Registered in England and Wales No. 983330

Annual Report and Financial Statements 2023

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Directors and officers

Directors

C E Lund-Conlon

L E McGowan

M Robinson

Company Secretary

Aviva Company Secretarial Services Limited 80 Fenchurch Street London EC3M 4AE

Registered office

Aviva Wellington Row York YO90 1WR

Company number

Registered in England and Wales no. 983330

Other information

Aviva Management Services UK Limited (the Company) is a private company limited by shares and is a member of the Aviva plc group of companies ("the Group")

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Strategic report

The directors present their strategic report for Aviva Management Services UK Limited (the Company) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Principal activities

The Company is a limited company, incorporated under the laws of England and Wales. The principal activity of the Company comprises the processing of premiums and commission income and payments in respect of regulated sales on behalf of Aviva Life & Pensions UK Limited (UKLAP), a fellow subsidiary of the Group. The Company does not incur any income or expenses in relation to this business.

The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Aviva Life Services UK Limited (UKLS) and operates as part of the Aviva plc group of companies (the Group). Further information is contained in the 2023 financial statements of Aviva plc. The Company's ultimate parent and controlling company is Aviva plc.

Results and business review

The profit for the year ended 31 December 2023 is set out in the profit and loss account on page 8.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

The directors consider that the Company's key performance indicators (KPIs) that communicate the financial performance are as follows:

2023	2022
£000	£000

Capital and reserves 16,606 15,246

The net assets of the Company at 31 December 2023 are £16.6 million (2022: £15.2 million). All income and expenses, other than deposit and bank interest, is passed on to UKLAP.

Section 172 (1) statement

We report here on how our Directors have discharged their duties under Section 172 of the Companies Act 2006.

S.172 sets out a series of matters to which the directors must have regard to in performing their duty to promote the success of the Company for the benefit of its shareholders, including having regard to other stakeholders.

Our Board considers it crucial that the Company maintains a reputation for high standards of business conduct. The Board is responsible for monitoring and upholding the culture, values, standards, ethics and reputation of the Company to ensure that our obligations to our stakeholders are met. The Board monitors adherence to our policies and compliance with local corporate governance requirements and is committed to acting where our businesses fall short of the standards we expect.

The Board is also focused on the wider social context within which our businesses operate, including those issues related to climate change which are of fundamental importance to the planet's well-being.

The Company's culture

Our culture is shaped, in conjunction with the wider Aviva Group, by our clearly defined purpose – with you today for a better tomorrow. As the provider of financial services to millions of customers, Aviva seeks to earn their trust by acting with integrity and a sense of responsibility at all times. We look to build relationships with all our stakeholders based on openness and transparency and we value diversity and inclusivity in our workforce and beyond.

Key strategic decisions in 2023

For each matter that comes before the Board, the Board considers the likely consequences of any decision in the long term, identifies stakeholders who may be affected, and carefully considers their interests and any potential impact as part of the decision-making process.

On 31 January 2023, the Company ceased to be an Appointed Representative on behalf of fellow subsidiaries of the Aviva Group, Aviva Life & Pensions UK Limited (UKLAP) and Aviva Administration Limited (AAL). At the same time, the Company entered into new intra-group agreements with UKLAP and AAL to confirm that the Company procures and manages the services through Diligenta as an outsourced service provider.

On 4 December 2023, the Company provided its approval regarding the 15-year extension of to Aviva's partnership with Diligenta. This will support Aviva's ongoing focus to simplify and transform the UK Insurance, Wealth and Retirement ("IWR") business. An announcement was made on 30 January 2024, following subsequent internal approvals.

Stakeholder engagement

This section provides insight into how the Board engages with our stakeholders. The Board recognises that stakeholders have diverse interests and that these interest need to be heard. Engaging with our stakeholders is essential to understand what matters most to them and the likely impact of any key decisions.

The Board receives updates from the Executive Directors which details any substantial engagement with our stakeholders. The Board has established its awareness of the likely consequences on its long-term decision as part of its consideration of Aviva's strategy. As part of these strategic decisions, the Board considered that industry and market and the potential impact on stakeholders. Our Section 172(1) Statement above sets out our approach on how our directors have performed their duty.

Details of how we engaged with our different groups of stakeholders during 2023 can be found on the following pages.

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Strategic report (continued)

Our people

Our people's wellbeing and commitment to serving our customers are the foundations for our performance.

