OPERATING AND FINANCIAL REVIEW
FOR THE 40 WEEKS ENDED 2 JULY 2017

Stonegate Pub Company Limited announces its trading update for the period up to 2 July 2017.

Current Trading

For the 40 weeks to 2 July 2017, Total Revenue was up +7.8% with Like for Like Revenue +2.1%. Like for Like Revenue for the first 40 weeks of the financial year is +2.0% despite comping off a very successful rugby world cup in Q1 and European football champtionship in Q3.

Gross margin improved by +0.6% leading to Like for Like Gross Margin up +3.0% for the 40 weeks to 2 July 2017. This was through profitable pricing initiatives and the more profitable drink sales growing ahead of food. Adjusted EBITDA margin % was down only -0.2% despite the cost headwinds faced, particularly the National Living and Minimum Wage increases and business rates increases.

Capital Expenditure

The Company has completed 87 investments in the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017 in our like for like estate and in addition completed 10 investments in single site acquisitions we have made, the majority of which are the sites we purchased from JDW.

Property

On 6 December 2016 the Company acquired the entire issued share capital of Intertain Limited. The Intertain Limited group of companies includes twenty-five leasehold and five freehold sites. The Company also acquired twelve sites from JD Wetherspoon plc, three sites from Punch Taverns plc and three from Faucet Inns Limited in the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017. On 21 April 2017 the Company acquired the entire issued share capital of Large Bars Limited which includes three sites. The Company also disposed of 7 trading sites and 3 non trading sites in the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017. These sites made no contribution to profit for the business. This brings the trading estate to 695 at 2 July 2017.

Financial position

The Company finished the quarter in a negitive cash position of £8m. Dividend of £53.6m and repayment of equity injection of £40.3m was made in quarter 3 (5th May 2017).

Stonegate Pub Company Limited

Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Information

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

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Consolidated income statement

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

		Unaudited 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017			Unaudited 40 weeks ended 3 July 2016		
	Notes	**Pre-exceptional items £000**	**Exceptional items[1] £000**	**Total £000**	Pre-exceptional items £000	Exceptional items[1] £000	Total £000
Revenue		**534,568**	**-**	**534,568**	495,742	-	495,742
Operating costs		**(461,158)**	**(7,163)**	**(468,321)**	(426,092)	(9,734)	(435,826)
Operating profit before depreciation, amortisation, impairment and loss on sale of non-current assets		**73,410**	**(7,163)**	**66,247**	69,650	(9,734)	59,916
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment		**(37,136)**	**(1,553)**	**(38,689)**	(31,909)	-	(31,909)
Profit/(loss) on sale of non-current assets	7	**127**	**-**	**127**	(79)	-	(79)
Operating profit/(loss)		**36,401**	**(8,716)**	**27,685**	37,662	(9,734)	27,928
Finance income	3	**95**	**-**	**95**	82	-	82
Finance costs	4	**(23,812)**	**(15,231)**	**(39,043)**	(24,441)	(621)	(25,062)
Movement in fair value of interest rate swaps		**-**	**-**	**-**	914	-	914
Profit/(loss) before taxation		**12,684**	**(23,947)**	**(11,263)**	14,217	(10,355)	3,862
UK income tax charge		**(1,781)**	**-**	**(1,781)**	-	-	-
Profit/(loss) for the period		**10,903**	**(23,947)**	**(13,044)**	14,217	(10,355)	3,862

[1] Exceptional items are explained further in note 2.

All of the Group's operations are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 6 to 26 form part of the condensed consolidated interim financial information.

Consolidated statement of comprehensive income

For the 40 weeks 2 July 2017

	Notes	**Unaudited 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017 £000**	Unaudited 40 weeks ended 3 July 2016 £000
Loss for the period		**(13,044)**	3,862
Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss			
Re-measurement of defined benefit pension schemes		**1,050**	-
Other comprehensive income after tax		**1,050**	**-**
Total comprehensive loss for the period		**(11,994)**	3,862

The notes on pages 6 to 26 form part of the condensed consolidated interim financial information.

Consolidated balance sheet

As at 2 July 2017

	Notes	Unaudited 2 July 2017 £000	Unaudited 3 July 2016 £000
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	6	**515,859**	484,408
Operating leases	5	**73,705**	47,437
Goodwill	5	**110,187**	108,191
Retirement benefit surplus	15	**217**	730
		699,968	640,766
Current assets			
Inventories		**10,414**	9,585
Trade and other receivables	8	**31,418**	25,660
Cash and cash equivalents		**12,064**	14,117
		53,896	49,362
Total assets		**753,864**	690,128
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	9	**(99,781)**	(95,514)
Borrowings	10	**(20,292)**	(6,747)
Derivative financial instruments	12	**-**	(480)
		(120,073)	(102,741)
Non-current liabilities			
Borrowings	10	**(589,629)**	(471,440)
Deferred tax liabilities		**(5,707)**	(3,997)
Retirement benefit obligations	15	**(12,430)**	(6,220)
Provisions	11	**(10,518)**	(2,127)
		(618,284)	(483,784)
Total liabilities		**(738,357)**	(586,525)
Net assets		**15,507**	103,603
Equity			
Called up share capital	13	**1,685**	1,500
Share premium	13	**81,647**	135,453
Retained earnings		**(67,825)**	(33,350)
Total equity		**15,507**	103,603

The notes on pages 6 to 26 form part of the condensed consolidated interim financial information.

