify the effect. Phases two and three relating to impairment and hedge accounting are still being developed by the IASB and therefore no assessment can be made on the transitional impact. IFRS 9 does not have a mandatory effective date.

IFRS 10, IFRS 12 and IAS 27 Investment Entities – Amendments

IFRS 10 replaces the portion of IAS 27 that addresses the accounting for consolidated financial statements. The standard shall be applied no later than the annual period beginning or after 1 January 2014.

The amendments introduce a new concept of "an investment entity". It represents a significant change for investment entities, which are currently required to consolidate investees that they control. The amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2014 and must be applied retrospectively. These amendments are not expected to have a material impact on the Group.

IFRS 13 Fair Value Measurement - Amendments

The amendment clarifies the portfolio exception in IFRS 13 can be applied not only to financial assets and financial liabilities, but also to other contracts within the scope of IFRS 9 (or IAS 39, as applicable). This amendment is effective from 1 July 2014 and is applied prospectively. It is not expected to have a material impact on the Group.

IAS 16 Property, Plant and Equipment and IAS 38 Intangible Assets – Amendments

The amendment to IAS 16 and IAS 38 clarifies that the asset may be revalued by reference to observable data on either the gross or the net carrying amount. It also clarifies that accumulated depreciation/ amortization is the difference between the gross and carrying amounts of the asset. The changes are effective from 1 July 2014 and are applied retrospectively. These amendments are not expected to have a material impact on the Group.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

2.4 Changes to Standards and Interpretations (continued)

IAS 24 Related Party Disclosures – Amendments
The amendment clarifies that a management entity – an entity that provides key management personnel services – is a related party subject to the related party disclosures. In addition, an entity that uses a management entity is required to disclose the expenses incurred for management services. The change is effective from 1 July 2014 and is applied retrospectively. These amendments are not expected to have a material impact on the Group.

IAS 19 Defined Benefit Plans: Employee Contributions – Amendments
The amendments to IAS 19 clarify that, if the amount of the contributions is independent of the number of years of service, an entity is permitted to recognise such contributions as a reduction in the service cost in the period in which the service is rendered, instead of allocating the contributions to the periods of service. It is effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2014. The amendments are applied retrospectively, in accordance with the requirements of IAS 8 for changes in accounting policy. As the impact of adoption depends on the contributions and number of years of service, it is not practical to quantify the effect.

IAS 32 Offsetting Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities – Amendments
These amendments to IAS 32 clarify the meaning of "currently has a legally enforceable right to set off". The amendments also clarify the application of the IAS 32 offsetting criteria to settlement systems (such as central clearing house systems), which apply gross settlement mechanisms that are not simultaneous. The effective date is for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2014. As the impact of adoption depends on the assets and liabilities held by the Group at the date of adoption, it is not practical to quantify the effect.

IAS 36 Recoverable Amount Disclosures for Non-Financial Assets – Amendments
The amendments clarify the disclosure requirements in respect of fair value less costs of disposal. The amendments require then entities to disclose additional information about fair value measurement of impaired assets when the recoverable amount is based on fair value less costs of disposal; as well as the discount rates that have been used when the recoverable amount is based on fair value less costs of disposal using a present value technique.

It is effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2014 and applied retrospectively. It is not expected to have a material impact on the Group.

IAS 39 Novation of Derivatives and Continuation of Hedge Accounting – Amendments
The amendments provide an exception to the requirement to discontinue hedge accounting in certain circumstances in which there is a change in counterparty to a hedging instrument in order to achieve clearing for that instrument. The amendments are in effect, a relief from the hedge accounting requirements, and will allow entities to better reflect hedge relationships in the circumstances in which the novation exception applies. As the impact of adoption depends on the counterparties, it is not practical to quantify the effect.

Other standards issued, but not yet effective, that will not have any significant impact on the Group, include:

- IFRS 1 First – time Adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards
- IFRS 2 Share-based Payment
- IFRS 14 Regulatory Deferral Accounts
- IFRIC 21 Levies
- IAS 40 Investment Properties

2.5 Significant Accounting Judgements, Estimates and Assumptions

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities. However, uncertainty about these assumptions and estimates could result in outcomes that require a material adjustment to the carrying amount of the asset or liability affected in future periods; key areas are discussed below. Management has not made any significant judgements, other than those involving estimates, in the preparation of the financial statements.
Fair Value Measurement

Some financial instruments, such as all derivatives and certain borrowings in fair value hedge relationships are measured and shown on the balance sheet at their fair value determined at each balance sheet date. Other financial instruments are measured at amortised cost on the balance sheet and their fair values disclosed in Note 15.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

2.5 Significant Accounting Judgements, Estimates and Assumptions (continued)

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value measurement is based upon the presumption that the transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability takes place in either;

- the principal market for the asset or liability, or
- in the absence of a principal market, in the most advantageous market for the asset or liability.
- The principal or the most advantageous market being one that is accessible to the Group.

The fair value of an asset or a liability is measured, as near as practically possible, using assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, assuming that market participants act in their economic best interest. Any fair value measurements of a non-financial asset takes into account a market participant's ability to generate economic benefits by using the asset in its highest and best use or by selling it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

The Group uses valuation techniques that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data are available to measure fair value, maximising the use of relevant observable inputs and minimising the use of unobservable market inputs.

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorised within the fair value hierarchy, described as follows, based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole:

- Level 1: Quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities
- Level 2: Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value and measurement is directly observable
- Level 3: Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value and measurement is unobservable

At the end of each reporting period the Group determines whether transfers have occurred between Levels in the hierarchy by re-assessing categorisation (based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole) at the end of each reporting period.

Impairment of Financial Assets
Discussed in note 2.3(i) above.

Impairment of Non Financial Assets
Discussed in note 2.3(q) above.

Retirement Benefit Obligation
The cost of the defined benefit scheme and obligation is determined using actuarial valuations. This involves making assumptions about discount rates, future salary increases, mortality rates and future pension increases. Due to the long term nature of these plans, such estimates are subject to significant uncertainty. Further details are provided in note 22.

In determining the appropriate discount rate, management considers the interest rates of corporate bonds with at least an 'AA' rating or above, as set by an internationally acknowledged rating agency, and extrapolated as needed along the yield curve to correspond with the expected term of the defined benefit obligation. The mortality rate is based on publicly available mortality tables. Future salary increases and pension increases are based on expected future inflation rates.

Taxes
The Company and its subsidiaries are subject to routine tax audits and also a process whereby tax computations are discussed and agreed with the appropriate authorities. Whilst the ultimate outcome of such tax audits and discussions cannot be determined with certainty, management estimates the level of provision required for both current and deferred tax on the basis of professional advice and the nature of current discussions with the tax authority concerned.

Insurance Provisions and Related Deferred Insurance Commissions
The key estimations involved for insurance provisions are discussed in note 2.3(e) above with further details provided in note 28. The estimate of reserves was changed during the year, further details of which are included in note 28.

The unearned insurance premiums reserve is calculated using a number of risk profiles that vary dependent on the term of the cover, the associated risks and perils of the cover offered. Provisions are independently verified annually by a qualified actuary. The majority of premium reserves will be recognised within one year of the date of the accounts.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

2.5 Significant Accounting Judgements, Estimates and Assumptions (continued)

Claim liabilities provisions refer to claims accepted not yet paid at the year end and a provision for claims incurred but not reported (IBNR). The IBNR provision is calculated based on claims expenses and expectations.

Provision for Customer Claims
The Group recognises a customer claims provision, which relates to incidences where the Group is jointly and severally liable to customers who have claims against retailers for misrepresentation or breach of contract, in accordance with the accounting policy stated in 2.3(n). Further details are included in note 21.

3. Investment in Subsidiaries (Company)

	2014 £'000	2013 £'000
At 1 April	**10,753**	10,903
Repayment of capital contribution from Hitachi Capital Insurance Europe Limited	**(1,900)**	(150)
At 31 March	**8,853**	10,753

	Place of incorporation and operation	**Activity**
Hitachi Capital Vehicle Solutions Limited	UK	Contract hire
Hitachi Capital Insurance Europe Limited	Ireland & UK	Insurance

All subsidiaries are wholly owned and directly held by the Company. Abridged versions of the subsidiary results can be found in note 4 of these financial statements.

4. Operating Segment Information

For management purposes, the Group is organised into a corporate centre and five business units based on their products and services. This split is the basis on which the Group reports its primary segment information and is in accordance with the measures reported to decision makers for the purpose of allocating resources to the segments and assessing their performance. Segment performance is evaluated based on profit before tax.

The principal activities of each business unit are as follows:
Consumer Finance (HCCF) – retail point of sale
Vehicle Solutions (HCVS) – vehicle management solutions and fleet management services
Business Finance (HCBF) – medium term asset finance
Invoice Finance (HCIF) – factoring
Insurance Europe (HCIE) – direct insurer for payment protection and guaranteed asset protection
Corporate – head office, including hedging activities, and Group eliminations
No revenues earned from transactions with a single external customer (including groups under common control) amount to 10% or more of the Group's revenues in either the 2014 or 2013 reporting periods. As the activities of the Group are predominantly carried out in the UK no geographical analysis is presented. Inter segment sales are charged at prevailing market rates.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

4. Operating Segment Information (continued)

	HCCF	HCVS	HCBF	HCIF	HCIE	Corporate	Group
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Year ended 31 March 2014							
Revenue							
Interest income	137,714	-	-	8,832	-	-	146,546
Other external income	5,836	330,244	41,039	-	105	121	377,345
Inter segment	-	1,332	-	-	-	(1,332)	-
Total revenue	**143,550**	**331,576**	**41,039**	**8,832**	**105**	**(1,211)**	**523,891**
Other allocations							
Finance (costs)/income	(19,255)	(6,520)	(7,462)	(496)	58	-	(33,675)
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	(709)	(132,569)	(8,601)	(29)	(2)	(1,708)	(143,618)
Bad debt impairment	(5,852)	55	441	(334)	-	-	(5,690)
Other	(72,312)	(171,801)	(18,659)	(5,617)	458	(3,553)	(271,484)
Profit/(loss) before tax	**45,422**	**20,741**	**6,758**	**2,356**	**619**	**(6,472)**	**69,424**
Income tax (expense)/credit	(10,755)	(3,220)	(1,588)	(554)	(150)	1898	(14,370)
Profit/(loss) after tax	34,667	17,521	5,170	1,802	469	(4,574)	55,054
Assets	**1,538,495**	**547,743**	**554,421**	**99,229**	**7,513**	**20,908**	**2,768,310**
Liabilities	**1,384,964**	**473,055**	**536,152**	**92,685**	**1,061**	**79,729**	**2,567,649**
Other disclosures							
Capital expenditure	314	311,803	8,928	3	-	2,472	323,522
Year ended 31 March 2013							
Revenue							
Interest income	116,105	-	-	7,328	-	-	123,433
Other external income	5,567	224,394	25,739	-	610	-	256,310
Inter segment	-	406	-	-	-	(406)	-
Total revenue	121,672	224,800	25,739	7,328	610	(406)	379,743
Other allocations							
Finance (costs)/income	(18,932)	(5,960)	(5,120)	(406)	91	302	(30,025)
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	(730)	(102,000)	(7,362)	(39)	(3)	(1,036)	(111,170)
Bad debt impairment	(7,824)	144	(1,161)	(283)	-	-	(9,124)
Other	(54,228)	(101,614)	(8,945)	(4,288)	71	(3,595)	(172,599)
Profit/(loss) before tax	39,958	15,370	3,151	2,312	769	(4,735)	56,825
Income tax (expense)/credit	(9,670)	(2,637)	(762)	(559)	(192)	1,207	(12,613)
Profit/(loss) after tax	30,288	12,733	2,389	1,753	577	(3,528)	44,212
Assets	1,255,556	468,768	311,991	70,215	9,886	36,661	2,153,077
Liabilities	1,139,422	407,913	298,892	65,474	2,003	88,650	2,002,354
Other disclosures							
Capital expenditure	576	196,203	33,840	5	-	5,048	235,672

5. Revenue

	Note	2014 £'000	2013 £'000 Restated
Interest income		**146,546**	123,433
Finance lease income		**27,187**	15,344
Operating lease rental income		**210,041**	166,645
Insurance premiums	28	**74**	593
Sale of operating leased assets		**114,206**	53,287
Fee income related to the activities above		**25,837**	20,441
Total revenue		**523,891**	379,743

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

6. Other Cost of Sales

	Note	**2014**	2013
		£'000	£'000
			Restated
Commission expense		**37,155**	29,417
Net insurance claims incurred	28	**(527)**	(556)
Customer claim charges and provisions	21	**8,473**	981
Operating lease assets net book value		**113,924**	53,059
Other expenses		**1,030**	1,228
Total other cost of sales		**160,055**	84,129

7. Administrative Expenses and Auditor's Remuneration

	2014	2013
		Restated
	£'000	£'000
Staff	**51,354**	40,450
Premises and office	**7,057**	6,108
IT and telephony	**13,068**	9,867
Marketing	**5,477**	3,147
Professional services and other	**8,332**	5,702
Auditor's remuneration		
Audit of financial statements	**641**	564
Tax services	**7**	10
Other assurance services	**-**	25
Other non audit services	**54**	55
Total	**85,990**	65,928

The number of full time equivalent employees at 31 March 2014 was 918 (2013: 817), which included permanent and temporary staff as well as those on fixed term contracts. Of this, 562 (2013: 470) employees were part of HCUK Company and 356 (2013: 347) of the subsidiary Vehicle Solutions. The Group employed an average of 870 (2013: 722) employees during the year. Of this HCUK Company had 515 (2013: 403) and the subsidiary Vehicle Solutions had 355 (2013: 319).

