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Argenta Syndicate Management Limited Syndicate 6134

Report and Accounts as at 31 December 2018



# **Argenta Syndicate Management Limited Company Information**

## **Directors**

John LP Whiter

Andrew J Annandale

Graham K Allen

Sven Althoff

Alan E Grant

Paul Hunt

Ian M Maguire

Nicholas J Moore

Gary A Powell

Matthew P Rowan

Jens Schäfermeier

David J Thompson

## Registered office

5th Floor

70 Gracechurch Street

London EC3V 0XL

Registered in England number 3632880

## Syndicate auditor

Ernst & Young LLP

25 Churchill Place

Canary Wharf London E14 5EY

## Syndicate bankers

Barclays Bank PLC

1 Churchill Place

Canary Wharf

London E14 5HP

## Syndicate actuaries

Ernst & Young LLP

25 Churchill Place

Canary Wharf

London E14 5EY

## Company auditor

Ernst & Young LLP

25 Churchill Place

Canary Wharf

London E14 5EY

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# Managing Agent's Report

The directors of Argenta Syndicate Management Limited ("ASML"), a company registered in England and Wales, present their report for the year ended 31 December 2018.

The annual accounts are prepared using the annual basis of accounting as required by Statutory Instrument No. 1950 of 2008, the Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008 ("the 2008 Regulations").

The financial reporting framework that has been applied is United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice ("UK GAAP") including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' ("FRS 102") and Financial Reporting Standard 103 'Insurance Contracts' ("FRS 103").

#### **Principal activities**

The syndicate's principal activity is the transaction of reinsurance business.

#### Overview of business

Syndicate 6134 was established during 2018 as a Special Purpose Arrangement to underwrite quota share reinsurances of business underwritten by Syndicate 2121 as the host syndicate. The syndicate's business focuses on the reinsurance of predominantly direct and short tail accounts. The portfolio can be broken down into five main classes: property, terrorism, cyber, warranty and indemnity and political risks. The syndicate has the benefit of the host syndicate's reinsurance programme for the property, cyber and warranty and indemnity classes.

The business underwritten by the host syndicate and ceded to Syndicate 6134 has a worldwide geographical spread and comprises business assumed through single risk writings, Lloyd's market consortia and coverage provided through third party delegated underwriting authorities.

The largest book of business reinsured by the syndicate is the direct and facultative property book underwritten by the host syndicate that is built around a number of long standing relationships with managing general agents, supplemented with an open market book of predominantly small commercial and homeowners' business. This account has grown with the development of the host syndicate's service company, Argenta Underwriting Asia Pte Ltd ("AUA"), that operates out of offices in Singapore and Sydney. The service company underwrites Australasian property business both on a delegated authority basis through third party coverholders and on an open market basis.

It is ceded a share of an established cyber book underwritten predominantly through participation on Lloyd's approved consortia and quota share reinsurance placements, and a share of a new warranty and indemnity account. Finally, a political risks account writing contract frustration, credit and political risks started by the host syndicate in late 2016 was also included in the portfolio.

The reinsurance provides for Syndicate 2121 to receive overriding commissions based on premium income, which vary depending on the class of business. The political risk account also carries a profit commission in line with the balance of the quota share protection placed outside of Argenta.

In addition to the overriding and profit commissions payable to Syndicate 2121 at a class level, Syndicate 6134 incurs management and member level expenses including a fixed fee and profit commission payable to ASML.

Syndicate 6134 does not participate in the underwriting of any prior year of Syndicate 2121 and no element of that syndicate's reinsurance to close is ceded to Syndicate 6134.

# **Managing Agent's Report**

continued

It is anticipated that the 2018 year of account of Syndicate 6134 will close into the 2019 year of account of Syndicate 2121 at 36 months and that the portfolio will then be reinsured by future years of Syndicate 6134.

#### Review of activities in the year

On an annual accounting basis, the result of the syndicate for calendar year 2018 is a loss of £2.7 million.

The table below summarises the capacity, premium volumes and performance of Syndicate 6134 for 2018. Other than in respect of capacity, the numbers shown are on an annually accounted basis.

Key performance indicators2018Capacity (underwriting year)£26.6 millionGross premiums written£31.4 millionNet premiums earned£13.0 millionLoss for the year£2.7 millionClaims ratio (net)68%Combined ratio121%

The combined ratio is the ratio of net incurred claims plus net operating expenses, together with non-technical foreign exchange differences, to net earned premiums.

