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***Caffyns Annual Report and Accounts 2011***

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# Results at a Glance

## Summary

|                                   | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Revenue                           | 201,467       | 189,426       |
| Adjusted EBITDA*                  | 3,455         | 3,382         |
| Adjusted operating profit*        | 2,311         | 2,152         |
| Non-underlying items before tax   | (1,167)       | 118           |
| Adjusted profit before tax*       | 1,435         | 852           |
| Profit before tax                 | 268           | 970           |
| Earnings per share                | 7.7p          | 38.6p         |
| Adjusted earnings per share*      | 41.4p         | 35.7p         |
| Final proposed dividend per share | 7.0p          | 5.0p          |

\* Adjusted for non-underlying items

## Highlights

- Revenue up 6.4% to £201.5m
- Underlying profit before tax up by 68% to £1.44m
- Adjusted earnings per share up by 16%
- New car market share increased
- Used car unit sales up by 7.1% on a like-for-like basis
- Aftersales resilient with turnover increasing by 4.9% on a like-for-like basis
- Ratio of net bank borrowings to equity of 40% (2010: 47%)
- Seven non-strategic operations successfully closed
- Proposed final dividend of 7.0p per ordinary share (2010: 5.0p) making 12.0p in total for the year (2010: 10.0p)

# Directors and Advisors

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|                             |                                                                                                                                           |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Honorary President</b>   | ALAN M CAFFYN DL C ENG MI MeChE FIMI                                                                                                      |
| <b>Directors</b>            | S BRIAN BIRKENHEAD BSc (Hons) FCMA FID<br><i>Chairman</i>                                                                                 |
|                             | SIMON G M CAFFYN MA FIMI<br><i>Chief Executive</i>                                                                                        |
|                             | MARK S HARRISON FCA FIMI<br><i>Finance</i>                                                                                                |
|                             | GUY J AINSLEY MBA<br><i>Operations</i>                                                                                                    |
|                             | SARAH J CAFFYN BSc (Hons) FCIPD AICSA FIMI<br><i>Human Resources</i>                                                                      |
|                             | ANDREW R GOODBURN FCA<br><i>Independent non-executive</i>                                                                                 |
|                             | NICHOLAS W HOLLINGWORTH BSc<br><i>Independent non-executive</i>                                                                           |
| <b>Bankers</b>              | HSBC BANK plc<br>Global House, High Street, Crawley RH10 1DL                                                                              |
|                             | NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK plc<br>Turnpike House, 123 High Street, Crawley RH10 1DQ                                                        |
| <b>Independent Auditors</b> | GRANT THORNTON UK LLP<br>Registered Auditors, Chartered Accountants<br>Grant Thornton House, Melton Street, Euston Square, London NW1 2EP |
| <b>Company Secretary</b>    | SARAH J CAFFYN BSc (Hons) FCIPD AICSA FIMI                                                                                                |
| <b>Registered Office</b>    | Meads Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN20 7DR<br>Telephone (01323) 730201                                                                  |

# Operational and Business Review

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## Results

In the year to 31 March 2011 revenue has increased by 6.4% to £201.5m from £189.4m last year despite the sale or closure of seven sites during the year. Like-for-like revenue is up by 8.5%.

Underlying profit before tax rose by 68% to £1.44m from £852,000 last year. The major restructuring of the Group is now largely completed incurring non-underlying costs of £1.17m during the year. These one-off costs reduced profit before tax to £268,000 from £970,000 last year.

Adjusted earnings per share increased to 41.4p (2010: 35.7p). Basic earnings per share were 7.7p (2010: 38.6p).

## Operating Review

During the year we successfully implemented our strategy of improving performance and efficiency across the core businesses. Seven underperforming operations were closed, central support services were reduced by £0.3m and productivity improved.

The key achievements during the year to 31 March 2011 were:

- Revenue growth of 6.4% with growth in ongoing businesses up 8.5%, despite the closure or sale of seven operations.
- Underlying profit before tax up 68% to £1.44m from £852,000. Core continuing businesses further improved profitability despite pressure on margins.
- Like-for-like new car unit sales down 5.5% against a fall of 16.5% in our market segment indicating an increase in market share.
- Like-for-like used car unit sales up 7.1% against a flat market.
- We have agreed plans with our strategic franchise partners to develop existing and new sites.
- Seven non-strategic operations successfully closed allowing us to concentrate on key franchise partners.
- In our remaining sites we continued to increase operational effectiveness through improvements to facilities, operational processes and significant investment in training and development.

In summary the major restructuring exercise has produced a more profitable core business with fewer, better businesses.

## New and Used Cars

Total UK new car registrations fell 7% in the 12 month period to 31 March 2011 and were down 16.5% in the private and small business sector in which we operate. Against this backdrop our like-for-like new car unit sales were down only 5.5% indicating a continuing increase in our market share. Our premium and premium-volume franchises continue to perform well and new car margins have strengthened.

Like-for-like used car unit sales were up 7.1% compared to a generally flat market. However competitive pressures have reduced margins.

## After-sales

Annual new car registrations remain at levels well below pre-recession figures and we have seen a further reduction in the overall size of the zero to five year old car servicing market.

Despite this it is encouraging that we continue to increase our after-sales turnover with like-for-like sales up 4.9% as a result of our continued focus on customer retention.

## Restructuring

During the year we closed or sold seven underperforming businesses, enabling us to focus attention on our core premium and premium-volume franchises. Since October 2008 we have reduced our representation from 15 manufacturers to nine and the number of businesses has reduced from 28 to 19.

In Uckfield we sold a small Citroen business to another local operator but retained the freehold on a maximum four-year lease. The after-sales operation in Hailsham has closed along with the bodyshop business. We closed our Eastbourne Nissan and Chevrolet businesses which operated from a building constructed in the 1960s which was no longer fit for purpose. We own the freeholds of both the Hailsham and Eastbourne sites and these are being marketed for sale.

# Operational and Business Review

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Our Tunbridge Wells bodyshop has been closed which will allow us to expand the used car and service elements of the Vauxhall dealership on this site

We have closed our small retail Ford dealership in Haslemere and consolidated operations into the larger site in Alton. The freehold in Haslemere was sold in February for £475,000

In April 2011 we also announced the unconditional sale of our premises in Sevenoaks. The franchise agreements with Peugeot and Citroen expired at the end of May 2011 and a strong offer for the freehold fitted well with our overall strategy. Funds of £1.75m were received on 31 May 2011.

In addition to these closures and sales we have further reduced central costs and branch administration costs on an annualised basis by over £300,000 p.a.

These actions have resulted in significant non-underlying costs of £1.17m largely comprising redundancy and closure costs. These one-off costs are greater than anticipated at the time of the Interim Management Statement announced in February 2011 because further cost saving measures were taken prior to 31 March including additional redundancy charges. However, the overall cash flow has been positive following stock reduction and freehold sales. The funds generated by these actions will be invested in growing our remaining dealerships and in acquiring strategically aligned businesses as and when the appropriate opportunities arise.

## **Developments and Investments**

In Lewes we have relocated our Land Rover aftersales business into a state-of-the-art facility and have started the building of a new showroom to give us greater new car space and a significantly enlarged used car display.

Our Volkswagen businesses will be expanded to meet the new Volkswagen corporate standards allowing us to grow our businesses in line with or ahead of Volkswagen's aspirations for enhanced market share by 2013.

Both Audi and Skoda are performing well and we have an opportunity to grow market share with their next generation of cars.

## **Finance and Working Capital**

Net bank borrowings reduced in the year by £1.4m to £8.1m representing 40% of shareholders' funds (2010: 47%).

The Group has available bank facilities comprising revolving credit facilities of £8m and overdraft facilities of £10m. A revolving credit facility of £3m as at 31 March 2011 was due for repayment in December 2011 and is thus shown as a current liability in the balance sheet. However, since the year end, the repayment date has been extended to May 2012 to coincide with the repayment date of the other revolving credit facility of £5m. Discussions have commenced with the Company's bankers to renew both facilities beyond May 2012.

Vehicle stock levels at the year end were higher than normal largely due to higher used car stocks following the registration plate change in March. While the number of units increased by 5.0% over the previous year end, the average value per unit increased by 16.8% reflecting the move towards the premium and premium-volume sector. Since the year end, stock levels have reduced to more normal levels.

## **Property**

Our property portfolio is an important aspect of our business and we operate primarily from freehold properties as well as some leasehold.

In addition to the property sale at Haslemere already mentioned, we also sold our vacant freehold site in East Grinstead for £1.0m receiving the proceeds in March 2011.

We now have four vacant freehold sites for potential sale, namely those in Upperton Road, Eastbourne, Hailsham, Goring-by-Sea and Preston Road, Brighton. As indicated, the first two sites closed in March 2011 and are currently being marketed. Our site in Goring-by-Sea has recently received a planning approval for change of use and we expect a lease to be granted to the applicant shortly, after which we shall offer the freehold of this site for sale. We announced in April that Brighton and Hove City Council rejected an application for change of use at our site in Preston Road, Brighton and our options are currently being reviewed. On 31 May 2011 we announced that we had exchanged contracts for the sale of our freehold property in Alton, Hampshire for £1.807m conditional upon a satisfactory planning application for change of use. If the planning application is successful, completion will take place in November 2012. The site trades as a Ford franchise and it is intended that the business will be transferred to alternative premises.

The Company has undertaken a valuation of its portfolio of freehold premises as at 31 March 2011. The valuation was carried out by CB Richard Ellis Limited, chartered surveyors, on the basis of existing use value. The excess of the valuation over net book value as at 31 March 2011, excluding the four sites which were either for sale or available for letting as at that date, was £6.3m. In accordance with the Company's accounting policies, this surplus has not been incorporated into the accounts.

In May 2011, the Company signed a contract to build a new showroom in Lewes, East Sussex at our Land Rover dealership at a cost of £1.9m. Work on the building has started and it is expected to open by the end of 2011.

#### **Pension Scheme**

The pension scheme deficit decreased to £5.5m at 31 March 2011 from £6.4m at 31 March 2010 mainly due to the improvement in asset values in the year. The Recovery Plan agreed with the Trustees following the actuarial valuation at 31 March 2008 required cash payments of £120,000 per annum in the two years to 31 March 2011 and a further £1.44m payable over a maximum period of eight years. Payments in respect of the Recovery Plan to the Scheme in the year to 31 March 2012 are expected to amount to £180,000.

We closed our defined benefit scheme to future accrual with effect from 1 April 2010. Continued provision of pension benefits will be available to existing employees through the alternative defined contribution scheme which has been available to new members of staff joining the Company since April 2006.

#### **People**

I am very grateful to all our employees for their positive approach during a time of change. It is always difficult to close down dealerships and we regret the loss of jobs. However, we start the current year with a stronger franchise portfolio.

I am particularly pleased that our apprentice programme has been so successful with two of our technician apprentices winning awards for excellent performance on their manufacturer programmes.

Two of our senior Land Rover technicians also achieved great success in the Jaguar Land Rover Technician of the Year awards with Andy Young declared Land Rover Technician of the Year for the third year running.

Our commitment to customer satisfaction is clearly demonstrated by our scores in manufacturer surveys and reflects the enthusiasm and commitment shown by employees across the Company.

#### **Dividend**

The Board has decided to recommend a final dividend of 7.0p per Ordinary Share (2010: 5.0p). If approved at the Annual General Meeting this will be paid on 28 July 2011 to shareholders on the register at close of business on 24 June 2011. Together with the interim dividend of 5.0p per share paid during the year (2010: 5.0p), the total dividend for the year will be 12.0p per Ordinary Share (2010: 10p).

# Operational and Business Review

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## **Strategy**

Our strategy is to focus on representing premium and premium-volume franchises which have proven to be more resilient and deliver stronger sales, profits and returns, despite the general economic difficulties

Our concentration on improving our operational processes is now beginning to produce sustained benefits to profitability. The closure of loss-making and sub-scale businesses has freed up capital and management time to concentrate on performance improvements at sites with robust future profit potential and to return to sustainable levels of profitability achieved historically

We will do this by using the proceeds from the sale of properties and closed businesses to invest in larger business opportunities in strong markets with the potential to develop higher rates of return on sales

## **Outlook**

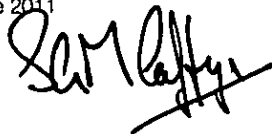
We enter the year having completed a substantial restructuring of our business. We have a strong balance sheet and an excellent franchise portfolio with investment plans scheduled and underway. Our costs are lower and our structure more robust yet flexible. We continue to improve our market share in tough market conditions and enter the current year with strong new car order books.

The effects of public spending cuts are difficult to predict but we believe that we are well placed to take advantage of any upturn. We expect to show further growth this year but future economic conditions remain uncertain and our approach will inevitably have to be cautious.

**S G M Caffyn**

*Chief Executive*

3 June 2011



# Report of the Directors

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The directors present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2011

## Results and dividends

The results of the Group for the year are set out in the financial statements on pages 26 to 63. An interim dividend of 5.0p per share was paid to shareholders on 14 January 2011. The Board is recommending a final dividend of 7.0p per share (2010: 5.0p) making a total of 12.0p per share (2010: 10p). Total ordinary dividends paid in the year amounted to £283,000. Dividends paid in the year to preference shareholders were £102,000 as set out in note 9 to the financial statements.

## Principal activities and business review

The Group's principal activities are the sale and maintenance of motor vehicles including the sale of tyres, oil, parts and accessories. Certain information required by the Companies Act 2006 to be included in the Directors' Report is contained in the Operational and Business Review on pages 3 to 6. The Operational and Business Review principally covers the development and performance of the business and the external environment. Other requisite disclosures are contained within the Directors' Report, which includes the principal risks and uncertainties affecting the business. The main financial KPIs of the Group are turnover, profit before tax, earnings per share, unit sales, gearing and cash flow from operations.

## Principal risks and uncertainties

Risk is an accepted part of doing business and the Group has a risk assessment process that facilitates the identification and mitigation of risk. While the risk factors listed below could cause our actual future results to differ materially from expected results, other factors could also adversely affect the Group and they should therefore not be considered to be a complete set of all potential risks and uncertainties. The risk factors should be considered in connection with the statement on internal control and risk management included in the Statement of Corporate Governance on pages 16 and 17. Other financial risk management factors are referred to in notes 15 and 17 to the financial statements.

### (i) Business conditions and the UK economy

The profitability of the Group could be adversely affected by a worsening of general economic conditions in the United Kingdom, where all of its business is transacted, including factors such as interest rates, unemployment, fuel prices, inflation, indirect taxation, the availability and cost of credit and other factors which affect levels of consumer confidence. In the event of an economic downturn similar to that recently experienced, there is likely to be an oversupply of new vehicles leading to reduced margins. This could have an adverse impact on earnings of the Group although it is likely that this would be mitigated by potential increases in the used car and aftersales markets as customers substitute nearly new for new cars or spend more keeping their old vehicles roadworthy.

### (ii) Manufacturer sales incentives

A significant proportion of the Group's income is generated from manufacturer sales incentive programmes. Vehicle manufacturers incentivise dealers through programmes structured to include a fixed payment once a pre-determined target level of new cars for each manufacturer is registered by a dealership. These targets are fixed for each calendar year. Dealers then had the option of either registering new vehicles or reducing prices in order to meet sales targets. This risk can be mitigated by close monitoring of performance against objectives taking remedial sales action where necessary.

### (iii) Used car prices

Used car prices can decline significantly. A large proportion of the Group's business comprises used car sales and these declines can have a material impact through reduced profits on sales and write-downs in the value of inventories. Close monitoring of the ageing of vehicle stocks and a firm policy of stock management help to mitigate this risk.

### (iv) Franchise agreements

Caffyns operates franchised motor car dealerships. These franchises are awarded to the Group by the motor car manufacturers. Failure to continue to hold franchises could result in a significant reduction in the profits of the Group as our rights to source new vehicle stocks, perform warranty repairs and display vehicle manufacturer trade marks would cease. By representing nine marques, the Group believes that this diversity reduces the potential impact on the Group.

### (v) Vehicle manufacturer dependencies

The Group relies on its manufacturer partners for its revenue and profits. The Group has attempted to mitigate this risk by having trading relationships with a large number of manufacturers so that the impact of any one manufacturer failing would be reduced. However, in the event that a manufacturer failed, it is inevitable that there would be short-term costs incurred and a loss of revenue while affected businesses were refranchised or sold.

# Report of the Directors

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## **(vi) Liquidity and financing**

Liquidity and financing risks relate to our ability to pay for goods and services enabling us to trade. Our principal sources of finance are from our bankers by way of committed borrowing facilities, from manufacturers to fund the purchases of stock and trade credit from our suppliers. A withdrawal of facilities, or failure to renew them when due, could lead to a significant reduction in the trading ability of the Group. The Group works closely with providers of finance to help reduce this risk. The status of the Group's bank facilities is set out in note 17.

## **(vii) Regulatory compliance**

The Group is subject to regulatory compliance risk which could arise from a failure to comply fully with the laws, regulations or codes applicable. For example, non-compliance with the regulations of the Financial Services Authority could lead to fines, enforced suspension from sales of general insurance products or public reprimand. Government policy on transport could adversely affect the Group's profitability if customers choose to use alternative forms of transport. Internal control structures are in place in order to mitigate these potential risks.

## **(viii) Information systems**

The Group is dependent upon certain business critical systems which, if interrupted for any length of time, could have a material effect on the efficient running of the Group's businesses. The Board has implemented a series of contingency plans which would enable the Group to resume operations within a short space of time, thus mitigating the likelihood of material loss.

## **(ix) Competition**

Caffyns competes with other franchised vehicle dealerships, private buyers and sellers, internet based dealers, independent service and repair shops and manufacturers who have entered the retail market. The sale of new and used vehicles, the performance of warranty repairs, routine maintenance business, bodyshop repairs and the supply of spare parts operate in highly competitive markets. The principle competitive factors are price, customer service and knowledge of a manufacturer's brands and models.

## **(x) Changes in EU legislation in relation to the distribution and sale of vehicles**

The distribution and sale of vehicles is currently regulated by EU competition law contained in the Motor Vehicle Block Exemption Regulation. This Regulation enables the normal competition rules to be varied and allow restricted networks of distributors and repairers to be established. This approach is due to the relatively high value and technical complexity of motor vehicles. Changes to this legislation could adversely affect the Group's trading activities. The current regulatory regime expires in June 2013, when both new vehicle distribution and motor repair will be brought under the parallel block exemption covering agreements for the distribution of all types of goods and services. Certain changes as regards specific regulation of the aftermarket have taken effect from June 2010. Limited additional sector specific provisions, tailored to the motor retail markets, have been put in place. On the whole, these measures reflect a more permissive regime of competition regulation for the primary motor retail market, which could potentially have an adverse effect on franchised business operations.

## **(xi) Pension scheme**

The Group operates a defined benefit pension plan which was closed to new entrants in 2006 and closed to future accrual with effect from 1 April 2010. The plan relies upon achieving satisfactory investment returns sufficient to meet the present value of the accrued liabilities. Reduced investment returns or higher liabilities due to increased mortality rates could adversely affect the surplus or deficit of the scheme and may result in increased cash contributions in future.

## **Directors**

The directors in office at 31 March 2011 are set out below.

Mr S B Birkenhead BSc (Hons) FCMA FID (age 69) joined the Board on 1 January 2004 and was appointed chairman on 8 August 2008. He is currently chairman of Trustees at a Serco Pension Scheme. Previously, he has been a non-executive director of a number of public and private companies, was the Group finance director of National Power plc from 1988 to 1996 and from 1995 to 1997 was chairman of the Hundred Group of Finance Directors.