8. Income Tax

	2014	2013
		Restated
	£'000	£'000
Current income tax		
Charge for the year	**24,542**	7,823
Adjustment in respect of prior years	**(2,422)**	(6,738)
Tax impact of adoption of IAS19R	**-**	(57)
Total	**22,120**	1,028
Deferred tax		
Origination and reversal of temporary differences in the current year	**(9,903)**	5,153
Adjustment in respect of prior years	**2,153**	6,432
Total	**(7,750)**	11,585
Tax charge on profit	**14,370**	12,613

Adjustments in respect of prior years are required due to the nature of the Group's business, i.e. having a large number of assets qualifying for capital allowances. It is necessary, due to time constraints, to estimate the allowances available at the time the financial statements are prepared. This is largely due to the availability of first year allowances (purchases up to 31 March 2013 only) on some assets and short life asset elections for others. When the tax computations are prepared this can result in a swing between deferred and current tax. This would normally net out but at times of falling corporation tax rates this creates an adjustment.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

8. Income Tax (continued)

In addition to the amount reported in the income statement, deferred tax relating to the following items has been charged/(credited) directly in the Group's equity:

	Note	**2014 £'000**	2013 £'000 Restated
Revaluation of defined benefit pension scheme		**31**	(415)
Revaluation of cash flow hedges		**1,998**	(731)
Tax impact of adoption of IAS19R		**-**	57
Total tax charged on items taken directly to equity	9	**2,029**	(1,089)

The Group's income tax charge in the income statement can be reconciled to the profit as follows:

	2014 £'000	2013 £'000 Restated
Profit before tax	**69,424**	56,825
Tax on profit at UK corporation tax rate of 23% (2013: 24%)	**15,967**	13,638
Increase/(decrease) resulting from		
Adjustments in respect of prior years	**(269)**	(306)
Disallowable expenses and other adjustments	**195**	255
Release of provision for uncertain tax positions	**(168)**	(53)
Impact of rate change on net deferred tax liabilities	**(1,355)**	(921)
Tax charge	**14,370**	12,613

The UK rate of corporation tax reduced from 24% to 23% on 1 April 2013 and again from 23% to 21% from 1 April 2014. The rate will reduce further on 1 April 2015 to 20%. All rates have been enacted. Looking at individual categories of deferred tax it is considered that the majority of the deferred tax will crystallise by 31 March 2015. As a result the net deferred tax carried forward on the balance sheet at 31 March 2014 was recalculated at a composite rate of 20.83%. This created a reduction in tax charged in the year through the income statement of £269k (2013: £921k). This also created a decrease in tax of £3k (2013: £18k increase), in respect of the actuarial gain (2013: loss) on the pension scheme, and £39k increase (2013: £104k increase), in respect of derivative financial instruments, both of which were charged to equity.

9. Deferred Tax

Deferred taxes are calculated on all temporary differences under the liability method. There are no temporary differences in respect of which deferred tax has not been recognised.

The deferred tax assets and liabilities have been offset for reporting purposes on the basis that deferred tax predominantly arises in respect of items taxable within the same jurisdiction (UK) and it is expected that a right of set-off will exist when the items reverse.

	Accelerated tax depreciation £'000	**Retirement benefit obligations £'000**	**Derivative financial instruments £'000**	**Other £'000**	**Total £'000**
Group					
At 31 March 2012	(9,675)	(364)	1,867	224	(7,948)
Charge to income statement	(11,231)	(147)	(63)	(86)	(11,528)
Charge to equity	-	357	731	-	1,089
At 31 March 2013	(20,906)	(154)	2,535	138	(18,387)
Charge to income statement	8,095	(266)	(63)	(16)	7,750
Charge to equity	-	(31)	(1,998)	-	(2,029)
At 31 March 2014	**(12,811)**	**(451)**	**474**	**122**	**(12,666)**

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

9. Deferred Tax (continued)

Company					
At 31 March 2012	2,271	(364)	1,867	-	3,774
Charge to income statement	(1,520)	(205)	(63)	-	(1,788)
Charge to equity	-	415	731	-	1,146
At 31 March 2013	751	(154)	2,535	-	3,132
Charge to income statement	(725)	(266)	(63)	-	(1,054)
Charge to equity	-	(31)	(1,998)	-	(2,029)
At 31 March 2014	**26**	**(451)**	**474**	**-**	**49**

10. Property, Plant and Equipment

	Freehold property £'000	Motor vehicles £'000	Fixtures, fittings, computers and leasehold improvements £'000	Operating leased assets £'000	Total £'000
Group					
Cost					
At 31 March 2012	355	1,953	6,198	551,099	559,605
Additions	9	486	4,454	228,749	233,698
Disposals	-	(300)	(928)	-	(1,228)
Stock movements	-	-	-	(113,162)	(113,162)
At 31 March 2013	364	2,139	9,724	666,686	678,913
Additions	5,821	20	1,126	314,828	321,796
Disposals	-	(117)	(691)	-	(808)
Stock movements	-	(2,008)	-	(208,651)	(210,659)
At 31 March 2014	**6,185**	**34**	**10,159**	**772,863**	**789,242**
Accumulated depreciation and impairment					
At 31 March 2012	36	544	2,879	175,941	179,400
Charge for the year	158	351	1,279	105,787	107,575
Impairment loss	-	-	-	2,135	2,135
Eliminated on disposals	-	(133)	(769)	-	(902)
Stock movements	-	-	-	(63,502)	(63,502)
At 31 March 2013	194	762	3,389	220,361	224,706
Charge for the year	-	13	1,659	138,126	139,798
Impairment loss	-	-	-	2,216	2,216
Eliminated on disposals	-	(61)	(582)	-	(643)
Stock movements	-	(696)	-	(100,868)	(101,564)
At 31 March 2014	**194**	**18**	**4,465**	**259,836**	**264,515**
At 31 March 2013	170	1,377	6,335	446,325	454,207
At 31 March 2014	**5,989**	**16**	**5,694**	**513,027**	**524,726**
Company					
Cost					
At 31 March 2012	-	-	3,198	26,797	29,995
Additions	-	-	4,031	33,613	37,644
Disposals	-	-	(794)	-	(794)
Stock movements	-	-	-	(2,848)	(2,848)
At 31 March 2013	-	-	6,435	57,562	63,997
Additions	-	-	1,065	8,928	9,993
Disposals	-	-	(222)	-	(222)
Stock movements	-	-	-	(7,139)	(7,139)
At 31 March 2014	**-**	**-**	**7,278**	**59,351**	**66,629**

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

10. Property, Plant and Equipment (continued)

Accumulated depreciation and impairment					
At 31 March 2012	-	-	1,738	8,478	10,216
Charge for the year	-	-	847	6,436	7,283
Impairment loss	-	-	-	724	724
Eliminated on disposals	-	-	(666)	-	(666)
Stock movements	-	-	-	(1,789)	(1,789)
At 31 March 2013	-	-	1,919	13,849	15,768
Charge for the year	-	-	1,269	8,355	9,624
Impairment loss	-	-	-	119	119
Eliminated on disposals	-	-	(171)	-	(171)
Stock movements	-	-	-	(4,722)	(4,722)
At 31 March 2014	**-**	**-**	**3,016**	**17,601**	**20,617**
Carrying amount					
At 31 March 2013	-	-	4,516	43,713	48,229
At 31 March 2014	**-**	**-**	**4,262**	**41,750**	**46,011**

At 31 March 2014 the Group had entered into contractual commitments for the acquisition of property, plant and equipment amounting to £52,600,000 (2013: £50,205,000), being assets to be leased to customers under operating leases. Management has determined that the necessary funding will be available from existing facilities to cover these commitments. The Company had no such commitments.

Depreciation expense for the Group of £138,126,000 (2013: £105,787,000) relating to operating leased assets was included in cost of sales. A further impairment charge of £2,216,000 (2013: £2,136,000) relating to operating leased assets was also included in cost of sales. The impairment loss relates to operating leased assets in the Vehicle Solutions and Business Finance Business Units and reflects change in portfolio size, mix and future anticipated values. Depreciation expense relating to the remainder of the Group's property, plant and equipment of £1,672,000 (2013: £1,788,000) was included in administrative expenses.

11. Intangible Assets

	Capitalised software £'000	Goodwill £'000	Total £'000
Group			
Cost			
At 31 March 2012	12,029	13,706	25,735
Additions	1,974	-	1,974
Disposals	(1,307)	-	(1,307)
At 31 March 2013	12,696	13,706	26,402
Additions	1,724	-	1,724
Disposals	(1,929)	-	(1,929)
At 31 March 2014	**12,494**	**13,706**	**26,200**
Accumulated amortisation and impairment			
At 31 March 2012	8,968	-	8,968
Charge for the year	1,460	-	1,460
Eliminated on disposals	(1,216)	-	(1,216)
At 31 March 2013	9,212	-	9,212
Charge for the year	1,604	-	1,604
Eliminated on disposals	(1,615)	-	(1,615)
At 31 March 2014	**9,203**	**-**	**9,203**
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2013	3,484	13,706	17,190
At 31 March 2014	**3,291**	**13,706**	**16,997**

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

11. Intangible Assets (continued)

Company			
Cost			
At 31 March 2012	8,045	4,886	12,931
Additions	1,828	-	1,828
Disposals	(1,271)	-	(1,271)
At 31 March 2013	8,602	4,886	13,488
Additions	1,724	-	1,724
Disposals	(1,921)	-	(1,921)
At 31 March 2014	**8,405**	**4,886**	**13,291**
Accumulated amortisation and impairment			
At 31 March 2012	5,606	-	5,606
Charge for the year	1,160	-	1,160
Eliminated on disposals	(1,197)	-	(1,197)
At 31 March 2013	**5,569**	**-**	**5,569**
Charge for the year	1,319	-	1,319
Eliminated on disposals	(1,609)	-	(1,609)
At 31 March 2014	**5,280**	**-**	**5,280**
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2013	3,033	4,886	7,919
At 31 March 2014	**3,125**	**4,886**	**8,013**

Carrying amount of goodwill by business segment	**Invoice Finance £'000**	**Vehicle Solutions £'000**	**Total £'000**
At 31 March 2013	4,886	8,820	13,706
At 31 March 2014	**4,886**	**8,820**	**13,706**

The amortisation charge relating to capitalised software and other intangibles is included in the administrative expense line of the income statement.

