

The Symphony Group plc

Annual report and financial statements

Registered number 01022506

31 December 2024

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Directors and advisors

Directors

K M Gregory (non-executive)
R Bunton
J A Dunsford
I R Marwood
P R Whitehouse

Company Secretary

A Murdoch

Registered Office

Pen Hill Estate
Park Spring Road
Barnsley
South Yorkshire
S72 7EZ

Independent auditor

KPMG LLP
Chartered Accountants
1 Sovereign Square
Sovereign Street
Leeds
LS1 4DA

Solicitor

Walker Morris LLP
33 Wellington St
Leeds
LS1 4DL

Banker

Lloyds TSB Bank PLC
6-7 Park Row
Leeds
LS1 1NX

Strategic report

Business model

The Symphony Group plc (the “Company”) is unique in that it operates in four distinct market sectors: Retail, Private Development, Social Housing and Export. This is combined with customer and product diversification to minimise exposure to individual sector risk.

The Company has continued to focus on delivering excellent customer service however due to continued challenging market conditions there has been a modest drop in profitability in 2024.

The Company continues to maintain a high level of resourcing and investment and as such is well placed to take advantage of any potential market growth in 2025 and beyond.

Business review and results

The Company supplies fitted kitchen, bedroom and bathroom furniture and associated products to the Retail, Private Development, Social Housing and Export market sectors.

The results for 2024 show a pre-tax profit of £11,021,000 (2023: £15,123,000) on sales of £319,979,000 (2023: £338,588,000). At the end of the year the Company has a cash balance of £49,600,000 (2023: £29,459,000) and an overdraft balance of £nil (2023: £480,000).

Operating profit of £10,329,000 (2023: £15,096,000) was after a loss of £495,000 (2023: loss of £1,050,000) related to forward currency contracts.

KPIs

Some of the Company’s relevant KPIs are given below:

	2024	2023
% change in turnover	(5.5%)	(1.0%)
Sales per employee	£190,100	£197,400
Adjusted EBITDA	£20,133,000	£20,254,000

Adjusted EBITDA for the year was £20,133,000, which excludes non-recurring administration costs of £4,374,000 and depreciation of £5,430,000.

Strategic report *(continued)*

Principal risks and uncertainty

The management of the business is subject to a number of risks. These relate mainly to competitor activity and the availability and price of raw materials.

Future developments

The Private Development market is expected to continue to grow in the medium to long term, and the Company expects to capitalise on that growth given recent market share gains. In addition, the Company remains committed to developing its Retail business by offering high quality products at transparent prices to all its Retail partners.

S172 Statement

The board of directors has always taken a long-term strategic approach to running the business. We have fostered strong partnerships with both our customers and suppliers over our 54-year history as we believe those relationships are key to our continued success. We also appreciate that our employees, workers and sub-contractors are our strength and ongoing engagement with them, alongside our wider business community, is important in any strategic decision making. We know that having regard to those relationships, as well as to our wider impact on the community and the environment, enables us to promote the success of the company for the benefit of its member (whilst taking in to account the matters set out in s172(a) – (f) of the Companies Act 2006).

Results and dividends

The Company's profit after tax for the year is £8,276,000 (2023: £12,249,000). The directors have paid a dividend of £26,000,000 (2023: £nil).

By order of the Board.



J A Dunsford
Director

9 April 2025

Directors' report

The directors present their report and the audited financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Principal activities

The Company's principal activity during the year was the manufacture and sale of kitchen, bedroom and bathroom furniture.

Directors

The directors who held office during the year and up to the date of signing the financial statements are given below:

K M Gregory (non-executive)
M R Davis (Resigned 31 March 25)
R Bunton
J A Dunsford
I R Marwood (Appointed 25 July 24)
P R Whitehouse (Appointed 1 April 25)

Employees

Applications for employment by disabled persons are always fully considered, bearing in mind the respective aptitudes and abilities of the applicant concerned. In the event of members of staff becoming disabled, every effort is made to ensure that their employment with the Company continues and the appropriate training is arranged. It is the policy of the Company that the training, career development and promotion of a disabled person should, as far as possible, be identical to that of a person who does not suffer from a disability.