Consolidated statement of changes in equity

As at 2 July 2017

	Unaudited Share capital £000	Unaudited Share premium £000	Unaudited Retained earnings £000	Unaudited Total equity £000
Total equity at 25 September 2016	**1,500**	**135,453**	**(55,831)**	**81,122**
Total comprehensive income / (losses):				
Loss for the period	-	-	(13,044)	(13,044)
Other comprehensive gains for the period	-	-	1,050	1,050
Share issue	185	40,065	-	40,250
Repayment of shares	-	(40,250)	-	(40,250)
Dividends paid	-	(53,621)	-	(53,621)
Total comprehensive gains/(losses) for the period	185	(53,806)	(11,994)	(65,615)
Total equity at 2 July 2017	**1,685**	**81,647**	**(67,825)**	**15,507**
Total equity at 27 September 2015	**1,500**	**135,453**	**(37,212)**	**99,741**
Total comprehensive income:				
Profit for the period	-	-	3,862	3,862
Total comprehensive profits for the period	-	-	3,862	3,862
Total equity at 3 July 2016	**1,500**	**135,453**	**(33,350)**	**103,603**

Consolidated cash flow statement

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

	Unaudited 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017 £000	Unaudited 40 weeks ended 3 July 2016 £000
Cash flows from operating activities		
(Loss)/profit for the period	**(13,044)**	3,862
Adjustments for:		
-Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	**38,689**	31,909
-(Profit)/loss on sale of non-current assets	**(127)**	79
-Net finance costs	**38,948**	24,980
-Movement in fair value of interest rate swaps	**-**	(914)
-UK income tax charge	**1,781**	-
	66,247	59,916
Changes in:		
-Inventories	**(202)**	(573)
-Receivables	**3,435**	(799)
-Payables	**(22,067)**	(8,948)
-Provisions	**-**	(79)
-Difference between pension charge and cash contributions	**(1,000)**	(1,000)
Cash generated from operating activities	**46,413**	48,517
Interest paid	**(26,789)**	(24,070)
Net cash flow from operating activities	**19,624**	24,447
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	**(61,385)**	(40,605)
Leasehold reversions	**-**	(1,750)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	**7,737**	38,011
Interest received	**34**	34
Payments for business acquisitions	**(55,077)**	(98,528)
Net cash acquired with trading sites	**4,009**	217
Net cash flow from investing activities	**(104,682)**	(102,621)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Issue of share capital	**40,250**	-
Repayment of share capital	**(40,250)**	-
Dividends paid	**(53,621)**	-
Advance of borrowings	**595,000**	79,600
Repayment of borrowings	**(480,000)**	-
Financing costs	**(13,435)**	(4,039)
Net cash flow from financing activities	**47,944**	75,561
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	**(37,114)**	(2,613)
Opening cash and cash equivalents	**28,886**	9,983
Closing cash and cash equivalents	**(8,228)**	7,370

Notes to the financial statements

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

1 Accounting policies

Stonegate Pub Company Limited (the "Company") is governed by Cayman Island Company Law.

The condensed consolidated interim financial information consolidates those of the Company and its subsidiaries (together referred to as the "Group"). The condensed consolidated interim financial information has been prepared in accordance with Companies Law (2016 Revision) of the Cayman Islands. As the Cayman Islands do not have prescribed accounting standards, the Group has elected to prepare the condensed consolidated interim financial information in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU ("Adopted IFRSs"), as allowed under Cayman Island Company Law.

The results for the current and comparative period are unaudited.

No parent company information is presented in the condensed consolidated interim financial information, Companies Law (2016 Revision) in the Cayman Islands does not require such information to be presented. The parent company information has been prepared under FRS 102.

The accounting policies set out below have, unless otherwise stated, been applied consistently to all periods presented in the condensed consolidated interim financial information.

1.1 Measurement convention

The condensed consolidated interim financial information is prepared on the historical cost basis with the exception of derivative financial instruments which are measured at fair value. Non-current assets and disposal Groups held for sale are stated at the lower of previous carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell.

1.2 Going concern

The financial position of the Group is set out in the Consolidated Balance Sheet on page 3 which shows net assets of £15,507,000 (2016: £103,603,000).

During the current period the Group has experienced a net cash outflow of £37,114,000 (2016: cash outflow of £2,613,000). The net cash outflow was as a result of the Group's investing and refinancing activities during the period. The Group carried out a £595,000,000 refinancing on 16 March 2017 and the purchase of the Intertain Limited group which included a share issue for £40,250,000. On 5 May 2017 a dividend of £53,621,000 was paid as well as the repayment of the shares of £40,250,000. The net cash inflow in the prior period was due to the sale of five London freehold properties as part of sale and lease-back transactions.

The Group met its day-to-day working capital requirements through its standard trading cycle of cash generation and its overdraft facility. The Directors consider that this is a normal feature of trading in this industry. Customers pay by cash resulting in minimal credit risk and the Group takes advantage of supplier credit terms. Therefore the Group typically operates with net current liabilities (current period net current liabilities of £66,177,000; 2016: net current liabilities of £53,379,000). In the forthcoming period the Group expects to achieve year on year pre-exceptional operating profit growth (both organically and through acquisitions) and be cash generative at an operating cash flow level and at a total cash flow level.

At the balance sheet date, the Group was financed by fixed and floating rate loan notes totalling £595,000,000 (2016: £480,000,000), details of which are set out in note 10.

The Group met its day-to-day working capital requirements through cash generation and a £50,000,000 overdraft facility. Management have prepared a board paper on going concern showing the Group's forecasts and projections prepared for a period covering fifteen months from the date of the year-end financial statements. Taking account of reasonable possible changes in trading performance, the board paper shows that the Group should be able to operate within the level of its current borrowing facility.

Notes to the financial statements

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

1 Accounting policies *(continued)*

1.2 Going concern *(continued)*

Applying reasonably possible sales based sensitivities year on year the Group's forecasts show that it would continue to operate within its facility and within financial covenants.

The directors have a reasonable expectation that the Group has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for at least twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements and for the foreseeable future thereafter. Thus they adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing these financial statements.

1.3 Basis of consolidation

The condensed consolidated interim financial information include the financial statements of the Company and its subsidiary undertakings made up to 2 July 2017. The acquisition method of accounting has been adopted. Under this method, the results of subsidiary undertakings acquired or disposed of in the period are included in the consolidated profit and loss account from the date of acquisition or up to the date of disposal.