Mr A R Goodburn FCA (age 64) joined the Board as a non-executive director on 1 February 2004. He was finance director of Ricardo plc until 5 January 2007 at which date he retired, having formerly spent 11 years in various financial and commercial roles within the Bowthorpe Group, followed by 13 years in management consulting before joining Ricardo in 1993.

Mr N W Hollingworth BSc (age 59) joined the Board as a non-executive director on 1 March 2008. He graduated from Birmingham University in 1973 having read chemistry. He is currently Group Chief Executive of Austin Reed Group Limited, formerly Austin Reed plc which de-listed from the London Stock Exchange in January 2007, having formerly held senior management roles within Arcadia Group plc, Etam plc and The Burton Group plc.

Mr S G M Caffyn MA FIMI (age 50) joined the Board on 16 July 1992 and was appointed chief executive on 1 May 1998. He graduated from Cambridge in 1983 having read engineering, and subsequently worked for Andersen Consulting. He joined the Company in 1990.

Mr M S Harrison FCA FIMI (age 57) joined the Board on 17 April 2000. A Chartered Accountant, he was previously finance director of Faupel Trading Group plc for nine years. Having qualified with Grant Thornton, he joined KPMG. Subsequent commercial appointments were in the property, retail and distribution sectors.

Mr G J Ainsley MBA (age 46) joined the Company in September 2009 and the Board on 25 November 2009 as operations director. He has extensive experience in the motor industry, having held senior management positions with Nissan and Inchcape UK, and has an MBA from Henley Management College.

Miss S J Caffyn BSc (Hons) FCIPD AICSA FIMI (age 42) joined the Board on 28 April 2003 as human resources director. She joined the Company on 27 April 1998 as Group personnel manager and was appointed Company secretary in 1999. A Chartered Company Secretary, she was previously an HR manager at St Mary's NHS Trust, Paddington.

#### **Appointment and replacement of the Company's directors**

The rules for the appointment and replacement of the Company's directors are detailed in the Company's Articles of Association. Directors are appointed by ordinary resolution at a general meeting of holders of ordinary shares or by the Board either to fill a vacancy or as an addition to the existing Board. The appointment of non-executive directors is on the recommendation of the Nominations Committee, the procedure is detailed in the Statement of Corporate Governance on page 15.

#### **Powers of the Company's directors**

Subject to the Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association, relevant legislation and any directions given by special resolution, the Company and its Group are managed by its Board of directors. The directors have been authorised to make market purchases of the Company's Ordinary Shares. These powers are exercised under authority of resolutions of the Company passed at its Annual General Meeting. Further details of resolutions the Company is seeking are set out in the explanatory notes to the notice of Annual General Meeting.

#### **Directors' indemnity and insurance**

The Company's Articles of Association permit the Board to grant the directors indemnities in relation to their duties as directors in respect of liabilities incurred by them in connection with any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the Company. In line with market practice, each director has the benefit of a deed of indemnity. The Company has also purchased insurance cover for the directors against liabilities arising in relation to the Company, as permitted by the Companies Act 2006. This insurance does not cover fraudulent activity.

#### **Compensation for loss of office**

In the event of an executive director's employment with the Company being terminated, Mr S G M Caffyn is entitled to receive from the Company a sum equivalent to twice his annual emoluments which applied immediately before his termination and Mr M S Harrison, Mr G J Ainsley and Miss S J Caffyn are entitled to receive from the Company a sum equivalent to their annual emoluments which applied immediately before their termination. Emoluments include a proportion of the available bonus which the expired part of the measured period for bonus bears to the whole of such measurement period. If there is change in control of either the composition of the Board, the policy of the Company in General Meeting or 30% or more of the issued equity capital of the Company, Mr S G M Caffyn is entitled to elect for an early retirement pension which shall not be reduced due to early payment. The executive directors' service contracts commenced from the date of their appointment to the Board.

In the event of the chairman's employment with the Company being terminated, he is entitled to receive from the Company a sum equivalent to six months salary.

# Report of the Directors

In the event of a non-executive director's employment with the Company being terminated, he is entitled to receive from the Company a sum equivalent to one month's salary

## Share capital

As at 31 March 2011, the issued share capital of the Company comprised of Ordinary Shares of 50p each and three classes of preference share namely 6.5% Cumulative First Preference Shares of £1 each, 10% Cumulative Preference Shares of £1 each and 6% Cumulative Second Preference Shares of 10p each. Details of the share capital of the Company are set out in note 22 to the accounts. While the Company did not issue any shares during the period under review, it did purchase 60,881 ordinary shares in the market. These shares are held as treasury shares in respect of the Company's share schemes. The rights and obligations attaching to the Company's shares are set out below and in the Company's Articles of Association, copies of which can be obtained from Companies House or by writing to the Company Secretary.

## Rights and obligations attaching to shares

Subject to applicable statutes and other shareholders' rights, shares may be issued with such rights and restrictions as the Company may by ordinary resolution decide.

Holders of Ordinary Shares are entitled to attend and speak at general meetings of the Company, to appoint one or more proxies (and, if they are corporations, corporate representatives). Holders of Ordinary Shares are entitled to receive a dividend if one is declared and receive a copy of the Company's annual report and accounts.

Holders of Cumulative First Preference Shares are entitled in priority to any payment of dividend on any other class of shares, to a fixed cumulative preferential dividend at the rate of 6.5% per annum.

Subject to the rights of the holders of Cumulative First Preference Shares, holders of 6% Cumulative Second Preference Shares of 10p each are entitled in priority to any payment of dividend on any other class of shares to a fixed cumulative preferential dividend at the rate of 6% per annum.

Subject to the rights of the holders of Cumulative First Preference Shares and 6% Cumulative Second Preference Shares of 10p, holders of 10% Cumulative Preference Shares of 10p each are entitled in priority to any payment of dividend on any other class of shares to a fixed cumulative preferential dividend at the rate of 10% per annum.

The percentage of the total share capital represented by each class is as follows:

| Authorised                                                   | £'000 | %      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|
| 500,000 6.5% Cumulative First Preference Shares of £1 each   | 500   | 12.35  |
| 1,250,000 10% Cumulative Preference Shares of £1 each        | 1,250 | 30.86  |
| 3,000,000 6% Cumulative Second Preference Shares of 10p each | 300   | 7.41   |
| 4,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 50p each                        | 2,000 | 49.38  |
|                                                              | <hr/> | <hr/>  |
|                                                              | 4,050 | 100.00 |
|                                                              | <hr/> | <hr/>  |
| Allotted, called up and fully paid                           |       |        |
| 389,000 6.5% Cumulative First Preference Shares of £1 each   | 389   | 14.54  |
| 648,000 10% Cumulative Preference Shares of £1 each          | 648   | 24.22  |
| 2,000,000 6% Cumulative Second Preference Shares of 10p each | 200   | 7.47   |
|                                                              | <hr/> | <hr/>  |
| Total preference shares recognised as a financial liability  | 1,237 | 46.23  |
| 2,879,298 Ordinary Shares of 50p each                        | 1,439 | 53.77  |
|                                                              | <hr/> | <hr/>  |
|                                                              | 2,676 | 100.00 |
|                                                              | <hr/> | <hr/>  |

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#### **Voting rights, restrictions on voting rights and deadlines for voting rights**

Shareholders (other than any who, under the provisions of the Articles of Association or the terms of the shares they hold, are not entitled to receive such notices from the Company) have the right to receive notice of, and attend, and to vote at all general meetings of the Company. The Company's auditors have similar rights except that they may not vote. A resolution put to the vote at any general meeting is to be decided on a show of hands unless (before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands or on the withdrawal of any other demand for a poll) a poll is properly demanded.

Every member present in person at a general meeting has, on the calling of a poll, one vote for every Ordinary Share of 50p nominal amount of share capital of which he is the holder and one vote for every 6% Cumulative Second Preference Share of 10p nominal amount of share capital of which he is the holder. In the case of joint holders of a share, the vote of the member whose name stands first in the register of members is accepted to the exclusion of any vote tendered by any other joint holder. Unless the Board decides otherwise, a shareholder may not vote at any general or class meeting or exercise any rights in relation to meetings while any amount of money relating to his shares remains outstanding.

A member is entitled to appoint a proxy to exercise all or any of their rights to attend and speak and vote on their behalf at a general meeting. Further details regarding voting at the Annual General Meeting can be found in the notes to the Notice of the Annual General Meeting. To be effective, paper proxy appointments and voting instructions must be received by the Company's registrars no later than 48 hours before a general meeting.

There are no restrictions on the transfer of Ordinary Shares in the Company other than certain restrictions which may be imposed pursuant to the Articles of Association of the Company, certain restrictions which may from time to time be imposed by laws and regulations (for example in relation to insider dealing), restrictions pursuant to the Company's share dealing code whereby directors and certain employees of the Company require prior approval to deal in Company's shares, and where a person has been served with a disclosure notice and has failed to provide the Company with information concerning the interests in those shares.

The Company is not aware of any arrangements or agreements between shareholders that may result in restrictions on the transfer of Ordinary Shares or on voting rights.

#### **Repurchase of shares**

The Company purchased 60,881 of its own Ordinary Shares with an aggregate nominal value of £30,440 (2.1% of the called up Ordinary Share capital) during the year at a cost of £284,000. These shares are being held as treasury shares in respect of the Company's share schemes. Details of the Company's share capital are given in note 22 to the financial statements.

#### **Sharesave Scheme**

The Company encourages employee share ownership through the provision of a Save As You Earn (SAYE) scheme, administered by the Yorkshire Building Society. The scheme was launched in March 2010 and applications received from 137 employees. The share options for 130,046 Ordinary Shares granted under the scheme in May 2010 are exercisable upon expiry of a three year savings contract at a pre-determined price of £3.50 per share.

#### **Articles of Association**

The Company's existing Articles of Association were adopted by special resolution passed on 23 July 2008 and may only be amended by special resolution at a general meeting of the shareholders.

# Report of the Directors

## Significant direct or indirect shareholdings

At 2 June 2011, the directors are aware of the following interests in 3% or more of the nominal value of the Ordinary Share capital (excluding treasury shares)

|                                  | Ordinary Shares | %    |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|------|
| T & I Limited                    | 207,900         | 7.45 |
| R J M Caffyn                     | 139,323         | 5.00 |
| GAM Exempt UK Opportunities Fund | 136,234         | 4.88 |
| GAM UK Diversified Fund          | 135,766         | 4.88 |
| HSBC Republic Bank Suisse SA     | 128,349         | 4.60 |
| Caffyns Pension Fund             | 125,570         | 4.50 |
| EPS Enhancing Earnings Limited   | 114,000         | 4.09 |
| A M Caffyn                       | 108,336         | 3.88 |
| K E Caffyn                       | 104,804         | 3.76 |
| Lady D A Caffyn                  | 95,011          | 3.41 |
| HSBC Global Custody              | 90,000          | 3.23 |
| M I Caffyn                       | 86,500          | 3.10 |

## Significant Agreements

The Company has entered into a number of franchise agreements which, in aggregate, are significant and ordinarily would be terminable upon a change of control of the Company

- Our dealerships operate under franchised new vehicle dealer agreements and authorised repairer agreements with various vehicle manufacturers. Without a franchise agreement, it is not generally possible to obtain new vehicles from a manufacturer or display vehicle manufacturer trade marks. Whilst some of the franchise agreements contain provisions entitling the vehicle manufacturers to terminate in the event of a change of control, this entitlement is circumscribed by the applicable EC Regulation 1400/2002 (commonly known as the Motor Vehicle Block Exemption) which says that, in the event of a change of control, a vehicle manufacturer is unable to terminate either the franchise agreements or authorised repairer agreements held by the Group if the new controlling entity already holds that manufacturers' brand of franchise.
- Facilities agreements dated 8 May 2009 with HSBC Bank plc and 7 January 2010 with Royal Bank of Scotland plc under which the banks agreed to make available revolving facilities to the Company up to aggregate sums of £5m and £3m respectively. In the event of a change of control, both banks are able to cancel the facilities at which time all sums due under the facilities become immediately due and payable.

## Employees

The Company supports the recruitment of disabled people wherever possible. Priority is given to those who become disabled during their employment. They all have opportunities for training, career development and promotion in accordance with their skills and abilities. The Company continues its practice of keeping all its employees informed on matters affecting them by means of a periodic newsletter, and takes account of the views of employees wherever possible.

## Charitable and political contributions

Donations to charitable organisations amounted to £6,441 (2010: £6,095). No contributions were made to political organisations.

## Environment

The Company is aware of its environmental responsibilities arising from its motor retailing and aftersales activities and recognises that some of its activities affect the environment. The Company's Health and Safety Officer has received formal training in environmental management and is appropriately qualified in this field. The Company's policy is to promote and operate processes and procedures which, so far as is reasonably practicable, avoid or minimise the contamination of water, air or the ground. Licences are obtained from the relevant authorities where required to operate certain elements of the Company's business. Waste is disposed of by authorised contractors and is recycled where possible. Special care is taken in the storage of fuel, oils and paints and their associated equipment. Through the management of these activities, the Company seeks to minimise any adverse effects of its activities on the environment.

The Group aims to encourage the reduction of energy and water consumption and audit processes are in place to measure usage and make recommendations for improvements. An electrical test monitoring regime is in force throughout the Group. Use of the latest building materials is made in the construction of new sites and the refurbishment of existing locations. For instance, water recycling units were installed during the last major refurbishment undertaken by the Company.

#### **Health and safety**

The Company recognises its responsibility to members of staff and others working or visiting its facilities to provide, so far as is reasonably practicable, an environment which is safe and without risk to their health. The main Board maintains ultimate responsibility for health and safety issues with a qualified health and safety officer responsible on a day-to-day basis, supported by all levels of management. The Company's policy is to identify potential hazards and assess the risks presented by its activities and to provide systems and procedures which allow staff to take responsible decisions in their work in relation to their own and others' safety. The Company promotes awareness of potential risks and hazards and implementation of corresponding preventative or remedial actions through its online health and safety systems, operations manuals and monthly communication on topical issues. With clear lines of operating unit responsibility, staff are supported by specialist guidance from the Company's Health and Safety Officer. All of the Company's staff have access to a detailed health and safety guide.

#### **Creditors payment policy and practice**

It is the Company's policy to settle the terms of payment with all its suppliers at the time an order is placed, ensuring that suppliers are aware of the terms of payment and to abide by the agreed terms. At 31 March 2011 the Company's outstanding purchase ledger balances represented 25 days' purchases (2010: 27).

#### **Property**

The Company valued its portfolio of freehold premises as at 31 March 2011 but excluding four sites which were either for sale or letting as at that date. The valuation was carried out by CB Richard Ellis Limited, chartered surveyors, on the basis of existing use value. The excess of the valuation over net book value as at 31 March 2011 was £6.3m. In accordance with the Company's accounting policies, this surplus has not been incorporated into the accounts.

#### **Post-balance sheet events**

Contracts were exchanged for the sale of the Company's freehold site in Sevenoaks, Kent for £1.75m on 6 April 2011. This site ceased trading on 31 May 2011. The consideration was paid in cash on 31 May 2011.

The Company has agreed since 31 March 2011 the extension of the repayment date for its £3m revolving credit facility from January 2012 to May 2012.

On 26 May 2011, the Company signed a contract with a firm of building contractors in the sum of £1.8m in respect of the redevelopment of the Land Rover dealership in Lewes, East Sussex.

On 31 May 2011 the Company announced that contracts were exchanged for the sale of the Company's freehold site in Alton, Hampshire, conditional upon the purchaser obtaining a satisfactory planning permission for change of use. If successful, the consideration of £1.807m would be payable in cash on 27 November 2012.

#### **Auditors**

Grant Thornton UK LLP has indicated its willingness to continue as independent auditor and a resolution concerning its reappointment will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

By order of the Board

**S J Caffyn**  
Company Secretary  
3 June 2011



# Statement of Corporate Governance

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## **Compliance**

The Board is committed to maintaining high standards of corporate governance, the process by which the Group is directed and managed, risks are identified and controlled and effective accountability is assured

The Listing Rules require the Board to report on compliance with the provisions set out in the Combined Code on Corporate Governance ("the Code"), the guiding principle of which is to "comply or explain". This Corporate Governance Report explains the key features of the Company's corporate governance structure, how the Company applies the principles of the Code and the extent to which the Company complies with the Code. This report should be read in conjunction with the Directors' Remuneration Report on pages 18 to 22

The Board considers that the Company has complied with the Code throughout the year, except as noted below

One director has a service contract which runs for more than 12 months which does not comply with Code provision B 1.6 (see Directors' Remuneration Report). This does not comply with the Code requirement that such periods should be for one year or less. The Remuneration Committee has reviewed the position and decided that the existing contract should not be changed as the Committee considered that it was not in the best interests of the Company

The Audit and Remuneration Committees include the chairman of the Company as a Committee member. This does not comply with provisions B 2.1 and C 3.1 which requires that both Committees should comprise solely independent non-executive directors. The Committees both concluded that it was in the best interests of the Company for the chairman to be a member of both committees in view of the small number of non-executive directors and to provide additional experience

## **The board**

The Board is responsible for approving the Group's policy and strategy. It meets at least eight times per year and has a schedule of matters specifically reserved to it for decision (such as approval of published financial information, major capital expenditure and acquisitions and disposals). The Board reviews the strategic direction of individual trading businesses, their annual budgets and their progress towards achievement of those budgets. The Board has overall responsibility for corporate governance and policy matters affecting the Company's stakeholders, the Group's system of internal control, including financial control, and risk management. It also oversees the Group's record on health and safety and environmental matters

In the year ended 31 March 2011 the Board met on nine occasions at which all directors participated. Management supply the Board with appropriate and timely information and the directors are free to seek any further information they consider necessary. All directors have access to advice from the Company Secretary and independent professionals at the Company's expense. Training is available for new directors and other directors as necessary and new directors are also subject to a formal induction process

The Board consists of the chairman, four executive directors who hold the key operational positions in the Company, and two other non-executive directors who bring a breadth of relevant experience and knowledge. The non-executive directors are independent of management and any significant business or other relationship which could interfere with the exercise of their independent judgement. This provides a balance whereby an individual or small Group cannot dominate the Board's decision making

The chairman of the Board is Mr S B Birkenhead who is responsible for running the Board. The Board is responsible to shareholders for the overall direction and control of the Company, and the Company's chief executive, Mr S G M Caffyn, is responsible to the Board for management of the Company within parameters set by the Board. The Board has named Mr A R Goodburn as the senior independent non-executive director and Mr N W Hollingworth is also an independent non-executive director

All directors are subject to re-election every three years and, on appointment, at the first Annual General Meeting after appointment

## Board Committees

The membership of the Board Committees is as follows

### Audit Committee

A R Goodburn (chairman)  
S B Birkenhead  
N W Hollingworth

### Remuneration Committee

N W Hollingworth (chairman)  
S B Birkenhead  
A R Goodburn

### Nominations Committee

S B Birkenhead (chairman)  
A R Goodburn  
N W Hollingworth  
S G M Caffyn

The Audit Committee has written terms of reference which include reviewing the annual and interim financial statements before they are approved by the Board, and monitoring the internal and external auditing processes. The Committee considers the independence and objectivity of the external auditors and the level of fees payable for both audit and non-audit work. Details of the non-audit related fees are shown in note 3 to the financial statements. The Committee met three times during the year and all members were present, and such meetings are attended, by invitation, by the finance director, the head of the internal audit function and representatives of the Company's external auditors, at the chairman's discretion.

The Audit Committee reviews all published accounts (including interim reports) and post audit findings before their presentation to the Board, focussing in particular on accounting policies, compliance, management judgement and estimates. It also monitors the Group's internal audit and risk management regime (including the effectiveness of the internal audit function and the appropriateness of "whistleblowing" procedures) and financial reporting. The Audit Committee is also responsible for advising the Board on the appointment of auditors, assessing their independence and formulating policy on the award of non-audit work. Non-audit work is only awarded to the auditors after due consideration of matters of objectivity, independence, costs, quality of service and efficiency.