The Company continues its practice of keeping all its employees informed on matters affecting them.

Political and charitable donations

The Company made no political donations during the period. Donations to UK charities amounted to £2,000 (2023: £5,000).

Policy and practice on payment of creditors

The Company policy is to make its suppliers aware of the terms of payment, to agree such terms with its suppliers for each business transaction and to make payments to suppliers in accordance with these terms, provided that the supplier is also complying with all relevant terms. The average number of day's purchases outstanding at 31 December 2024 was 58 (2023: 56).

Disclosure of information to auditor

The directors who held office at the date of approval of this directors' report confirm that, so far as they are each aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditor is unaware; and each director has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a director to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditor is aware of that information.

Directors' report *(continued)*

Streamlined energy and carbon reporting

The SECR disclosure presents our carbon footprint within the United Kingdom across Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions, an appropriate intensity metric, the total energy use of electricity, gas and transport fuel and the actions taken in the financial year by the Company to reduce energy consumption and to reduce our carbon footprint.

	Year ended 31 Dec 2024	Year ended 31 Dec 2023
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	51,501,508	52,572,997
Emissions from the combustion of gas tCO ₂ e (Scope 1)	833	901
Emissions from the combustions of fuel for transport purposes tCO ₂ e (Scope 1)	8,143	8,236
Emissions from purchased electricity tCO ₂ e (Scope 2, location based)	2,730	2,881
Emissions from indirect transport (Scope 3)	24	20
Total gross tCO ₂ e based on the above	11,730	12,038
Intensity ratio (tCO ₂ e/£m turnover)	36.7	35.60

Energy efficiency action summary

The Company strives to achieve direct savings in energy consumption and the associated carbon emissions through operational and technological improvements. These include:

- Ongoing replacement of heavy goods vehicles and company cars with Euro-6 and electric compliant vehicles with lower tailpipe emissions.
- Installation of new energy efficient lighting systems.
- Investment in replacement equipment.
- A board commitment to high quality renewable power

Methodology used:

- Alignment with financial reporting - SECR disclosures have been prepared in line with the Company's financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.
- Reporting method – GHG Emissions reporting are in line with the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard.
- Emissions factor source – DESNZ GHG Conversion factors 2024 for all emission factors.
- Calculation method – Activity data x emissions factor = GHG emissions.
- Reason for intensity measurement choice – the chosen metric best expresses the business performance generated from the consumption of energy and the associated carbon emissions.

Independent auditor

Pursuant to section 487 of the Companies Act 2006, the auditor will be deemed to be reappointed as independent auditor and KPMG LLP will therefore continue in office.

By order of the Board



J A Dunsford
Director

The Symphony Group plc
Pen Hill Estate
Park Spring Road
Barnsley
S72 7EZ
9 April 2025

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities in Respect of the Strategic Report, the Directors' Report and the Financial Statements

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

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK accounting standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland*.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- assess the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern; and
- use the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

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 its financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.



KPMG LLP

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Sovereign Street
Leeds
LS1 4DA
United Kingdom

Independent auditor's report to the members of The Symphony Group plc

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Symphony Group plc ("the Company") for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the profit and loss account, balance sheet, statement of changes in equity, and related notes, including the accounting policies in note 1.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31 December 2024 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with UK accounting standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland*; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities are described below. We have fulfilled our ethical responsibilities under, and are independent of the company in accordance with, UK ethical requirements including the FRC Ethical Standard. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is a sufficient and appropriate basis for our opinion.