1.4 Classification of financial instruments issued by the Group

Following the adoption of IAS 32, financial instruments issued by the Group are treated as equity only to the extent that they meet the following two conditions:

(a) they include no contractual obligations upon the Group to deliver cash or other financial assets or to exchange financial assets or financial liabilities with another party under conditions that are potentially unfavourable to the Group; and

(b) where the instrument will or may be settled in the company's own equity instruments, it is either a non-derivative that includes no obligation to deliver a variable number of the company's own equity instruments or is a derivative that will be settled by the company's exchanging a fixed amount of cash or other financial assets for a fixed number of its own equity instruments.

To the extent that this definition is not met, the proceeds of issue are classified as a financial liability. Where the instrument so classified takes the legal form of the Company's own shares, the amounts presented in these financial statements for called up share capital and share premium account exclude amounts in relation to those shares.

1.5 Non-derivative financial instruments

Non-derivative financial instruments comprise investments in equity and debt securities, trade and other receivables, cash and cash equivalents, loans and borrowings, and trade and other payables.

Trade and other receivables

Trade and other receivables are recognised initially at fair value. Subsequent to initial recognition they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses.

Trade and other payables

Trade and other payables are recognised initially at fair value. Subsequent to initial recognition they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash balances and call deposits. Bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Group's cash management are included as a component of cash and cash equivalents for the purpose only of the cash flow statement.

Notes to the financial statements

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

1 Accounting policies *(continued)*

1.5 Non-derivative financial instruments *(continued)*

Interest-bearing borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are recognised initially at fair value less attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, interest-bearing borrowings are stated at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses.

1.6 Derivative financial instruments and hedging

Derivative financial instruments

The Group uses interest rate swaps to hedge its exposure to interest rate fluctuations on its floating rate loan notes.

Derivative financial instruments are recognised at fair value. The gain or loss on re-measurement to fair value is recognised immediately in profit or loss. The Group does not currently hold any derivatives that qualify for hedge accounting.

1.7 Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation is charged to the income statement on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of each part of an item of property, plant and equipment. Land is not depreciated. The estimated useful lives are as follows:

- freehold properties are depreciated to their estimated residual values over 50 years;
- leasehold properties and improvements are depreciated over the shortest of 50 years, their estimated useful lives and their remaining lease periods;
- administration furniture, fixtures, fittings and equipment are depreciated over 2 to 15 years; and
- retail furniture, fixtures and equipment are depreciated over 3 to 15 years.

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values are reviewed at each balance sheet date.

1.8 Sale and leaseback transactions

The Group enters into sale and leaseback transactions where land and buildings have been sold and the Group has immediately entered into a lease agreement with the acquirer. These land and buildings are no longer included within property, plant and equipment and the rentals paid are charged on a straight-line basis to the Consolidated Income Statement over the lease term.

1.9 Business combinations

Subject to the transitional relief in IFRS 1, all business combinations are accounted for by applying the acquisition method. Business combinations are accounted for using the acquisition method as at the acquisition date, which is the date on which control is transferred to the Group.

Notes to the financial statements

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

1 Accounting policies *(continued)*

1.9 Business combinations *(continued)*

Acquisitions post transition date

For acquisitions on or after 26 September 2011, the Group measures goodwill at the acquisition date as:

- the fair value of the consideration transferred; plus
- the recognised amount of any non-controlling interests in the acquire, if any; plus
- the fair value of the existing equity interest in the acquiree; less
- the net recognised amount (generally fair value) of the identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed.

When the excess is negative, a bargain purchase gain is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

Costs related to the acquisition, other than those associated with the issue of debt or equity securities, are expensed as incurred. Any contingent consideration payable is recognised at fair value at the acquisition date. If the contingent consideration is classified as equity, it is not re-measured and settlement is accounted for within equity. Otherwise, subsequent changes to the fair value of the contingent consideration are recognised in profit or loss.

Acquisitions prior to IFRS transition date

IFRS 1 grants certain exemptions from the full requirements of Adopted IFRSs in the transition period. The Group elected not to restate business combinations that took place prior to transition date. In respect of acquisitions prior to transition date, goodwill is included at transition date or earlier if applicable on the basis of its deemed cost, which represents the amount recorded under UK GAAP which was broadly comparable save that only separable intangibles were recognised and goodwill was amortised. On transition, certain items recognised as other intangibles under Adopted IFRS have been separately accounted for with appropriate adjustments against property, plant and equipment and amortisation of goodwill ceased as required by IFRS 1.

1.10 Intangible assets and goodwill

Goodwill

Purchased goodwill (representing the excess of the fair value of the consideration given over the fair value of the separable net assets acquired) arising on consolidation in respect of acquisitions is capitalised. Goodwill is stated at cost less any accumulated impairment losses. Goodwill is allocated to cash-generating units and is not amortised but is tested annually for impairment.

Operating lease intangible assets

The fair values attached to operating leasehold interests on acquisitions are deemed to represent lease premiums, and are capitalised and carried as intangible assets. Amortisation is charged to the income statement on a straight-line basis over the lease lives.

1.11 Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price less any costs of disposal. Cost is calculated using the first in first out method.

Notes to the financial statements

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

1 Accounting policies *(continued)*

1.12 Impairment excluding inventories and deferred tax assets

Financial assets (including receivables)

A financial asset not carried at fair value through profit or loss is assessed at each reporting date to determine whether there is objective evidence that it is impaired. A financial asset is impaired if objective evidence indicates that a loss event has occurred after the initial recognition of the asset, and that the loss event had a negative effect on the estimated future cash flows of that asset that can be estimated reliably.

An impairment loss in respect of a financial asset measured at amortised cost is calculated as the difference between its carrying amount and the present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. Interest on the impaired asset continues to be recognised through the unwinding of the discount. When a subsequent event causes the amount of impairment loss to decrease, the decrease in impairment loss is reversed through profit or loss.