How we have engaged

- The Company has no employees. The majority of staff engaged in the activities of the Company are employed by fellow subsidiary undertakings of Aviva plc. As part of the Aviva Group, these staff enjoy the benefit of the Aviva Group policies and benefits made available to them.
- Our people have the opportunity to share in the business's success as shareholders through membership of our global share plans. All employees are eligible for our global share plans.
- The Company's engagement mechanisms align with those of the Aviva Group, such as employment forums, internal communication channels, informal meetings with the Directors and employee engagement surveys.

Focus during the year

- The Aviva Group focused on attracting and retaining the best people in the industry, as well as monitoring and responding to. the impact that inflationary pressures exerted on our people.
- The Aviva Group was given corporate culture updates with a focus on embedding diversity and inclusion.

Outcomes and actions during the year

- Launch of Aviva's 2023 early career programme, with over 200 graduates and apprentices attending.
- Launch of Workvivo, our new internal colleague communication and engagement platform, with over 19,500 colleagues active and over 10,000 daily users.

Customers

Understanding what's important to Aviva's customers is key to our long-term success.

How we have engaged

- The Company has no external customers.
- The Company's intermediate holding company, Aviva Life Holdings UK Limited, is supported by a Conduct Committee to enable it to monitor customer metrics. The Board can escalate any matter it feels necessary to the Aviva Life Holdings UK Ltd Conduct Committee for further scrutiny.

Outcomes and actions during the year

- The Aviva Group monitored and responded to the impact that inflationary pressures exerted on our customers.
- Aviva focussed on our digital customer journeys, making it easier and more convenient for customers to interact with us.

Shareholders

Our retail and institutional shareholders are the owners of the Company's ultimate parent, Aviva plc.

The Company's ultimate shareholder is Aviva plc. Any matters requiring escalation are escalated by the Board through the Chair to its parent, Aviva Life Services UK Limited.

Focus during the year

The Group aims to ensure that shareholders understand our strategy and business model.

Outcomes and actions during the year

The 2023 AGM took place in Norwich. This was the first time the location was outside of London and gave the Board an opportunity to meet local retail shareholders. The 2024 AGM was held in York.

Communities

We recognise the importance of contributing to our communities through volunteering, community investment, and long term partnerships.

How we have engaged

- Aviva supported the communities in which we operate, through investment in business and infrastructure, paying tax revenues and community support activity.
- At Aviva Group Level, the Customer and Sustainability Committee received regular updates on the progress of Aviva's Sustainability Ambition throughout 2023.

Outcomes and actions during the year

- Employees across the Group were offered the opportunity to volunteer their time to support charities and organisations.
- During the year, Aviva provided £2.7m funding to Citizens Advice and £0.75m to the Money Advice Trust to help build their capacity to tackle the cost of living crisis. This is part of an overall commitment of £7m to Citizens Advice and £2m to Money Advice Trust (the majority of which was distributed in 2022).
- The Aviva Foundation committed just under £2m funding to organisations delivering public benefit focused on financial resilience.

Suppliers

We operate in conjunction with a wide range of suppliers to deliver services to our customers. It is vital that we build strong working relationships with our intermediaries.

How we have engaged

- he Company maintains oversight of the management of its most important suppliers and reviews reports on their performance.
- The Board normally delegates engagement with suppliers and oversight to
- All supplier related activity is managed in line with the group procurement and outsourcing business standards. This ensures that supplier risk is managed appropriately in relation to customer outcomes, data security, corporate responsibility, and financial, operational and contractual issues.

- Focus during the year

 Understanding and highlighting risk across whole supply chain.
- Simplification of products and platforms.
- Engaging with key suppliers about our commitment to Aviva's Sustainability Ambition.

Outcomes and actions during the year

- To ensure continued efforts to strengthen controls, the procurement & outsourcing (P&O) Business Standard was refreshed for 2023.
- Aviva held its first Net Zero Supplier Summit which included speakers from Microsoft, Paragon and Aviva Investors.
- Aviva remains a signatory to the Prompt Payment Code.

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Strategic report (continued)

Future outlook

Strategies for the Group as a whole are determined by the Board of Aviva plc and these are shown in the Group 2023 Annual Report and Accounts. The Company will work with the Group to support the implementation of these strategies.

The strategic direction of the Company is set by the directors of the Company. The directors consider that the Company's principal activities will continue unchanged for the foreseeable future.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Company is exposed to financial risk through its financial assets and liabilities in the ordinary course of its business. It is exposed to operational risk of loss resulting from internal processes, people and systems, or from external events.