Non-audit services provided by the Company's auditors are kept under review by the Audit Committee. These will generally be other compliance services in the field of taxation advice. The Audit Committee ensures that the auditors' objectivity and independence are safeguarded through the use of separate teams of staff and by ensuring that the level of fees is not material to either the Group or the auditors. The report from Grant Thornton UK LLP confirming their independence and objectivity was reviewed by the chairman of the Audit Committee and the finance director. The level of fees paid to Grant Thornton UK LLP for non-audit services has been reviewed by the Audit Committee and is not perceived to be in conflict with auditor independence.

As part of this year's decision to recommend the reappointment of the auditors, the Audit Committee has taken into account the tenure of the auditors and the need to consider at least every five years whether there should be a full tender process. There are no contractual obligations that act to restrict the Audit Committee's choice of external auditors.

As a consequence of its satisfaction with the results of the activities outlined above, the Audit Committee has recommended to the board that the external auditors are reappointed.

The Remuneration Committee's responsibilities extend to determining both the Company's broad policy for executive remuneration and the terms and conditions of employment of the executive directors, including their remuneration. Details of the activities of the Remuneration Committee are set out in the Directors' Remuneration Report on pages 18 to 22. The Committee met twice during the year and all members were present.

The Nominations Committee has written terms of reference including making recommendations to the Board concerning the appointment of directors. The Committee met three times during the year. All members of the Committee were present at these meetings.

The written terms of reference for all three committees are available on the Company's website at [www.caffynsplc.co.uk](http://www.caffynsplc.co.uk) or on request from the Company's registered office.

### Further significant commitments of the chairman

The external commitments of Mr S B Birkenhead comprises one chairmanship. This other appointment does not prevent the chairman from undertaking his commitments to the Company.

# Statement of Corporate Governance

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## **Performance evaluation**

The Board has established a procedure to evaluate its own performance, its committees and individual directors. The directors completed detailed questionnaires and debated the matters arising at Board meetings.

Individual director evaluation showed that each director (including those seeking re-election at the Annual General Meeting in 2011) continues to demonstrate commitment to the role. The non-executive directors, led by the senior independent non-executive director, carried out a performance evaluation of the chairman after taking account of the views of the executive directors. The chairman has reviewed the performance of the non-executive directors and the chief executive. The chief executive has reviewed the other executive directors. The Board intends to carry out further performance evaluations but will keep under review the method and frequency.

## **Relations with shareholders**

The Board values the constructive views of its shareholders and recognises their interest in the Group's strategy and performance, Board membership and quality of management. The views of major shareholders are reported back to the Board as appropriate. The non-executive directors have also attended a number of meetings with major shareholders. The principal methods of communication with private investors are the Interim Statement, the Annual Report and the Annual General Meeting. Information on the Company is also included on its website at [www.caffynspic.co.uk](http://www.caffynspic.co.uk).

The AGM is used to communicate with investors and they are encouraged to participate. The chairmen of the Audit, Remuneration and Nominations Committees are available to answer questions. Separate resolutions are proposed on each issue so that they can be given proper consideration and there is a resolution to approve the Annual Report and Accounts. The Company counts all proxy votes, and after it has been dealt with by a show of hands, will indicate the level of proxies lodged on each resolution.

## **Accountability and audit**

The Annual Report provides information on and an assessment of the Group's business, operations, financial position and prospects. The responsibilities of the directors as regards the accounts are described on page 23 and those of the auditors on page 24.

The Board is responsible for maintaining a sound system of internal controls, including financial, operational and compliance controls and risk management, and reviews the effectiveness of the system at least annually in order to safeguard shareholders' investment and the Group's assets. The system is designed to manage rather than eliminate risk and can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The Board confirms that there is an ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the significant risks faced by the Group, that has been in place for the year under review and up to the date of approval of the Annual Report and Accounts, and that this process is regularly reviewed by the Board.

The Board has reviewed the effectiveness of the system of internal control. In particular, it has reviewed and updated the process for identifying and evaluating the significant risks affecting the business and the policies and procedures by which these risks are managed.

Management are responsible for the identification and evaluation of significant risks applicable to their areas of business together with the design and operation of suitable internal controls. These risks are assessed on a regular basis and may be associated with a variety of internal or external sources including control breakdowns, disruption in information systems, competition, natural catastrophe, customer or supplier actions and regulatory requirements.

The process used by the Board is to review the effectiveness of the system of internal control including a review of legal compliance, health and safety and environmental issues on a six monthly basis. Insurance and risk management and treasury issues are reviewed annually or more frequently if necessary. In addition, the Audit Committee reviews the scope of audits, the half yearly and annual financial statements (including compliance with legal and regulatory requirements) and reports to the Board on financial issues raised by both the internal and external audit reports. Financial control is exercised through an organisation structure which has clear management responsibilities with segregation of duties, authorisation procedures and appropriate information systems. The system of annual budgeting with monthly reporting and comparisons to budget is a key control over the business and in the preparation of consolidated accounts.

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There is an ongoing programme of internal audit visits to monitor financial and operational controls throughout the Group. The executive directors receive regular reports from the internal audit and health and safety monitoring functions which include recommendations for improvement.

#### **Report of the directors**

Disclosures relating to significant shareholders, rights of classes of share, restrictions on voting rights, the process for amending the Company's Articles of Association and powers of the directors are covered in the Report of the Directors on pages 7 to 13.

#### **Going concern**

The directors are satisfied that, after making enquiries, the Group is in a sound financial position with adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. In forming this view, the directors have reviewed detailed financial trading and cash flow forecasts and other financial information. These forecasts indicate that the Group will be able to operate within the financing facilities that are available to it, with sufficient margin for reasonable adverse movements in expected trading conditions. They have also taken into consideration that the Group's banking facilities remain available to them and are appropriate given the Group's current and medium-term plans. While the revolving credit facilities are due for renewal in less than 12 months from the date of these financial statements, the directors have no reason to believe that the facilities will not be renewed at a level appropriate to the Group's requirements. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Information concerning the Group's liquidity and financing risk are set out on page 8 of the Report of the Directors and note 17 to the financial statements.

#### **Auditors' independence**

The Company has reviewed its relationship with its auditors, Grant Thornton UK LLP, and concluded that there are sufficient controls and processes to ensure the required level of independence. Consequently, there are no plans to replace Grant Thornton UK LLP, whose reappointment is proposed as set out in the Notice of Annual General Meeting.

Approved by order of the Board

**S J Caffyn**

Company Secretary

3 June 2011



# Directors' Remuneration Report

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## UNAUDITED INFORMATION

### The Remuneration Committee

The Remuneration Committee determines, on behalf of the Board, the Company's policy on executive directors' remuneration and the individual remuneration packages of executive directors within the framework of this policy. The membership of the Remuneration Committee comprises two independent non-executive directors, Mr N W Hollingworth (who chairs the Committee) and Mr A R Goodburn, together with the chairman of the Company, Mr S B Birkenhead. The Remuneration Committee has access to independent advice where it considers it appropriate. The Committee also sets the performance targets for any performance related incentives applicable to executive directors, and determines the policy for, and scope of, their pension arrangements and service contract terms relating to benefits in kind and severance. The Committee is also responsible for ensuring that the Company gives due regard to best practice and complies with all applicable regulations in relation to executive remuneration.

The terms of reference of the Committee, which are available on the Company's website, are that it determines, without reference to the Board, the pay and benefits of the executive directors in the light of the recommendations of the chief executive (other than in relation to himself). It is also responsible for reviewing and recommending appropriate incentive schemes for directors and employees.

### Remuneration policy

The policy is to ensure that the directors are fairly rewarded for their individual contribution to the Group's overall performance. Executive directors' remuneration packages are designed to attract, motivate and retain directors of the calibre necessary to achieve the Group's objectives and to ensure that the Group is managed successfully in the interests of shareholders. In assessing the appropriate level and structure of remuneration for each individual, regard is given to the necessity to pay a competitive basic rate as well as ensuring that the overall package takes into account levels of remuneration elsewhere in the Group. Any incentives paid in addition are linked to corporate performance. The remuneration policy is designed to ensure that all incentive arrangements are linked to company performance and the criteria set for full vesting of incentives are suitably challenging. There are four main elements to the executive directors' remuneration packages:

#### a) Basic annual salary and benefits in kind

The Committee reviews each executive director's basic salary annually with effect from 1 April in each year. In deciding upon appropriate levels of remuneration, the Committee has regard to rates of pay for similar jobs in comparable companies in the sector as well as internal factors such as performance. Benefits provided include company cars, membership of the Company's medical insurance scheme and payment of business related subscriptions. Given the prevailing economic conditions, base salaries of executive directors other than Mr G J Ainsley, who became a director on 25 November 2009, have not increased since 1 April 2008.

#### b) Annual bonus

The Committee awards annual bonuses to executive directors based upon their performance and that of the Group in the financial year. For the year ending 31 March 2012, the bonuses have been set on a tapering scale calculated on a profit before tax and non-underlying items and after charging all such bonuses of £1.2m at which no bonus is payable, £2.0m at which 33% of basic salary is payable, £3.0m at which 60% of basic salary is payable and £3.5m at which up to 100% is payable. Profit before tax is measured after accruing for such bonuses and bonus earned between targets is apportioned on a straight-line basis.

#### c) Long-term Incentive Plan

Executive directors participate in the LTIP, which was approved by shareholders at the Annual General Meeting in July 2009. Awards to directors are rights to acquire shares in the Company for a nominal payment to the extent that stretching performance conditions are satisfied over a three year period. Performance conditions are set at the time of the award and no variation can be made to such performance conditions which makes them materially easier to satisfy unless the shareholders approve such variation. Shares acquired under the LTIP must be retained until five years from the date of the grant of the award, subject to the participant being able to sell sufficient shares to fund the income tax and national insurance liabilities arising on the acquisition of the shares. Awards are not pensionable. Further details are set out in note 19 to the financial statements.

d) **Pensions**

Executive directors are eligible to join the Company's staff pension scheme on the same terms as staff generally. In accordance with the rules of the Company pension scheme, applicable to all members of the scheme, bonuses are pensionable. As a result of the changes in pensions legislation effective from 6 April 2006, the Company has paid a salary supplement to the chief executive in lieu of the employers' contribution to the Company's pension scheme. The defined benefit scheme operated by the Company was closed to future accrual with effect from 1 April 2010, from which date executive directors are eligible to join the Company's defined contribution scheme on the same terms as staff generally.

**Directors' service contracts**

Mr S G M Caffyn has a two-year rolling service contract. It is the Remuneration Committee's view that this contract is fully in the Company's interest and indeed it would be disadvantageous to the Company to seek to revoke this contract in order to enforce a change in the terms. Policy with regard to new contracts entered into with executive directors in the future will take into account all relevant factors, including the need to attract and retain high quality executive talent and the most appropriate balance between length of notice period, remuneration and other aspects of employment contracts. The terms covering compensation for loss of office are set out on page 9.

Mr M S Harrison, Miss S J Caffyn and Mr G J Ansley have one-year rolling contracts. The non-executive directors do not hold service contracts with the Company.

**Interests in shares**

The interests of the directors and their families in the shares of the Company are as follows:

|                  | As at 31 March 2011 |          | As at 31 March 2010 |          |
|------------------|---------------------|----------|---------------------|----------|
|                  | Ord                 | 10% Pref | Ord                 | 10% Pref |
| S B Birkenhead   | 3,000               | –        | 3,000               | –        |
| S G M Caffyn     | 41,774              | 1,600    | 41,774              | 1,600    |
| M S Harrison     | 5,000               | –        | 5,000               | –        |
| G J Ansley       | –                   | –        | –                   | –        |
| S J Caffyn       | 20,398              | 1,655    | 20,398              | 1,655    |
| A R Goodburn     | 3,000               | –        | 3,000               | –        |
| N W Hollingworth | 2,500               | –        | 2,500               | –        |

There were no changes in the directors' shareholdings between 1 April and the date of this report.

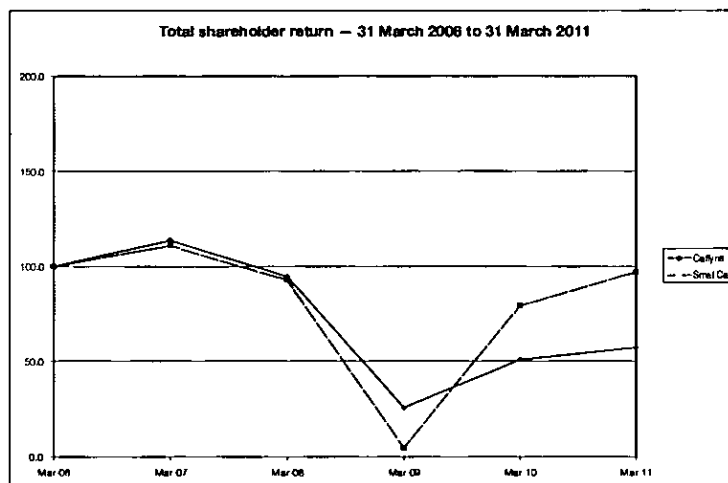
Mr S G M Caffyn and Miss S J Caffyn are directors of Caffyn Family Holdings Limited which owns all of the 2,000,000 6% Cumulative Second Preference Shares which have full voting rights.

The market price of the Company's Ordinary Shares at 31 March 2011 was £5.00 and the range of market prices during the year was £4.25 and £5.00.

# Directors' Remuneration Report

## Share price performance graph

The following graph shows the Company's performance, measured by total shareholder return, ("TSR"), in comparison to the FTSE Small Cap Index for the past five years. TSR represents share value growth, assuming that dividends paid are reinvested. The Company has been benchmarked against the FTSE SmallCap Index, which is considered to be an appropriate comparison to other public companies of a similar size.



## AUDITED INFORMATION

### Directors' Emoluments

|                                | Basic salary and fees<br>£'000 | Bonus<br>£'000 | Benefits<br>£'000 | Sub-total<br>£'000 | In lieu of pension contributions<br>£'000 | 2011<br>Total<br>£'000 | 2011<br>Company pension contributions<br>£'000 | 2010<br>Total<br>£'000 | 2010<br>Company pension contributions<br>£'000 |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Executive directors</b>     |                                |                |                   |                    |                                           |                        |                                                |                        |                                                |
| S G M Caffyn                   | 249                            | 21             | 13                | 283                | 7                                         | 290                    | –                                              | 367                    | –                                              |
| M S Harrison                   | 170                            | 14             | 8                 | 192                | –                                         | 192                    | 7                                              | 225                    | 17                                             |
| G J Ainsley                    | 130                            | 11             | 6                 | 147                | –                                         | 147                    | 5                                              | 100                    | 3                                              |
| S J Caffyn                     | 81                             | 7              | 6                 | 94                 | –                                         | 94                     | 4                                              | 87                     | 9                                              |
| <b>Non-executive directors</b> |                                |                |                   |                    |                                           |                        |                                                |                        |                                                |
| S B Birkenhead                 | 55                             | –              | –                 | 55                 | –                                         | 55                     | –                                              | 55                     | –                                              |
| A R Goodburn                   | 20                             | –              | –                 | 20                 | –                                         | 20                     | –                                              | 20                     | –                                              |
| N W Hollingworth               | 20                             | –              | –                 | 20                 | –                                         | 20                     | –                                              | 20                     | –                                              |
|                                | <u>725</u>                     | <u>53</u>      | <u>33</u>         | <u>811</u>         | <u>7</u>                                  | <u>818</u>             | <u>16</u>                                      | <u>874</u>             | <u>29</u>                                      |

### Remuneration of non-executive directors

The non-executive directors receive a fee which is agreed by the Board, following a recommendation by the executive directors. They currently receive a fee of £19,800 per annum with the exception of the chairman during the year who received a fee at the rate of £54,500 per annum. There has been no change to these rates since 1 April 2008.

## Pensions

Three executive directors are members of the Company's defined benefit pension scheme ("the DB Scheme") at the year end (2010 three). Executive directors' pensions are provided by the DB Scheme, which provides a pension of a maximum of two-thirds of final salary in respect of benefits accrued up to 31 March 2006. With effect from 1 April 2006, the accrued benefits of these directors will be on a "career average" basis and based upon earnings in each financial year. There is a widow's pension of half the director's pension and a death in service benefit of three times salary. The DB Scheme closed to future accrual with effect from 1 April 2010.

The executive directors who are members of the DB Scheme are eligible for a pension of up to two-thirds of total salary excluding benefits at normal retirement age of 65. Pensions for executives are provided on a contributory basis through the Group pension scheme. The value of share options or other benefits does not form part of pensionable salary. The pension scheme provides for the payment of benefits on death or disability. The following pension benefits accrued to directors from the Company:

|              | Additional accrued<br>benefits earned in<br>the year<br>£'000 | Total annual<br>accrued pension<br>at 31 March 2011<br>£'000 |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| S G M Caffyn | 4                                                             | 97                                                           |
| M S Harrison | 1                                                             | 29                                                           |
| S J Caffyn   | 1                                                             | 29                                                           |

|              | Transfer<br>value<br>at 31 March<br>2011<br>£'000 | Transfer<br>value<br>at 31 March<br>2010<br>£'000 | Increase in<br>transfer value<br>less directors'<br>contributions<br>£'000 |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| S G M Caffyn | 1,764                                             | 1,585                                             | 179                                                                        |
| M S Harrison | 487                                               | 456                                               | 31                                                                         |
| S J Caffyn   | 262                                               | 247                                               | 15                                                                         |

The primary reason for the significant increase in the transfer values is due to the rise in the equity markets during the year. The changes in the year exclude the elements due to inflation and transferred-in benefits.

Normal retirement age is 65. The directors' current ages are as stated on page 8 and 9. On early retirement before age 65, accrued pension is discounted by 4% per annum simple, except where the Company consents to early retirement between 60 and 65, and then no discount would be applied in respect of accrued benefits earned up to 31 March 2011. Along with other employees who were employed by the Company in the year ended 31 March 1991, Mr S G M Caffyn is entitled to retire at age 60 on an unreduced basis. Pensions paid increase in line with Limited Price Indexation. On death, a one-half spouse's pension is due. Children's allowances to a maximum, including spouse's pension, of 100% of the executive's pension may be payable. Allowance is made in transfer value payments for discretionary benefits.

M S Harrison, G J Ainsley and S J Caffyn were members of the Company's defined contribution scheme during the year.

The non-executive directors are not members of the Company's pension scheme.

## Long-term incentive plan

Executive directors participate in a performance incentive share plan designed to deliver a market competitive contribution to total remuneration relative to companies of a comparable size. Performance conditions attached to these awards are intended to reward achievements against budget related targets and the creation of shareholder value.