At 31 March 2014, neither the Group nor the Company had any contractual commitments for the acquisition of intangible assets (2013: none).

Impairment Testing

The recoverable amount for each cash generating unit has been determined based on a value in use calculation using cash flow projections from financial budgets approved by senior management covering a four year period. The pre tax discount rates applied to cash flow projections are shown below and cash flows beyond the four year period were extrapolated using a 2.5% growth rate (2013: 2.5%).

Recognition of impairment is considered when the IRR is below 15%.

The key assumptions used in the calculation of value in use were budget assumptions to which an estimate of growth rate was used to extrapolate cash flows beyond the budget period and a discount rate was then applied. The budgets for each cash generating unit are representative of operational and financial aspects that relate to that unit and include past experience, default rates, impairment implications and market conditions prevailing at the time. As a result, management have used their current asset base and new sales opportunities to derive the revenue and profitability expectations for the operating unit. These budgets are approved by senior management and the parent company. The growth rate used to extrapolate cash flows beyond the budget period has been based on the long term growth rate of the economy. An internal rate of return method was used in the calculation of value in use, which resulted in returns in excess of the parent company's minimum expectations.

Management has determined that any reasonably possible change in the key assumptions would not cause the carrying amount of the cash generating unit to materially exceed its recoverable amount.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

12. Loans and Receivables

Movements in the allowance for impairment losses	**Group 2014 £'000**	Group 2013 £'000	**Company 2014 £'000**	Company 2013 £'000
At 1 April	**7,328**	7,993	**7,246**	7,941
Amounts written off	**(10,212)**	(12,216)	**(10,217)**	(12,216)
Recoveries	**2,604**	2,280	**2,585**	2,253
Charge to the income statement	**5,708**	9,271	**5,744**	9,268
Total at 31 March	**5,428**	7,328	**5,358**	7,246
Loans and receivables, gross of impairment	**2,147,652**	1,594,626	**2,507,139**	1,910,394
Loans and receivables, net of impairment	**2,142,224**	1,587,298	**2,501,781**	1,903,148

In addition to the above charge, bad debt impairment in the consolidated income statement includes a credit relating to trade debtors of £18,000 (2013: credit of £147,000). The total charge in the consolidated income statement is, therefore, £5,690,000 (2013: £9,124,000).

The amortised present values of the loans and receivables, analysed by residual maturity:

	<1 yr £'000	**1-3 yrs £'000**	**3-5 yrs £'000**	**>5 yrs £'000**	**Total £'000**
Group					
Finance lease receivables at 31 March 2014					
Finance leases – gross	26,276	41,990	18,962	812	**88,040**
Deferred Revenue	(3,374)	(5,013)	(2,078)	(98)	**(10,563)**
Impairment	(65)	9	4	-	**(52)**
Total	**22,837**	**36,985**	**16,888**	**714**	**77,424**
Finance lease receivables at 31 March 2013					
Finance leases – gross	14,711	21,349	10,398	666	47,125
Deferred Revenue	(1,785)	(2,535)	(1,065)	(77)	(5,463)
Impairment	(80)	4	2	-	(74)
Total	12,847	18,818	9,334	589	41,588
HP agreements at 31 March 2014					
HP agreements – gross	193,241	230,099	58,143	2,765	**484,249**
Deferred Revenue	(20,667)	(23,965)	(6,056)	(288)	**(50,976)**
Impairment	(709)	(477)	(120)	(7)	**(1,313)**
Total	**171,865**	**205,657**	**51,966**	**2,470**	**431,960**
HP agreements at 31 March 2013					
HP agreements – gross	109,763	115,152	23,097	831	248,843
Deferred Revenue	(10,036)	(10,465)	(2,099)	(76)	(22,676)
Impairment	(802)	(521)	(105)	(4)	(1,431)
Total	98,926	104,165	20,894	752	224,737
Instalment Finance at 31 March 2014					
Instalment Finance – gross	960,626	670,652	196,496	64,710	**1,892,484**
Deferred Revenue	(134,218)	(138,796)	(51,117)	(30,946)	**(355,077)**
Impairment	(1,838)	(1,309)	(384)	(126)	**(3,657)**
Total	**824,570**	**530,547**	**144,995**	**33,638**	**1,533,750**
Instalment Finance at 31 March 2013					
Instalment Finance – gross	579,731	623,223	237,495	136,920	1,577,369
Deferred Revenue	(118,005)	(119,406)	(51,817)	(31,698)	(320,926)
Impairment	(2,827)	(1,963)	(566)	(230)	(5,586)
Total	458,899	501,854	185,112	104,992	1,250,857
Other Loans and Advances 31 March 2014					
Other Loans – gross	99,459	-	-	-	**99,459**
Deferred Revenue	-	-	-	-	**-**
Impairment	(371)	-	-	-	**(371)**
Total	**99,088**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**99,088**

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

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12. Loans and Receivables (continued)

Other Loans and Advances at 31 March 2013					
Other Loans – gross	70,352	-	-	-	70,352
Deferred Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Impairment	(236)	-	-	-	(236)
Total	70,116	-	-	-	70,116

Company

	<1 yr £'000	**1-3 yrs £'000**	**3-5 yrs £'000**	**>5 yrs £'000**	**Total £'000**
Finance lease receivables at 31 March 2014					
Finance leases – gross	24,320	37,432	16,742	812	**79,306**
Deferred Revenue	(2,932)	(4,512)	(2,018)	(98)	**(9,560)**
Impairment	6	9	4	-	**19**
Total	**21,394**	**32,928**	**14,728**	**714**	**69,764**
Finance lease receivables at 31 March 2013					
Finance leases – gross	13,646	19,661	8,729	666	42,703
Deferred Revenue	(1,586)	(2,284)	(1,014)	(77)	(4,962)
Impairment	3	4	2	-	8
Total	12,063	17,381	7,716	589	37,749
HP agreements at 31 March 2014					
HP agreements – gross	193,241	230,099	58,143	2,765	**484,249**
Deferred Revenue	(20,667)	(23,965)	(6,056)	(288)	**(50,976)**
Impairment	(709)	(477)	(120)	(7)	**(1,311)**
Total	**175,865**	**205,657**	**51,966**	**2,470**	**431,960**
HP agreements at 31 March 2013					
HP agreements – gross	109,763	115,152	23,097	831	248,843
Deferred Revenue	(10,036)	(10,465)	(2,099)	(76)	(22,676)
Impairment	(802)	(521)	(105)	(4)	(1,431)
Total	98,926	104,165	20,894	752	224,737
Instalment Finance at 31 March 2014					
Instalment Finance – gross	960,626	670,652	196,496	64,710	**1,892,484**
Deferred Revenue	(134,218)	(138,796)	(51,117)	(30,946)	**(355,077)**
Impairment	(1,838)	(1,309)	(384)	(126)	**(3,657)**
Total	**824,570**	**530,547**	**144,995**	**33,638**	**1,533,750**
Instalment Finance at 31 March 2013					
Instalment finance – gross	579,731	623,223	237,495	136,920	1,577,369
Deferred Revenue	(118,005)	(119,406)	(51,817)	(31,698)	(320,926)
Impairment	(2,827)	(1,963)	(566)	(230)	(5,586)
Total	458,899	501,854	185,112	104,992	1,250,857
Other Loans and Advances 31 March 2014					
Other Loans – gross	99,459	-	-	-	**99,459**
Deferred Revenue	-	-	-	-	**-**
Impairment	(371)	-	-	-	**(371)**
Total	**99,088**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**99,088**
Other Loans and Advances at 31 March 2013					
Other Loans – gross	70,352	-	-	-	70,352
Deferred Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Impairment	(236)	-	-	-	(236)
Total	70,116	-	-	-	70,116

In addition to the above, the Company also has a loan receivable of £367,218,000 (2013: £319,689,000) from the subsidiaries in the Group. There is no deferral of revenue applied and the amount is due in over 5 years.

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12. Loans and Receivables (continued)

	Group 2014		Group 2013		**Company 2014**		Company 2013	
	£'000	**%**	£'000	%	**£'000**	**%**	£'000	%
Finance leases	**509,384**	**6.3**	267,288	4.3	**501,724**	**6.2**	263,449	4.2
Instalment finance agreements	**1,533,750**	**9.0**	1,250,860	9.5	**1,533,750**	**9.0**	1,250,860	9.5
Other	**99,088**	**4.8**	69,150	5.8	**99,088**	**4.8**	69,150	5.8
Amounts owed by subsidiaries	**-**	**-**	-	-	**367,218**	**1.8**	319,689	2.0
Total	**2,142,224**	**8.1**	1,587,298	8.4	**2,501,782**	**7.2**	1,903,148	7.4

The unguaranteed residual value of assets leased under finance leases by the Group at the reporting date is £2,680 (2013: £1,100). There are none for the Company in either of the years stated.

Refer to note 29.7 for disclosures regarding transfer of financial assets, including securitisations.

The interest rate in the majority of loans and receivables is fixed at the contract date for all of the lending term. These balances are therefore subject to fair value interest rate risk. Approximately £42,607,000 (2013: £70,116,000) of loans and receivables are written at floating interest rates, and are therefore subject to cash flow interest rate risk.

Loans and receivables, net of impairment, together with weighted average effective interest rates, are analysed further below.

13. Derivative Financial Instruments

Derivative financial instruments have been disclosed in the Group and Company statement of financial position as follows:

	Cross currency swap contracts						**Interest rate swap contracts**	
	Yen	**USD**	**NZD**	**CAD**	**Euro**	**Total**	**Total**	**Total**
2014	**£'000**	**£'000**	**£'000**	**£'000**	**£'000**	**£'000**	**£'000**	**£'000**
Assets								
Less than 1 year	-	-	-	-	275	275	-	275
1 to 2 years	-	-	80	-	-	80	28	108
2 to 5 years	-	7	-	-	-	7	3,369	3,376
Total	-	7	80	-	275	361	3,397	3,759
Liabilities								
Less than 1 year	(5,275)	(5,745)	-	-	(1,674)	(12,694)	(293)	(12,987)
1 to 2 years	(27,368)	(7,479)	-	(8)	-	(34,856)	(33)	(34,888)
2 to 5 years	(55,297)	(14,010)	-	-	-	(69,307)	(151)	(69,458)
Over 5 years	(231)	(87)	-	-	-	(319)	(27)	(346)
Total	(88,171)	(27,322)	-	(8)	(1,674)	(117,175)	(504)	(117,679)
Total	**(88,171)**	**(27,315)**	**80**	**(8)**	**(1,399)**	**(116,814)**	**2,894**	**(113,921)**
Of which,								
Designated as fair value hedges						(28,081)	-	(28,081)
Designated as cash flow hedges						(88,733)	2,894	(85,839)
Non designated						-	-	-

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

13. Derivative Financial Instruments (continued)

2013	Cross currency swap contracts						Interest rate swap contracts	
	Yen £'000	USD £'000	AUD £'000	NZD £'000	Euro £'000	Total £'000	Total £'000	Total £'000
Assets								
Less than 1 year	2,978	3,552	1,730	225	-	8,485	-	8,485
1 to 2 years	-	9,840	-	-	-	9,840	-	9,840
2 to 5 years	260	8,910	-	-	-	9,170	-	9,170
Total	3,238	22,302	1,730	225	-	27,495	-	27,495
Liabilities								
Less than 1 year	(12,704)	(74)	-	-	(1,446)	(14,224)	(426)	(14,650)
1 to 2 years	(2,500)	-	-	-	-	(2,500)	(1,710)	(4,210)
2 to 5 years	(29,067)	-	-	-	-	(29,067)	(2,008)	(31,075)
Total	(44,271)	(74)	-	-	(1,446)	(45,791)	(4,144)	(49,935)
Total	**(41,033)**	**22,228**	**1,730**	**225**	**(1,446)**	**(18,296)**	**(4,144)**	**(22,440)**
Of which,								
Designated as fair value hedges						(5,128)	-	(5,128)
Designated as cash flow hedges						(13,168)	(4,144)	(17,312)
Non designated						-	-	-

The hedged cash flows are expected to occur and affect profit and loss in the periods up to February 2021 (2013: September 2017) for cross currency swaps and to September 2017 (2013: September 2017) for interest rate swaps.