Going concern

The directors have prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis as they do not intend to liquidate the company or to cease its operations, and as they have concluded that the company's financial position means that this is realistic. They have also concluded that there are no material uncertainties that could have cast significant doubt over its ability to continue as a going concern for at least a year from the date of approval of the financial statements ("the going concern period").

In our evaluation of the directors' conclusions, we considered the inherent risks to the company's business model and analysed how those risks might affect the company's financial resources or ability to continue operations over the going concern period.

Our conclusions based on this work:

- we consider that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate;
- we have not identified, and concur with the directors' assessment that there is not, a material uncertainty related to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern for the going concern period.

However, as we cannot predict all future events or conditions and as subsequent events may result in outcomes that are inconsistent with judgements that were reasonable at the time they were made, the above conclusions are not a guarantee that the company will continue in operation.

Independents auditor's report to the members of The Symphony Group plc

(Continued)

Fraud and breaches of laws and regulations – ability to detect

Identifying and responding to risks of material misstatement due to fraud

To identify risks of material misstatement due to fraud (“fraud risks”) we assessed events or conditions that could indicate an incentive or pressure to commit fraud or provide an opportunity to commit fraud. Our risk assessment procedures included:

- Enquiring of directors and inspection of policy documentation as to the Company’s high-level policies and procedures to prevent and detect fraud, as well as whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud.
- Reading Board minutes.
- Considering remuneration incentive schemes and performance targets.
- Using analytical procedures to identify unusual or unexpected relationships

We communicated identified fraud risks throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of fraud throughout the audit.

As required by auditing standards, we perform procedures to address the risk of management override of controls and the risk of fraudulent revenue recognition, in particular the risk that supply and fit revenue is recorded in the wrong period and the risk that management may be in a position to make inappropriate accounting entries.

We did not identify any additional fraud risks.

We performed procedures including:

- Identifying journal entries to test based on risk criteria and comparing the identified entries to supporting documentation. These included those posted to unusual accounts.
- For a sample of revenue transactions around the period end, vouching to supporting external documentation to corroborate whether those items were recorded in the correct accounting period.

Identifying and responding to risks of material misstatement related to non-compliance with laws and regulations

We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general commercial and sector experience and through discussion with the directors (as required by auditing standards), and discussed with the directors the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations.

We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.

The potential effect of these laws and regulations on the financial statements varies considerably.

Firstly, the Company is subject to laws and regulations that directly affect the financial statements including financial reporting legislation (including related companies legislation), distributable profits legislation and taxation legislation and we assessed the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement items.

Independent auditor's report to the members of The Symphony Group plc *(continued)*

Secondly, the Company is subject to many other laws and regulations where the consequences of non-compliance could have a material effect on amounts or disclosures in the financial statements, for instance through the imposition of fines or litigation. We identified the following areas as those most likely to have such an effect: health and safety, anti-bribery, employment law, and certain aspects of company legislation, recognising the nature of the Company's activities and its legal form. Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Therefore, if a breach of operational regulations is not disclosed to us or evident from relevant correspondence, an audit will not detect that breach.

Context of the ability of the audit to detect fraud or breaches of law or regulation

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it.

In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of fraud, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. Our audit procedures are designed to detect material misstatement. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance or fraud and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

Strategic report and directors' report

The directors are responsible for the strategic report and the directors' report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover those reports and we do not express an audit opinion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the strategic report and the directors' report and, in doing so, consider whether, based on our financial statements audit work, the information therein is materially misstated or inconsistent with the financial statements or our audit knowledge. Based solely on that work:

- we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report and the directors' report;
- in our opinion the information given in those reports for the financial year is consistent with the financial statements; and
- in our opinion those reports have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

We have nothing to report in these respects.

Independent auditor's report to the members of The Symphony Group plc (continued)

Directors' responsibilities

As explained more fully in their statement set out on page 6, the directors are responsible for: the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view; such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern; and using the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities

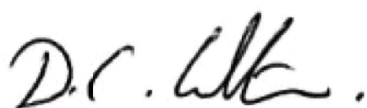
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue our opinion in an auditor's report. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but does not guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

A fuller description of our responsibilities is provided on the FRC's website at

www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities.