The 2018 calendar year witnessed a high number of losses between September and the year end. The syndicate was impacted by Hurricanes Michael and Florence, the wildfires in California and the volcanic eruption in Hawaii and these combined with other events in the market make it the fourth most expensive year on record for insurance losses. The syndicate was also affected by the Marriott Cyber data breach occurring in September 2018. According to Swiss Re's insurance research arm, Sigma, natural catastrophe and man-made losses in 2018 totalled US\$79.1 billion. This is down on the US\$150.3 billion in 2017 but significantly up from the US\$57.4 billion and US\$39.5 billion of losses impacting the 2016 and 2015 years respectively. Whilst the losses that impacted the syndicate were significant, individually they have largely sat within the retentions of the host syndicate's reinsurance programme, which has impacted the result for the year.

Overall the 2018 forecast result is developing behind the business plan target and might struggle to produce a positive return. There is also a significant element of 2018 business still exposed through 2019 and it is hoped that this develops favourably over the next 24 months.

#### Trading conditions for 2019

The 1 January 2019 renewal season was much better than anticipated, helped by the challenges from Lloyd's in the 2019 business planning process on the market as a whole in relation to classes of business written, line sizes and the reliance on broker market facilities. This will further support the re-underwriting of certain classes that has already begun.

The AUA branch office in Sydney is continuing to develop strongly with further rate improvements expected in the Australian and New Zealand property markets that have seen average increases across the renewable portfolio of the host syndicate of 14% during 2018.

# Managing Agent's Report

**Argenta Syndicate 6134** 

continued

For 2019, a marine account covering: hull and war, cargo, specie and marine and energy liability has been added to the portfolio. This account has the benefit of the relevant host syndicate reinsurances.

#### **ASML** business structure

ASML is the Lloyd's managing agency subsidiary of Argenta Holdings Limited ("AHL"), a private company with diversified interests in the Lloyd's insurance market. In July 2017, 100% of the issued share capital of AHL was acquired by Hannover Rück SE ("Hannover Re") whose immediate parent undertaking is Talanx AG, a leading global insurance group. ASML is the managing agency for two syndicates trading at Lloyd's, namely Syndicate 2121 and the associated Special Purpose Arrangement Syndicate 6134.

Hannover Re is the sole capital provider to Syndicate 6134 which was established in 2018 and underwrites quota share reinsurances of business underwritten by Syndicate 2121 as the host syndicate. In 2018 Syndicate 6134 underwrote gross net written premium of £19.5 million across certain of the classes within the underwriting capability of the host syndicate. For the 2019 year of account Syndicate 6134 is forecast to underwrite £29.8 million of gross net written premium. It is expected that this will increase further in future years.

Syndicate 2121 is also supported by Hannover Re both as a traditional reinsurer and a long-term capital provider. ASML has maintained a strategy of steadily growing Syndicate 2121 with capacity increasing from £270 million in 2016 to £340 million in 2019. The growth strategy is achieved by the selective addition over the years of new classes of business to complement the existing portfolio as well as continued organic growth in a number of areas.

Syndicate 2121 underwrites a broad cross section of classes, historically short tail in nature although longer tail business has become an increasing part of the account in recent years. The classes of business written include marine, property, energy and utility on predominantly a short tail basis; and casualty, liability marine and energy and elements of the UK insurance and specialty classes with longer tail characteristics. Syndicate 2121 underwrites business on a global basis from London, via a service company in Singapore, AUA, which has two branch offices in Australia and also by way of participating on the Lloyd's China Platform in Shanghai through a division of LICCL.

Syndicate 6134 has not bought reinsurance protection independently of its host Syndicate 2121, but benefits from certain reinsurance protections purchased by Syndicate 2121. Premiums and claims are ceded under the quota share net of Syndicate 2121's reinsurance where applicable. Syndicate 6134 operates on a funds withheld basis, although amounts may be advanced if needed to enable it to finance its standalone obligations.