A description of the risks being hedged for fair value and cash flow hedges is disclosed in note 29.3.

Fair value gain/(loss) on derivative financial instruments	**2014 £'000**	2013 £'000
Ineffective portion of cash flow hedges	**(22)**	634
Gain/(loss) on fair value hedging instruments	**(22,955)**	(40,729)
(Loss)/gain on the hedged item attributable to the hedged risk	**23,030**	39,655
(Loss)/gain on derivatives not in designated hedging relationships	**-**	407
Total gain/(loss) recognised in the income statement	**53**	(33)

14. Interest Bearing Borrowings

The Company provides a central treasury function for the Group that is responsible for all external funding activities. Accordingly, the Group and Company disclosures for interest bearing borrowings are the same.

The carrying values and weighted average effective interest rates of borrowings are as follows:

	2014 £'000	**2014 %**	2013 £'000	2013 %
Bank and group borrowings	**627,557**	**1.31**	478,670	1.47
Commercial paper	**238,323**	**0.70**	119,396	0.71
Funding from securitised receivables	**389,354**	**1.78**	499,587	1.87
Medium term notes	**948,583**	**1.49**	653,798	1.86
Total	**2,203,817**	**1.41**	1,751,451	1.72

Bank overdrafts are repayable on demand and secured by the right of set-off against cash balances held by certain Group companies with the same bank (refer note 18). The average effective rate on overdraft balances for the year was 1.0% (2013: 1.5%) and is based on UK base rates plus an agreed margin. Other uncommitted borrowing facilities are available to the Group from banks and other sources. Certain facilities are secured by the right of set-off against cash balances held by certain Group companies at the same bank (refer note 18).

The Group raises funding under its Euro Medium Term Note ("EMTN") programme mainly for terms of one to five years. Borrowings from this source are unsecured although they benefit from a guarantee from Hitachi Capital Corporation.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

14. Interest Bearing Borrowings (continued)

Borrowings under the Group's two commercial paper programmes are typically raised for periods of between one month and 364 days. Borrowings under these programmes are also guaranteed by Hitachi Capital Corporation.

Proceeds from the securitisation of certain receivables are at a floating rate of interest, typically fixing for a period of between one and three months at each monthly interest payment date.

The Group utilises a securitisation programme whereby it sells consumer receivables to The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, which acts as a trustee (see note 12). Under IFRS, these assets are not derecognised from the financial statements since the majority of the risks and rewards are retained by the Group. Were the securitisation scheme ever to be run down, for whatever reason, then the Group is entitled to receive the return of surplus security over the period of run off of the underlying receivables.

The borrowings are repayable as follows:

	Fixed 2014 £'000	**Floating 2014 £'000**	**Total 2014 £'000**	Fixed 2013 £'000	Floating 2013 £'000	Total 2013 £'000
Current liabilities						
On demand or within 1 year	**337,825**	**699,786**	**1,037,611**	222,917	597,699	820,616
Non current liabilities						
More than 1 year but less than 2	**114,624**	**147,877**	**262,501**	50,000	356,869	406,869
More than 2 years but less than 7	**522,391**	**381,313**	**903,705**	213,354	310,612	523,966
Total	**637,016**	**529,190**	**1,166,206**	263,354	667,481	930,835
Total	**974,840**	**1,228,976**	**2,203,817**	486,271	1,265,180	1,751,451

There were no defaults of either principal or interest and no unremedied breaches of loan agreement terms that would permit the lender to demand accelerated payment on any loans payable during the reporting periods ending March 2014 or 2013.

An analysis of borrowings by currency is as follows:

	Sterling £'000	**Euro £'000**	**Yen £'000**	**US Dollar £'000**	**CAD Dollar £'000**	**Aus Dollar £'000**	**N.Zealand Dollar £'000**	**Total £'000**
31 March 2013	772,731	66,792	326,271	569,870	-	10,279	5,508	1,751,451
31 March 2014	**930,734**	**206,248**	**423,674**	**635,517**	**2,443**	**-**	**5,202**	**2,203,817**

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

15. Fair Value of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities

	Carrying amount		Fair value		Fair Value Hierarchy
	2014 £'000	2013 £'000	**2014 £'000**	2013 £'000	
Group:					
Financial assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	**18,946**	16,841	**18,946**	16,841	1
Trade debtors	**23,617**	22,279	**23,617**	22,279	3
Loans and receivables	**2,142,224**	1,587,298	**2,122,034**	1,605,753	3
Derivative assets	**3,759**	27,495	**3,759**	27,495	2
Total	**2,188,546**	1,653,913	**2,168,356**	1,672,368	
Financial liabilities:					
Bank overdraft	**4,041**	11,644	**4,041**	11,644	1
Trade creditors and accruals, including balances due to invoice financing clients	**101,612**	84,177	**101,612**	84,177	3
Interest bearing borrowings	**2,203,817**	1,751,451	**2,210,859**	1,762,423	3
Derivative liabilities	**117,860**	49,935	**117,680**	49,935	2
Total	**2,427,330**	1,897,207	**2,434,192**	1,908,179	
Company:					
Financial assets:					
Trade debtors	179	1,506	179	1,506	3
Loans and receivables	**2,501,781**	1,903,148	**2,481,591**	1,921,603	3
Derivative assets	**3,759**	27,495	**3,759**	27,495	2
Total	**2,505,719**	1,932,149	**2,485,529**	1,950,604	
Financial liabilities:					
Bank overdraft	**4,041**	11,644	**4,041**	11,644	1
Trade creditors and accruals, including balances due to invoice financing clients	**73,532**	57,307	**73,532**	57,307	3
Interest bearing borrowings	**2,203,817**	1,751,451	**2,210,859**	1,762,423	3
Derivative liabilities	**117,680**	49,935	**117,680**	49,935	2
Total	**2,399,070**	1,870,337	**2,406,112**	1,881,309	

The fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities has been determined in accordance with the following hierarchy, as numbered in the above table:

- Level 1: The fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities with standard terms and conditions and traded on an active liquid market, determined by reference to quoted market prices.

- Level 2: The fair value of derivatives in the disclosure above has been determined using discounted cash flow models using observable market inputs in the form of yield curves in each relevant currency and spot foreign currency exchange rates to convert values to Sterling. This excludes any option derivatives, which have been valued using option pricing models based on observable market inputs such as volatility, discount rates and foreign exchange rates. The fair value of derivatives is further adjusted by taking account of both the Group's counterparties' and its own credit spreads applied to cash flows owed to and from the group. These credit spreads were derived from observable market prices of credit default swaps and other market based credit spreads.
- Level 3:
  a) The fair value of loans and receivables has been determined by using a model that uses as input the observable market interest rate for the relevant tenor of each asset, and its change from the time of inception of the asset to the balance sheet date. Further adjustments to take account of customer credit risk uses unobservable inputs.

  b) The fair value of own borrowings in the table above has been determined using discounted cash flow models using observable market inputs in the form of yield curves in each relevant currency and spot foreign currency exchange rates to convert values to Sterling. Further adjustment to take account of the Group's own credit risk uses unobservable market inputs.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

16. Inventories

	Group 2014 £'000	Group 2013 £'000	**Company 2014 £'000**	Company 2013 £'000
Ex-leased assets held for resale	**9,372**	7,361	**315**	216
Stock of parts for vehicle refits	**226**	118	**-**	-
Total	**9,598**	7,479	**315**	216

17. Trade Receivables and Other Assets

	Note	**Group 2014 £'000**	Group 2013 £'000	**Company 2014 £'000**	Company 2013 £'000
Trade debtors and prepayments		**39,516**	29,489	**14,160**	7,460
Other debtors		**8,313**	6,675	**2,015**	1,764
Reinsurers' share of provision for unearned premiums	28	**(1)**	16	**-**	-
Reinsurers' share of provision for insurance claim liabilities	28	**15**	12	**-**	-
Deferred insurance commissions		**-**	56	**-**	-
Total		**47,843**	36,248	**16,175**	9,224

Trade debtors and prepayments principally comprise operating lease rentals receivable, which are non interest bearing and generally on 30 day terms.

As at 31 March 2014, the trade debtors impairment provision was as follows:

	Group £'000	**Company £'000**
At 31 March 2012	1,681	-
Net (decrease) for the year	(310)	-
At 31 March 2013	1,371	-
Net (decrease) for the year	(490)	
At 31 March 2014	**881**	

The movement in deferred insurance commissions is analysed below:

	2014 £'000	2013 £'000
At 1 April	**56**	515
Charge to the income statement for the year		
Acquisition cost deferred during the year	**2**	12
Amortisation charged during the year	**(58)**	(471)
Total charge to the income statement for the year	**(56)**	(459)
At 31 March	**-**	56

18. Cash and Cash Equivalents and Overdrafts

Cash and overdrafts held by the Group all have an original maturity of three months or less. The Group has no cash equivalents.

In accordance with the security arrangements of liabilities as disclosed in note 14 to the financial statements, a net bank overdraft of £4,041,000 (2013: £11,644,000) is secured by cash as part of an interest offset arrangement between some accounts held by the Group with HSBC. Under this arrangement, in a situation of default by the Group, HSBC may apply credit bank balances to satisfy bank balances in deficit held by the Group with HSBC.

19. Share Capital

The Company has one class of ordinary shares, which carry no right to fixed income.

	2014 £'000	2013 £'000
Authorised		
80,000,000 ordinary shares at 25p each (2013: 80,000,000)	**20,000**	20,000
Issued and fully paid		
42,674,511 ordinary shares at 25p each (2013: 42,674,511)	**10,669**	10,669

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

20. Dividends Paid and Proposed

	2014 £'000	2013 £'000
Declared and paid during the year		
Final dividend for the year ended 31 March 2013 of 16.65p per share (2012: 19p)	**7,104**	8,100
Interim dividend for the year ended 31 March 2014 of 10.9p per share (2013: 14.6p)	**4,651**	6,217
	11,755	14,317
Proposed for approval at the Annual General Meeting (not recognised as a liability as at 31 March)		
Final dividend for the year ended 31 March 2014 of 27.8p per share (2013: 16.65p)	**11,865**	7,104

21. Provisions

	Customer claims	Onerous lease and dilapidat-ions	Company Total	Unearned insurance premiums	Insurance claim liabilities	Onerous lease and dilapid-ations	Restruct-uring	Group Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 31 March 2013								
Current	12,603	395	12,998	91	1,250	-	-	14,339
Non current	-	1,159	1,159	1	193	-	-	1,353
Total	**12,603**	**1,554**	**14,157**	**92**	**1,443**	**-**	**-**	**15,692**
Arising during the year	12,636	326	12,962	(3)	(614)	155	684	13,184
Utilised	(1,603)	(267)	(1,870)	(90)	(333)	-	-	(2,293)
Unused amounts reversed	(3,823)	-	(3,823)	-	-	-	-	(3,823)
At 31 March 2014	**19,813**	**1,613**	**21,426**	**(1)**	**496**	**155**	**684**	**22,760**
Analysed as								
Current	19,813	201	20,014	(1)	447	-	621	21,081
Non current	-	1,412	1,412	-	49	155	63	1,679

Customer Claims

In certain situations, the Group is jointly and severally liable to customers who have claims against suppliers for misrepresentation or breach of contract, in respect of certain types of regulated agreements. This risk is minimised by the Group through regular due diligence reviews of the suppliers through which financed products are sold and termination of business where there is higher potential risk of default recognised. The provision booked is based on current information and key assumptions regarding the expected level of claims relating to suppliers experiencing difficulties and historical costs incurred to date in respect of claims. The key assumptions take into account the number of potential claimants, the amounts financed and any other compensation claim as a result of the suppliers failing to satisfy its obligation. These claims have been classified as current which is consistent with our legal obligations for current and prior year presentation.