Non-financial assets

The carrying amounts of the Group's non-financial assets, other than inventories and deferred tax assets, are reviewed at each reporting date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If any such indication exists, then the asset's recoverable amount is estimated. For goodwill, and intangible assets that have indefinite useful lives or that are not yet available for use, the recoverable amount is estimated each year at the same time.

The recoverable amount of an asset or cash-generating unit (CGU) is the greater of its value in use and its fair value less costs to sell. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. For the purpose of impairment testing, assets that cannot be tested individually are grouped together into the smallest Group of assets that generates cash inflows from continuing use that are largely independent of the cash inflows of other assets or Groups of assets (the "cash-generating unit").

The Group considers each of its individual pubs as a cash-generating unit. Each CGU is reviewed periodically for indicators of impairment. When indicators of impairment are identified the carrying value of the individual pub is compared to its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is determined as being the greater of its value in use and its fair value less costs to sell.

The Group annually tests whether goodwill has been impaired. Management makes judgements to allocate goodwill to the group of CGUs that benefits from the synergy of acquisitions and reflects the level at which goodwill is monitored, on this basis goodwill is allocated to the entire estate. The recoverable amount of the CGUs that the goodwill has been allocated to is determined based on value-in-use calculations which require estimating future cash flows and applying a suitable discount rate.

An impairment loss is recognised if the carrying amount of an asset or its CGU exceeds its estimated recoverable amount. Impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss. Impairment losses recognised in respect of CGUs are allocated first to reduce the carrying amount of any goodwill allocated to the units, and then to reduce the carrying amounts of the other assets in the unit (Group of units) on a *pro rata* basis.

An impairment loss in respect of goodwill is not reversed. In respect of other assets, impairment losses recognised in prior periods are assessed at each reporting date for any indications that the loss has decreased or no longer exists. An impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount. An impairment loss is reversed only to the extent that the asset's carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss had been recognised.

Notes to the financial statements

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

1 Accounting policies *(continued)*

1.13 Employee benefits

Defined contribution plans

A defined contribution plan is a post-employment benefit plan under which the company pays fixed contributions into a separate entity and will have no legal or constructive obligation to pay further amounts. Obligations for contributions to defined contribution pension plans are recognised as an expense in the income statement in the periods during which services are rendered by employees.

Defined benefit plans

A defined benefit plan is a post-employment benefit plan other than a defined contribution plan. The Group's net obligation in respect of defined benefit pension plans is calculated separately for each plan by estimating the amount of future benefit that employees have earned in return for their service in the current and prior periods; that benefit is discounted to determine its present value, and the fair value of any plan assets (at bid price) are deducted. The Group determines the net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset for the period by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the annual period to the net defined benefit liability/asset.

The discount rate is the yield at the reporting date on bonds that have a credit rating of at least AA that have maturity dates approximating the terms of the Group's obligations and that are denominated in the currency in which the benefits are expected to be paid. Re-measurements arising from defined benefit plans comprise actuarial gains and losses, the return on plan assets (excluding interest) and the effect of the asset ceiling (if any, excluding interest). The Group recognises them immediately in other comprehensive income and all other expenses related to defined benefit plans in employee benefit expenses in profit or loss.

When the benefits of a plan are changed, or when a plan is curtailed, the portion of the changed benefit related to past service by employees, or the gain or loss on curtailment, is recognised immediately in profit or loss when the plan amendment or curtailment occurs.

The calculation of the defined benefit obligations is performed by a qualified actuary using the projected unit credit method. When the calculation results in a benefit to the Group, the recognised asset is limited to the present value of benefits available in the form of any future refunds from the plan or reductions in future contributions and takes into account the adverse effect of any minimum funding requirements.

The Group recognises gains and losses on the settlement of a defined benefit plan when the settlement occurs. The gain or loss on a settlement is the difference between the present value of the defined benefit obligation being settled as determined on the date of settlement and the settlement price, including any plan assets transferred and any payments made directly by the Group in connection with the settlement.

Short-term benefits

Short-term employee benefit obligations are measured on an undiscounted basis and are expensed as the related service is provided. A liability is recognised for the amount expected to be paid under short-term cash bonus or profit-sharing plans if the Group has a present legal or constructive obligation to pay this amount as a result of past service provided by the employee and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

1.14 Provisions

A provision is recognised in the balance sheet when the Group has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, that can be reliably measured and it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation. Provisions are determined by discounting the expected future cash flows at a pre-tax rate that reflects risks specific to the liability.

Notes to the financial statements

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

1 Accounting policies *(continued)*

1.15 Revenue

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is derived from the sale of food and drinks; admissions; hotel rooms and machine income to third parties, after deducting discounts and VAT. Revenue is recognised at the point of sale.

All revenue is derived from the one principal activity of the business, based solely within the United Kingdom.

In respect of the loyalty card scheme, the More card, as points are issued to customers the retail fair value of those points expected to be redeemed is deferred. When the points are used by customers they are recorded as revenue.

1.16 Expenses

Operating lease payments

Payments made under operating leases are recognised in the income statement on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. Lease incentives received are recognised in the income statement as an integral part of the total lease expense.

Financing income and expenses

Financing expenses comprise interest payable, finance charges on shares classified as liabilities and finance leases recognised in profit or loss using the effective interest method and unwinding of the discount on provisions. Financing income comprise interest receivable on funds invested.

Interest income and interest payable is recognised in profit or loss as it accrues, using the effective interest method.

1.17 Taxation

Tax on the profit or loss for the year comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in the income statement except to the extent that it relates to items recognised directly in equity, in which case it is recognised in equity.

Current tax is the expected tax payable or receivable on the taxable income or loss for the year, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date, and any adjustment to tax payable in respect of previous years.

Deferred tax is provided on temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes. The following temporary differences are not provided for: the initial recognition of goodwill; the initial recognition of assets or liabilities that affect neither accounting nor taxable profit other than in a business combination, and differences relating to investments in subsidiaries to the extent that they will probably not reverse in the foreseeable future. The amount of deferred tax provided is based on the expected manner of realisation or settlement of the carrying amount of assets and liabilities, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date. A deferred tax asset is recognised only to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which the temporary difference can be utilised.