The Company uses a number of metrics to identify, measure, manage, monitor and report risks and a fuller explanation of these risks, other than operational risk, may be found in note 9 to the financial statements.

By order of the Board on 17 June 2024

laura McGowan

L. E. McGowan

Aviva Company Secretarial Services Limited

Company Secretary

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Directors' report

In accordance with Section 415 of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act), the directors present their annual report and financial statements for Aviva Management Services UK Limited (the Company) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Directors

The names of the present directors of the Company appear on page 3.

K J Bye resigned as a director of the Company on 10 July 2023. L E McGowan was appointed as a director of the Company on the same date.

Dividends

No dividend was paid for the financial year ending 31 December 2023 (2022: £nil).

Maior events

Major events in 2023 are discussed in the key strategic decisions section of the Strategic Report.

Statement on going concern

The Company's business activities, together with the factors likely to affect its future development, performance and position are set out in the strategic report, which includes a section describing the principal risks and uncertainties. In addition, the financial statements include notes on: the Company's management of its risks including market, credit and liquidity risk (note 9).

The Company and its ultimate holding company, Aviva plc, have considerable financial resources together with a diversified business model, with a spread of businesses and geographical reach. The directors believe that the Company is well placed to manage its business risks successfully.

The going concern and longer-term viability review includes consideration of the Company's current and forecast solvency and liquidity positions over a three-year period through management's 2024-2026 business plan and evaluates the results of stress and scenario testing.

After making enquiries, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for a period of at least twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements. For this reason, they continue to adopt, and to consider appropriate, the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Future developments

Likely future developments in the business of the Company are discussed in the Strategic Report on page 4.

Financial risk management

Details of financial risk management are discussed in the principal risks and uncertainties section of the Strategic Report and note 9 to the financial statements.

Employees

The Company has no employees (2022: nil). The majority of employees are employed by a fellow subsidiary undertaking of Aviva plc, Aviva Employment Services Limited. Disclosures relating to employee remuneration and the average number of persons employed are made in the financial statements of Aviva Employment Services Limited. The Company receives no recharge in relation to these costs.

Qualifying indemnity provisions

Aviva plc, the Company's ultimate parent, granted in 2004 an indemnity to the directors against liability in respect of proceedings brought by third parties, subject to the conditions set out in the Companies Act 1985, which continue to apply in relation to any provision made before 1 October 2007. This indemnity is a "qualifying third party indemnity" for the purposes of s309A to s309C of the Companies Act 1985. These qualifying third party indemnity provisions remain in force as at the date of approving the directors' report by virtue of paragraph 15, Schedule 3 of The Companies Act 2006 (Commencement No. 3, Consequential Amendments, Transitional Provisions and Savings) Order 2007.

The directors also have the benefit of the indemnity provision contained in the Company's articles of association, subject to the conditions set out in the Companies Act 2006. This is a "qualifying third party indemnity" provision as defined by s234 of the Companies Act 2006.

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Directors' report (continued)

Statement of directors' responsibilities in respect of the financial statements

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulation.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have prepared the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 101 "Reduced Disclosure Framework", and applicable law).

Under company law, directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the directors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- State whether applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 101 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- 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

The directors are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

By order of the Board on 17 June 2024

Laura McGowan

L. E. McGowan

Aviva Company Secretarial Services Limited

Company Secretary

Annual Report and Financial Statements 2023

Profit and loss account

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	2023	2022
		£000	£000
Interest receivable and similar income	В	1,360	313
Profit before taxation	_	1,360	313
Tax on profit	E & 3	_	_
Profit for the financial year		1,360	313

All of the above amounts are in respect of continuing operations.

The Company has no other comprehensive income (2022: none).

The information on pages 12 to 15 forms an integral part of these financial statements.