Onerous Lease and Dilapidations

The Company's registered office and Business Finance operation moved to new premises in November 2012. As a consequence, lease arrangements are currently in place for two premises, and an onerous lease provision is held for the previous premises based on expected costs related to these premises and key assumptions with respect to the likelihood of sub-letting. Dilapidations provisions have been created for the Company's previous registered office, along with its' leased sites at Staines, Leeds and Newbury and represents an estimate of the work required to bring it back to its original state at the end of the contract. The estimated outflow of the non-current element of this provision is expected to be: less than five years £1,159,000, over 5 years but less than 10 years £nil and over 10 years £408,000.

Unearned Insurance Premiums

The unearned insurance premiums reserve is calculated using a number of risk profiles that vary dependent on the term of the cover, the associated risks and perils of the cover offered. All unearned premiums will be recognised within the next year.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

21. Provisions (continued)

Insurance Claim Liabilities
Claim liabilities provisions refer to claims accepted not yet paid at the year end and a provision for claims incurred but not reported (IBNR). The IBNR provision is calculated based on claims expenses and expectations. The estimated outflow of the non-current element of this provision is expected to be within two years.

Restructuring
Hitachi Capital Vehicle Solutions have developed plans to restructure two areas of the business which will be implemented within one year. These plans have been announced to the staff members affected. The provision is an estimate of the directly associated costs relating to the re-organisation.

22. Retirement benefit pension schemes

Defined contribution pension scheme
The group operates a defined contribution retirement benefit scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the group in an independently administered fund.

The total cost charged as an Administrative expense to the consolidated income statement of £1,271,000 (2013: £953,000) represents contributions payable to the scheme at rates specified in the rules of the scheme. There were no unpaid contributions at either 31 March 2014 or 31 March 2013.

Defined benefit pension scheme
The group operates a funded pension scheme providing benefits based on final pensionable earnings, which has been closed to employees joining since 2002. The scheme is set up under trust, with the assets held separately from the group and managed by an independent set of Trustees. The trustees are required by law to act in the best interest of the plan participants and are responsible for setting the plan's investment and governance policies and paying benefits. The plan is approved by HMRC for tax purposes. No other post retirement benefits are provided.

Under the UK's pension plan funding requirements, the trustees and the group together agree a funding strategy and contribution schedule for the scheme every three years. The latest review was as at 31 March 2013, and the group has agreed a contribution schedule that aimed to remove the deficit in the scheme by 31 March 2014. The contributions that the group has agreed are £4.0m over the year to 31 March 2014 to bring the fund up to a fully funded level at that time. The group expects to contribute £0.5m to the scheme during the year ending 31 March 2015.

As with the vast majority of similar arrangements, the group ultimately underwrites the risks relating to the scheme. These risks include investment risks and demographic risks, such as the risk of members living longer than expected. The scheme holds a significant proportion of its assets in equity, property and diversified growth fund investments. Strong future returns on these assets would be expected to reduce the group's future cash contributions (and vice versa). If the contributions currently agreed are insufficient to pay the benefits due, the group will need to make further contributions to the scheme. The group is not exposed to any unusual, entity specific or plan specific risks.

The valuation of the present value of the defined benefit obligation was carried out at 31 March 2014 by Lane Clark & Peacock LLP, an independent qualified actuary, the calculations for which were based on the membership data used for the scheme's latest formal actuarial valuation as at 31 March 2013 projected to the accounting date. The present value of the defined benefit obligation, the related current service cost and past service cost were measured using the projected unit credit method.

The weighted average duration of the defined benefit obligation is 25 years (2013: 25 years), and most of the benefit payments are linked to future levels of inflation.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

22. Retirement benefit pension schemes (continued)

The main assumptions used for the valuation of the defined benefit obligation are as follows:

	2014	2013
Significant assumptions:		
Retail price inflation	**3.4% pa**	3.5% pa
Discount rate	**4.5% pa**	4.6% pa
Life expectancy of		
Male aged 65 now	**22.8 years**	22.3 years
Male age 65 in 20 years	**24.6 years**	23.7 years
Female aged 65 now	**25.3 years**	24.6 years
Female age 65 in 20 years	**27.3 years**	26.1 years
Other related assumptions:		
Consumer price inflation	**2.4% pa**	2.5% pa
General salary increases	**3.4% pa**	3.5% pa
Pension increases in payment		
5.0% or RPI if less	**3.3% pa**	3.4% pa
3.0% or CPI if less	**2.1% pa**	2.2% pa
2.5% or RPI if less	**2.2% pa**	2.3% pa

The assumptions used to determine end-of-year benefit obligations are also used to calculate the following year's cost.

Amounts recognised in the income statement, including administrative expenses, in respect of the scheme are as follows:

	2014	2013
	£'000	£'000
Current service cost	**424**	376
Administrative expenses	**295**	211
Net interest cost (credit) on net defined benefit liability (asset)	**(71)**	(103)
IAS19 cost / (credit) for the year	**648**	484

The IAS19 cost has been included in Administrative expenses

In addition, an actuarial gain of £149,000 (2013: loss of £1,554,000) has been recognised in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income. The actual return on scheme assets was a gain of £1,764,000 (2013: gain of £3,811,000).

The amount recognised in the statement of financial position arising from the group's and company's obligations in respect of the scheme is as follows:

	2014	2013
	£'000	£'000
Present value of defined benefit obligations	**(35,376)**	(33,793)
Fair value of scheme assets	**39,593**	34,463
Asset recognised in the statement of financial position	**4,217**	670

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

22. Retirement benefit pension schemes (continued)

Movements in the fair value of scheme assets, present value of defined benefit obligations, and net asset were as follows:

	Fair value of scheme assets		**Present value of obligations**		**Net Asset / (liability)**	
	2014	2013	**2014**	2013	**2014**	2013
	£'000	£'000	**£'000**	£'000	**£'000**	£'000
At 1 April	**34,463**	29,945	**(33,793)**	(28,428)	**670**	1,517
Current service cost		-	**(424)**	(376)	**(424)**	(376)
Administrative expenses	**(295)**	(211)			**(295)**	(211)
Interest	**1,614**	1,497	**(1,543)**	(1,394)	**71**	103
Contributions from scheme members	**125**	131	**(125)**	(131)	**-**	-
Contributions from the employer	**4,046**	1,191	**-**	-	**4,046**	1,191
Re-measurement of gains/losses due to:	**150**	2,314	**(1)**	(3,868)	**149**	(1,554)
Experience	**-**	-	***344***	*(35)*	**344**	*(35)*
Changes in financial assumptions	**-**	-	***508***	*(3,833)*	**508**	*(3,833)*
Changes in demographic assumptions	**-**	-	***(853)***		**(853)**	
Return on plan asset minus interest	**150**	2,314	**-**		**150**	*2,314*
Benefits paid	**(510)**	(404)	**510**	404	**-**	-
At 31 March of current year	**39,593**	34,463	**(35,376)**	(33,793)	**4,217**	670

Analysis of the fair value of the scheme assets at the reporting date is as follows:

	2014	2013
	£'000	£'000
Equity instruments	**18,267**	16,840
Government Bonds	**7,423**	7,511
Corporate Bonds	**3,106**	3,092
Property	**3,045**	2,704
Net current assets	**1,475**	94
Diversified growth fund	**6,277**	4,222
Total	**39,593**	34,463

The scheme's assets are invested in a diversified range of asset classes. These assets include liability matching assets purchased by the trustees that aim to match the benefit payments from the scheme over the next 15 years, and return seeking assets to fund the remaining cashflows.

The scheme does not invest directly in property occupied by the group or in financial securities issued by the group. Each of the asset classes have prices quoted in an active market except for the diversified growth fund. Diversified growth funds invest in a range of underlying asset classes and derivatives: typically equities, bonds (including high yield and emerging market debt), hedge funds, commodities, infrastructure and property, and vary their allocations to these markets tactically. They aim to achieve long term returns that are broadly in line with long term equity returns, but with lower volatility and an element of capital preservation.

The table below shows how the defined benefit obligation as at 31 March 2014 would be affected by changes in each of the significant actuarial assumptions:

		Increase in obligation		Increase in plan assets		Increase in net liability	
	Change in assumption	**31 March 2014**	31 March 2013	**31 March 2014**	31 March 2013	**31 March 2014**	31 March 2013
		£'000	£'000	**£'000**	£'000	**£'000**	£'000
Discount rate	Increase 0.1% pa	**(826)**	**(789)**	**(250)**	**(218)**	**(576)**	(571)
RPI inflation	Increase 0.1% pa	**823**	**786**	**232**	**202**	**591**	584
Life expectancy at 65	Increase 1 year	**1,068**	**1,020**	**-**	**-**	**1,068**	1,020

If the assumption were decreased rather than increased, then the impact would have the opposite sign and broadly be of the same magnitude. Each assumption has been varied individually and a combination of changes in assumptions could produce a different result. For consistency, the value of the scheme's holding of bonds has been varied consistently with the change in the discount rate and inflation assumptions.

The transition impact of IAS 19 (Revised) on the Statement of Financial Position is nil.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

22. Retirement benefit pension schemes (continued)

The transition impact of IAS 19 (Revised) on the Consolidated Income Statement for the prior year is mainly due to the following:

- The interest cost and expected return on plan assets used in the previous version of IAS 19 are replaced with a net-interest amount under IAS 19 (Revised 2011), which is calculated by applying the discount rate to the net defined benefit liability or asset at the start of each annual reporting period. The net impact of this change in the Group's Consolidated Income Statement is £199,000.
- The replacement of the assumed expense by the actual administrative expenses which resulted in a net impact in the Group's Consolidated Income Statement of £50,000.

The overall impact of the changes noted above was a charge of £249,000 to the Group's Consolidated Income Statement for year ended 31 March 2013 with a consequential gain in the Group's Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income. There was no impact on the overall equity of the Group.

Impact on Consolidated Income Statement (before tax)

	Year ending 31 March 2014			Year ending 31 March 2013		
	IAS19 Previous £'000	IAS 19 Revised £'000	Transition impact £'000	IAS19 Previous £'000	IAS 19 Revised £'000	Transition impact £'000
Current service cost	579	424	(155)	537	376	(161)
Interest cost	1,551	n/a	(1,551)	1,394	n/a	(1,394)
Expected return on plan assets	(1,885)	n/a	1,885	(1,696)	n/a	1,696
Net interest on the net pension liability	n/a	(71)	(71)	n/a	(103)	(103)
Administrative expenses	n/a	295	295	n/a	211	211
Total expense included in income statement	**245**	**648**	**403**	**235**	**484**	**249**

Impact on Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income

	Year ending 31 March 2014			Year ending 31 March 2013		
	IAS19 Previous £'000	IAS 19 Revised £'000	Transition impact £'000	IAS19 Previous £'000	IAS 19 Revised £'000	Transition impact £'000
Re-measurement (gain)/loss on defined benefit plan	254	(149)	(403)	1,803	1,554	(249)

23. Trade and Other Payables and Other Liabilities

	Group 2014 £'000	Group 2013 £'000	**Company 2014 £'000**	Company 2013 £'000
Current (trade and other payables)				
Balances due to invoice financing clients	**42,515**	33,055	**42,515**	33,055
Rentals in advance and deferred maintenance	**29,785**	23,627	**-**	-
Trade creditors and accruals	**59,099**	51,122	**31,017**	24,252
Other creditors	**13,356**	8,283	**1,588**	2,609
Total	**144,755**	116,087	**75,120**	59,916
Non current (other liabilities)				
Rentals in advance and deferred maintenance	**11,042**	11,002	**-**	-
Retailer liability	**36,990**	28,156	**36,990**	28,156
Total	**48,032**	39,158	**36,990**	28,156

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For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

24. Related Party Disclosures

Transactions between the Company and its subsidiaries, which are related parties, have been eliminated on consolidation and are not disclosed in this note. During the year Group companies entered into the following transactions with related Hitachi companies who are not members of the Group:

- Administration fee of £48,000 (2013: £26,000) received in respect of the provision of treasury related services to Hitachi Capital America Corporation.
- Lease income received from various Hitachi companies of £518,000 (2013: £471,000). Amounts due from related parties in respect of leases at the year end were £3,894 ,000 (2013: £3,054,000).
- Interest paid to Hitachi companies of £1,183,000 (2013: £1,311,000). Amounts due to related parties in respect of interest expense at the year end were £158,000 (2013: £127,000).
- Borrowings from Hitachi companies outstanding at the year end were £112,607,000 (2013: £75,037,000).
- Charges of £4,101,000 (2013: £913,000) were paid to Hitachi group companies, including Hitachi Capital Corporation (parent company). Amounts payable to Hitachi Capital Corporation at the year end were £1,546,000 (2013: £1,867,000) and £455,000 to other Hitachi group companies.
- Dividends paid to Hitachi Capital Corporation of £11,755,000 (2013: £14,317,000).