# Directors' Remuneration Report

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Share incentive awards have been made as follows

|              | Date of<br>grant | Shares<br>awarded | Earliest<br>exercise<br>date | Expiry<br>date | Exercise<br>price | Number at<br>31 March<br>2011 | Number at<br>31 March<br>2010 |
|--------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| S G M Caffyn | 6 Aug 2009       | 25,225            | 6 Aug 2012                   | 6 Aug 2019     | £0 50             | <b>25,225</b>                 | 25,225                        |
| M S Hamson   | 6 Aug 2009       | 17,246            | 6 Aug 2012                   | 6 Aug 2019     | £0 50             | <b>17,246</b>                 | 17,246                        |
| S J Caffyn   | 6 Aug 2009       | 8,217             | 6 Aug 2012                   | 6 Aug 2019     | £0 50             | <b>8,217</b>                  | 8,217                         |
| G J Ainsley  | 2 Sep 2009       | 9,785             | 2 Sep 2012                   | 2 Sep 2019     | £0 50             | <b>9,785</b>                  | 9,785                         |

In addition, directors are eligible to participate in the Company's SAYE Scheme open to employees in general

**N W Hollingworth**

*Chairman of the Remuneration Committee*

3 June 2011



# Directors' Responsibilities

## Statement of directors' responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual 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 the directors are required to prepare financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union (IFRSs). 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 and the profit or loss of the parent Company and Group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable IFRSs have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that 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 and Article 4 of the IAS Regulation. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as each of the directors is aware

- there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditors are unaware, and
- the directors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

The directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

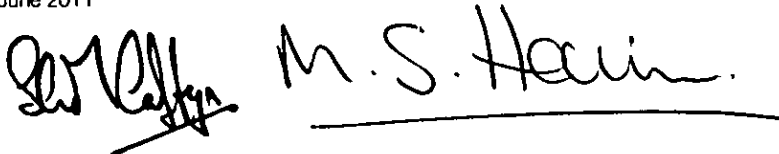
We confirm that to the best of our knowledge

- the financial statements, prepared in accordance with the applicable set of accounting standards, give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the Company and the undertakings included in the consolidation taken as a whole, and
- the Operational and Business Review and Report of the Directors includes a fair review of the development and performance of the business and the position of the Company and the undertakings included in the consolidation taken as a whole, together with a description of the principal risks and uncertainties that they face.

Approved by order of the Board

**S G M Caffyn**  
Chief Executive  
3 June 2011

**M S Harrison**  
Finance Director

The block contains two handwritten signatures. On the left is the signature of S G M Caffyn, and on the right is the signature of M S Harrison. Both signatures are written in black ink and are positioned below their respective printed names.

# Report of the Independent Auditors

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## **Independent auditors' report to the members of Caffyns plc**

We have audited the financial statements of Caffyns plc for the year ended 31 March 2011 which comprise the Group and parent Company income statements, the Group and parent Company statements of comprehensive income, the Group and parent Company balance sheets, the Group and parent Company statements of changes in equity, the Group and parent Company cash flow statements and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union.

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 auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

## **Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors**

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 23, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's (APB's) Ethical Standards for Auditors.

## **Scope of the audit of the financial statements**

A description of the scope of an audit of financial statements is provided on the APB's website at [www.frc.org.uk/apb/scope/private.cfm](http://www.frc.org.uk/apb/scope/private.cfm).

## **Opinion on financial statements**

In our opinion:

- the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's and of the parent Company's affairs as at 31 March 2011 and of the Group's and the parent Company's profit for the year then ended,
- the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with IFRSs as adopted by the European Union, and
- the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and, as regards the Group financial statements, Article 4 of the IAS Regulation.

## **Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion:

- the part of the Directors' Remuneration Report to be audited has been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006,
- the information given in the Report of the Directors for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements, and
- the information given in the Statement of Corporate Governance set out on pages 14 to 17 with respect to internal control and risk management systems in relation to financial reporting processes and about share capital structures is consistent with the financial statements.

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**Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent Company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us, or
- the parent Company financial statements and the part of the Directors' Remuneration Report to be audited are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns, or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made,
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or
- a Statement of Corporate Governance has not been prepared by the Company

**Under the Listing Rules, we are required to review**

- the directors' statement, set out on page 32, in relation to going concern,
- the part of the Statement of Corporate Governance relating to the Company's compliance with the nine provisions of the June 2008 Combined Code specified for our review, and
- certain elements of the report to the shareholders by the Board on directors' remuneration



**Robert Napper**

*Senior Statutory Auditor*

for and on behalf of Grant Thornton UK LLP

Statutory Auditor, Chartered Accountants

London

3 June 2011

# Income Statement

for the year ended 31 March 2011

## Group and Company

|                                                                  | Note | Before<br>non-<br>underlying<br>£'000 | Non-<br>underlying<br>(note 2)<br>£'000 | 2011<br>£'000    | Before<br>non-<br>underlying<br>£'000 | Non-<br>underlying<br>(note 2)<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Revenue</b>                                                   | 1    | 199,829                               | 1,638                                   | <b>201,467</b>   | 189,426                               | –                                       | 189,426       |
| Cost of sales                                                    |      | (171,736)                             | (1,750)                                 | <b>(173,486)</b> | (161,831)                             | –                                       | (161,831)     |
| <b>Gross profit</b>                                              |      | 28,093                                | (112)                                   | <b>27,981</b>    | 27,595                                | –                                       | 27,595        |
| <b>Operating expenses</b>                                        |      |                                       |                                         |                  |                                       |                                         |               |
| Distribution costs                                               |      | (17,732)                              | (745)                                   | <b>(18,477)</b>  | (15,382)                              | (71)                                    | (15,453)      |
| Administration expenses                                          |      | (8,050)                               | (467)                                   | <b>(8,517)</b>   | (10,061)                              | 189                                     | (9,872)       |
| <b>Operating profit before other income</b>                      |      | 2,311                                 | (1,324)                                 | <b>987</b>       | 2,152                                 | 118                                     | 2,270         |
| Other income – net gains on disposal<br>of tangible fixed assets |      | –                                     | 157                                     | <b>157</b>       | –                                     | –                                       | –             |
| <b>Operating profit</b>                                          | 3    | 2,311                                 | (1,167)                                 | <b>1,144</b>     | 2,152                                 | 118                                     | 2,270         |
| Finance expense                                                  | 5    | (1,168)                               | –                                       | <b>(1,168)</b>   | (873)                                 | –                                       | (873)         |
| Finance income/(expense) on<br>pension scheme                    | 6    | 292                                   | –                                       | <b>292</b>       | (427)                                 | –                                       | (427)         |
| <b>Net finance costs</b>                                         |      | (876)                                 | –                                       | <b>(876)</b>     | (1,300)                               | –                                       | (1,300)       |
| <b>Profit before taxation</b>                                    |      | 1,435                                 | (1,167)                                 | <b>268</b>       | 852                                   | 118                                     | 970           |
| Income tax (expense)/credit                                      | 7    | (267)                                 | 217                                     | <b>(50)</b>      | 171                                   | (34)                                    | 137           |
| <b>Profit for the year from<br/>continuing operations</b>        |      | 1,168                                 | (950)                                   | <b>218</b>       | 1,023                                 | 84                                      | 1,107         |
| <b>Earnings per share<br/>continuing operations</b>              |      |                                       |                                         |                  |                                       |                                         |               |
| Basic                                                            | 8    |                                       |                                         | <b>7.7p</b>      |                                       |                                         | 38 6p         |
| Diluted                                                          | 8    |                                       |                                         | <b>7 4p</b>      |                                       |                                         | 38 6p         |

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

# Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 31 March 2011

## Group and Company

|                                                          | Note | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000  |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------|---------------|----------------|
| <b>Profit for the year</b>                               |      | <b>218</b>    | <b>1,107</b>   |
| <b>Other comprehensive income</b>                        |      |               |                |
| Defined benefit plan actuarial gain/(loss) recognised    | 20   | <b>465</b>    | (2,599)        |
| Deferred tax on actuarial gain/(loss)                    | 21   | <b>(121)</b>  | 728            |
| <b>Total other comprehensive income, net of taxation</b> |      | <b>344</b>    | <b>(1,871)</b> |
| <b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>           |      | <b>562</b>    | <b>(764)</b>   |

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

# Balance Sheets

at 31 March 2011

|                                                                 | Notes | Group<br>2011<br>£'000 | Group<br>2010<br>£'000 | Company<br>2011<br>£'000 | Company<br>2010<br>£'000 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Non-current assets</b>                                       |       |                        |                        |                          |                          |
| Property, plant and equipment                                   | 11    | 27,733                 | 31,683                 | 27,733                   | 31,683                   |
| Investment property                                             | 12    | 536                    | –                      | 536                      | –                        |
| Goodwill                                                        | 10    | 286                    | 286                    | 286                      | 286                      |
| Deferred tax asset                                              | 21    | –                      | 96                     | –                        | 96                       |
| Investment in subsidiaries                                      | 13    | –                      | –                      | 250                      | 250                      |
|                                                                 |       | 28,555                 | 32,065                 | 28,805                   | 32,315                   |
| <b>Current assets</b>                                           |       |                        |                        |                          |                          |
| Inventories                                                     | 14    | 26,269                 | 22,032                 | 26,269                   | 22,032                   |
| Trade and other receivables                                     | 15    | 6,002                  | 8,105                  | 6,002                    | 8,105                    |
| Cash and cash equivalents                                       |       | 54                     | 407                    | 54                       | 407                      |
| Non-current assets classified as held for sale                  | 11    | 2,704                  | 564                    | 2,704                    | 564                      |
|                                                                 |       | 35,029                 | 31,108                 | 35,029                   | 31,108                   |
| <b>Total assets</b>                                             |       | <b>63,584</b>          | <b>63,173</b>          | <b>63,834</b>            | <b>63,423</b>            |
| <b>Current liabilities</b>                                      |       |                        |                        |                          |                          |
| Interest bearing loans and borrowings                           | 16    | 3,128                  | 1,888                  | 3,128                    | 1,888                    |
| Trade and other payables                                        | 18    | 28,180                 | 25,195                 | 28,430                   | 25,445                   |
| Current tax payable                                             |       | 213                    | 220                    | 213                      | 220                      |
|                                                                 |       | 31,521                 | 27,303                 | 31,771                   | 27,553                   |
| <b>Net current assets</b>                                       |       | <b>3,508</b>           | <b>3,805</b>           | <b>3,258</b>             | <b>3,555</b>             |
| <b>Non-current liabilities</b>                                  |       |                        |                        |                          |                          |
| Interest bearing loans and borrowings                           | 16    | 5,000                  | 8,000                  | 5,000                    | 8,000                    |
| Preference shares                                               | 22    | 1,237                  | 1,237                  | 1,237                    | 1,237                    |
| Deferred tax liabilities                                        | 21    | 75                     | –                      | 75                       | –                        |
| Retirement benefit obligations                                  | 20    | 5,481                  | 6,358                  | 5,481                    | 6,358                    |
|                                                                 |       | 11,793                 | 15,595                 | 11,793                   | 15,595                   |
| <b>Total liabilities</b>                                        |       | <b>43,314</b>          | <b>42,898</b>          | <b>43,564</b>            | <b>43,148</b>            |
| <b>Net assets</b>                                               |       | <b>20,270</b>          | <b>20,275</b>          | <b>20,270</b>            | <b>20,275</b>            |
| <b>Capital and reserves</b>                                     |       |                        |                        |                          |                          |
| Share capital                                                   | 22    | 1,439                  | 1,439                  | 1,439                    | 1,439                    |
| Share premium account                                           |       | 272                    | 272                    | 272                      | 272                      |
| Capital redemption reserve                                      |       | 282                    | 282                    | 282                      | 282                      |
| Non-distributable reserve                                       |       | 2,419                  | 2,901                  | 2,419                    | 2,901                    |
| Other reserve                                                   | 19    | 72                     | 72                     | 72                       | 72                       |
| Retained earnings                                               |       | 15,786                 | 15,309                 | 15,786                   | 15,309                   |
| <b>Total equity attributable to shareholders of Caffyns plc</b> |       | <b>20,270</b>          | <b>20,275</b>          | <b>20,270</b>            | <b>20,275</b>            |

The financial statements were approved by the Board of directors on 3 June 2011 and were signed on its behalf by

S B Birkenhead

M S Harrison

Directors

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

Company number 105664

# Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 31 March 2011

## Group and Company

|                                                         | Share<br>capital<br>£'000 | Share<br>premium<br>£'000 | Capital<br>redemption<br>reserve<br>£'000 | Non-<br>distributable<br>reserve<br>£'000 | Other<br>reserve<br>£'000 | Retained<br>earnings<br>£'000 | Total<br>£'000 |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| At 1 April 2010                                         | 1,439                     | 272                       | 282                                       | 2,901                                     | 72                        | 15,309                        | 20,275         |
| <b>Total comprehensive income</b>                       |                           |                           |                                           |                                           |                           |                               |                |
| Profit for the period                                   | -                         | -                         | -                                         | -                                         | -                         | 218                           | 218            |
| Other comprehensive income                              | -                         | -                         | -                                         | -                                         | -                         | 344                           | 344            |
| Realised surpluses on disposal<br>of land and buildings | -                         | -                         | -                                         | (482)                                     | -                         | 482                           | -              |
| <b>Total comprehensive income<br/>for the year</b>      | -                         | -                         | -                                         | (482)                                     | -                         | 1,044                         | 562            |
| Transactions with owners                                |                           |                           |                                           |                                           |                           |                               |                |
| Dividends                                               | -                         | -                         | -                                         | -                                         | -                         | (283)                         | (283)          |
| Purchase of own shares                                  | -                         | -                         | -                                         | -                                         | -                         | (284)                         | (284)          |
| <b>At 31 March 2011</b>                                 | <b>1,439</b>              | <b>272</b>                | <b>282</b>                                | <b>2,419</b>                              | <b>72</b>                 | <b>15,786</b>                 | <b>20,270</b>  |

for the year ended 31 March 2010

|                                                    | Share<br>capital<br>£'000 | Share<br>premium<br>£'000 | Capital<br>redemption<br>reserve<br>£'000 | Non-<br>distributable<br>reserve<br>£'000 | Other<br>reserve<br>£'000 | Retained<br>earnings<br>£'000 | Total<br>£'000 |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| At 1 April 2009                                    | 1,439                     | 272                       | 282                                       | 2,901                                     | -                         | 16,410                        | 21,304         |
| <b>Total comprehensive income</b>                  |                           |                           |                                           |                                           |                           |                               |                |
| Profit for the period                              | -                         | -                         | -                                         | -                                         | -                         | 1,107                         | 1,107          |
| Other comprehensive income                         | -                         | -                         | -                                         | -                                         | -                         | (1,871)                       | (1,871)        |
| <b>Total comprehensive income<br/>for the year</b> | -                         | -                         | -                                         | -                                         | -                         | (764)                         | (764)          |
| Transactions with owners                           |                           |                           |                                           |                                           |                           |                               |                |
| Dividends                                          | -                         | -                         | -                                         | -                                         | -                         | (200)                         | (200)          |
| Purchase of own shares                             | -                         | -                         | -                                         | -                                         | -                         | (137)                         | (137)          |
| Share-based payment                                | -                         | -                         | -                                         | -                                         | 72                        | -                             | 72             |
| <b>At 31 March 2010</b>                            | <b>1,439</b>              | <b>272</b>                | <b>282</b>                                | <b>2,901</b>                              | <b>72</b>                 | <b>15,309</b>                 | <b>20,275</b>  |

# Cash Flow Statement

for the year ended 31 March 2011

## Group and Company

|                                                            | Note | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Net cash from operating activities</b>                  | 23   | <b>1,405</b>  | 144           |
| <b>Investing activities</b>                                |      |               |               |
| Proceeds on disposal of property, plant and equipment      |      | 1,668         | –             |
| Purchases of property, plant and equipment                 |      | (1,099)       | (392)         |
| <b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>               |      | <b>569</b>    | (392)         |
| <b>Financing activities</b>                                |      |               |               |
| Secured loans drawn down                                   |      | –             | 8,000         |
| Purchase of own shares                                     |      | (284)         | (137)         |
| Dividends paid                                             |      | (283)         | (200)         |
| Repayments of obligations under finance leases             |      | (5)           | (15)          |
| <b>Net cash (outflow)/inflow from financing activities</b> |      | <b>(572)</b>  | 7,648         |
| <b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>           |      | <b>1,402</b>  | 7,400         |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year             |      | (1,476)       | (8,876)       |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>            |      | <b>(74)</b>   | (1,476)       |

|                                      | 31 March<br>2011<br>£'000 | 31 March<br>2010<br>£'000 | 31 March<br>2009<br>£'000 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents            | 54                        | 407                       | 32                        |
| Overdrafts                           | (128)                     | (1,883)                   | (8,908)                   |
| <b>Net cash and cash equivalents</b> | <b>(74)</b>               | <b>(1,476)</b>            | <b>(8,876)</b>            |

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

# Principal Accounting Policies

## Basis of preparation and statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU (IFRSs), International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee ("IFRIC") and those parts of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies reporting under IFRS

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to the years presented.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRSs requires the use of estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting year. Although these estimates are based upon management's best knowledge of the amount, events or actions, actual results may ultimately differ from those estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Judgements made by the directors in the application of accounting policies that have significant effect on the financial statements and estimates with a significant risk of material adjustment in the next year are discussed in note 29.

## Adoption of new and revised standards and new standards and interpretations not yet adopted

The Group has adopted the following new standards and interpretations in these financial statements:

'Improvements to IFRS' (issued in May 2009). The improvements project contains numerous amendments to IFRS that the IASB considers non-urgent but necessary. 'Improvements to IFRS' comprise amendments that result in accounting changes for presentation, recognition or measurement purposes, as well as terminology or editorial amendments related to a variety of individual IFRS standards. No material changes to accounting policies have arisen as a result of these amendments.

The following new standards, amendments to standards or interpretations are mandatory for the first time for the year ending 31 March 2011 but are not currently relevant to the Group:

- Amendment IFRS 2 – Group cash-settled share-based payment transactions
- IFRS 3 (revised) – Business Combinations (2008)
- Amendment to IAS 32 – Classification of rights issues
- IAS 39 (amended) – Financial instruments: Recognition and measurement – Eligible hedged items
- IAS 27 (Revised) 'Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements (2008)'
- IFRIC 15 – Agreement for the Construction of Real Estate
- IFRIC 16 – Hedgers of a Net Investment in a Foreign Operation
- IFRIC 17 – Distribution of Non-cash Assets to Owners
- IFRIC 18 – Transfers of Assets from Customers

The following standards and interpretations have been published, endorsed by the EU, and are available for early adoption but have not yet been applied by the Group in these financial statements:

| Other standards/interpretations | Content                                                     | Applicable on/after |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| IAS 24 (revised)                | Related party disclosures                                   | 1 January 2011      |
| IFRIC 14                        | Prepayments of a minimum funding requirement                | 1 January 2011      |
| IFRIC 19                        | Extinguishing Financial Liabilities with Equity Instruments | 1 July 2010         |

The directors are currently assessing the impact of these new accounting standards on the accounting policies of the Group.

# Principal Accounting Policies

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## **Going concern**

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which the directors consider appropriate for the reasons set out below

The Company and the Group meet their day to day working capital requirements through short-term stocking loans and bank overdraft and medium-term revolving credit facilities. While the revolving credit facilities are due for renewal in less than 12 months from the date of these financial statements, the directors have no reason to believe that the facilities will not be renewed at a level appropriate to the Group's requirements. The overdraft and revolving credit facilities include certain covenant tests. The failure of a covenant test would render these facilities repayable on demand at the option of the lenders.

The directors have undertaken a detailed review of trading and cash flow forecasts for a period in excess of one year from the date of this Annual Report which projects that the facility limits are not exceeded over the duration of the forecasts. These forecasts have made assumptions in respect of future trading conditions, particularly volumes and margins of new and used car sales, aftersales and operational improvements. The forecasts take into account these factors to an extent which the directors consider to be reasonable, based on the information that is available to them at the time of approval of this financial information. These forecasts indicate that the Group will be able to operate within the financing facilities that are available to it and meet the covenant tests with sufficient margin for reasonable adverse movements in expected trading conditions.

In the event that additional funds are required in excess of current facilities consequent to the forecasts not being achieved, it would be necessary for the directors to effect contingency plans and/or make arrangements to obtain additional facilities appropriate to the Group's ongoing requirements.

Information concerning the Group's liquidity and financing risk are set out on page 8 of the Report of the Directors and note 17 to the financial statements.