1.18 Exceptional items

The Group presents separately on the face of the income statement those material items of income and expense which are outside of the normal course of trading, which management consider will distort comparability, in order to provide a trend measure of underlying performance.

Notes to the financial statements

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

1 Accounting policies *(continued)*

1.19 Significant accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of the condensed consolidated interim financial information requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions in the application of accounting policies that affect reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses during the period.

Management periodically evaluates its estimates and judgements and bases them on historical experience and other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgements about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily available from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and assumptions that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are discussed below:

Impairment of property, plant, equipment and operating leases

Property, plant and equipment and operating leases are reviewed for impairment if there are any indicators to suggest that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. Recoverable amounts are determined based on value-in-use calculations and estimated sale proceeds. These calculations require assumptions to be made regarding projected cash flows and the choice of a suitable discount rate in order to calculate the present value of those cash flows. Actual outcomes may vary from these estimates.

Impairment of goodwill

The Group annually tests whether goodwill has been impaired. The recoverable amount of all cash-generating units (CGUs) grouped together is determined based on value-in-use calculations. These calculations require assumptions to be made regarding projected cash flows and the choice of an appropriate discount rate in order to calculate the value-in-use of those cash flows. Actual outcomes may vary from these estimates.

Onerous lease provisions

The Group provides for its onerous obligations under operating leases where the site is closed or for properties where rental expense is in excess of income. The estimated timings and amounts of cash flows are determined using management experience.

Defined pension benefit schemes

The present value of defined benefit pension scheme liabilities are determined on an actuarial basis and depend on a number of actuarial assumptions. Any changes in these assumptions could impact the carrying amounts of retirement benefit assets / liabilities.

Business combinations

The Group identifies separate assets and liabilities upon acquisition and recognises those assets at their fair value. The assessment of fair value, particularly for property, plant, equipment and operating leases acquired, is undertaken with reference to current market conditions.

Note 7 describes the business combinations in the current and prior periods and provides details of the fair value adjustments made in arriving at the fair value of assets and liabilities acquired.

1.20 Segmental reporting

The Group operates predominately one type of business (pubs) in the United Kingdom. This includes the sale of food, beverages, admissions, hotel rooms and machine income and are collectively regarded and reported as one segment.

Notes to the financial statements

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

1 Accounting policies *(continued)*

1.21 New standards, interpretations and amendments to existing standards

As at the date of approval of the financial statements there are a number of standards and interpretations issued by the IASB and IFRIC with an effective date after the date of these financial statements and which have not been early adopted by the Group. These are expected to be applied as follows:

- IFRS 16 Leases – In January 2016, the IASB issued IFRS 16 Leases which requires lessees to recognise assets and liabilities for most leases. The new standard will be effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019. The Group is currently considering the impact of adopting IFRS 16 on its consolidated results and financial position.
- IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers – The IASB issued IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts in May 2014. This standard replaces all existing revenue recognition guidance under current IFRS and becomes effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018. The Group is currently considering the impact of IFRS 15 on its consolidated results and financial position.
- IFRS 9 Financial Instruments – IFRS 9 Financial Instruments was first issued in November 2009 with a complete version issued in July 2014 and is a replacement of IAS 39 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement. The new standard becomes effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018. The Group expects minimal impact on its financial position.

Notes to the financial statements

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

2. Exceptional operating items

	40 weeks ended 2 July 2017 £000	40 weeks ended 3 July 2016 £000
Operating exceptional items		
Acquisition costs	**2,893**	6,718
Restructuring and integration costs	**1,161**	3,016
Onerous leases	**2,396**	-
Impairment of property, plant and equipment	**1,428**	-
Impairment of operating leases	**125**	-
Compensation for loss of office	**713**	-
	8,716	9,734
Finance costs	**15,231**	621
Total exceptional items	**23,947**	10,355

Acquisition costs: Acquisition costs are items of one-off expenditure incurred, primarily, in connection with the purchase of the Intertain Limited group of companies, the purchase of Large Bars Limited, the purchase of twelve sites from JD Wetherspoon plc, the purchase of three sites from Punch Taverns plc and the purchase of three sites from Faucet Inns Limited (see note 7). These costs include legal and professional fees and stamp duties which are expensed as incurred.

Restructuring and integration costs: Following the acquisitions, the Group incurred costs to combine and streamline the operations of the acquired businesses with the Group.

Compensation for loss of office: Compensation payments relate to payments made to key management personnel of Intertain Limited.

Finance costs: Finance costs relate to the refinancing on 16 March 2017. As part of this the Group wrote off existing debt issue costs of £6,046,000 and incurred an early redemption penalty of £4,889,000.

Onerous leases: The onerous lease provision covers potential liabilities for onerous lease contracts for sites that have either closed, or where projected future trading revenue is insufficient to cover the lower of exit cost or value-in-use. The provision is based on the present value of expected future cash flows, discounted at 8.9%, relating to rents, rates and other property costs to the end of the lease terms net of expected sublet income. For the 40 weeks to 2 July 2017, this resulted in an onerous lease charge of £2,396,000.

3. Finance income

	40 weeks ended 2 July 2017 £000	40 weeks ended 3 July 2016 £000
Other interest receivable	**95**	82
Total finance income	**95**	82

Notes to the financial statements

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

4. Finance costs

	40 weeks ended 2 July 2017	40 weeks ended 3 July 2016
	£000	£000
Interest payable on loan notes	**23,008**	21,857
Other interest payable	**233**	46
Net pensions finance charge	**100**	-
Debt issue costs amortisation	**7,729**	2,203
Refinancing costs	**7,352**	571
Non-utilisation fees	**621**	385
Total finance costs	**39,043**	25,062

Included within finance costs are £15,231,000 of costs (2016: £621,000) relating to exceptional items (see note 2).