25. Remuneration of Key Management Personnel

The remuneration of the executive directors, who are the key management personnel of the Group, is set out below.

	2014 **£'000**	2013 restated £'000
Short term employee benefits	**1,760**	1,530
Amounts receivable under long term incentive plans	**458**	429
Post employment benefits	**66**	64
Total	**2,284**	2,023
Aggregate amount of remuneration paid to the directors	**1,760**	1,530
Highest paid director's remuneration in the year	**499**	472

There is one director for whom retirement benefits are accruing under the Group's defined benefit scheme and one under the defined contribution scheme. The post-employment benefits above comprise of the value of Company contributions paid to the pension schemes on behalf of these directors, who were not the highest paid director.

26. Operating Lease Arrangements

Lessee Activities

The following disclosures relate to the activities of the Group and the Company where they act as lessee:

	Group 2014 £'000	Group 2013 £'000	**Company 2014 £'000**	Company 2013 £'000
Minimum lease payments under operating leases recognised in the income statement during the year				
Plant and equipment	**534**	63	**33**	16
Land and buildings	**1,313**	1,314	**995**	961
Total	**1,847**	1,377	**1,028**	977

At the reporting date the Group had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non cancellable operating leases, which fall due for recognition in the income statement as follows:

	Group 2014 £'000	Group 2013 £'000	**Company 2014 £'000**	Company 2013 £'000
Within 1 year	**1,311**	1,295	**993**	943
More than 1 year but less than 5	**4,207**	4,444	**3,397**	3,519
Over 5 years	**4,611**	5,434	**4,061**	4,684
Total	**10,129**	11,173	**8,451**	9,146

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For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

26. Operating Lease Arrangements (continued)

Operating lease payments represent rentals payable by the Group for certain of its office properties and related office equipment; they also include an unoccupied office for which an onerous lease provision is held (refer note 21). Leases are negotiated for an average term of three to fifteen years.

Lessor Activities

The Group, through Vehicle Solutions and Business Finance, acts as a lessor of vehicles and other assets, the leases for which are generally for terms between three and five years. Operating lease rental income on equipment forms a significant part of the Group's business and during the year amounted to £211,162,000 (2013: £166,645,000).

At the reporting date the Group had contracted with lessees for the following future minimum lease payments:

	Group 2014 £'000	Group 2013 £'000	**Company 2014 £'000**	Company 2013 £'000
Within 1 year	**152,699**	159,015	**10,150**	9,746
More than 1 year but less than 5	**189,421**	182,817	**22,469**	24,495
Over 5 years	**4,421**	6,647	**791**	2,347
Total	**346,541**	348,479	**33,409**	36,588

27. Contingent Liabilities

There were no contingent liabilities as at 31 March 2014 (2013: none).

28. Insurance

The Group's insurance activities are undertaken by its subsidiary Hitachi Capital Insurance Europe (HCIE). In 2009 management decided to close HCIE to new business and restrict operations to managing outstanding policies, thereby placing the business in run off. All policies are contractually due to expire prior to the end of March 2015, though approximately 98% of all live risks in place at the end of March 2014 will expire prior to the end of June 2014. Policies have been cancelled where the terms and conditions allowed and others reinsured to reduce risk. The risk attached to the insurance policies written by HCIE is the possibility that an insured event occurs and the uncertainty of the amount of the resulting claim.

The focus was on high volume and relatively standardised general insurance products, being payment protection and guaranteed asset protection insurance whereby the insured risk is the inability of customers to make payments under a loan contract. The most significant factors resulting in claims under these policies tend to be the health of the policyholder and the possibility of unemployment which depends upon, among other things, long term and short term economic factors.

HCIE is exposed to a number of insurance risks, being the risk of fluctuations in the timing, frequency and severity of insured events, relative to the expectations of HCIE at the time of underwriting. HCIE managed underwriting and pricing risk through underwriting guidelines, pricing policies by product line, and centralised control of policy wordings and subsequent changes. The insurance risk inherent to HCIE relates to losses arising on insurance business accepted. HCIE management is constantly reviewing the risks associated with the underwritten portfolio, and mitigation of these risks where considered too high through reinsurance. In prior years, HCIE ceded an element of its new business to a third party reinsurer. Reserving risk, being the risk that reserves are assessed incorrectly such that insufficient funds have been retained to pay claims as they fall due, is managed through the use of claims development data and historical patterns of reserving for risk. Claims management risk, being the risk that claims are paid inappropriately, is managed through the use of an external claims handling agency. Reinsurance helps to protect against the effect of major catastrophic events or adverse trends in claims.

There are no specific terms and conditions of insurance contracts that have a material effect on the amount, timing and uncertainty of the Group's future cash flows. The Group has no interest rate exposure from general insurance liabilities because provisions for claims under insurance contracts are not discounted.

HCIE is not subject to material levels of concentration risk. The policies are mainly in respect of underwriting UK based risks. The policies were sold by agents operating nationally and by the very nature of locality a level of concentration risk will be evident, however, no agent was significant enough to generate levels of concentration risk that management feels warrants additional measures being adopted.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

28. Insurance (continued)

Concentration risk does exist in reference to risk type. No new policies were sold during the period. The live policy count is dominated by guaranteed asset protection (GAP) policies, i.e. cover for the shortfall between the current market value of a vehicle and the amount required to settle the finance agreement in the event of being declared a write off due to theft or accident; approximately 95% of all policies are GAP risks and within this category 100% are finance GAP policies (2013: approximately 70% of all policies are GAP risks and within this category 95% are finance GAP policies).

Premium Income and Unearned Insurance Premium

Net insurance premium revenue recognised during the year has been determined as follows:

	2014 £'000	2013 £'000
Gross written premiums	**(3)**	(29)
Reinsurance premiums (premiums accepted, then ceded to a third party insurer)	**1**	14
Net written premiums	**(2)**	(15)
Change in the gross provision for unearned insurance premiums	**92**	740
Change in the reinsurers' share of the provision for unearned insurance premiums	**(16)**	(132)
Change in the provision for unearned insurance premiums	**76**	608
Net insurance premiums earned	**74**	(593)

Movements in the provision for unearned insurance premiums during the year were as follows:

	Gross 2014 £'000	**Reinsurance 2014 £'000**	**Net 2014 £'000**	Gross 2013 £'000	Reinsurance 2013 £'000	Net 2013 £'000
At 1 April	**92**	**(16)**	**76**	832	(148)	684
Premiums written	**(3)**	**1**	**(2)**	(29)	14	(15)
Premiums earned	**(90)**	**16**	**(74)**	(711)	118	593
At 31 March	**(1)**	**1**	**-**	92	(16)	76

Claims Expense and Provision for Insurance Claims Liabilities

Net insurance claims incurred during the year have been determined as follows:

	2014 £'000	2013 £'000
Claims incurred and loss adjustment expenses	**(152)**	(659)
Reinsurance recoveries in respect of claims incurred	**(12)**	22
Other	**363**	81
Net insurance claims incurred	**199**	(556)

Movements in the provision for insurance claims liabilities during the year were as follows:

	Gross 2014 £'000	**Reinsurance 2014 £'000**	**Net 2014 £'000**	Gross 2013 £'000	Reinsurance 2013 £'000	Net 2013 £'000
At 1 April	**1,927**	**(12)**	**1,915**	3,007	(44)	2,963
Losses and expenses incurred						
Losses and expenses	**64**	**11**	**75**	245	9	254
IBNR movement	**(287)**	**(23)**	**(310)**	(966)	13	(953)
Claim expenses	**71**	**-**	**71**	62	-	62
Total	**(152)**	**(12)**	**(164)**	(659)	22	(637)
Increase in run off administrative expenses	**(624)**	**-**	**(624)**	(112)	-	(112)
Total payments in the year	**(128)**	**9**	**(119)**	(309)	10	(299)
At 31 March	**1,023**	**(15)**	**1,008**	1,927	(12)	1,915

Provisions for claims reported are estimated using the latest available information which comprises up to date reports from loss adjusters or fronting insurers. On that basis there are no significant assumptions impacting on the level of claims other than the assumption that the information used is complete and accurate. Due to the amount of time over which claims can develop, there may be significant uncertainty over the level of these reserves. Provisions for liabilities may therefore vary as a result of subsequent developments.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

28. Insurance (continued)

The reserving policy for future claim liabilities is to make provision for future claim liabilities at the 95th percentile. The estimation of the IBNR reserve is generally subject to a greater degree of uncertainty than the estimation of the cost of settling claims already notified to HCIE, where information about the claim event is available. IBNR claims may not become apparent to the insurer until several months after the events, which gave rise to the claims, have occurred. Actual claims in recent years have been materially the same as that estimated. HCIE has adopted a policy of setting the level of provisions required by using claims triangulations and a qualified actuary. Actual claims incurred by HCIE do not differ significantly from original estimates of claims and hence a claims development table is not included in the financial statements; directors assess and monitor the uncertainty regarding claims settlement on a continuing basis.

29. Financial Risk Management Objectives and Policies

29.1 Credit Risk

The Group's principal financial assets are cash and bank balances, loans and receivables, and trade and other receivables (including reinsurers' share of insurance claim liabilities).

The Group's credit risk is primarily attributable to its loans and receivables. The amounts presented in the statement of financial position are net of allowances for impairment losses. The gross amounts of loans and receivables represent the Group's maximum exposure to credit risk and are set out in note 12. The Group also bears credit risk associated with the rental payments due from customers related to operating lease assets, the outstanding portion of which is included within trade receivables set out in note 17.

The Group has a Credit Risk Committee (CRC) to provide a key element of an effective second line of defence to the risk management functions within the Group's business units. The CRC sets the Group's risk appetite and oversees the adherence of individual business units to their respective risk appetite policies.

Credit risk is managed to minimise losses, maximise recoveries and prevent fraud. Credit policy requires consideration to be given to the financial and credit status of the customer, dealer, supplier and/or vendor (including retailers and brokers), the quality of any collateral taken or of the asset being financed and the terms and conditions which are applied to the financing.

Procedures are maintained that stipulate such areas as maximum loan amounts and funding periods, requirements for down payments or deposits, deferral periods and authorisation limits. Customer scorecards and credit files, for commercial transactions and significant relationships, are an integral part of the approval process, with any material changes and significant advances requiring director and/or Board approval.

Where the exposure to any one counterparty exceeds certain limits, annual reviews are performed to ensure that the credit quality has not deteriorated.

Credit risk from balances with banks and financial institutions is managed by Group Treasury in accordance with the Group's counter party risk management policy outlined below. Investments of surplus funds are made only with approved counterparties.

The credit risk exposure from any cash deposits and derivative financial instruments is constantly measured by counterparty and monitored relative to individual counter party limits in accordance with board approved Treasury policy. Counterparties are selected on and assessed on their prospects for long term stability of credit rating for which the Group seeks a minimum long term credit rating by Standard & Poor's of at least 'A-' (and a short term rating of 'A-1'). Swap counterparty creditworthiness is also monitored on a regular basis using any other available indicators such as standard 5 year credit default swap prices.

Accounting policy and valuation methods were changed during the accounting period to comply with IFRS 13 on a prospective basis and as of the balance sheet date incorporate counterparty risk adjustments into the valuation of derivative financial instruments.