The directors have a reasonable expectation that the Group and the Company have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For those reasons, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing this Annual Report.

## **Basis of consolidation**

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries made up to 31 March each year. All subsidiaries are currently dormant so the income, expenses and cash flows are the same for the Group and the Company.

The results of businesses and subsidiaries acquired or disposed of during the year are included in the consolidated income statement using the purchase method from the effective date of acquisition or up to the effective date of disposal as appropriate.

Where necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring the accounting policies used into line with those used by the Group.

All intra-Group transactions, balances, income and expenses are eliminated on consolidation.

## **Acquisition**

On acquisition, the assets and liabilities and contingent liabilities of a subsidiary are measured at their fair values at the date of acquisition. Any excess of the cost of acquisition over the fair values of the identifiable net assets acquired is recognised as goodwill, which is allocated to cash generating units. Any deficiency of the cost of acquisition below the fair values of the identifiable net assets acquired (i.e. discount on acquisition) is credited to profit or loss in the period of acquisition.

## **Goodwill**

Goodwill represents the excess of the cost of an acquisition over the fair value of the net identifiable assets acquired, and is tested annually for impairment. Any impairment is recognised immediately in the income statement and is not subsequently reversed. Gains and losses on subsequent disposal of the assets acquired include any related goodwill.

Goodwill arising on acquisitions before the date of transition to IFRS has been retained at the previous UK GAAP amounts subject to being tested for impairment at that date and annually thereafter.

### **Revenue recognition**

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and represents amounts receivable for goods and services provided in the normal course of business, net of discounts, VAT and other sales related taxes

Sales of motor vehicles, parts and accessories are recognised when the significant risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred to the buyer. In general this occurs when vehicles or parts are delivered to the customer and title has passed. Servicing and bodyshop sales are recognised on completion of the agreed work.

### **Non-underlying items**

Non-underlying items are those items that are unusual because of their size, nature or incidence. The Group's management considers that these items should be disclosed separately to enable a full understanding of the Group's operating results.

### **Leasing**

#### *Lessee*

Leases are classified as finance leases whenever the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to the lessee. All other leases are classified as operating leases.

Assets held under finance leases are recognised as assets at their fair value or, if lower, at the present value of the minimum lease payments, each determined at the inception of the lease. The corresponding liability to the lessor is included in the balance sheet as a finance lease obligation. Lease payments are apportioned between finance charges and reduction of the lease obligation so as to achieve a constant rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability. Finance charges are charged directly against income.

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to income on a straight-line basis over the terms of the relevant lease.

#### *Lessor*

The Group leases certain properties under operating leases. Substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the Company and the assets are stated at historical cost less depreciation. Provision for depreciation of all tangible fixed assets of the Company is made in equal annual instalments over their estimated useful lives.

### **Borrowing costs**

All borrowing costs are recognised in the income statement in the period in which they are incurred unless the borrowing costs are directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of a qualifying asset in which case they are capitalised.

### **Retirement benefit costs**

The Group operates a defined benefit pension plan and a defined contribution plan, for its employees funded jointly by contributions from the Company and employees, the assets of which are held in independent trustee administered funds. The defined benefit pension plan assets are measured at fair value. The associated plan liabilities are discounted at high quality corporate bond rates that have terms to maturity approximating to the term of the related liability.

Pension accounting costs for the defined benefit plan is determined using the projected unit credit method after including a credit for the expected return on plan assets. Under the method, in accordance with the advice of qualified actuaries, the amounts charged in respect of employee benefits reflect the cost of benefits accruing in the year and the cost of financing accrued benefits. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised in full in the period in which they occur and presented in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

The present value of pension obligations is measured by reference to market yields on high quality corporate bonds which have terms to maturity approximating to the terms of the related pension liability. Plan assets are measured at fair value. When the calculation results in a benefit to the Group, the recognised asset is limited to the total value of economic benefits available in the form of any future refunds from the scheme or reductions in future contributions to the scheme. An economic benefit is available to the Group if it is realisable during the life of the scheme, or on settlement of the scheme liabilities. If there is an obligation for the Company to pay deficit funding, this is also recognised.

# Principal Accounting Policies

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A defined contribution plan is one under which the Group pays fixed contributions and has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further amounts. Obligations for contributions to defined contribution pension plans are recognised as an employee benefit expense in the income statement when they are due.

## **Share-based employee compensation**

The Group operates equity settled share-based compensation plans for remuneration of directors in the form of a Long-Term Incentive Plan and also incentivisation for all employees through the Company's SAYE scheme. All employee services received in exchange for the grant of any share-based compensation are measured at their fair values. These are indirectly determined by reference to the share option awarded. Their fair value is appraised at the grant date. The vesting period from the date of grant is three years.

All share-based compensation is ultimately recognised as an expense in profit and loss with a corresponding credit to the 'other reserve', net of deferred tax where applicable. If vesting periods or other vesting conditions apply, the expense is allocated over the vesting period, based on the best available estimate of the number of share options expected to vest. Service and performance vesting conditions are included in assumptions about the number of options that are expected to become exercisable. Non-vesting conditions such as the employer's requirement to continue to save under the SAYE Scheme, are taken into account when determining the fair value of the award. Estimates are subsequently revised, if there is any indication that the number of share options expected to vest differs from previous estimates. No adjustment to expense recognised in prior periods is made if fewer share options ultimately are exercised than originally estimated. Failure by the employee to meet a non-vesting condition is treated as a cancellation.

Fair value is measured by use of the Black-Scholes model. The expected life used in the model has been adjusted, based on management's best estimate, for the effects of non-transferability, exercise restrictions and behavioural considerations.

## **Taxation**

The tax expense represents the sum of the tax currently payable and deferred tax. Tax balances are not discounted.

The tax currently payable is based on taxable profit for the year. Taxable profit differs from net profit as reported in the Income Statement because it excludes items of income or expense that are taxable or deductible in other years and it further excludes items that are never taxable or deductible. The liability for current tax is calculated using tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

Deferred tax is the tax expected to be payable or recoverable on differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities in the financial statements and the corresponding tax bases used in the computation of taxable profit, and is accounted for using the balance sheet liability method. Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognised for all taxable temporary differences and deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that taxable profits will be available against which deductible temporary differences can be utilised. Such assets and liabilities are not recognised if the temporary difference arises from goodwill or from the initial recognition (other than in a business combination) of other assets and liabilities in a transaction that affects neither the tax profit nor the accounting profit.

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

Deferred tax is calculated at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the period when the liability is settled or the asset is realised. Deferred tax is charged or credited in the Income Statement, except when it relates to items charged or credited within other comprehensive income, in which case the deferred tax is also dealt with in other comprehensive income. The tax base of an item takes into account its intended method of recovery by either sale or use.

## **Property, plant and equipment**

Land and buildings used in the business are stated in the Balance Sheet at cost, or deemed cost, being the open market value at 31 March 1995, for those properties acquired before that date.

Depreciation on buildings is charged to income. On the subsequent sale of a property, the attributable surplus remaining in the non-distributable reserve is transferred directly to accumulated profits.

Properties in the course of construction are carried at cost, less any recognised impairment loss. Cost includes professional fees and attributable borrowing costs. Depreciation of these assets, on the same basis as other property assets, commences when the assets are ready for their intended use.

Properties are regarded as purchased or sold on the date on which contracts for the purchase or sale become unconditional. The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sales proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and is recognised in income.

Other assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and any recognised impairment loss.

Depreciation is charged so as to write off the cost less residual values of assets, other than land and properties under construction, over their estimated useful lives using the straight-line method, on the following basis:

|                                            |                     |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Freehold buildings                         | – 50 years          |
| Leasehold buildings                        | – Period of lease   |
| Plant and machinery, fixtures and fittings | – three to 10 years |

The leasehold land is accounted for as an operating lease.

Assets held under finance leases are depreciated over their expected useful lives on the same basis as owned assets or, where shorter, over the term of the relevant lease.

The residual value of all assets, depreciation methods and useful economic lives, if significant, are reassessed annually.

### **Investment property**

Investment property, which is property held to earn rentals and/or capital appreciation, is stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment at the balance sheet date. Rental income from investment property is recognised on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. Depreciation is charged so as to write off the cost less residual values of investment properties over their estimated useful lives using the straight-line method over 50 years.

### **Non-current assets held for sale**

Non-current assets classified as held for sale are measured at the lower of carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell.

Non-current assets are classified as held for sale if their carrying amount will be recovered through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use. This condition is regarded as met only when the sale is highly probable and the asset is available for immediate sale in its present condition. Management must be committed to the sale which should be expected to qualify for recognition as a completed sale within one year from the date of classification. No further depreciation is provided once assets are classified as held for sale.

### **Impairment**

#### **a) Impairment of goodwill**

Goodwill is tested annually for impairment. If an impairment provision is made, it cannot subsequently be reversed.

#### **b) Impairment of intangible assets and property, plant and equipment**

At each balance sheet date the Company reviews the carrying amounts of its intangible assets and property, plant and equipment to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any). Where the asset does not generate cash flows that are independent from other assets, the Company estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. An intangible asset with an indefinite useful life is tested for impairment annually and whenever there is an indication that the asset may be impaired.

# Principal Accounting Policies

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## **Impairment (continued)**

Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. 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 which the estimates of future cash flows have been adjusted.

If the recoverable amount of an asset (or cash-generating unit "CGU") is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset (CGU) is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised as an expense immediately, unless the relevant asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease.

Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset (CGU) is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but so that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset (CGU) in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised as income immediately, unless the relevant asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the reversal of the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation increase.

For the purpose of impairment testing, assets are Grouped together into the smallest Group of assets that generates cash inflows from continuing use that are largely independent of the cash flows from other Groups of assets. Management have determined that the cash generating units of the Group are the Groups of dealerships for each franchise. Where more than one franchise operates from a site, the franchises are aggregated together with the dominant franchise.

## **Inventories**

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost represents the purchase price plus any additional costs incurred.

Vehicle stock includes service vehicles. Consignment vehicles are regarded as being effectively under the control of the Group and are included within inventories on the balance sheet as the Group has the significant risks and rewards of ownership even though legal title has not yet passed. The corresponding liability is included in trade and other payables. Parts inventories are based upon an average purchase cost principle and are written down to net realisable value by providing for obsolescence on a time and stock-based formula approach.

Net realisable value represents the estimated selling price less all estimated costs of completion and costs to be incurred in marketing and selling.

## **Trade receivables**

Trade receivables do not carry any interest and are stated at their fair value on initial recognition as reduced by appropriate allowances for estimated irrecoverable amounts.

## **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and demand deposits. In the Cash Flow Statement, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within interest bearing borrowings in current liabilities on the Balance Sheet.

## **Investments in subsidiary undertakings**

Investments in subsidiary undertakings are included at cost, less amounts written off if the investment is determined to be impaired and are included in the parent Company's separate financial statements.

## **Financial liabilities**

All financial liabilities are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

## **Interest-bearing borrowings**

Interest-bearing bank loans and overdrafts are recorded at their fair value on initial recognition (normally the proceeds received less transaction costs that are directly attributable to the financial liability) and subsequently at amortised cost under the effective interest method. Finance charges, including premiums payable on settlement or redemption and direct issue costs, are accounted for on an accruals basis to the profit and loss account using the effective interest method and are added to the carrying amount of the instrument to the extent that they are not settled in the period in which they arise.

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**Trade payables**

Trade payables are not interest bearing and are stated at their fair value on initial recognition

**Equity**

Ordinary shares are classified as equity. Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of new shares are shown in equity as a deduction, net of tax, from the proceeds.

Share premium includes any premium received on the sale of shares. Any transaction costs associated with the issuing of shares are deducted from share premium, net of any income tax benefits.

The 'Non-distributable reserve' within equity is a revaluation reserve which comprises gains and losses due to the revaluation of property, plant and equipment prior to 1995.

The 'Other reserve' comprises share based payments made under the Group's Long-Term Incentive Plan and SAYE scheme.

Retained earnings includes all current and prior period retained profits.

Where any Group Company purchases the Company's equity share capital (treasury shares), the consideration paid, including any directly attributable incremental costs (net of income taxes), is deducted from equity attributable to the Company's equity holders until the shares are cancelled, reissued or disposed of. Where such shares are subsequently sold or reissued, any consideration received, net of any directly attributable incremental transaction costs and the related income tax effects, is included in equity attributable to the Company's equity holders.

**Preference shares**

All the preference shares are accounted for as non-current liabilities, as they have the attributes of debt. Preference dividends are accounted for as finance charges within interest payable.

**Financial instruments**

Non-derivative financial instruments comprise trade and other receivables, cash and cash equivalents, loans and borrowings, and trade and other payables. Non-derivative financial instruments are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

A financial instrument is recognised if the Group becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Financial instruments are derecognised if the Group's contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire. Financial liabilities are derecognised if the Group's obligations specified in the contract expire or are discharged or cancelled.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2011

## 1 General information

Caffyns plc is a Company incorporated in England and Wales under the Companies Act 2006. The address of the registered office is given on page 2. Its revenue is attributable to the sole activity of operating as a motor retailer in the south east of the United Kingdom and comprises revenue from

|                       | 2011           | 2010           |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                       | £'000          | £'000          |
| Sale of goods         | 187,113        | 174,622        |
| Rendering of services | 14,354         | 14,804         |
|                       | <b>201,467</b> | <b>189,426</b> |

Based upon the management information reported to the Group's chief operating decision maker, the chief executive, in the opinion of the directors, the Company only has the one reportable segment. The Group is operated and managed on a dealership by dealership basis. These dealerships are considered to have similar economic characteristics and offer similar products and services to a similar customer base. As such, the results of each dealership have been aggregated to form one reportable segment. There are no major customers amounting to 10% or more of the Group's revenue. All revenue and non-current assets derive from, or are based in, the United Kingdom.

## 2. Non-underlying items

|                                                                  | 2011           | 2010       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------|
|                                                                  | £'000          | £'000      |
| Within operating expenses                                        |                |            |
| Impairment of property, plant and equipment reversal             | –              | 359        |
| Net profit/(loss) on disposal of property, plant and equipment   | 156            | (41)       |
| Losses incurred on closed businesses                             | (1,171)        | (51)       |
| Redundancy costs                                                 | (152)          | (149)      |
| Total non-underlying items before taxation                       | <b>(1,167)</b> | <b>118</b> |
| Income tax expense – Tax credit/(charge) on non-underlying items | 217            | (34)       |
| Total after tax                                                  | <b>(950)</b>   | <b>84</b>  |

The following amounts have been presented as non-underlying items in these financial statements:

Property, plant and equipment have been reviewed for possible impairment in the light of economic conditions, in particular the changes in commercial property prices. As a result of this review no impairment has been made (2010: credit £359,000).

Losses incurred in the closure of businesses amounted to £1,171,000 (2010: £51,000). These costs include wind down expenses, recognised from the date of the announcement to close, and branch specific redundancy costs which amounted to £699,000.

The Group undertook a programme of redundancies in its core business consequent to the current economic situation, resulting in non-underlying payments of £152,000 (2010: £149,000).

### 3 Operating profit

Operating profit has been arrived at after charging/(crediting)

|                                                            | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Employee benefit expense (see note 4)                      | 19,334        | 19,076        |
| Impairment of property, plant and equipment                | –             | (359)         |
| Depreciation of property plant and equipment               |               |               |
| – owned assets                                             | 1,139         | 1,221         |
| – under finance leases                                     | 5             | 9             |
| (Profit)/loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment | (156)         | 14            |
| Operating lease rentals payable                            |               |               |
| – land and buildings                                       | 542           | 537           |
| – plant and machinery                                      | 21            | 11            |
| Operating lease rentals receivable                         |               |               |
| – land and buildings                                       | 33            | 44            |

Operating profit has been arrived at after charging

|                                                                                        | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£ 000 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Auditors' remuneration                                                                 |               |               |
| – Fees payable to the Company's auditor for the audit of the Company's annual accounts | 61            | 59            |
| – Fees payable to the Company's auditor and its associates for other services          |               |               |
| – Other services pursuant to legislation – Interim review                              | 9             | 8             |
| – Tax services (including compliance and VAT advice)                                   | 12            | 18            |
| – Fees in respect of the audit of the Caffyns plc Pension Scheme                       | 8             | 8             |
| – Other services                                                                       | 4             | 4             |
|                                                                                        | 94            | 97            |

A description of the work of the Audit Committee is set out in the Statement of Corporate Governance on pages 14 to 17 and includes an explanation of how auditor objectivity and independence is safeguarded when non-audit services are provided by the auditors

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2011

## 4. Employee benefit expense

The average number of people employed by the Group in the following areas was

|                | 2011<br>Number | 2010<br>Number |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Sales          | 148            | 137            |
| Aftersales     | 378            | 382            |
| Administration | 129            | 129            |
|                | <b>655</b>     | <b>648</b>     |

|                                                      | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Employee benefit expense during the year amounted to |               |               |
| Wages and salaries                                   | 16,836        | 16,655        |
| Social security costs                                | 1,703         | 1,470         |
| Redundancy costs                                     | 851           | 272           |
| Contributions to defined contribution plans          | 208           | 42            |
| Other pension costs (see note 20)                    | (264)         | 637           |
|                                                      | <b>19,334</b> | <b>19,076</b> |

|                                     | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Directors' emoluments were          |               |               |
| Emoluments                          | 818           | 874           |
| Pension contributions               | 16            | 29            |
| Pension to widow of former director | 19            | 19            |
|                                     | <b>853</b>    | <b>922</b>    |

Details of the directors' remuneration and pension contributions are provided in the Directors' Remuneration Report on pages 18 to 22

## 5 Finance expense

|                                     | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Interest payable on bank borrowings | 469           | 402           |
| Vehicle stocking plan interest      | 407           | 223           |
| Interest payable on finance leases  | –             | 2             |
| Financing costs amortised           | 190           | 144           |
| Preference dividends (see note 9)   | 102           | 102           |
| Finance expense                     | <b>1,168</b>  | <b>873</b>    |

## 6. Finance income/(expense) on pension scheme

|                                                             | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Defined benefit pension scheme net finance income/(expense) | <b>292</b>    | <b>(427)</b>  |

## 7 Tax

|                                                                               | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Current tax                                                                   |               |               |
| UK corporation tax                                                            | –             | (8)           |
| Deferred tax (see note 21)                                                    |               |               |
| Origination and reversal of temporary differences                             | (67)          | (165)         |
| Adjustments recognised in the period due to change in rate of corporation tax | 79            | –             |
| Adjustments recognised in the period for deferred tax of prior periods        | (62)          | 310           |
|                                                                               | <u>(50)</u>   | <u>145</u>    |
| Total tax (charged)/credited in the Income Statement                          | <u>(50)</u>   | <u>137</u>    |
| The tax (charge)/credit arises as follows                                     |               |               |
| On normal trading                                                             | (267)         | 171           |
| Non-underlying (see note 2)                                                   | 217           | (34)          |
|                                                                               | <u>(50)</u>   | <u>137</u>    |

The (charge)/credit for the year can be reconciled to the profit per the Income Statement as follows

|                                                                                    | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Profit before tax                                                                  | 268           | 970           |
| Tax at the UK corporation tax rate of 21% (2010 28%)                               | (56)          | (272)         |
| Tax effect of expenses that are not deductible in determining taxable profit       | (27)          | (45)          |
| Marginal rate relief                                                               | –             | 10            |
| Change in rate of corporation tax from 28% to 26%                                  | 79            | –             |
| Accounting depreciation for which no tax relief is due                             | (69)          | (57)          |
| Difference between accounts profits and taxable profits on capital asset disposals | 33            | –             |
| Long-Term Incentive Plan                                                           | –             | 18            |
| Movement in rolled over and held over gains                                        | 52            | 72            |
| Asset impairment credit                                                            | –             | 101           |
| Adjustments to tax charge in respect of prior years                                | (62)          | 310           |
| Tax (charge)/credit for the year                                                   | <u>(50)</u>   | <u>137</u>    |

The total tax (charge)/credit for the year is made up as follows

|                                                       | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Total current tax charge                              | –             | (8)           |
| Deferred tax (charge)/credit                          |               |               |
| (Charged)/credited in Income Statement                | (50)          | 145           |
| (Charged)/credited against other comprehensive income | (121)         | 735           |
| Total deferred tax credit                             | <u>(171)</u>  | <u>880</u>    |
| Total tax (charge)/credit for the year                | <u>(171)</u>  | <u>872</u>    |

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2011

## 7. Tax (continued)

### Factors affecting the future tax charge

The corporation tax applicable to the Company is to change from 28% to 26% with effect from 1 April 2011. The deferred tax liability has been calculated at 26% as temporary differences will reverse after 1 April 2011. The benefit of this decrease in rate is estimated at £79,000 and is reflected as a reduction in the deferred tax expense for the year.