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Balance sheet

As at 31 December 2023

	Note	2023	2022
		£000	£000
Current assets			
Amounts owed by group undertakings	С	_	258
Other debtors	C & 5	_	4,905
Cash at bank and in hand	D	41,892	48,722
		41,892	53,885
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			
Amounts owed to group undertakings	С	(25,286)	(38,639)
	_	(25,286)	(38,639)
Net current assets		16,606	15,246
Total assets less current liabilities	_	16,606	15,246
Net assets	_	16,606	15,246
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	6	10,100	10,100
Profit and loss account		6,506	5,146
Total equity	_	16,606	15,246

Audit exemption statement

Mon_

For the year ended 31 December 2023, the Company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 479A of the Companies Act 2006 relating to subsidiary companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476. The Directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the Board of directors on 17 June 2024 and were signed on its behalf:

M. Robinson

Director

Annual Report and Financial Statements 2023

Statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Called up share capital	Profit & loss account	Total Equity
	0003	£000£	£000
Balance at 1 January 2023	10,100	5,146	15,246
Profit for the financial year	_	1,360	1,360
Balance at 31 December 2023	10,100	6,506	16,606
	Called up share capital	Profit & loss account	Total Equity
	£000	£000	£000
Balance at 1 January 2022	10,100	4,833	14,933
Profit for the financial year	_	313	313
Balance at 31 December 2022	10,100	5,146	15,246

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Notes to the financial statements

1. Accounting policies

(A) Basis of presentation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with The Companies Act 2006, as applicable to companies using Financial Reporting Standard 101 Reduced Disclosure Framework (FRS 101). The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. In assessing whether the going concern basis is appropriate, the directors have considered the information contained in the financial statements of the Company. The directors are satisfied that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and at least 12 months from the approval of the financial statements.

The financial statements are stated in sterling, which is the Company's functional and presentational currency. Unless otherwise noted, the amounts shown in these financial statements are in thousands of pounds sterling (£'000).

The accounting policies which follow set out those policies which apply in preparing the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented, unless otherwise stated.

The Company has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions under FRS 101:

- a. the requirements of paragraphs 10(d) and 111 of IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements to include a statement of cash flows and the requirements of IAS 7 Statement of Cash Flows;
- b. the requirements of paragraph 16 of IAS 1 to make a statement of compliance with the international accounting standards;
- c. the requirements of paragraphs 30 and 31 of IAS 8 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors to disclose when an entity has not applied a new accounting standard that has been issued but is not yet effective;
- d. the requirements of paragraph 17 of IAS 24 Related Party Disclosure to disclose key management personnel compensation;
- e. the requirements in IAS 24 'Related Party Disclosures', to disclose related party transactions entered into between two or more members of a group;
- f. Paragraph 18A of IAS 24, 'Related party disclosures', related to key management services provided by a separate management entity.
- g. the requirements of paragraph 134 to 136 of IAS 1 to disclose information to allow the user to evaluate the entity's objectives, policies and processes for managing capital.

New standards, interpretations and amendments to published standards that have been adopted by the Company

The following new standards and amendments to existing guidance on a number of standards became effective for the reporting period beginning on 1 January 2023. Amendments to IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements and IFRS Practice Statement 2: Disclosure of Accounting Policies; Amendments to IAS 8 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors: Definition of Accounting Estimates; Amendments to IAS 12 Income Taxes: Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction; Amendments to IAS 12 Income Taxes: International Tax Reform – Pillar Two Model Rules.

(B) Interest receivable and payable

Interest receivable and payable is accounted for on an accruals basis.

(C) Receivables and payables

The classification and measurement of financial assets, including receivables, is driven by an assessment of the Company's business model for managing financial assets, and the extent to which the financial assets' contractual cash flows are solely payment of principal and interest. Based on the outcome of this assessment, receivables are initially recognised at the transaction price, with subsequent measurement being at amortised cost.

The Company calculates expected credit losses for all financial assets held at amortised cost. Expected credit losses are generally calculated on either a 12-month or lifetime basis depending on the extent to which credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition. The Company makes use of a simplified approach for trade receivables such that expected credit losses are always calculated on a lifetime basis.

Payables and other financial liabilities are initially recognised at their fair value, with subsequent measurement being at amortised cost.

(D) Cash

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash at banks and in hand.

(E) Income taxes

The current tax expense is based on the taxable profits for the year, after any adjustments in respect of prior years. Tax, including tax relief for losses if applicable, is allocated over profits before taxation and amounts charged or credited to components of other comprehensive income and equity as appropriate.

Provision is made for deferred tax liabilities, or credit taken for deferred tax assets, using the liability method, on all material temporary differences between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements.

The rates enacted or substantively enacted at the statement of financial position date are used to value the deferred tax assets and liabilities.

Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be available against which the temporary differences can be utilised. Where there is a history of tax losses, deferred tax assets are only recognised in excess of deferred tax liabilities if there is convincing evidence that future profits will be available.