The Group has exposure to a limited number of banking counterparties through depositing cash in time deposits. Cash balances and deposits by the Group are maintained at nil or insignificant levels, except in the Group's insurance subsidiary (HCIE), which is registered in the Republic of Ireland where a minimum liquidity level, including deposit balances, is stipulated by the Irish insurance regulator. These deposits are split between three to four different UK and Irish regulated banks with a minimum credit rating of 'BBB+'.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

29.1 Credit Risk (continued)

The Group does not have any financial liabilities designated at fair value through profit or loss, and therefore there has been no revaluation of financial liabilities for own credit risk. This includes financial liabilities in hedge relationships as the Group does not hedge credit risk. The changes in the fair value of financial liabilities recognised in the income statement are principally due to changes in market foreign exchange rates and interest rates for those instruments in designated hedge relationships. The Group has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

Credit Quality

	Group 2014 £'000	Group 2013 £'000	**Company 2014 £'000**	Company 2013 £'000
Gross loans and receivables and trade debtors:				
Neither past due nor impaired:				
Very low risk	**1,429,997**	1,099,717	**1,797,215**	1,419,406
Low risk	**608,915**	461,314	**608,915**	461,314
Moderate risk	**283,547**	190,772	**283,547**	190,772
High risk	**156,486**	125,094	**156,486**	125,094
Ungraded	**77,832**	58,068	**49,576**	35,778
Total	**2,556,777**	1,934,965	**2,895,739**	2,232,364
Past due but not impaired:				
31-60 days	**14,538**	10,222	**11,560**	8,811
61-90 days	**1,877**	2,922	**1,876**	1,503
91-120 days	**999**	1,058	**953**	1,090
>120 days	**4,134**	5,986	**3,438**	5,961
Total	**21,548**	20,188	**17,827**	17,365
Individually impaired				
Retail	**6,986**	7,863	**6,986**	7,863
Commercial	**3,292**	4,326	**2,340**	2,873
Total	**10,278**	12,189	**9,326**	10,736
Total	**2,588,604**	1,967,342	**2,922,893**	2,260,465
Gross loans and receivables	**2,564,231**	1,943,692	**2,922,714**	2,258,959
Trade debtors	**24,374**	23,650	**179**	1,506

The Group's risk ratings are determined at a facility level using both internal risk management inputs and external inputs from credit risk rating agencies. The inputs used are specific to the business unit in which the exposure exists but common categories of credit risk have been determined to monitor portfolio credit quality across the Group. The categories are based primarily on aligning estimates of probability of default but also on management judgement. Those categories that are 'ungraded' have not been specifically rated by the business for various reasons such as a lack of relevant or comparable information, or the fact that they are short term in nature and are perceived to be low in inherent risk.

Collateral

The Group maintains policies setting out acceptable collateral and other criteria to be considered when reviewing a loan application. The decision as to whether or not collateral is required will be based upon the nature of the transaction and the credit worthiness of the customer. The provision of collateral will not necessarily determine the outcome of a credit application. The fundamental business proposition must evidence the ability of the obligor to generate funds from normal income or business sources to repay debt. The extent to which collateral values are actively managed or monitored will depend on the credit quality and other circumstances of the obligor.

Although lending decisions are primarily based on expected cash flows and debt service ability, any collateral provided may influence the pricing and other terms of a loan or facility granted; this will have a financial impact on the amount of net interest income recognised and on internal estimates of loss given default that contributes to the determination of asset quality. The Group believes that this approach is appropriate. The value of collateral is reassessed if there is observable evidence of distress of the borrower. Unimpaired lending, including any associated collateral, is managed on a customer by customer basis rather than a portfolio basis. No aggregated collateral information for the entire unimpaired lending portfolio is provided to key management personnel.

A general description of collateral held as security in respect of loans and receivables in each business unit is provided below.

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For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

29.1 Credit Risk (continued)

(a) Consumer Finance
Most lending is unsecured and therefore no collateral is held. However, for certain retailers, a portion of the cash flows financed are deferred and held by the Group to cover possible future credit losses, see note 2.3(j). At the year ended 31 March 2014, deferred cash flows amounted to £36,990,000 (2013: £28,156,000), against related gross loans and receivables of £1,348,495,000 (2013: £995,670,000). There was no collateral held against gross loans and receivables amounting to £543,989,000 (2013: £581,702,000). Of the total gross loans and receivables, £6,986,000 was impaired at the year end (2013: £7,863,000).

(b) Vehicle Solutions
Credit facilities are quantified and established for business customers based on the gross value of receivables calculated to be invoiced over the life of the lease contract or fleet management facility. Vehicle Solutions had gross loans and receivables outstanding amounting to £8,734,000 (2013: £4,422,000), which related to finance leases. Payments due from customers under operating leases are included under trade receivables. The facilities and any customer exposures thereunder are secured on the passenger car and commercial vehicles leased to the customers under the contracts.

(c) Business Finance
Lending decisions for asset finance transactions are primarily based on an obligor's ability to repay the debt from normal business operations rather than reliance on the disposal of any security provided. Nevertheless, the original cost and expected collateral values of financed assets are rigorously assessed at the time of loan origination in line with credit risk policy (refer credit risk on page 42). Assets considered eligible for financing include but are not limited to vehicles, plant, manufacturing equipment, agricultural machinery and other moveable fixed assets. Collateral values are revisited after origination in the event of changes in the performance of the loans, e.g. customer default, or for significant customer exposures, at the time of annual review or facility renewals.

Certain extensions of credit within the Business Finance unit are made under block discounting agreements, the collateral for which consists of receivables under loans and leases originated by the borrower, which are assigned as security for the loan. Gross receivables of £83,747,000 (2013: £76,521,000) were held as security for net advances of £55,720,000 (2013: £51,399,000) under such agreements. Collateral values for block discounting agreements are verified regularly by an internal audit team.

Of the total gross loans and receivables, £1,970,000 was impaired (2013: £2,637,000).

(d) Invoice Finance
Credit facilities are established by reference to the expected levels of drawings made by clients against the value of invoices assigned. The net loans and receivables for invoice finance, of £56,944,000 (2013: £37,297,000) are primarily collateralised by the book of receivables purchased from factoring clients which had a gross value of £99,459,000 (2013: £70,352,000), and, in certain cases, by directors' or principals' personal guarantees and/or indemnities as security for shortfalls on collect outs due to disputes or fraud for which the guarantor is liable. Clients are subject to a rigorous programme of continuous verifications, reviews and audits.

Hitachi Group Business
The Company has guaranteed £1,100,000 of lease payments from businesses in France and Turkey and receives a fee for these services. We do not believe that the guarantees will be called upon therefore no provision has been made.

29.2 Liquidity Risk and Funding Management

Liquidity risk is managed by the Treasury Committee and reviewed regularly. The Group's objective is to maintain a balance between continuity of funding, flexibility and cost through the use of borrowings with a range of maturities. The term of each borrowing is determined by considering the market conditions of each of the Group's debt instruments, funding cost and correlation with the Group's receivables. Included under funding sources below is a list of undrawn facilities that the Group has at its disposal. In addition, the Group has uncommitted money market and overdraft facilities to provide short term financing.

The table below summarises the gross contractual maturity profile of the Group's financial liabilities. All derivatives used for hedging purposes are shown by maturity, based on their contractual undiscounted repayment obligations

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29.2 Liquidity Risk and Funding Management (continued)

	<1 year £'000	1-2 years £'000	2-3 years £'000	3-4 years £'000	4-5 years £'000	6-7 years £'000	7-8 years £'000	Total £'000
At 31 March 2014								
Non derivative financial liabilities:								
Foreign currency denominated borrowings	(411,471)	(223,971)	(239,782)	(334,968)	(63,347)	(11,987)	(5,571)	(1,291,097)
Sterling borrowings	(238,335)	(50,618)	(86,736)	(3,509)	(118,036)	(15,848)	(15,420)	(528,501)
Securitisation	(248,354)	(117,641)	(34,607)	(7,663)	(819)	-	-	(409,085)
Trade payables	(144,755)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(144,755)
	(1,042,915)	**(392,231)**	**(361,125)**	**(346,140)**	**(182,202)**	**(27,835)**	**(20,991)**	**(2,373,439)**
Derivative financial liabilities:								
Foreign currency receipts relating to cross currency swaps	181,697	223,971	239,782	334,968	63,347	11,987	5,571	1,061,323
Sterling payments relating to interest rate swaps	(91)	(51)	(11)	(4)	(4)	(4)	0	(165)
Sterling receipts relating to interest rate swaps	873	872	617	400	132	1	1	2,896
Sterling payments relating to cross currency swaps	(198,703)	(264,344)	(274,255)	(369,241)	(66,699)	(12,241)	(5,539)	(1,191,022)
	(16,224)	**(39,552)**	**(33,867)**	**(33,878)**	**(3,225)**	**(256)**	**33**	**(126,969)**
At 31 March 2013								
Non derivative financial liabilities:								
Foreign currency denominated borrowings	(313,720)	(197,004)	(214,235)	(63,665)	(208,025)	-	-	(996,649)
Sterling borrowings	(14,400)	(216,132)	(46,184)	-	-	-	-	(276,716)
Securitisation	(297,882)	(148,443)	(53,934)	(11,136)	(2,683)	-	-	(514,078)
Trade payables	(116,087)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(116,087)
	(742,089)	**(561,579)**	**(314,353)**	**(74,801)**	**(210,708)**	**-**	**-**	**(1,903,530)**
Derivative financial liabilities:								
Foreign currency receipts relating to cross currency swaps	194,417	197,004	214,235	63,665	208,025	-	-	877,346
Sterling payments relating to interest rate swaps	(1,183)	(606)	(427)	(284)	(26)	-	-	(2,526)
Sterling receipts relating to interest rate swaps	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	3
Sterling payments relating to cross currency swaps	(202,020)	(191,379)	(222,469)	(68,564)	(212,680)	-	-	(897,112)
	(8,785)	**5,020**	**(8,660)**	**(5,183)**	**(4,681)**	**-**	**-**	**(22,289)**

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29.2 Liquidity Risk and Funding Management (continued)

The Group has a central treasury function which provides finance for the Group's operations and manages treasury risks in accordance with policies approved by the Board and Treasury Committee. The Treasury Committee consists of the CEO, the COO, the Director of Finance and the Group Treasurer. The major risks to the Group are liquidity, movement in foreign exchange rates, interest rate movements and counterparty credit risk.

The Group's principal sources of funding are European medium term notes, a securitisation programme, two commercial paper programmes, uncommitted bank facilities and a certain amount of borrowings from the Hitachi Limited group of companies. Rate risks on these funding sources are managed using derivative financial instruments.

The Group accesses a variety of markets to raise finance and issues both fixed and floating rate debt in a number of different currencies. All foreign currency borrowings are swapped into Sterling upon issuance to either floating interest rate linked to sterling LIBOR or at a fixed rate in sterling

All interest bearing borrowings are subject to risk management in accordance with the Group's risk management policies on interest rate risk management. As a result, a certain proportion of the floating rate borrowings will be fixed by entering into Sterling interest rate swaps.

Funding Sources
The Group has a number of funding options and regularly reviews alternative sources of financing. In selecting the most appropriate source of funding at any point in time, factors such as market conditions, interest rate levels, liquidity and the profile of the assets being funded are considered.

The Group's core funding programmes and facilities are as follows:

	Amount drawn 2014 £'000	**Capacity available 2014 %**	Amount drawn 2013 £'000	Capacity available 2013 %
US$2.0bn (2013: US$1.5bn) European medium term note programme	**939,993**	**48**	666,365	32
US$400m European commercial paper programme	**100,612**	**72**	-	100
€250m Belgian domestic commercial paper programme	**129,162**	**37**	119,302	43
£550m committed securitisation programme	**389,904**	**29**	500,000	-
£119m uncommitted facilities from relationship banks	**21,300**	**82**	12,600	89
£184m uncommitted facility from Hitachi Europe	**5,675**	**94**	-	100

The European medium term note programme and both commercial paper programmes are supported by a guarantee from Hitachi Capital Corporation and consequently, are rated 'A-/A2' by Standard & Poor's.