The Company has unrelieved advance corporation tax of approximately £1.1m (2010: £1.1m) which is available to be utilised against future mainstream corporation tax liabilities and is accounted for in deferred tax (see note 21).

The tax (charge)/credit is (increased)/decreased by non-deductible expenses including the impairment of property, plant and equipment and non-qualifying depreciation.

## 8. Earnings per ordinary share

The calculation of the basic earnings per share is based on the earnings attributable to ordinary shareholders divided by the weighted average number of shares in issue during the year. Treasury shares and shares held in employee share trusts are treated as cancelled for the purposes of this calculation.

The calculation of diluted earnings per share is based on the basic earnings per share, adjusted to allow for the issue of shares and the post-tax effect of dividends and/or interest, on the assumed conversion of all dilutive options and other dilutive potential ordinary shares.

Reconciliations of earnings and weighted average number of shares used in the calculations are set out below.

|                                   | Adjusted |       | Basic |       |
|-----------------------------------|----------|-------|-------|-------|
|                                   | 2011     | 2010  | 2011  | 2010  |
|                                   | £'000    | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Profit before tax                 | 268      | 970   | 268   | 970   |
| Adjustments                       |          |       |       |       |
| Non-underlying items (note 2)     | 1,167    | (118) | -     | -     |
| Adjusted profit/(loss) before tax | 1,435    | 852   | 268   | 970   |
| Taxation                          | (267)    | 171   | (50)  | 137   |
| Earnings                          | 1,168    | 1,023 | 218   | 1,107 |
| Earnings per share                | 41.4p    | 35.7p | 7.7p  | 38.6p |
| Diluted earnings per share        | 39.9p    | 35.7p | 7.4p  | 38.6p |

The number of fully paid ordinary shares in issue at the year end was 2,788,835 (2010: 2,849,716). The weighted average shares in issue for the purposes of the earnings per share calculation were 2,822,686 (2010: 2,866,751). The shares awarded under the Long-Term Incentive Plan are not dilutive under the terms of IAS 33, but the shares granted under the Company's SAYE scheme are dilutive. The weighted average number of dilutive shares under option at fair value was 107,532 giving a total diluted weighted average number of shares of 2,930,218.

## 9. Dividends

|                                                                          | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Paid</b>                                                              |               |               |
| Preference                                                               |               |               |
| 6 5% Cumulative First Preference                                         | 25            | 25            |
| 10% Cumulative Preference                                                | 65            | 65            |
| 6 0% Cumulative Second Preference                                        | 12            | 12            |
|                                                                          | <u>102</u>    | <u>102</u>    |
| <b>Ordinary</b>                                                          |               |               |
| Interim dividend paid in respect of the current year of 5 Op (2010 5 Op) | 141           | 142           |
| Final dividend paid in respect of the previous year of 5 Op (2010 2 Op)  | 142           | 58            |
|                                                                          | <u>283</u>    | <u>200</u>    |

### Proposed

In addition, the directors are proposing a final dividend in respect of the year ended 31 March 2011 of 7 Op per share which will absorb £195,000 of shareholders' funds (2010 5 Op per share absorbing £142,000). The proposed final dividend is subject to approval by shareholders at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting and has not been included as a liability in these financial statements.

## 10 Goodwill

|                                   | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Group and Company</b>          |               |               |
| Cost                              |               |               |
| At 1 April 2010 and 31 March 2011 | 481           | 481           |
| Provision for impairment          |               |               |
| At 1 April 2010 and 31 March 2011 | 195           | 195           |
| Carrying amounts                  |               |               |
| Volkswagen, Brighton              | 200           | 200           |
| Audi, Eastbourne                  | 86            | 86            |
| At 31 March                       | <u>286</u>    | <u>286</u>    |

For the purposes of impairment testing of goodwill, the directors recognise the Group's cash generating units ("CGU") to be the smallest Group of assets that generates cash inflows from continuing use that are largely independent of the cash inflows from other Groups of assets. The recoverable amount of each CGU is based on the higher of its realisable value and value in use. The realisable value of each CGU is based upon the market value of any property contained within it and is determined by an independent valuer as described in note 11. The value in use is calculated using Board approved budgeted projections for 2011/12. These projections take into account management estimates of future trading including past experience and industry expectations. They are extrapolated over an additional four years, and a risk adjusted discount rate reflecting the Group's weighted average cost of capital is applied in order to calculate each CGU's terminal value. While it is anticipated that the units will grow revenues in the future, for the purposes of impairment testing, no growth has been assumed beyond the period covered by the budget of one year. A pre-tax discount rate of 5% was applied in determining the value in use of the CGUs which the Group has estimated to be the approximate weighted average cost of capital to the Group. Based on these projections, adopting a discount rate of 10% would not give rise to any further impairment in respect of these two dealerships.

At each half-year end the directors review the goodwill for possible impairment and they have concluded that no impairment is required in the year ended 31 March 2011.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2011

## 11 Property, plant and equipment

|                                  | Freehold<br>property<br>£'000 | Leasehold<br>property<br>£'000 | Fixtures &<br>fittings<br>£'000 | Plant &<br>machinery<br>£'000 | Total<br>£'000 |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Group and Company</b>         |                               |                                |                                 |                               |                |
| <i>Cost or deemed cost</i>       |                               |                                |                                 |                               |                |
| At 1 April 2009                  | 30,647                        | 319                            | 5,660                           | 6,401                         | 43,027         |
| Additions at cost                | 119                           | 10                             | 173                             | 90                            | 392            |
| Transfer                         | (13)                          | –                              | 8                               | 5                             | –              |
| Disposals                        | –                             | –                              | (163)                           | (131)                         | (294)          |
| <b>At 31 March 2010</b>          | <b>30,753</b>                 | <b>329</b>                     | <b>5,678</b>                    | <b>6,365</b>                  | <b>43,125</b>  |
| At 1 April 2010                  | 30,753                        | 329                            | 5,678                           | 6,365                         | 43,125         |
| Additions at cost                | 227                           | 160                            | 368                             | 344                           | 1,099          |
| Transfer                         | 26                            | –                              | (28)                            | 2                             | –              |
| Transfer to assets held for sale | (2,964)                       | –                              | –                               | –                             | (2,964)        |
| Transfer to investment property  | (608)                         | –                              | –                               | –                             | (608)          |
| Disposals                        | (321)                         | (29)                           | (862)                           | (905)                         | (2,117)        |
| <b>At 31 March 2011</b>          | <b>27,113</b>                 | <b>460</b>                     | <b>5,156</b>                    | <b>5,806</b>                  | <b>38,535</b>  |
| <i>Depreciation</i>              |                               |                                |                                 |                               |                |
| At 1 April 2009                  | 2,236                         | 209                            | 3,965                           | 4,441                         | 10,851         |
| Charge for the year              | 324                           | 25                             | 527                             | 354                           | 1,230          |
| Reversal of impairment provision | (359)                         | –                              | –                               | –                             | (359)          |
| Disposals                        | –                             | –                              | (157)                           | (123)                         | (280)          |
| <b>At 31 March 2010</b>          | <b>2,201</b>                  | <b>234</b>                     | <b>4,335</b>                    | <b>4,672</b>                  | <b>11,442</b>  |
| At 1 April 2010                  | 2,201                         | 234                            | 4,335                           | 4,672                         | 11,442         |
| Charge for the year              | 328                           | 36                             | 441                             | 339                           | 1,144          |
| Transfer                         | 19                            | –                              | (19)                            | –                             | –              |
| Transfer to assets held for sale | (260)                         | –                              | –                               | –                             | (260)          |
| Transfer to investment property  | (72)                          | –                              | –                               | –                             | (72)           |
| Disposals                        | (30)                          | –                              | (731)                           | (691)                         | (1,452)        |
| <b>At 31 March 2011</b>          | <b>2,186</b>                  | <b>270</b>                     | <b>4,026</b>                    | <b>4,320</b>                  | <b>10,802</b>  |
| <i>Net book amount</i>           |                               |                                |                                 |                               |                |
| <b>At 31 March 2011</b>          | <b>24,927</b>                 | <b>190</b>                     | <b>1,130</b>                    | <b>1,486</b>                  | <b>27,733</b>  |
| At 31 March 2010                 | 28,552                        | 95                             | 1,343                           | 1,693                         | 31,683         |
| At 31 March 2009                 | 28,411                        | 110                            | 1,695                           | 1,960                         | 32,176         |

Short-term leasehold property comprised £190,000 at net book value at the balance sheet date (2010 £95,000) in both the Company and the Group

Property, plant and equipment held for sale at 31 March 2011 with a net book value of £2,704,000 fulfilled the conditions to be re-classified as non-current assets held for sale (2010 £564,000)

## 11 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

The depreciation charge in respect of property, plant and equipment is recognised within administration expenses within the Income Statement

There was no future capital expenditure which has been contracted for but not yet provided in the financial statements (2010: nil)

### Valuations

The freehold properties were revalued externally at 31 March 1995 by Lambert Smith Hampton, Chartered Surveyors, at open market value for existing use (which the directors are satisfied is close to the then fair value). Freehold properties acquired since that date and the other assets listed above are stated at cost in accordance with IAS 16.

Freehold property is included as follows

|                                                                                       | <b>Group and Company</b> |              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
|                                                                                       | <b>2011</b>              | <b>2010</b>  |
|                                                                                       | <b>£'000</b>             | <b>£'000</b> |
| Valuation – March 1995, less depreciation                                             | <b>6,838</b>             | 10,369       |
| At cost, less depreciation                                                            | <b>18,089</b>            | 18,183       |
| Deemed cost, less depreciation at the year end                                        | <b>24,927</b>            | 28,552       |
| At historic cost (including property qualifying as non-current asset held for resale) | <b>25,212</b>            | 26,180       |

The freehold properties (excluding sites which are classed as assets held for sale) were revalued at 31 March 2011 at fair value (open market for existing use) by CB Richard Ellis Limited, Chartered Surveyors. The excess of the valuation over the net book value of the properties subject to the valuation as at 31 March 2011 was £6.3m. In accordance with the Company's accounting policies, this surplus is not incorporated in these accounts.

Depreciation is being charged on the value of freehold buildings of £16,400,000 (2010: £16,703,000). The balance relates to freehold land, which is not depreciated.

### Non-current assets classified as held for sale

The Group holds three freehold properties which are classified as held for sale. They are expected to be sold during the coming financial year and are referred to in the Operational and Business Review.

Properties held for sale are carried in the financial statements at the lower of their carrying amount on being classified as held for sale and fair value less costs to sell. No gain or loss arose on reclassifying the properties held for sale.

### Assets held under finance leases

|                                     | Plant &<br>machinery<br>£'000 |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Net book amount<br>At 31 March 2011 | -                             |
| Net book amount<br>At 31 March 2010 | 5                             |

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2011

## 12. Investment property

### Group and Company

|                                                         | £'000 |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| <i>Cost</i>                                             |       |
| At 31 March 2010                                        | -     |
| Transfer from property, plant and equipment in the year | 536   |
| At 31 March 2011                                        | 536   |

Following the sale of its business in Uckfield, East Sussex, on 31 January 2011 the Company has granted a short-term operating lease of its freehold property to the purchaser for a maximum period of four years. The lease can be terminated by the lessee on 12 months notice to the Company. The lessee also has an option to purchase the freehold property for £750,000 (as adjusted for price movements) during the first three years of the lease and, consequently, this is considered to be the fair value of the property.

## 13 Investments in subsidiaries

The Company owns the whole of the issued ordinary share capital of Caffyns Wessex Limited, Caffyns Properties Limited and Fasthaven Limited, all of which are now dormant. The amount at which the investments are stated is equivalent to the net assets of the subsidiaries. All subsidiary undertakings are registered in England and Wales.

|                                       | Company<br>£'000 |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| <i>Cost</i>                           |                  |
| At 31 March 2011 and at 31 March 2010 | 476              |
| <i>Provision</i>                      |                  |
| At 31 March 2011 and at 31 March 2010 | 226              |
| <i>Net book amounts</i>               |                  |
| At 31 March 2011 and at 31 March 2010 | 250              |

## 14. Inventories

|                                                                     | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Group and Company</b>                                            |               |               |
| Vehicles                                                            | 16,692        | 13,213        |
| Vehicles on consignment                                             | 8,520         | 7,349         |
| Oil, spare parts and materials                                      | 1,052         | 1,458         |
| Work in progress                                                    | 5             | 12            |
|                                                                     | <b>26,269</b> | <b>22,032</b> |
| Inventories recognised as an expense during the year                | 171,820       | 159,778       |
| Inventories stated at fair value less costs to sell                 | 949           | 1,347         |
| Carrying value of inventories subject to retention of title clauses | 15,258        | 13,502        |

All vehicle stocks held under consignment stocking agreements are deemed to be assets of the Group and are included on the balance sheet from the point of consignment. The corresponding liabilities to the manufacturers are included within trade and other payables. Stocks are held on consignment for a maximum consignment period of 365 days. Interest is payable in certain cases for part of the consignment period, at various rates linked to the Finance House Base Rate.

#### 14. Inventories (continued)

During the year £156,000 was recognised in respect of the write down of vehicle parts inventories due to general obsolescence (2010 £72,000)

#### 15. Trade and other receivables

|                              | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 |
|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Group and Company</b>     |               |               |
| Trade receivables            | 5,072         | 7,179         |
| Allowance for doubtful debts | (60)          | (44)          |
|                              | <u>5,012</u>  | <u>7,135</u>  |
| Other receivables            | 990           | 970           |
|                              | <u>6,002</u>  | <u>8,105</u>  |

All amounts are due within one year

The Group makes an impairment provision for all debts that are considered unlikely to be collected. At 31 March 2011 trade receivables are shown net of an allowance for impairment of £60,000 (2010 £44,000). The charge recognised during the year was £38,000 (2010 credit £15,000).

Trade receivables have been classified as loans and receivables under IAS 39

|                                                           | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| The ageing of trade receivables at the reporting date was |               |               |
| Not past due                                              | 4,684         | 6,381         |
| Past due 0–30 days                                        | 249           | 522           |
| Past due 31–120 days                                      | 79            | 232           |
|                                                           | <u>5,012</u>  | <u>7,135</u>  |

|                                                                  | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| The movement in the allowance for impairment during the year was |               |               |
| Balance at 1 April                                               | 44            | 64            |
| Net impairment recognised                                        | 38            | (15)          |
| Utilisation                                                      | (22)          | (5)           |
| Balance at 31 March                                              | <u>60</u>     | <u>44</u>     |

All amounts are due within one year

#### Credit Risk

The Company's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade receivables, which represent the Company's maximum exposure to credit risk in relation to financial assets.

The Company's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables which are all due on presentation of the invoice. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables, estimated by the Company's management based on prior experience and their assessment of the current economic environment. Consequently the directors consider that the carrying amount of trade and other receivables approximates their fair value.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2011

## 15. Trade and other receivables (continued)

Before granting any new customer credit terms the Group uses external credit agencies to assess the new customer's credit quality and defines credit limits by customer. These credit limits and credit worthiness are regularly reviewed. The concentration of credit risk is limited due to the customer base being large and unrelated. The Group has no customer that represents more than 5% of the total balance of trade receivables.

## 16. Interest bearing loans and borrowings

| Group and Company                       | 2011         | 2010         |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Current liabilities                     | £'000        | £'000        |
| Secured bank overdrafts                 | 128          | 1,883        |
| Secured bank loans                      | 3,000        | –            |
| Finance lease liabilities (see note 26) | –            | 5            |
|                                         | <u>3,128</u> | <u>1,888</u> |
| <b>Non-current liabilities</b>          |              |              |
| Secured bank loans                      | <u>5,000</u> | <u>8,000</u> |

Note 17 sets out the maturity profile of non-current liabilities.

The directors estimate that there is no material difference between the fair value of the Company's borrowings and their book value.

The loan and overdraft facilities provided to the Company of £18.0m are secured by a general debenture and fixed charges over certain freehold properties.

## 17 Financial instruments

The Group utilises financial instruments such as bank loans and overdrafts and new and used vehicle stocking loans in order to finance its operations and to manage the interest rate and liquidity risks that arise from those operations and from its sources of finance. The disclosures below apply to the Group and the Company unless otherwise noted.

|                                                                                |                                                | 2011                           | 2010                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|                                                                                |                                                | Carrying value<br>& fair value | Carrying value<br>& fair value |
|                                                                                |                                                | £'000                          | £'000                          |
| <b>Group</b>                                                                   | <b>Classification</b>                          |                                |                                |
| <b>Fair value of financial assets and liabilities</b>                          |                                                |                                |                                |
| Primary financial instruments held or issued to finance the Group's operations |                                                |                                |                                |
| Long-term borrowings (note 16)                                                 | Financial liability measured at amortised cost | (5,000)                        | (8,000)                        |
| Short-term borrowings (note 16)                                                | Financial liability measured at amortised cost | (3,128)                        | (1,888)                        |
| Trade and other payables (note 18)                                             | Other                                          | (26,992)                       | (24,111)                       |
| Trade receivables (note 15)                                                    | Loans and receivables                          | 5,012                          | 7,135                          |
| Cash at bank and in hand                                                       | Loans and receivables                          | 54                             | 407                            |
| Preference share capital (note 22)                                             | Financial liabilities at amortised cost        | (1,237)                        | (1,237)                        |
| The amounts noted in the above table are the same for the Company apart from   |                                                |                                |                                |
| Trade and other payables (note 18)                                             | Other                                          | (27,242)                       | (24,361)                       |

### Financial risk management

The Group is exposed to the following risks from its use of financial instruments:

- Funding and liquidity risk – the risk that the Group will not be able to meet its obligations as they fall due
- Credit risk – the risk of financial loss to the Group on the failure of a customer or counterparty to meet its obligations as they fall due
- Market risk – the risk that changes in market prices such as interest rates have on the Group's financial performance

Due to the continued difficult economic environment, the Group maintained its focus on managing credit and liquidity risk by particularly focusing on working capital management. The Group's quantitative exposure to these risks is explained throughout these financial statements whilst the Group's objectives and management of these risks is set out below.

### Capital management

The Board's policy is to maintain a strong capital base to maintain market confidence and safeguard the Group's ability to continue as a going concern whilst maximising the return on capital to the Group's shareholders. The Group monitors its capital through closely monitoring and reviewing its cash flows. In order to maintain or adjust the capital structure, the Group may adjust the amount of dividends paid to holders of Ordinary Shares, return capital to shareholders, issue new shares or sell assets to reduce debt. The Group's debt/equity ratio was 40% at 31 March 2011 (2010: 47%). Capital requirements imposed externally by the Group's bankers are that bank borrowings should not exceed 80% of the current value of the Group's freehold properties. The underlying pre-tax return on equity for the year was 7.1% (2010: 4.2%).