Notes to the financial statements

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

5. Goodwill and operating lease intangible assets

	Operating leases	Goodwill
	£000	£000
Cost		
At 27 September 2015	41,632	110,060
Acquisitions through business combinations	12,912	1,566
Reclassification from Property, Plant & Equipment	771	-
Disposals	(50)	(394)
At 25 September 2016	55,265	111,232
Acquisitions through business combinations	34,167	3,263
Disposals	-	(498)
At 2 July 2017	89,432	113,997
Amortisation		
At 27 September 2015	(8,487)	(3,810)
Charge for the year	(4,104)	-
Impairment	(86)	-
Disposals	13	-
At 25 September 2016	(12,664)	(3,810)
Charge in the period	(2,938)	-
Impairment	(125)	-
At 2 July 2017	(15,727)	(3,810)
Net book value		
At 2 July 2017	**73,705**	**110,187**
At 25 September 2016	42,601	107,422
At 27 September 2015	33,145	106,250

The provisional fair value of operating leases acquired as part of the acquisition of the Intertain Limited group of companies on 6 December 2016 was £23,514,000. During the period the Group also acquired twelve sites from JD Wetherspoon plc. Operating leases of £1,650,000 were acquired as part of these acquisitions. As part of the acquisition of three sites from Faucet Inns Limited operating leases of £4,600,000 were acquired. The provisional fair value of operating leases acquired as part of the acquisition of Large Bars Limited on 21 April 2017 was £4,403,000.

Provisional goodwill associated with the acquisition of the Intertain Limited group of companies on 6 December 2016 was £2,856,000. Provisional goodwill associated with the acquisition of Large Bars Limited on 21 April 2017 was £407,000.

Goodwill has been reduced in the period by £498,000 (2016: £394,000), representing the apportioned value of goodwill allocated to those sites disposed of during the period.

Notes to the financial statements

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

6. Property, plant and equipment

	Leasehold improvements £000	Land and buildings £000	Furniture, fixtures and equipment £000	Total £000
Cost				
At 27 September 2015	92,719	257,053	176,323	526,095
Acquisitions through business combinations	-	86,014	1,560	87,574
Additions	12,153	3,920	39,044	55,117
Reclassification	(742)	(338)	(31)	(1,111)
Disposals	(482)	(38,775)	(21,836)	(61,093)
At 25 September 2016	103,648	307,874	195,060	606,582
Acquisitions through business combinations	-	14,994	5,646	20,640
Additions	12,202	7,445	41,587	61,234
Reclassification	(232)	232	-	-
Disposals	(86)	(4,659)	(4,848)	(9,593)
At 2 July 2017	115,532	325,886	237,445	678,863
Depreciation				
At 27 September 2015	(23,487)	(7,106)	(70,617)	(101,210)
Charge for the period	(6,643)	(553)	(30,211)	(37,407)
Impairment	(2,096)	15	(536)	(2,617)
Reclassification	39	270	31	340
Disposals	178	158	10,699	11,035
At 25 September 2016	(32,009)	(7,216)	(90,634)	(129,859)
Charge for the period	(6,439)	(866)	(26,893)	(34,198)
Impairment	(34)	(1,235)	(159)	(1,428)
Impairment release	-	238	56	294
Disposals	11	86	2,090	2,187
At 2 July 2017	(38,471)	(8,993)	(115,540)	(163,004)
Net book value				
At 2 July 2017	**77,061**	**316,893**	**121,905**	**515,859**
At 25 September 2016	71,639	300,658	104,426	476,723
At 27 September 2015	69,232	249,947	105,706	424,885

Notes to the financial statements

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

6. Property, plant and equipment *(continued)*

As part of the acquisition of the Intertain Limited group of companies on 6 December 2016 the provisional fair value of land and buildings acquired was £8,195,000 and fixtures and fittings of £4,825,000.

Property, plant and equipment of £4,450,000 were acquired during the period ended 2 July 2017 as part of the acquisition of twelve sites from JD Wetherspoon plc.

As part of the acquisition of three sites from Punch Taverns plc Stonegate Pub Company Limited purchased £21,000 of furniture, fixtures and equipment.

Property, plant and equipment of £2,999,000 were acquired during the period ended 2 July 2017 as part of the acquisition of three sites from Faucet Inns Limited.

As part of the acquisition of three sites from Large Bars Limited on 21 April 2017 Stonegate Pub Company Limited purchased £150,000 of furniture, fixtures and equipment.

Included in property, plant and equipment are properties with a net book value of £306,110,000 over which the Group's borrowings are secured by way of fixed and floating charges.

Land and buildings includes £12,435,000 (2016: £12,946,000) relating to long leasehold sites; £190,659,000 of freehold land (2016: £188,609,000) and £113,799,000 of freehold properties (2016: £99,103,000).

Notes to the financial statements

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

7. Acquisitions and disposals

Acquisitions in the current period

Intertain Limited

On 6 December 2016 the Company acquired the entire issued share capital of Intertain Limited. The Intertain Limited group consists of thirty freehold and leasehold sites. The acquisition was funded by an indirect investment in the Company by funds managed by TDR Capital LLP, the ultimate controlling parties. In connection with the investment and for the purposes of making the acquisition, the Company issued 18,488,745 ordinary shares of £0.01 each at an aggregate price of £40,250,000 to Stonegate Pub Company Midco Limited, the Company's immediate parent company. The proceeds from the share issue were used as consideration and also to repay Intertain Limited's existing debt at the acquisition date.