The uncommitted facilities from relationship banks consist of unsecured short term money market and overdraft facilities, drawings under these facilities are generally for periods of between one day and three months.

29.3 Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Financial instruments affected by market price risk include loans and receivables, interest bearing borrowings and derivative financial instruments.

The Group's particular activities expose it to the risk of changes in foreign currency exchange rates and sterling interest rates.

Interest Rate Risk
Most of the Group's assets are at a fixed rate of interest so there is a risk of financial loss if the actual funding cost for these assets rises above the rate at which they were priced at when originated. This risk is managed by the use of interest rate derivative financial instruments, specifically interest rate swaps, forward rate agreements and interest rate caps. Interest rate exposure is managed by duration, matching the fixed rate receivables and operating lease portfolio against the combination of fixed rate debt and the interest rate derivatives portfolio.

Borrowings arranged at fixed interest rates expose the Group to fair value interest rate risk and those arranged at floating rates have cash flow interest rate risk.

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For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

29.3 Market Risk (continued)

The Group's policy is to hedge its exposure to variations in sterling interest rates. The degree to which borrowings are rate fixed, as compared to the size of the Group's underlying fixed rate assets, is expressed as a target ratio which is set by the Treasury Committee and reported to the Board on a monthly basis and is generally within a range of between 60% and 100%. The actual levels of fixed borrowings versus assets is reviewed at least monthly to monitor compliance to the set policy target.

Foreign Currency Risk
The Group's currency risk mainly arises from foreign currency borrowings. The carrying amount of the Group's foreign currency denominated monetary liabilities at the reporting date is set out in note 14.

The Group policy is to eliminate all foreign currency risk on borrowings by entering into cross currency swaps which convert non sterling obligations under the debt issuance into sterling obligations. Currency debt raised under the medium term note and commercial paper programmes are 100% hedged at the time of drawdown unless foreign currency proceeds are required to fund foreign currency denominated assets. Currency rate risk will therefore only arise in the unlikely event of a cross currency swap counterparty defaulting on its non-sterling obligations. As at 31 March 2014 and 31 March 2013, all currency exposures on non sterling debt were 100% hedged.

Market Risk Mitigation
The Group enters into a variety of derivative financial instruments to manage its exposure to these risks, including ;

- Interest rate swaps to mitigate the risk of rising interest rates, and
- Cross currency swaps and short term FX swaps to mitigate the exchange rate risk arising on issuance of debt in foreign currency.

Interest Rate Swap Contracts
Under interest rate swap (IRS) contracts, the Group agrees to pay or receive the difference between variable and fixed interest rates calculated on an agreed notional principal amount. Such contracts allow the Group to mitigate the risk of changing interest rates on the cash flows of issued variable rate debt held and to a lesser extent the fair value of fixed rate debt held. The fair value of IRS's at the year end have been determined by discounting the future cash flows for each contract using the yield curve as at the end of the year and the credit risk inherent in the contract.

Interest swaps settle on a monthly, quarterly or semi annual basis and use LIBOR reference rates on the floating side of the swap. The Group settles on the difference between the fixed and floating interest rate on a net basis and, therefore, the Group recognises net derivative assets and liabilities based on overall exposure to individual counterparties.

Where possible, floating to fixed IRS's are designated for accounting purposes as cash flow hedges in order to reduce the variability of charges to the Group's income statement. In some cases, although the IRS's economically hedge the Group's cash flow exposure they cannot be designated as cash flow hedges under IAS39.

Interest Rate Sensitivity
The sensitivity analysis below has been determined based on the exposure to interest rates as at the reporting date and the stipulated change taking place at the end of the current financial year and were to persist for the coming financial year. A 100 basis points change is used when reporting interest rate risk internally to key management personnel and represents management's assessment of a reasonably possible change in interest rates.

At the reporting date, if interest rates had been 100 basis points higher and all other variables were held constant:

- Net profit would be debited by £6,956,000 (2013: debited by £7,423,000). This is mainly attributable to the Group's exposure to interest rates on variable rate borrowings.
- Other equity reserves would be credited by £18,145,000 (2013: credited by £11,216,000) mainly as a result of the change in mark to market valuation of interest rate swaps in designated hedging relationships.

In the current climate it is not relevant to calculate the impact of interest rates being 100 basis points lower as this scenario is in some cases impossible and in others highly unlikely requiring negative interest rates.

Cross Currency Swap Contracts
The Group utilises cross currency swaps and short term FX swaps to hedge against the foreign currency exposure that arises from the issuance of debt in foreign currency. The contracts are for the full amount of the foreign currency debt raised, unless currency proceeds are required to fund currency denominated assets.

Foreign Currency Sensitivity
The following details the Group's sensitivity to a 10% decrease in sterling against Japanese yen, euro and US dollar exchange rates. The 10% change is used when reporting foreign currency risk internally to key management personnel and represents management's assessment of the possible change in foreign exchange rates. The sensitivity analysis of the Group's exposure to foreign currency risk at the reporting date has been determined based on a further change in

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

29.3 Market Risk (continued)

exchange rate occurring at the end of the current financial year. A positive number indicates an increase in profit or loss and other equity where pound sterling strengthens against the respective currency.

Any reasonable depreciation or appreciation of GBP against foreign currencies would have no material impact on the Group as all foreign currency debt is hedged using derivative instruments.

Information concerning the Group's cross currency swaps is included in note 13.

Fair Value Hedges
Fair value hedges are used by the Group to protect it against changes in the fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities due to movements in foreign currency exchange and interest rates. The hedged items include foreign currency borrowings and both listed and unlisted debt instruments. The Group uses cross currency swaps to hedge against specifically identified foreign currency and inherent rate risks.

Cash Flow Hedges
The Group is exposed to variability in future interest cash flows on non trading assets and liabilities which bear interest at a variable rate. The Group uses interest rate swaps as cash flow hedges of these interest rate risks. Also, as a result of firm commitments in foreign currencies, such as foreign currency debt, the Group is exposed to foreign exchange and interest rate risks which are hedged with cross currency interest rate swaps.

29.4 Operational Risk

Operational risk is the risk of loss arising from systems failure, human error, fraud or external events. When controls fail to perform, operational risks can cause damage to reputation, have legal or regulatory implications, or lead to financial loss. The Group cannot expect to eliminate all operational risks, but it endeavours to manage these risks through a control framework and by monitoring and responding to potential risks. Controls include effective segregation of duties, access, authorisation and reconciliation procedures, staff education and assessment processes.

29.5 Residual Value Risk

This is the risk that the value of a physical asset, at the end of an operating or finance lease contract or at the end of its useful life, is worth less than its book value. Residual value risk occurs within our Vehicle Solutions and Business Finance businesses.

Future residual values are assessed individually, and positioned against competitor benchmark assets, and require senior management approval. The residual value position is monitored with reference to various industry benchmarking sources so that maturities can be managed effectively and any impairment risk minimised.

29.6 Capital Management

The Group manages its capital to ensure that it will be able to continue as a going concern while maximising the return to stakeholders through the optimisation of the debt and equity balance. The capital structure of the Group consists of debt, which includes borrowings disclosed in note 14, cash and cash equivalents and equity attributable to equity holders of the parent, comprising issued capital, reserves and retained earnings as disclosed in note 19 and the statement of changes in equity on page 14. The Board of Directors reviews the capital structure on a semi annual basis. As a part of this review the Board considers the cost of capital and risks associated with each class of capital. The Group will balance its overall capital structure through the payment of dividends to or capital injection from the parent company.

29.7 Transfers of Financial Assets

Securitised assets are shown on the Group's Statement of Financial Position because as of reporting date the majority of the risks and rewards on the transferred assets are retained by the Group, refer note 2.3(p). Otherwise, the Group does not recognise any financial assets for which ownership has transferred nor does it have a continuing involvement in any other transferred assets.

In accordance with the securitisation programme's terms and conditions, as at 31 March 2014 the Group (and the Company) had transferred £551,760,000 (2013: £721,004,000) of its instalment finance agreements to The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, which acts as a trustee. The Group continues to recognise the full carrying amount of the receivables and has recognised the cash received on the transfer as borrowings on the Group's balance sheet - being a total of £389,354,000 as of the reporting date (2013: £499,587,000).

Under the terms of the securitisation programme, once the assets are transferred to the trustee, the Group no longer controls the assets until such time as they are returned as excess collateral under the terms of the programme (such as

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2014

29.7 Transfers of Financial Assets (continued)

in run off) or default and are sold back to the Group for a nominal fee. The fair value of the liability under the programme is £389,904,110 (2013: £500,000,000) and the fair value of the assets transferred to the programme's trustee is £546,681,000 (2013: £727,345,000).

30. Post Balance Sheet Date acquisition

Acquisition of Corpo Flota sp zoo (CF)

On 3 April 2014, the Group acquired 90% of the voting shares (together with an option to acquire 10% of the voting shares at a later date) of CF, an unlisted car fleet management company based in Poland, in exchange for cash. The Group acquired CF as part of its European expansion plans.

Assets acquired and liabilities assumed
As the acquisition was undertaken after the reporting period, an estimate of the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities of CF has been made as at the date of acquisition as follows:

	£' m
Assets	
Property, plant and equipment	6.2
Cash and cash equivalents	0.3
Receivables	2.7
Other assets	0.3
	9.5
Liabilities	
Payables	0.6
Borrowings	6.4
	7.0
Total identifiable net assets at fair value	2.5
Estimated goodwill arising on acquisition	1.2
Purchase consideration	3.7
Cash paid on acquisition of 90% shareholding	3.3
Contingent consideration	0.4

The contingent consideration relates to the option to acquire the remaining 10% of voting shares at a later date.

These numbers are subject to change as management are in the process of finalising the purchase price allocation.

Company Information

Hitachi Capital Corporation is the parent undertaking of the smallest group to consolidate the financial statements of Hitachi Capital (UK) PLC. Copies of the financial statements of this company can be obtained from: No 15-12, Nishi Shimbashi, 2 Chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-8712, Japan.

Hitachi Limited, a company incorporated in Japan, is the ultimate parent company and the parent undertaking of the largest group to consolidate the financial statements of Hitachi Capital (UK) PLC. Copies of the financial statements of this company can be obtained from: 6, Kanda-Surugadai 4-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 101-8010, Japan.

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Telephone:	01784 227300
Fax:	01784 227549
Website:	www.hitachicapital.co.uk
Registered Company number:	1630491
Company Secretary:	J.N.M.Sims
Auditors:	Ernst & Young LLP London

The Group offers the following finance solutions from the locations shown below.

<table>
<tr><th>Consumer Finance</th><th colspan="3">Vehicle Solutions</th></tr>
<tr><td>2 Apex View
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS11 9BH
Tel: 0844 375 5499
Fax: 0844 375 5491</td><td>Car Solutions
Kiln House
Kiln Road
Newbury
Berkshire
RG14 2NU
Tel: 0844 463 2900
Fax: 01635 589 750</td><td>Commercial Vehicle Solutions
Hakuba House
White Horse Business Park
Trowbridge
Wiltshire
BA14 0FL
Tel: 01225 777 710
Fax: 01225 776 680</td><td>Driving Instructor Solutions
Welford Road
Kilby Bridge
Wigston
Leicester
LE18 3TE
Tel: 0116 288 8288
Fax: 0116 288 6404</td></tr>
<tr><th>Business Finance</th><th colspan="2">Invoice Finance</th><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Hitachi Capital House
Thorpe Road
Staines-upon-Thames
Surrey
TW18 3HP
Tel: 01784 227300
Fax: 01784 227549</td><td>5 Hollinswood Court
Stafford Park 1
Telford
Shropshire
TF3 3DE
Tel: 01952 213 300
Fax: 01952 201 410</td><td>Isis House
Red Cross Road
Goring on Thames
Reading
RG8 9HG
Tel: 01491 875 660
Fax: 01491 875 595</td><td></td></tr>
</table>

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