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2011

## 17 Financial instruments (continued)

The Group has occasionally repurchased its own shares in the market and cancelled them in order to promote growth in earnings per share. There is no predetermined plan for doing this although the Group has permission from shareholders to buy back up to 15% of its equity at any one time. The Group may also purchase its own shares in order to satisfy share incentives issued to employees of the Group and these shares are then held as treasury shares.

### Treasury policy and procedures

The Company's activities expose it primarily to the financial risks of changes in interest rates. There are no fixed rate borrowings other than preference shares.

### Funding and liquidity management

The Group finances its operations through a mixture of retained profits and borrowings from banks, vehicle stocking credit lines and operating cash flow. The Group's policy is to maintain a balance between committed and uncommitted facilities and between term loans and overdrafts. Facilities are maintained at levels in excess of planned requirements and at 31 March 2011 the Group had undrawn floating rate borrowing facilities of £9.9m (2010: £8.5m) represented by overdrafts which would be repayable on demand.

### Interest rate management

The objective of the Group's interest rate policy is to minimise interest costs while protecting the Group from adverse movements in interest rates. Borrowings at variable rates expose the Group to cash-flow interest rate risk whereas borrowings at fixed rates expose the Group to fair value interest rate risk. The Company does not currently hedge any interest rate risk.

### Interest rate risk sensitivity analysis

As all of the Group's borrowings and vehicle stocking credit lines are floating rate instruments, they therefore have a sensitivity to changes in market rates of interest. The effect of a 100 basis points change in interest rates for floating rate instruments outstanding at the period end on the assumption that the instruments at the period end were outstanding for the entire period, would change interest charges by £81,000 (2010: £95,000) before tax relief.

### Credit risk management

The Group's receivables are all denominated in sterling. The Group is exposed to credit risk primarily in respect of its trade receivables and financial assets. Trade receivables are stated net of provision for estimated impairment losses. Exposure to credit risk in respect of trade receivables is mitigated by the Group's policy of only granting credit to certain customers after an appropriate evaluation of credit risk. Credit risk arises in respect of amounts due from manufacturers in relation to bonuses and warranty receivables. This risk is mitigated by the range of manufacturers dealt with, the Group's procedures in effecting timely collection of amounts due and management's belief that it does not expect any manufacturer to fail to meet its obligations. Finance assets comprise cash balances. The counterparties are major banks and management does not expect any counterparty to fail to meet its obligations. The maximum exposure to credit risk is represented by the carrying amount of the financial asset in the balance sheet.

These objectives, policies and strategies are consistent with those applied in the previous year.

### Cash and cash equivalents

|                                    | Carrying value<br>& fair value<br>2011<br>£'000 | Carrying value<br>& fair value<br>2010<br>£'000 |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Bank balances and cash equivalents | 54                                              | 407                                             |

## 17 Financial instruments (continued)

### Borrowings

All borrowings are denominated in sterling. The effective interest rates for all borrowings are based on bank base rates. Information regarding classification of balances and interest and the range of interest rates applied in the year to 31 March 2011 is set out in the following table

|                                      | Carrying value<br>& fair value<br>£'000 | Classification | Interest<br>classification | Interest rate<br>range |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Current within one year or on demand |                                         |                |                            |                        |
| Bank borrowings                      | <b>3,128</b>                            | Amortised cost | Floating                   | 1.5% to 3.6%           |
| Not repayable within one year        |                                         |                |                            |                        |
| Bank borrowings                      | <b>5,000</b>                            | Amortised cost | Floating                   | 3.58% to 4.03%         |
| Preference share capital             | <b>1,237</b>                            | Amortised cost | Fixed                      | 6.5% to 10.0%          |

The maturity of non-current borrowings is as follows

|                       | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Between 1 and 2 years | <b>5,000</b>  | 3,000         |
| Between 2 and 5 years | <b>-</b>      | 5,000         |
| Over 5 years          | <b>1,237</b>  | 1,237         |
|                       | <b>6,237</b>  | 9,237         |

Maturities include amounts drawn under revolving credit facilities which are contractually repayable generally on a three months basis but which may be redrawn at the Group's option. The maturities above therefore represent the final repayment dates for these facilities as at 31 March. If the amounts drawn at the year end were redrawn at the Group's usual practice of three monthly drawings, the total cash outflows, assuming interest rates remain at the same rates as at the year end, are estimated on an undiscounted basis as follows

|                        | £'000        |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Within 6 months        | 155          |
| 6-12 months            | 3,130        |
| 1-2 years              | 5,033        |
| Contractual cash flows | <b>8,318</b> |

The Group has a revolving credit facility of £8.0m expiring in May 2012 and a further £3.0m which, at 31 March 2011, expired in January 2012. Since 31 March 2011, the Company has arranged for the £3.0m revolving credit facility previously repayable in January 2012 to be repayable in May 2012. It also has £10.0m of overdraft facilities. The loans carry a rate of interest between 2.75% and 2.85% above LIBOR and the overdrafts are at a rate of interest of 2.75% above bank base rate.

The facilities are subject to covenants tested half yearly with respect to debt/freehold property and interest cover. No reduction in facilities is expected to apply consequent to the trading results for the year ended 31 March 2011. The Group has granted security by way of a general debenture over its assets and a fixed charge over certain freehold properties. The balance sheet value of those assets at 31 March 2011 was £50.8m. The ongoing costs associated with the bank facilities are included in finance expense (see note 5).

The preference shares in issue do not have a maturity date as they are non-redeemable.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2011

## 18 Trade and other payables

|                                           | 2011          | 2010          |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                           | £'000         | £'000         |
| Trade payables                            | 12,911        | 12,360        |
| Obligations relating to consignment stock | 8,520         | 7,349         |
| Manufacturer funding                      | 4,225         | 2,409         |
| Social security and other taxes           | 1,188         | 1,084         |
| Preference dividends payable              | 51            | 51            |
| Accruals                                  | 1,280         | 1,770         |
| Other creditors                           | 5             | 172           |
| <b>Group total</b>                        | <b>28,180</b> | <b>25,195</b> |
| Amounts owed to Group undertakings        | 250           | 250           |
| <b>Company total</b>                      | <b>28,430</b> | <b>25,445</b> |

Trade and other payables principally comprise amounts outstanding for trade purchases and ongoing costs. The average credit period taken for trade purchases is 25 days (2010: 27 days).

The directors consider that the carrying amount of trade payables approximates to their fair value.

The obligations relating to consignment stock are all secured on the assets to which they relate. From a risk perspective, our funding is split between manufacturers through their related finance arms and that funded by ourselves through bank borrowings.

Financing for used car stock other than through bank borrowings is shown above as manufacturer funding.

## 19. Share-based payments

### (i) Directors' Long-Term Incentive Plan

| Year of grant | Exercise price | Exercise date | Number at 31 March 2010 | Granted | Lapsed | Number at 31 March 2011 |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------------|---------|--------|-------------------------|
| 31 March 2010 | £0.50          | 2012          | 60,473                  | -       | -      | 60,473                  |

The fair value of the 2009 awards made under the Long-Term Incentive Plan is charged to the income statement over the vesting period based on the valuation derived from an adjusted Black-Scholes model. The value was calculated as £2.88 on the date of grant. The significant inputs to the valuation were the mid market share price on the day of the grant £3.64, the exercise price of £0.50, the expected life of the options of three years, the volatility of the share price at 24% (based on historical share price data) and the risk free rate of return (assumed to be the rate for a bond of similar duration and value). As dividends are payable over the vesting period a dividend yield of 3% is used.

The total credit included within operating profit relating to the share-based payments for the year was £65,000 (2010: charge of £65,000), with an associated tax charge to the income statement and equity in 2011 of £18,000 and £7,000 respectively (2010: credit of £18,000 and £7,000 respectively). A credit has arisen as the expectation of the number of awards expected to vest has been revised to nil.

Performance conditions applicable to the awards are designed to improve profits of the Group on a sustained basis over a period of three years. The awards are calculated based upon the average adjusted earnings per share over the three year period reaching a minimum of 45p per annum (at which no award is made), rising to 55p per annum at which the award of shares is based upon 35% of salary. The calculation of percentages will be on a straight-line basis between the earnings per share levels.

## 19. Share-based payments (continued)

### (ii) SAYE scheme

| Year of grant | Exercise price | Exercise date | Number at 31 March 2011 | Granted | Lapsed |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------------|---------|--------|
| 31 March 2011 | £3.50          | 2013          | 126,677                 | 130,046 | 3,369  |

The fair value of the 2010 grants made under the SAYE scheme is charged to the income statement over the vesting period based on the valuation derived from an adjusted Black-Scholes model. The value was calculated as £4.38 on the date of grant. The significant inputs to the valuation were the mid market share price on the day of the grant £4.38, the exercise price £3.50, the expected life of the options of three years, the volatility of the share price at 29% (based on historical share price data) and the risk free rate of return (assumed to be the rate for a bond of similar duration and value). As dividends are payable over the vesting period a dividend yield of 3% is used.

The total expense included within operating profit relating to the share based payments for the year was £65,000 (2010: £Nil), with an associated tax credit to the income statement and equity in 2011 of £18,000 and £7,000 respectively (2010: £Nil).

## 20. Retirement benefit scheme

### Defined Benefit Pension Scheme

#### Group and Company

#### Description of scheme

The Company operated a pension scheme, the Caffyns Pension Scheme ("CPS"), providing benefits based on final pensionable pay until 31 March 2006.

With effect from 1 April 2006, the scheme closed to new entrants and all members in the final salary section were transferred to the career average section for future service and certain benefits were reduced. Depending upon the proportion of pensionable pay purchased, the Company contribution rates varied between 4% and 15%. The scheme closed to future accrual with effect from 1 April 2010.

The assets of the CPS, administered by trustees, are held separately from those of the Company. The contributions are determined by a qualified actuary on the basis of triennial valuations using the projected unit method. The most recent valuation was at 31 March 2008.

#### Results of most recent actuarial valuation

The assumptions which have the most significant effect on the results of the valuation are those relating to the rate of return on investments and the rates of increase in salaries and pensions. It was assumed that the long-term investment returns would be 6.56% per annum, that there would be no salary increases following closure of the scheme to future accrual, and that present and future pensions would increase at the rate of 3.30% per annum for pension accrued before 1 April 2006 and 2.40% thereafter. The last actuarial valuation as at 31 March 2008 showed that the market value of the CPS assets was £72.9m and that the actuarial value of those assets represented 91% of the value of the benefits that had accrued to employees at that date. The deficit arising of £7.3m compared to a surplus under IAS 19 at 31 March 2008 is due to different assumptions being adopted for the triennial valuation.

Costs and liabilities of the scheme are based on actuarial valuations. The latest full actuarial valuations carried out at 31 March 2008 were updated to 31 March 2011 by Towers Watson, qualified independent actuaries, for the requirements of IAS 19. Details are set out as follows:

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2011

## 20. Retirement benefit scheme (continued)

### IAS 19 assumptions

The principal assumptions used by the independent qualified actuaries for the purposes of IAS19 were

|                                          | 2011<br>% | 2010<br>% |
|------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Rate of increase for pensions in payment |           |           |
| Pension accrued before 1 April 2006      | 3 30      | 3 50      |
| Pension accrued after 1 April 2006       | 2 40      | 2 40      |
| Discount rate                            | 5 50      | 5 60      |
| Inflation                                | 3 40      | 3 60      |
| Expected return on scheme assets         | 6 56      | 6 33      |
| Rate of increase for deferred pensioners | 3 40      | 3 60      |

The discount rate adopted is based upon the yields on high quality corporate bonds of appropriate duration

The sensitivities regarding the principal assumptions used to measure scheme liabilities are set out below

| Assumption        | Change in assumption      | Impact on scheme liabilities        |
|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Discount rate     | Increase/decrease by 0.1% | Decrease/increase by £1.0m to £1.5m |
| Rate of inflation | Increase/decrease by 0.1% | Decrease/increase by £1.0m to £1.5m |

The expected long-term rates of return on the main asset classes were

|                    | Expected return |             | Fair value of assets |               |
|--------------------|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------|
|                    | 2011<br>%       | 2010<br>%   | 2011<br>£'000        | 2010<br>£'000 |
| Equity instruments | 8 40            | 8 60        | 36,499               | 36,374        |
| Bonds              | 5 10            | 5 90        | 6,160                | 6,221         |
| Gilts              | 4 40            | 3 76        | 25,118               | 24,475        |
| Property           | 5 10            | 5 90        | 2,177                | 1,968         |
|                    | <b>6 56</b>     | <b>6 33</b> | <b>69,954</b>        | <b>69,038</b> |

The overall expected return on assets reflects the directors' long-term view of future returns taking into account market conditions at the year end and asset allocation of the scheme

Equity instruments include shares in Caffyns plc, which are detailed in note 24

The assumptions used by the actuary are the best estimates based on market conditions chosen from a range of possible actuarial assumptions which, due to the timescale covered, may not necessarily be borne out in practice. The IAS assumptions have been updated at 31 March 2010 and differ from those used for the earlier independent statutory actuarial valuation explained above

### Mortality assumptions

Life expectancy at age 65 (in years)

|                          | 2011<br>Male | 2011<br>Female | 2010<br>Male | 2010<br>Female |
|--------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| Member currently aged 65 | 22.2         | 25.0           | 22.1         | 25.0           |
| Member currently aged 45 | 23.2         | 26.0           | 23.1         | 25.9           |

## 20 Retirement benefit scheme (continued)

The fair value of the scheme's assets, which are not intended to be realised in the short term and may be subject to significant change before they are realised, and the value of the scheme's liabilities, which is derived from cash flow projections over long periods and thus inherently uncertain, are

### Scheme assets and liabilities

|                                                   | 2011     | 2010     | 2009     | 2008     | 2007     |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|                                                   | £'000    | £'000    | £'000    | £'000    | £'000    |
| Fair value of scheme assets                       | 69,954   | 69,038   | 54,861   | 72,507   | 77,955   |
| Present value of defined benefit obligations      | (75,435) | (75,396) | (58,576) | (70,643) | (77,611) |
| (Liability)/asset recognised in the balance sheet | (5,481)  | (6,358)  | (3,715)  | 1,864    | 344      |

A liability is included in the balance sheet under non-current liabilities. An asset is included in the balance sheet as the scheme rules entitle the Company to offset a scheme asset against future funding.

### Analysis of the movement in the net liability for defined benefit obligations recognised in the balance sheet

|                                                                       | 2011    | 2010    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|
|                                                                       | £'000   | £'000   |
| At 1 April                                                            | (6,358) | (3,715) |
| Expense recognised in the income statement                            | 264     | (637)   |
| Contributions received                                                | 148     | 593     |
| Net actuarial gains/(losses) recognised in other comprehensive income | 465     | (2,599) |
| At 31 March                                                           | (5,481) | (6,358) |

The actual return on scheme assets was a gain of £4,790,000 (2010: gain of £16,644,000).

### Total expense recognised in income statement

|                                  | 2011    | 2010    |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------|
|                                  | £'000   | £'000   |
| Interest cost                    | 4,110   | 3,858   |
| Expected return on scheme assets | (4,402) | (3,431) |
| Interest – net (see note 5)      | (292)   | 427     |
| Current service cost             | 28      | 210     |
|                                  | (264)   | 637     |

The expense is recognised in the following line items in the income statement

|                                            | 2011    | 2010    |
|--------------------------------------------|---------|---------|
|                                            | £'000   | £'000   |
| Net finance expense/(income)               |         |         |
| Finance costs                              | 4,110   | 3,858   |
| Finance income                             | (4,402) | (3,431) |
|                                            | (292)   | 427     |
| Administrative expenses                    | 28      | 210     |
| Total included within staff costs (note 4) | (264)   | 637     |

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2011

## 20 Retirement benefit scheme (continued)

### Cumulative actuarial gains and losses in other comprehensive income

|                                                     | 2011    | 2010    |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|
|                                                     | £'000   | £'000   |
| At 1 April                                          | (4,754) | (2,155) |
| Net actuarial gains/(losses) recognised in the year | 465     | (2,599) |
| At 31 March                                         | (4,289) | (4,754) |

### Amounts recognised in the statement of comprehensive income

|                                                                           | 2011  | 2010     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----------|
|                                                                           | £'000 | £'000    |
| Difference between actual and expected return on scheme assets            | 388   | 13,213   |
| Changes in assumptions underlying the present value of scheme obligations | 77    | (15,812) |
|                                                                           | 465   | (2,599)  |

### Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligation

|                                   | 2011    | 2010    |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|
|                                   | £'000   | £'000   |
| At 1 April                        | 75,396  | 58,576  |
| Service cost                      | 28      | 210     |
| Interest cost                     | 4,110   | 3,858   |
| Contributions from scheme members | -       | 411     |
| Actuarial gains and losses        | (77)    | 15,812  |
| Benefits paid                     | (4,022) | (3,471) |
| At 31 March                       | 75,435  | 75,396  |

### Movement in the fair value of scheme assets

|                                   | 2011    | 2010    |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|
|                                   | £'000   | £'000   |
| At 1 April                        | 69,038  | 54,861  |
| Expected return on scheme assets  | 4,402   | 3,431   |
| Actuarial gains and losses        | 388     | 13,213  |
| Contributions from the Company    | 148     | 593     |
| Contributions from scheme members | -       | 411     |
| Benefits paid                     | (4,022) | (3,471) |
| At 31 March                       | 69,954  | 69,038  |

The best estimate of contributions payable by the Group in the year ending 31 March 2012 is £209,000

## 20 Retirement benefit scheme (continued)

### History of experience adjustments

|                                              | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 | 2009<br>£'000 | 2008<br>£'000 | 2007<br>£'000 |
|----------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Experience adjustments on scheme liabilities |               |               |               |               |               |
| Amount                                       | -             | -             | (4,107)       | -             | -             |
| Percentage of scheme liabilities             | -             | -             | (7.0%)        | -             | -             |
| Experience adjustments on scheme assets      |               |               |               |               |               |
| Amount                                       | (388)         | (13,213)      | 20,033        | 8,299         | 1,604         |
| Percentage of scheme assets                  | (0.6%)        | (19.1%)       | 36.6%         | 11.5%         | 2.1%          |

## 21 Deferred tax

### Group and Company

The following are the major deferred tax (liabilities) and assets recognised by the Company and movements thereon during the current and prior reporting period

|                                                        | Accelerated<br>tax<br>depreciation<br>£'000 | Unrealised<br>capital<br>gains<br>£'000 | Retirement<br>benefit<br>obligations<br>£'000 | Losses<br>£'000 | Short term<br>temporary<br>differences<br>£'000 | ACT<br>Recoverable<br>£'000 | Total<br>£'000 |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| At 1 April 2009                                        | (1,496)                                     | (1,753)                                 | 1,040                                         | 287             | -                                               | 1,138                       | (784)          |
| (Charge)/credit to income                              | 5                                           | 79                                      | 12                                            | (279)           | 18                                              | -                           | (165)          |
| Transfer other reserves                                | -                                           | -                                       | -                                             | -               | 7                                               | -                           | 7              |
| Prior year adjustments                                 | 43                                          | 65                                      | -                                             | 202             | -                                               | -                           | 310            |
| Recognised in comprehensive<br>income                  | -                                           | -                                       | 728                                           | -               | -                                               | -                           | 728            |
| At 31 March 2010                                       | (1,448)                                     | (1,609)                                 | 1,780                                         | 210             | 25                                              | 1,138                       | 96             |
| At 1 April 2010                                        | (1,448)                                     | (1,609)                                 | 1,780                                         | 210             | 25                                              | 1,138                       | 96             |
| Adjustment due to change in<br>rate of corporation tax | 108                                         | 115                                     | (127)                                         | (15)            | (2)                                             | -                           | 79             |
| (Charge)/credit to income                              | 34                                          | (5)                                     | (107)                                         | 11              | -                                               | -                           | (67)           |
| Prior year adjustments                                 | (66)                                        | 4                                       | -                                             | -               | -                                               | -                           | (62)           |
| Recognised in comprehensive<br>income                  | -                                           | -                                       | (121)                                         | -               | -                                               | -                           | (121)          |
| At 31 March 2011                                       | (1,372)                                     | (1,495)                                 | 1,425                                         | 206             | 23                                              | 1,138                       | (75)           |

Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to offset current tax assets against current tax liabilities and it is considered that this requirement is fulfilled. The offset amounts are as follows

|                          | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Deferred tax liabilities | (2,867)       | (3,057)       |
| Deferred tax assets      | 2,792         | 3,153         |
|                          | (75)          | 96            |

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2011

## 21 Deferred tax (continued)

The unrealised capital gains includes deferred tax on gains recognised on revaluing the land and buildings in 1995 and where potentially taxable gains arising from the sale of properties have been rolled over into replacement assets. Such tax would become payable only if such properties were sold without it being possible to claim rollover relief.