The business has been acquired for the purpose of integrating these sites into the Group's existing brands and approach to market where it is believed that synergies and economies of scale can be obtained. Due to the proximity of the acquisition date to the quarter end the fair values attributed to the acquisition have been determined provisionally. A summary of the book and preliminary fair values of the assets and liabilities acquired are given in the table below:

	Provisional fair value £000
Operating leases	23,513
Property, plant and equipment	13,020
Inventory	727
Cash	3,948
Trade and other receivables	4,872
Trade and other payables	(6,947)
Provisions	(2,504)
Deferred tax	(1,098)
Net assets acquired	35,531
Purchase price satisfied by:	
Cash consideration	38,387
Goodwill	2,856

The provisional level of goodwill is considered to represent the value of the acquired workforces and the benefits that will be gained from combining these sites with the Group's existing portfolio of brands and sites. The Group incurred acquisition-related costs of £1,998,000 related to stamp duty and external legal and professional fees. These costs have been included in 'operating costs' in the consolidated income statement (see note 2).

Operating leases: The provisional fair value of lease premiums was derived through a fair value exercise and increases the book value by £23,513,000.

Property, plant and equipment: Included in property, plant and equipment is freehold property with a provisional valuation of £8,195,000 and fixtures and fittings of £4,825,000.

Other adjustments: When considering the provisional fair value of the assets and liabilities acquired the group have provided for an ongoing legal case which they are fully indemnified against.

Brand: Due to the proximity of the acquisition to the 2 July 2017 management are currently calculating a value of the acquired Walkabout brand.

Notes to the financial statements

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

7. Acquisitions and disposals *(continued)*

Post-acquisition to 2 July 2017 Intertain Limited has contributed £26,104,000 in revenue and £2,113,000 in operating loss. If the acquisition of Intertain Limited had taken place at the start of the financial period, combined revenue would have been £35,418,000 and operating loss would have been £1,979,000.

Large Bars Limited

On 21 April 2017 the Company acquired the entire share capital of Large Bars Limited. The company acquired three leasehold sites. Total consideration was £4,802,000.

The business has been acquired for the purpose of integrating these sites into the Group's existing brands and approach to market where it is believed that synergies and economies of scale can be obtained.

A summary of the fair values of the assets and liabilities acquired are given in the table below:

	Provisional fair value £000
Operating leases	4,403
Property, plant and equipment	150
Inventory	51
Cash	61
Trade and other receivables	450
Trade and other payables	(720)
Net assets acquired	4,395
Purchase price satisfied by:	
Cash consideration	4,802
Goodwill	407

Goodwill is considered to represent the value of the acquired workforces and the benefits that will be gained from combining these sites with the Group's existing portfolio of brands and sites.

The Group incurred acquisition-related costs of £41,000 related to stamp duty and external legal and professional fees. These costs have been included in 'operating costs' in the consolidated income statement (see note 2).

Operating leases: The provisional fair value of lease premiums was derived through a fair value exercise and increases the book value by £4,403,000.

Property, plant and equipment: Included in property, plant and equipment is fixtures and fittings of £150,000.

Post-acquisition to 2 July 2017 Large Bars Limited has contributed £648,000 in revenue and £59,000 in operating profit. If the acquisition of Large Bars Limited had taken place at the start of the financial period, combined revenue would have been £2,663,000 and operating loss would have been £385,000.

Other acquisitions

During the current period the Group also acquired twelve sites from JD Wetherspoon plc. Intangible operating leases of £1,650,000 (see note 5) and property, plant and equipment of £4,450,000 (see note 6) were acquired as part of this acquisition.

The Group acquired three sites from Punch Taverns plc for £21,000 which was for furniture, fixtures and equipment (see note 6).

During the current period the Group acquired property, plant and equipment totalling £2,999,000 as part of the acquisition of three sites from Faucet Inns Limited.

Notes to the financial statements

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

7. Acquisitions and disposals *(continued)*

Disposals

During the period the Group disposed of ten sites to third parties for net consideration of £8,100,000, with associated costs of sale and closure costs of £363,000, tangible fixed assets with net book values of £5,544,000 and goodwill with net book values of £498,000. Profit on disposal was £1,695,000.

During the period the Group also wrote off £1,568,000 of tangible fixed assets. The disposals related primarily to assets in the original M&B estate which are no longer in use following the acceleration of the development programme of these sites.

Total profit on disposal was £127,000.

8. Trade and other receivables

	2 July 2017 £000	3 July 2016 £000
Trade receivables	**4,103**	4,050
Other receivables	**6,683**	5,347
Prepayments and accrued income	**20,632**	16,263
	31,418	25,660

9. Trade and other payables

	2 July 2017 £000	3 July 2016 £000
Trade payables	**35,628**	26,002
Amounts due to group undertakings	**3,063**	2,591
Other taxation and social security	**14,557**	18,399
Other payables	**17,223**	22,253
Accruals	**28,856**	26,269
Corporation tax	**454**	-
	99,781	95,514

Notes to the financial statements

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

10. Borrowings

This note provides information about the contractual terms of the Group's interest-bearing loans and

	2 July 2017 £000	3 July 2016 £000
Curreny liabilities		
Bank overdrafts	**20,292**	6,747
	20,292	6,747
Non-current liabilities		
Secured loan notes issued by Stonegate Pub Company Financing plc	**589,629**	471,440
	589,629	471,440

borrowings, which are measured at amortised cost.

Secured loan notes are shown net of debt issue costs of £5,371,000 (2016: £8,244,000) and a £Nil discount accrual (2016: £316,000).

Terms and debt repayment schedule:

	Principal borrowed £000	Year of maturity	Principal outstanding 2 July 2017 £000	Principal outstanding 3 July 2016 £000
Secured fixed notes	405,000	2022	**405,000**	-
Secured floating notes	190,000	2022	**190,000**	-
Secured fixed notes	340,000	2019	**-**	340,000
Secured floating notes	140,000	2019	**-**	140,000
			595,000	480,000

On 11 April 2014 Stonegate Pub Company Financing plc, a public limited company incorporated under the laws of England and Wales and a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, received £400,000,000 from the issue of £260,000,000 fixed loan notes charging an annual interest rate of 5.75% and £140,000,000 floating loan notes charging an annual interest rate of 3 months LIBOR +4.75%. On 29 September 2015 a further £80,000,000 of fixed loan notes were issued at a discounted amount of £79,600,000 charging an annual interest rate of 5.75%. The Notes will mature on 15 April 2019. Amortised debt issue costs of £4,831,000 offset the loan balance at the period end.