Deferred tax is provided on any temporary differences arising from investments in subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures, except where the timing of the reversal of the temporary difference can be controlled and it is probable that the difference will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

Deferred taxes are not provided in respect of any temporary differences arising from the initial recognition of goodwill, or from the initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction which is not a business combination and affects neither accounting profit nor taxable profit or loss at the time of the transaction.

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Notes to the financial statements (continued)

Current and deferred tax relating to items recognised in other comprehensive income and directly in equity are similarly recognised in other comprehensive income and directly in equity respectively, except for the tax consequences of distributions from certain equity instruments, to be recognised in the income statement.

Deferred tax related to any fair value re-measurement of investments, held at fair value through other comprehensive income, owner-occupied properties, pensions and other post-retirement obligations and other amounts charged or credited directly to other comprehensive income is recognised in the balance sheet as a deferred tax asset or liability.

(F) Share capital

Equity instruments

An equity instrument is a contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of an entity after deducting all its liabilities. Accordingly, a financial instrument is treated as equity if:

- (i) there is no contractual obligation to deliver cash or other financial assets or to exchange financial assets or liabilities on terms that may be unfavourable; and
- (ii) the instrument will not be settled by delivery of a variable number of shares or is a derivative that can be settled other than for a fixed amount of cash, shares or other financial assets.

2. Use of judgements, estimates and assumptions

The preparation of the Company's financial statements, in accordance with FRS 101, requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions in applying the accounting policies that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Estimates are based on management's knowledge of current facts and circumstances, assumptions based on that knowledge and their predictions of future events and actions. Actual results may differ from those estimates, possibly significantly. There are no major areas of judgement on policy application for the Company.

3. Tax

(a) Tax charged to the profit and loss account

No tax was charged to the profit and loss account in either 2023 or 2022.

(b) Tax charged to other comprehensive income

There was no tax credited or charged to other comprehensive income in either 2023 or 2022.

(c) Tax reconciliation

The tax on the Company's profit before tax differs from the theoretical amount that would arise using the tax rate of the United Kingdom as follows:

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Total profit before tax	1,360	313
Tax calculated at standard UK corporation tax rate of 23.5% (2022: 19%)	(320)	(59)
Surrender of tax losses from Group undertakings for no charge	320	59
Total tax charge to the profit and loss account	_	_

The UK Government has enacted an increase in the UK corporation tax rate to 25% to take effect from 1 April 2023. As the Company has no deferred tax assets or liabilities, there is no impact of the Company's net assets as a consequence of the amendments to the tax rates.

During 2023, legislation on The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development proposals to reform the international tax system and introduce a global minimum effective rate of corporation tax of 15% was enacted in the UK, to take effect from 31 December 2023. The Company (as part of the Aviva Group) has assessed its potential exposure, based on the available information, and does not anticipate any exposure to additional tax under these provisions.

4. Tax assets and liabilities

(a) Current Tax

Current tax assets recoverable and liabilities payable in more than one year are £nil (2022: £nil).

(b) Deferred tax

The Company has no recognised temporary differences, and unrecognised temporary differences of £nil (2022: £nil) carried forward.

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Notes to the financial statements (continued)

5. Other debtors

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Amounts falling due within one year		
Corporation tax receivable	_	4,905
	_	4,905

6. Called up share capital

Details of the Company's ordinary share capital at 31 December are as follows:

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Allotted and issued		
10,100,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each (2022: 10,100,000)	10,100	10,100

Ordinary shares in issue in the Company rank pari passu. All the ordinary shares in issue carry the same right to receive all dividends and other distributions declared, made or paid by the Company.

7. Directors' emoluments

All directors were remunerated by Aviva Employment Services Limited, a fellow subsidiary of the ultimate parent company, Aviva plc. The emoluments are recharged, as part of a head office management charge under management service agreements, to all operating divisions of the Aviva Group. No direct recharge has been made to the Company in respect of these emoluments as these directors were not primarily remunerated for their services to the Company and their remuneration cannot be accurately calculated or disclosed. Accordingly, no emoluments are disclosed in respect of these directors.

8. Risk management

(a) Risk management framework.

The Company operates a risk management framework (RMF) that forms an integral part of the management and Board processes and decision-making framework, aligned to the Group's risk management framework. The key elements of the risk management framework comprise risk appetite; risk governance, including risk policies and business standards, risk oversight committees and roles and responsibilities; and the processes the Company uses to identify, measure, manage, monitor and report ("IMMMR") risks.