Taxable trading losses amounting to £0.8m (2010: £0.9m) are available for use in future periods.

## 22 Called up share capital

|                                                                              | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Authorised                                                                   |               |               |
| 500,000 6.5% Cumulative First Preference Shares of £1 each                   | 500           | 500           |
| 1,250,000 10% Cumulative Preference Shares of £1 each                        | 1,250         | 1,250         |
| 3,000,000 6% Cumulative Second Preference Shares of 10p each                 | 300           | 300           |
| 4,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 50p each                                        | 2,000         | 2,000         |
|                                                                              | <b>4,050</b>  | <b>4,050</b>  |
| Allotted, called up and fully paid                                           |               |               |
| 389,000 6.5% Cumulative First Preference Shares of £1 each                   | 389           | 389           |
| 648,000 10% Cumulative Preference Share of £1 each                           | 648           | 648           |
| 2,000,000 6% Cumulative Second Preference Shares of 10p each                 | 200           | 200           |
| Total preference shares recognised as a financial liability (see note below) | <b>1,237</b>  | <b>1,237</b>  |
| 2,879,298 (2010: 2,879,298) Ordinary Shares of 50p each                      | <b>1,439</b>  | <b>1,439</b>  |
|                                                                              | <b>2,676</b>  | <b>2,676</b>  |

The cost of purchasing 60,881 Ordinary Shares (2010: 29,582) for holding as Treasury shares was £284,000 (2010: £137,000) and has been charged against retained earnings. At 31 March 2011, 90,463 Ordinary Shares were held as Treasury shares at a cost of £421,000. Treasury shares represent shares in the Company which are held by the Company for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of the Long-Term Incentive Plan provided for certain senior managers and the Company's SAYE scheme for eligible employees. The market value of these shares at 31 March 2011 was £456,000. Dividend income from, and voting rights on, the shares held by the Trust have been waived.

The 6.5% Cumulative First Preference Shares and the 10% Cumulative Preference Shares have rights to a fixed dividend and, in the event of a winding-up, a preference to the ordinary shares for a capital repayment. The shares do not have voting rights unless the dividend is more than six months in arrears.

The 6% Cumulative Second Preference Shares have identical rights to the other classes of preference shares except that they have full voting rights along with the Ordinary Shares.

Although the Articles of Association of the Company give the directors discretion to only pay the preference dividend if they consider there are adequate profits, such dividends are cumulative. For this reason, the directors consider that the preference shares have the characteristic of a financial liability rather than equity, and consequently the preference shares are included as a non-current liability. None of the preference shares have rights of conversion or rights to capital repayment.

## 23. Notes to the cash flow statement

|                                                          | 2011         | 2010         |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|                                                          | £'000        | £'000        |
| Profit before taxation                                   | 268          | 970          |
| Adjustment for net finance expense                       | 876          | 1,300        |
|                                                          | <u>1,144</u> | <u>2,270</u> |
| Adjustments for                                          |              |              |
| Depreciation of property, plant and equipment            | 1,144        | 1,230        |
| Impairment of property, plant and equipment              | -            | (359)        |
| Change in retirement benefit obligations                 | (120)        | (383)        |
| (Gain)/loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment | (156)        | 14           |
| Share-based payments                                     | -            | 65           |
|                                                          | <u>2,012</u> | <u>2,837</u> |
| Operating cash flows before movements in working capital |              |              |
| Increase in inventories                                  | (4,237)      | (2,937)      |
| Decrease/(increase) in receivables                       | 1,773        | (2,179)      |
| Increase in payables                                     | 3,032        | 3,296        |
|                                                          | <u>2,580</u> | <u>1,017</u> |
| Cash generated by operations                             |              |              |
| Income taxes                                             | (7)          | -            |
| Interest paid                                            | (1,168)      | (873)        |
|                                                          | <u>1,405</u> | <u>144</u>   |
| Net cash derived from operating activities               |              |              |

## 24 Related parties

### Directors

The remuneration of the directors, who are key management personnel of the Group, is set out below in aggregate for each of the categories specified in IAS 24 Related Party Disclosures. Further information about the remuneration of individual directors is provided in the audited part of the Directors' Remuneration Report on pages 18 to 22.

|                                     | 2011       | 2010       |
|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|
|                                     | £'000      | £'000      |
| Short-term employee benefits        | 818        | 874        |
| Post employment benefits            | 16         | 29         |
| Share-based payment (note 19)       | -          | 65         |
| Pension to widow of former director | 19         | 19         |
|                                     | <u>853</u> | <u>987</u> |

The 2,000,000 6% Cumulative Second Preference Shares have full voting rights along with the Ordinary Shares. These shares are beneficially owned by Caffyn Family Holdings Limited ("Holdings"). Mr S G M Caffyn and Miss S J Caffyn are directors of Holdings. The whole of the issued share capital of Holdings is held by close relatives of these directors. Holdings controls directly 41.0% of the voting rights of Caffyns plc. The directors and shareholders of Holdings are also beneficial holders of 641,323 Ordinary Shares in Caffyns plc representing a further 13.2% of the voting rights. It is therefore considered that the Caffyn family is the ultimate controlling party.

Directors of the Company and their immediate relatives control 2.6% of the issued ordinary share capital of the Company. Dividends of £7,893 were paid to directors in the year.

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2011

## 24. Related parties (continued)

Services are bought from an entity in which Mr G J Ansley, a director of the Company, is a director and shareholder on normal commercial terms and conditions. The entity, Beachcomber Technology Limited, provided IT services to the Company in the year to a value of £23,953 (2010: £Nil).

### Caffyns Pension Fund

- a) Details of contributions are disclosed in note 20
- b) The Pension Fund held the following investments in the Company

|                                                                   | Fair value    |               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                                                   | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 |
| Shares held                                                       |               |               |
| 125,570 (2010: 125,570) Ordinary Shares of 50p each               | 565           | 498           |
| 12,862 (2010: 12,862) 10% Cumulative Preference Shares of £1 each | 12            | 15            |
|                                                                   | <u>577</u>    | <u>513</u>    |

- c) During the year to 31 March 2011 the Company met management fees of £305,000 on behalf of the Pension Fund (2010: £185,000)

## 25. Operating leases

### The Group as lessee

The total future minimum lease payments payable under non-cancellable operating leases which fall due as follows:

|                 | Group and Company<br>2011      |                | Group and Company<br>2010      |                |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
|                 | Land and<br>buildings<br>£'000 | Other<br>£'000 | Land and<br>buildings<br>£'000 | Other<br>£'000 |
| Within 1 year   | 508                            | 17             | 488                            | 2              |
| In 2 to 5 years | 1,782                          | 34             | 1,258                          | 8              |
| Beyond 5 years  | 3,092                          | –              | 1,765                          | –              |
|                 | <u>5,382</u>                   | <u>51</u>      | <u>3,511</u>                   | <u>10</u>      |

The total minimum lease payments for land and buildings are until the next break point in the lease. All rentals are fixed until either the termination of the lease, or in the case of land and buildings, the next break point.

The Group leases a number of properties, the majority of which are motor vehicle showrooms with workshop and parts retail facilities, with varying lease periods. None of these leases include contingent rentals. In addition, there are other leases in respect of items of plant and equipment and the rental of motor vehicles used in the Company's bodyshop activities.

## 25. Operating leases (continued)

### The Group as lessor

Property rental income earned by the Group and the Company during the year was £33,000 (2010 £44,000). No contingent rents were recognised in income (2010 £Nil).

At the balance sheet date, there were contracts with tenants for the following lease payments

|                          | 2011<br>£'000 | 2010<br>£'000 |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Group and Company</b> |               |               |
| Within 1 year            | <u>44</u>     | <u>35</u>     |

## 26 Obligations under finance leases

|                                                                                       | Minimum<br>lease payments |               | Present value<br>of minimum<br>lease payments |               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------|
|                                                                                       | 2011<br>£'000             | 2010<br>£'000 | 2011<br>£'000                                 | 2010<br>£'000 |
| <b>Group and Company</b>                                                              |                           |               |                                               |               |
| Amounts payable under finance leases                                                  |                           |               |                                               |               |
| Within one year                                                                       | -                         | 6             | -                                             | 5             |
| In the second to fifth years inclusive                                                | -                         | -             | -                                             | -             |
|                                                                                       | <u>-</u>                  | <u>6</u>      | <u>-</u>                                      | <u>5</u>      |
| Less: Future finance charges                                                          | -                         | (1)           | -                                             | -             |
|                                                                                       | <u>-</u>                  | <u>5</u>      | <u>-</u>                                      | <u>5</u>      |
| Present value of lease obligations                                                    | -                         | 5             | -                                             | 5             |
| Less: Amount due for settlement within 12 months<br>(shown under current liabilities) |                           |               | -                                             | (5)           |
| Amount due for settlement after 12 months                                             |                           |               | <u>-</u>                                      | <u>-</u>      |

The Company leased certain of its fixtures and fittings under finance leases. The average lease term was four years. For the year ended 31 March 2010, the average effective borrowing rate was 8.13%. Interest rates are fixed at the contract date. All leases are on a fixed repayment basis and no arrangements have been entered into for contingent rental payments.

The fair value of the Company's lease obligations approximates their carrying amount.

The Company's obligations under finance leases are secured by the lessor's charges over the leased assets.

## 27. Capital commitments

The Group and Company had capital commitments at 31 March 2011 of £Nil (2010 £Nil).

# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2011

## 28. Contingent liabilities and assets

The Group and Company had no contingent liabilities at 31 March 2011 or 31 March 2010

### VAT

The claim that had been lodged with HM Revenue and Customs in connection with the repayments of VAT received in September 2004 and March 2007 was joined in a Group Litigation Order ("GLO") along with other claimants. Interest on these repayments was on a simple interest basis whereas the GLO claimed that it should have been on a compound interest basis. As previously reported, while the High Court found in the claimant's favour, it also held that the limitation period for bringing these particular claims ran out in around 2002/03. Claims were not made because, at that time, dealerships were unaware of their entitlement to claim. The view of the court on appeal was to uphold the original decision. Following a decision in the Court of Appeal, it was decided that the outcome will await the decision in another related case expected by early 2013.

In the event that a claim is successful, any further amount payable to the Company would depend upon the rate of interest decided by the courts. In view of the current state of the legal process, no amount in respect of this claim has been included in these financial statements. If successful, the claim is likely to have a material affect on the Company's financial statements.

Two other claims have been lodged with HM Revenue and Customs. The first claim relates to demonstrator bonuses paid to our former contract leasing business between 1983 and 1996 and is for £152,000. The second claim relates to the treatment of certain part-exchange vehicles acquired between 1973 and 1992 and is for £1.07m. The directors are not able to determine whether or not these claims are likely to prove successful and have therefore not included such claims in these financial statements.

## 29. Critical accounting judgments and estimates when applying the Group's accounting policies

Judgements and estimates are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Certain critical accounting judgements in applying the Group's accounting policies are listed below.

### Retirement benefits obligation

The Group has a defined benefit pension plan. The obligations under this plan are recognised in the balance sheet and represent the present value of the obligation calculated by independent actuaries, with input from management. These actuarial valuations include assumptions such as discount rates, return on assets and mortality rates. These assumptions vary from time to time according to prevailing economic conditions. Details of assumptions used are provided in note 20. At 31 March 2011 the net liability included in the balance sheet was £5.48m (2010: £6.36m).

### Impairment

The carrying value of goodwill and property, plant and equipment is tested annually for impairment by using cash flow projections for each cash generating unit. These projections are based upon actual and short term planned results which are then extrapolated using a pre-tax discount rate of 5%. No impairment was provided for in the year (2010: credit of £359,000).

### Inventory valuation

Motor vehicle inventories are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value (fair value less costs to sell). Fair values are assessed using reputable industry valuation data which is based upon recent industry activity and forecasts. Whilst this data is deemed representative of current values it is possible that ultimate sales values can vary from those applied. At 31 March 2011 the value of vehicles included in the balance sheet was £16.69m (2010: £13.21m).

## **29. Critical accounting judgments and estimates when applying the Group's accounting policies (continued)**

### **Income tax**

The actual tax on the Group's profit is determined according to complex laws and regulations. Where the effect of these laws and regulations is unclear, estimates are used in determining the liability for tax to be paid on past profits which are recognised in the financial statements. The Group considers the estimates, assumptions and judgements to be reasonable but this can involve complex issues which may take a number of years to resolve. The final determination of prior year tax liabilities could be different from the estimates reflected in the financial statements. The estimated tax charge for the year in the Income Statement is £50,000 (2010 credit of £137,000).

### **Deferred tax**

Deferred tax assets and liabilities require management judgement in determining the amounts to be recognised. In particular, judgement is used when assessing the extent to which deferred tax assets should be recognised with consideration given to the timing and level of future taxable income. At 31 March 2011 the net deferred tax liability included in the balance sheet was £75,000 (2010 an asset of £96,000).

### **Consignment inventories**

Consignment vehicles are regarded as effectively under the control of the Group and are included within inventories on the balance sheet as the Group has the significant risks and rewards of ownership even though legal title has not yet passed. The corresponding liability is included in trade and other payables. At 31 March 2011 the value was £8.52m (2010 £7.35m).

### **VAT**

The Group is in discussion with HM Revenue and Customs over issues which may arise in additional income being recognised in future periods and, although this income may be significant, it is not possible at present to quantify them. Accordingly, no amount has been included in the financial statements in respect of these issues.

### **Going concern**

The directors assess the appropriateness of the going concern basis for the preparation of the financial statements. In doing so they consider the ability of the Group to trade within the financing facilities available to it. The conclusion of this assessment is set out in the accounting policy "The basis of preparation and statement of compliance" on page 32.

## **30. Post balance sheet events**

A final dividend of 7.0p per share (2010 5.0p) has been recommended by the directors.

Contracts were exchanged for the sale of the Company's freehold site in Sevenoaks, Kent for £1.75m on 6 April 2011. This ceased trading by 31 May 2011. The consideration was paid in cash on 31 May 2011.

The Company has agreed since 31 March 2011 the extension of the repayment date for its £3m revolving credit facility from January 2012 to May 2012.

On 26 May 2011, the Company signed a contract with a firm of building contractors in the sum of £1.8m in respect of the redevelopment of the Land Rover dealership in Lewes, East Sussex.

On 31 May 2011 the Company announced that contracts were exchanged for the sale of the Company's freehold site in Alton, Hampshire, conditional upon the purchaser obtaining a satisfactory planning permission for change of use. If successful, the consideration of £1.807m would be payable in cash on 27 November 2012.

# Five Year Review

|                                                                 | 2007<br>£'000 | 2008<br>£'000 | 2009<br>£'000  | 2010<br>£'000 | 2011<br>£'000  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| <b>Income Statement</b>                                         |               |               |                |               |                |
| Revenue                                                         | 176,238       | 182,029       | 158,653        | 189,426       | <b>201,467</b> |
| Operating profit/(loss) before exceptional/non-underlying items | 1,858         | 393           | (1,425)        | 2,152         | <b>2,311</b>   |
| Exceptional/non-underlying items                                | 160           | 2,776         | (2,132)        | 118           | <b>(1,167)</b> |
| Finance costs                                                   | (1,232)       | (1,310)       | (1,177)        | (1,300)       | <b>(1,168)</b> |
| Finance income                                                  | 657           | 720           | 314            | –             | <b>292</b>     |
| <b>Profit/(loss) before tax</b>                                 | <b>1,443</b>  | <b>2,579</b>  | <b>(4,420)</b> | <b>970</b>    | <b>268</b>     |
| Profit/(loss) after taxation                                    | 1,163         | 2,128         | (3,969)        | 1,107         | <b>218</b>     |
| Basic earnings/(loss) per ordinary share                        | 40 4p         | 73 9p         | (137 8p)       | 38 6p         | <b>7 7p</b>    |
| Adjusted earnings/(loss) per ordinary share                     | 36 5p         | (6 7p)        | (59 8p)        | 35 7p         | <b>41 4p</b>   |
| Dividend per ordinary share payable in respect of the year      | 25 0p         | 25 0p         | 4 0p           | 10 0p         | <b>12 0p</b>   |
| <b>Balance sheet</b>                                            |               |               |                |               |                |
| Shareholders' funds                                             | 28,045        | 30,143        | 21,304         | 20,275        | <b>20,270</b>  |
| Bank borrowings (net)                                           | 9,841         | 14,184        | 8,908          | 9,491         | <b>8,078</b>   |
| Debt/shareholders' funds (gearing)                              | 35%           | 47%           | 42%            | 47%           | <b>40%</b>     |

# Our Dealerships . . .

## **AUDI**

Brighton, Sussex 200 Dyke Road (01273) 553061  
Eastbourne, Sussex, Edward Road (01323) 525700  
Worthing, Sussex Broadwater Road (01903) 231111

## **CHEVROLET**

Tunbridge Wells, Kent Lamberts Road  
(01892) 515700

## **FORD**

Alton, Hampshire Butts Road (01420) 83993  
Hove, Sussex, Victoria Road,  
Portslade (01273) 429600

## **JAGUAR AND DAIMLER**

Eastbourne, Sussex Meads Road  
(01323) 730201 & 730204

## **LAND ROVER**

Lewes, Sussex Brooks Road  
(01273) 473186

## **SKODA**

Ashford, Kent Monument Way (01233) 504600  
Tunbridge Wells, Kent North Farm Road (01892) 530430

## **VAUXHALL**

Ashford, Kent Monument Way (01233) 504604  
Folkestone Kent 8-10 Bouvene Road West (01303) 253443  
Tunbridge Wells, Kent Lamberts Road (01892) 515700

## **VOLKSWAGEN**

Goring-By-Sea, Sussex The Crescent, 341 Goring Road (01903) 504440  
Haywards Heath, Sussex Station Garage, Market Place (01444) 451511  
Eastbourne, Sussex Hammonds Drive (01323) 647141  
Hove, Sussex Victoria Road, Portslade (01273) 425600

## **VOLVO**

Eastbourne, Sussex 46 Lottbridge Drive (01323) 418300  
Hove, Sussex, Victoria Road, Portslade (01273) 429600

## **ACCIDENT REPAIR CENTRE**

Ashford, Kent Monument Way (01233) 504606

## **PARTS CENTRES**

Ashford, Kent Monument Way (01233) 504614†  
Tunbridge Wells, Kent Lamberts Road (01892) 515700

## **HEAD OFFICE**

Eastbourne, Meads Road, Sussex (01323) 730201