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



David Caseldine (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of KPMG LLP, Statutory Auditor

Chartered Accountants

1 Sovereign Square
Sovereign Street
Leeds
LS1 4DA

9 April 2025

Profit and Loss Account
for the year ended 31 December 2024

	<i>Note</i>	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Turnover	2	319,979	338,588
Costs and overheads	3	(309,650)	(323,492)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Operating profit	4	10,329	15,096
 Bank interest receivable		 692	 39
Interest payable on overdrafts		-	(12)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Profit before taxation		11,021	15,123
Tax on profit	8	(2,745)	(2,874)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Profit for the financial year		8,276	12,249
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

All items dealt with in arriving at operating profit above relate to continuing operations.

There were no gains or losses in the year other than those included in the above profit and loss account.

The notes on pages 14 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

Balance sheet

as at 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £'000	2024 £'000	2023 £'000	2023 £'000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9		29,225		31,700
Current assets					
Stocks	10	36,560		38,456	
Debtors	11	56,500		87,891	
Cash at bank and in hand		49,600		29,459	
		142,660		155,806	
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	12	(50,034)		(47,640)	
Net current assets			92,626		108,166
Total assets less current liabilities			121,851		139,866
Provision for deferred tax	13		(5,375)		(5,666)
Net assets			116,476		134,200
Capital and reserves					
Called up share capital	14		253		253
Capital redemption reserve			10		10
Profit and loss reserve			116,213		133,937
Total shareholders' funds			116,476		134,200

The notes on pages 14 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 11 to 24 were approved by the board of directors on 9 April 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:



J A Dunsford
Director

The Symphony Group plc
Registered number: 01022506

Statement of Changes in Equity
for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Called up share capital £000	Capital redemption reserve £000	Profit and loss account £000	Total equity £000
Balance at 1 January 2023	253	10	121,688	121,951
Total comprehensive income for the period				
Profit or loss	-	-	12,249	12,249
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	-	12,249	12,249
Balance at 31 December 2023	253	10	133,937	134,200
Balance at 1 January 2024	253	10	133,937	134,200
Total comprehensive income for the period				
Profit or loss	-	-	8,276	8,276
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	-	8,276	8,276
Transactions with shareholders				
Dividends paid	-	-	(26,000)	(26,000)
Total transactions with shareholders	-	-	(26,000)	(26,000)
Balance at 31 December 2024	253	10	116,213	116,476

The notes on pages 14 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

Notes

(forming part of these financial statements)

1 Accounting policies

The Symphony Group plc (the “Company”) is a public company limited by shares, incorporated, domiciled and registered in England and Wales in the UK. The registered number is 01022506 and the registered address is Pen Hill Estate, Park Spring Road, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, S72 7EZ.

These financial statements were prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (“FRS 102”). The presentation currency of these financial statements is sterling. All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest £1,000.

The Company’s parent undertaking, Symphony Holdings Limited includes the Company in its consolidated financial statements. The consolidated financial statements of Symphony Holdings Limited are available to the public and may be obtained from Pen Hill Estate, Park Spring Road, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, S72 7EZ. In these financial statements, the Company is considered to be a qualifying entity (for the purposes of this FRS) and has applied the exemptions available under FRS 102 in respect of the following disclosures:

- Reconciliation of the number of shares outstanding from the beginning to end of the period;
- Cash Flow Statement and related notes; and
- Key Management Personnel compensation.

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

Judgements made by the directors, in the application of these accounting policies that have a significant effect on the financial statements and estimates with a significant risk of material adjustment in the next year are the assessment of provisions required against book debts and inventory. In both of these areas the Company applies consistent judgements using tested models.