The proceeds from the issue of the first tranche of loan notes were used to repay the existing bank loan; repay the shareholder PIK loan; make a distribution of £47,800,000 to shareholders; to pay fees in connection with the transaction and for general corporate purposes. The proceeds from the issue of the £80,000,000 of fixed loan notes on 29 September 2015 were used to purchase the 53 sites from Tattershall Castle Group.

On 12 August 2011 the Company entered into an interest rate swap linked to its external shareholder loan fixing the interest rate at 3% for the loan amount of £290,000,000. On 11 April 2014 the swap was reduced to £140,000,000 in line with the floating loan notes. The swap came to an end on 18 August 2016.

On 16 March 2017 Stonegate Pub Company Financing plc received £595,000,000 from the issue of £405,000,000 secured fixed notes charging an annual interest of 4.875% and £190,000,000 secured floating notes charging an annual interest rate of LIBOR +4.375%. The notes will mature on 15 March 2022.

Notes to the financial statements

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

10. Borrowings *(continued)*

The proceeds from the issue of the loan notes were used to repay in full the outstanding amount of the Issuer's £340,000,000 aggregate principal amount of 5.75% secured fixed notes and of the Issuer's £140,000,000 aggregate principal amount of 3 months LIBOR +4.75% secured floating notes; make a repayment of share capital of £40,250,000, make a distribution of £53,621,000 to Stonegate Pub Company Midco Limited, the Company's immediate parent company and to pay fees in connection with the transaction.

	Onerous leases	Health and safety claims	Total
	£000	£000	£000
At 25 September 2016	4,180	1,781	5,961
Additions through business combinations	124	2,380	2,504
Additions	2,396	-	2,396
Released	(343)	-	(343)
At 2 July 2017	**6,357**	**4,161**	**10,518**
At 27 September 2015	861	1,345	2,206
Utilised	(79)	-	(79)
At 3 July 2016	**782**	**1,345**	**2,127**

11. Provisions

The onerous lease provision includes amounts for lease rentals and costs of exiting closed and loss-making sites which the Group acquired during a prior period. The Directors have determined that these sites operate under onerous property leases and have provided the expected shortfall between operating income and rents payable for a property. The estimated period required to mitigate these losses is identified on an individual property basis. The release of the provisions primarily relates to the successful exit of sites at a rate below originally expected.

The health and safety claims provision is an estimate of the claims which the Group expects to settle over the next two years. These claims generally relate to minor incidents of personal injury at sites and the level of provision has been based on managements' expected future successful claim rate.

The Group has also provided for an ongoing legal case which they are fully indemnified against in connection to the acquisition of the Intertain Limited group of companies.

12. Financial instruments

On 12 August 2011 the Company entered into an interest rate swap linked to its external shareholder loan fixing the interest rate at 3% for the loan amount of £290,000,000. On 11 April 2014 the swap was reduced to £140,000,000 in line with the floating loan notes. The swap came to an end on 18 August 2016.

Notes to the financial statements

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

13. Share capital

	Share capital £000	Share premium £000	Total £000
Total share capital at 25 September 2016	1,500	135,453	136,953
Share issue	185	40,065	40,250
Repayment of shares	-	(40,250)	(40,250)
Dividends paid	-	(53,621)	(53,621)
Total share capital at 2 July 2017	**1,685**	**81,647**	**83,332**

On 6 December 2016 as part of the indirect investment from TDR Capital LLP, to fund the acquisition of Intertain Limited, the Company issued 18,488,745 ordinary shares of £0.01 each at an aggregate price of £40,250,000 and made a distribution of £53,621,000 to Stonegate Pub Company Midco Limited, the Company's immediate parent company.

14. Net debt

Analysis of changes in net debt:

	At 27 September 2015 £000	Cash flow £000	Non-cash movements £000	At 25 September 2016 £000	Cash flow £000	Non-cash movements £000	At 2 July 2017 £000
Cash at bank and in hand	12,981	15,905	-	28,886	(16,822)	-	12,064
Bank overdraft	(2,998)	2,998	-	-	(20,292)	-	(20,292)
	9,983	18,903	-	28,886	(37,114)	-	(8,228)
Debt due after one year	(400,000)	(79,600)	(110)	(479,710)	(115,000)	(290)	(595,000)
Net debt per balance sheet	**(390,017)**	**(60,697)**	**(110)**	**(450,824)**	**(152,114)**	**(290)**	**(603,228)**

	At 27 September 2015 £000	Cash flow £000	Non-cash movements £000	At 3 July 2016 £000
Cash at bank and in hand	12,981	1,136	-	14,117
Bank overdraft	(2,998)	(3,749)	-	(6,747)
	9,983	(2,613)	-	7,370
Debt due after one year	(400,000)	(79,600)	(84)	(479,684)
Net debt per balance sheet	**(390,017)**	**(82,213)**	**(84)**	**(472,314)**

Notes to the financial statements

For the 40 weeks ended 2 July 2017

15. Pensions

The Group operates two defined benefit pension schemes providing benefits based on final pensionable salary. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the Group.

The defined benefit obligation as at 2 July 2017 is calculated on a year-to-date basis, using the latest actuarial valuation as at 28 February 2014 and was updated for IAS 19 purposes to 2 July 2017 by a qualified independent actuary. The defined benefit plan assets have been updated to reflect their market value as at 2 July 2017. Differences between the expected return on assets and the actual return on assets have been recognised as an actuarial gain or loss in the consolidated statement of total recognised gains and losses in accordance with the Group's accounting policy.

The Group also participates in defined contribution pension schemes for the benefit of certain employees. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the Group in independently administered funds.

The amount charged to the profit and loss account represents the contributions payable to the schemes in respect of the accounting period.

16. Post balance sheet events

There have been no post balance sheet events.