The RMF has been adopted by the boards of the legal entities within the business collectively referred to as "Insurance, Wealth & Retirement (UK IWR)" (including this Company).

For the purposes of risk identification and measurement, and aligned to the Company's risk policies, risks are usually grouped by risk type: credit, market, liquidity, and operational risk. Risks falling within these types may affect a number of metrics including those relating to statement of financial position strength, liquidity and profit. They may also affect the performance of the products the Company delivers to its customers and the service to its customers and distributors, which can be categorised as risks to brand and reputation or as conduct risk.

To promote a consistent and rigorous approach to risk management across the business, the Company has a set of risk policies and business standards which set out the risk strategy, appetite, framework and minimum requirements for the Company's operations. The Chief Executive Officer of IWR makes an annual declaration that the system of governance and internal controls was effective and fit for purpose for their business throughout the year; this declaration is supported by an opinion from the IWR Chief Risk Officer. Any material weaknesses in subsidiary companies are considered as part of this overall process.

The Risk Appetite Framework was refreshed during the year, with revised risk appetites considered and approved by the Board. Since 2021, Climate Risk has been integrated and defined within the risk appetite framework as part of the use in risk-based decision-making.

A regular top-down key risk identification and assessment process is carried out by the risk function. This includes the consideration of emerging risks and is supported by deeper thematic reviews. UK Life also operates a risk and control self-assessment process. The risk assessment processes are used to generate risk reports which are shared with the relevant risk committees.

Roles and responsibilities for risk management are based around the 'three lines of defence model' where ownership for risk is taken at all levels. Line management in the business is accountable for risk management, including the implementation of the risk management framework and embedding of the risk culture. The risk function is accountable for quantitative and qualitative oversight and challenge of the IMMMR processes and for developing the risk management framework. Internal Audit provides an independent assessment of the risk management framework and internal control processes.

Board oversight of risk and risk management across the Company is maintained on a regular basis.

(b) Market Risk

Market risk is the risk of loss or adverse change in the financial situation (including the value of assets, liabilities and income) resulting, directly or indirectly, from fluctuations in the level or the volatility of market variables, such as interest rates, foreign exchange rates, equity, property and commodity prices. The nature of the business means that the Company is not exposed to significant market risk.

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Notes to the financial statements (continued)

(c) Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk of adverse financial impact resulting from fluctuations in credit quality of third parties including default, rating transition and credit spread movements. The Company's management of credit risk under the oversight of the UK IWR Asset & Liability Committee (ALCO), includes the articulation of risk appetite, exposure limit frameworks and investment and lending criteria within credit risk policies and management agreements.

The nature of the Company's business means that it is not exposed to significant credit risk. This is because its receivables are mainly inter-company balances. A significant amount of business relates to the Aviva Group of companies and exposure is managed through regular and timely payments.

(d) Liquidity Risk

The nature of the business means that liquidity management is the primary activity of the Company although the exposure to liquidity risk is not significant. ALCO seeks to determine that the Company has sufficient financial resources to meet its obligations as they fall due, whilst only passing through receipts collected on behalf of Aviva Life & Pensions UK Limited once monies are settled.

(e) Operational Risk

Increasing geo-political tensions have heightened the risk of cyber security attacks on the Aviva Group or its suppliers, with the potential to cause business service interruption and/or data or intellectual property theft. In response the Aviva Group continues to actively monitor the threat environment and enhance its IT infrastructure and Cyber controls to identify, detect and prevent attacks. Aviva's Cyber defences are regularly tested using our own 'ethical hacking' team and the Aviva Group has engaged with suppliers to put in place all reasonable measures so that services to Aviva and its customers are protected.

The Aviva Group actively monitors social and other media in order to manage misinformation about our business, products, colleagues and customers should we be targeted by a hostile actor, taking corrective media action if necessary.

9. Related party transactions

The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary undertaking of Aviva plc. The results of the Company are consolidated in the results of Aviva plc, the Company's ultimate parent and controlling company, whose financial statements are publicly available.

Under FRS 101 the Company is exempt from the requirements of IAS 24 Related Party Disclosures, concerning the disclosure of transactions entered into between two or more members of a group provided that any subsidiary which is a party to the transaction is wholly owned by such a member.

10. Ultimate parent undertaking

The Company's ultimate parent undertaking is Aviva plc, 80 Fenchurch Street, London, EC3M 4AE. Copies of the Group Financial Statements of Aviva plc can be viewed via its website at www.aviva.com.