Measurement convention

The financial statements are prepared on the historical cost basis except that the following assets and liabilities are stated at their fair value: derivative financial instruments and financial instruments classified at fair value through the profit or loss.

Going concern

In the year ended 31 December 2024 the Company generated profit after tax of £8.28 million (2023: £12.25 million profit). As at 31 December 2024, cash and cash equivalents were £49.6 million (2023: £29.0 million).

The Board has prepared cash flow forecasts using prudent assumptions as to future trading for the period to June 2026.

Notes *(continued)*

1 **Accounting policies** *(continued)*

Sensitivity analysis has been performed to assess the impact of a more severe but plausible downside scenario to future trading. Under this more cautious scenario, further turnover reductions have been applied for the period to 30 June 2026. These forecasts demonstrate that the Company will be able to meet its liabilities as they fall due out of its available cash balances which will be sufficient to sustain the business in the foreseeable future.

The directors also had regard to there being a sale process underway in relation to a proposed disposal of a majority shareholding in the Company's parent by its current shareholder, with completion likely to take place shortly after the date of approval of the financial statements. The directors therefore held discussions with the prospective purchasers to ascertain whether any potential post transaction activity could impact on the company's going concern status. They received indications that the purchaser's intentions were that the existing management team should remain in place, no new debt facilities would be introduced, and that there was no proposed legal entity reorganisation activity.

Consequently, the directors are confident that the Company will have sufficient funds to continue to meet its liabilities as they fall due until at least 12 months from the date of approval of the financial statements and therefore have prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis.

Revenue recognition

Revenue from the supply of furniture is recognised upon delivery to a customer. Revenue from the supply and installation of furniture is recognised when the installation has been completed to the satisfaction of the customer.

Fixed assets and depreciation

Fixed assets are stated at cost. The cost or valuation, less residual value, is depreciated by equal annual instalments over the estimated useful lives of the assets which are:

Plant and equipment	-	3-10 years
Motor vehicles	-	3-7 years

The Company assesses at each reporting date whether the tangible fixed assets (including those under finance leases) are impaired.

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values are reviewed if there is an indication of a significant change since the last annual reporting date.

Display set-up costs

All display set-up costs are written off to the profit and loss account as incurred, as the useful life of displays is considered to be short term.

Pensions

Money purchase pension arrangements, with defined company contributions, are operated for certain directors and senior employees, along with a companywide auto enrolment scheme. The profit and loss account charge represents the amount of contributions payable under such arrangements. The Company's obligations are limited to the amount of such contributions payable.

Notes *(continued)*

1 **Accounting policies** *(continued)*

Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value including an appropriate assessment of provision against slow moving and obsolete stock items. Cost of finished goods stock and manufactured items includes an appropriate proportion of labour and overhead expenses.

Cost is based on the first-in first-out principle and includes expenditure incurred in acquiring the stocks, production or conversion costs and other costs in bringing them to their existing location and condition.

Currency translation

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the transaction dates. Assets and liabilities expressed in foreign currencies are translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Gains and losses arising from currency translation are reflected in operating profit.

Taxation

The charge for taxation is based on the profit for the year and takes into account deferred taxation.

Deferred tax is recognised, without discounting, in respect of all timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes which have arisen but not reversed by the balance sheet date, except as otherwise required by FRS 102.

Hire purchase and leasing arrangements

Assets obtained under hire purchase agreements and finance leases are included in fixed assets and the related obligations are included in creditors. Interest charges are allocated to the profit and loss account so as to give a constant rate of charge on the capital balance outstanding.

Operating lease rentals are charged to the profit and loss account as incurred.

Segmental reporting

The Company's activities consist solely of the manufacture, sale and installation of kitchen, bedroom and bathroom furniture and associated products.

Basic financial instruments

Trade and other debtors / creditors

Trade and other debtors are recognised initially at transaction price less attributable transaction costs. Trade and other creditors are recognised initially at transaction price plus attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition they are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses in the case of trade debtors. If the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, for example if payment is deferred beyond normal business terms, then it is measured at the present value of future payments discounted at a market rate of instrument for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments

Derivative financial instruments and hedging

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.

Notes (continued)

2 Turnover

Turnover, which arises substantially within the United Kingdom, represents the invoiced value of goods supplied to customers net of discounts allowable and value added tax. Export sales in the period were £62,000 (2023: £113,000).

3 Costs and overheads

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Operating expenses		
Change in stocks of finished goods and work in progress	(423)	(1,183)
Purchase of raw materials and consumables	179,730	198,344
Other external and operating charges	53,869	55,927
Staff costs (note 5)	70,549	64,196
Depreciation (note 9)	5,430	5,158
Change in fair value of derivatives (note 17)	495	1,050
	309,650	323,492

Included in the above are non-recurring costs of £4,374,000 relating to compensation for loss of office. This consists of £3,636,000 salaries and £738,000 social security costs.

4 Expenses & Auditor's remuneration

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Operating profit is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Depreciation of tangible assets (note 9)	5,430	5,158
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	5	77
Property rentals	6,202	5,486
Hire of plant, machinery and vehicles	5,803	5,218
Auditor's remuneration		
Audit of these financial statements	100	60
Amounts receivable by the Company's auditor and its associates in respect of:		
Tax compliance services	34	50

Notes *(continued)*

5 Staff numbers and costs

The average number of persons employed by the Company (including directors) during the year, analysed by category, was as follows:

	2024 No	2023 No
Production	892	877
Administration	791	838
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Average number of employees	1,683	1,715
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The aggregate payroll costs of these persons were as follows:

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Wages and salaries	62,867	57,560
Social security costs	6,314	5,308
Other pensions costs	1,368	1,328
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	70,549	64,196
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Notes (continued)

6 Remuneration of directors

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Aggregate emoluments	1,048	991
Compensation for loss of office	3,636	-
Company contributions to money purchase pension schemes	36	26
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4,720	1,017
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The aggregate emoluments of the highest paid director were £4,124,000 (2023: £465,000). Retirement benefits are accruing to the following number of directors under:

	2024 No	2023 No
Money purchase schemes	2	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>

7 Dividends

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Dividends Paid	26,000	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	26,000	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Notes *(continued)*

8 Tax on profit

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
United Kingdom corporation tax at 25% (2023: 23.52%)	3,132	2,143
Adjustment relating to an earlier year	(96)	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Current taxation charge	3,036	2,146
Deferred taxation – origination and reversal of timing differences	(280)	685
Deferred taxation – adjustment in respect of prior periods	(11)	-
Deferred taxation – change in rate	-	43
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Tax on profit	2,745	2,874
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The tax assessed for the year is lower than (2023: *lower*) the standard rate of corporation tax of 25% (2023: 23.52%). The differences are explained below:

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Profit before taxation	11,021	15,123
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Profit multiplied by average rate in the United Kingdom of 25% (2023: 23.52%)	2,755	3,557
Explained by:		
Expenditure not deductible for tax purposes	80	115
Transfer pricing adjustments	105	196
Fixed asset differences	22	6
Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous period – deferred tax	(11)	-
Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous period – current tax	(96)	3
Group relief claimed	(110)	(1,046)
Deferred tax rate movement	-	43
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total tax charge for the year	2,745	2,874
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Notes *(continued)*

9 Tangible assets

	Plant and equipment £'000	Total £'000
Cost		
At 1 January 2024	58,771	58,771
Additions	2,964	2,964
Disposals	(1,052)	(1,052)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 December 2024	60,683	60,683
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Accumulated depreciation		
At 1 January 2024	27,071	27,071
Charge for the year	5,430	5,430
Disposals	(1,043)	(1,043)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 December 2024	31,458	31,458
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net book value		
At 31 December 2024	29,225	29,225
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 1 January 2024	31,700	31,700
	<hr/>	<hr/>

10 Stocks

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Raw materials and consumables	32,142	33,615
Work in progress	546	344
Finished goods and goods for resale	3,872	4,497
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	36,560	38,456
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Notes (continued)

11 Debtors

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Trade debtors	49,428	53,321
Other debtors	653	2,312
Corporation Tax	320	356
Derivatives (Note 17)	-	92
Amounts owed by group undertakings	1,488	27,762
Prepayments and accrued income	4,611	4,048
	<hr/> 56,500	<hr/> 87,891
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The Company received a £26,000,000 payment from Park Spring Properties Ltd to repay part of the Intercompany loan between the two companies.

12 Creditors - amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Bank overdraft	-	480
Trade creditors	28,540	30,001
Derivatives (Note 17)	403	-
Social security and other taxation	1,502	1,449
Accruals and deferred income	19,589	15,710
	<hr/> 50,034	<hr/> 47,640
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

13 Deferred tax

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Provision for deferred tax		
At 1 January	5,666	4,938
(Credit) / charge to profit and loss account	(291)	728
	<hr/> 5,375	<hr/> 5,666
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
At 31 December		

Notes (continued)

13 Deferred tax (continued)

The amounts provided for deferred taxation and the amounts not provided are set out below:

	2024 Provided £'000	2024 Unprovided £'000	2023 Provided £'000	2023 Unprovided £'000
Difference between accumulated depreciation and capital allowances	5,375	-	5,666	-
	<u>5,375</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,666</u>	<u>-</u>

14 Called up share capital

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Authorised		
4,000,000 (2023: 4,000,000) ordinary shares of 25p each	1,000	1,000
	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>
Allotted and fully paid		
1,013,730 (2023: 1,013,730) ordinary shares of 25p each	253	253
	<u>253</u>	<u>253</u>

The holders of ordinary shares are entitled to receive dividends as declared from time to time and are entitled to one vote per share at meetings of the Company.

15 Operating Leases

Non-cancellable operating lease rentals are payable as follows:

	2024 Land and buildings £'000	2024 Other £'000	2023 Land and buildings £'000	2023 Other £'000
Less than one year	7,147	7,140	4,142	7,208
Between one and five years	25,043	11,842	16,270	13,628
More than five years	60,838	614	35,161	768
	<u>93,028</u>	<u>19,596</u>	<u>55,573</u>	<u>21,604</u>

Notes *(continued)*

16 Commitments

Capital commitments at the end of the financial year for which no provision has been made:

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Contracted	201	807

17 Financial instruments measured at fair value

Derivative financial instruments

The fair value of forward exchange contracts is based on their listed market price.

The amounts for all financial assets and financial liabilities carried at fair value are as follows:

	Fair value 2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Forward Exchange Contracts	(403)	92

18 Related party disclosures

The Company received a £26,000,000 payment from Park Spring Properties Ltd to repay part of the Intercompany loan between the two companies.

The Company also paid a £26,000,000 dividend to Symphony Holdings Ltd, its parent company.

These transactions occurred as part of the sale and leaseback of a building from Park Spring Properties Ltd to Malton Holdings Ltd, companies under common ownership with the Symphony Group. As a result of this transaction the Company now pays rent to Malton Holdings Ltd, the amount paid in the year being £847,000.

19 Ultimate parent company

Throughout the year ended 31 December 2024, the directors consider that the ultimate controlling party was Butterfield Trust (Guernsey) Limited as trustee of the St Helier 2015 Trust, a discretionary trust. The immediate parent company is Symphony Holdings Limited, a company registered in England and Wales.

The largest and smallest group in which the results of the Company are consolidated is that headed by Symphony Holdings Limited.

Copies of the consolidated accounts of Symphony Holdings Limited can be obtained on application to The Company Secretary, Symphony Holdings Limited, Pen Hill Estate, Park Spring Road, Barnsley, S72 7EZ.