# Managing Agent's Report

continued

#### Directors

John LP Whiter - Non-executive Chairman

Andrew J Annandale - Managing Director

Graham K Allen - Finance Director

Sven Althoff - Non-executive Director

Alan E Grant - Non-executive Director

Paul Hunt - Non-executive Director

Ian M Maguire - Active Underwriter Syndicates 6134 and 2121

Nicholas J Moore - Chief Actuary and Operations Director

Gary A Powell - Non-executive Director

Matthew P Rowan - Risk Management and Compliance Director and Company Secretary

Jens Schäfermeier - Non-executive Director

David J Thompson - Claims Director

#### Risk management

As an underwriting business Syndicate 6134 is exposed to a variety of financial and non-financial risks. These risks, which shape the risk management strategy adopted by ASML, are integral to the capital setting process that is undertaken to ensure there is an appropriate level of capital held in respect of the insurance liabilities to which Syndicate 6134 is exposed. The Own Risk and Solvency Assessment ("ORSA") undertaken in respect of Syndicate 6134 reflects the risk profile of the business as well as the business strategy. Risks are managed through the risk management framework in order to ensure that the risk profile of the business is fully understood and can be monitored against the agreed risk appetite. Further information in respect of this is also disclosed in Note 13 to the Annual Accounts.

ASML is committed to risk management as an integral part of management and governance best practice, and has developed a risk management strategy to protect the financial and non-financial assets of Syndicate 6134 and to minimise its losses and liabilities.

The risks to the business are grouped under various categories, each of which is the subject of a risk policy which sets out ASML's approach to the management of the risk in conjunction with the overarching risk management framework and risk strategy. ASML groups risks into the following key categories:

#### Insurance risk

Insurance risk is the risk that arises from the inherent uncertainties in the occurrence, amount and timing of insurance liabilities. The underwriting profile of Syndicate 6134 is such that it is likely that claims will arise on the business underwritten. An expected level of claims in relation to attritional, large and catastrophe type losses has, therefore, been included in the business planning process.

#### Risk management continued

Other precautionary measures, in the form of internal controls, are used to preserve the syndicate's performance by limiting the exposure to wider underwriting, claims and reserving risks, such as:

- Adverse catastrophe loss experience;
- Adverse large and attritional loss experience;
- Poor or inappropriate risk selection;
- Inadequate reinsurance placement; and
- Final claims costs deviating materially from estimated earned reserves due to the inherent variability of the business.

ASML manages these risks against an agreed risk appetite. The framework of systems and controls is designed to reduce the likelihood of such risks occurring and to mitigate their impact, as far as possible, on the overall business of the syndicate.

#### Operational risk

Operational risk spans all risk categories. Control procedures are used to proactively address the risks associated with ASML's business processes, systems and other resources which might otherwise be detrimental to overall performance. Business continuity is considered key and ASML has developed a plan that provides for the syndicate to be operational within a 48 hour period in the event that its current offices are no longer available.

The retention of key staff is also fundamental to the success of the business and the strategy adopted by ASML is designed to ensure that the terms and conditions offered to employees, as part of their overall remuneration package, remain competitive with the rest of the London market insurance industry.

As a regulated business, ASML is fully aware of its regulatory obligations to the UK Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA"), the Prudential Regulation Authority ("PRA"), Lloyd's, the Monetary Authority of Singapore ("MAS") and other overseas regulators. The procedures adopted by ASML in this regard rigorously monitor compliance with the regulatory standards and, through continuous assessment, highlight any developments that might impact the business.

### Capital risk

Capital risk is defined as the risk to the syndicate of losses arising from inappropriate levels or sources of capital. Syndicate 6134 is supported by Hannover Re whose ongoing support is important to the syndicate continuing to trade forward.

## Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the syndicate will not have sufficient available cash resources to be able to meet its liabilities as they fall due. Management information is used to enable the effective monitoring of the liquidity risk framework in line with the agreed procedures and governance arrangements. Robust procedures are in place for the monitoring of cash flow and effective credit control. The syndicate is managed on a funds withheld basis but does operate its own bank account for paying direct expenses.

#### Credit risk

Credit risk is inherent to the business conducted with brokers, coverholders, reinsurers and other counterparties. The potential for losses arising from a counterparty failing to fulfil its contracted payment obligations is managed by strict control procedures. Aged debt in respect of the payment of premiums and reinsurance recoveries is closely monitored and actively managed in the host syndicate. The ASML finance and investment committee approves the brokers, coverholders and reinsurers with which the host syndicate may conduct its business. There is no appetite to deal with counterparties who have not been approved.

#### Risk management continued

#### Financial market risk

Financial market risk is concerned with the loss resulting from adverse movements in the financial markets. The risks are relatively low as the syndicate is managed on a funds withheld basis and is only expected to hold cash, cash equivalents and unitised money market funds in the form of highly diversified collective investment schemes for paying expenses.

#### Emerging risk

In addition to monitoring the individual risk categories outlined above, ASML has in place an emerging risks process to review risks that may impact the business in the future, and to ensure that any such risks are understood and mitigated where possible.

#### Conduct rick

ASML defines conduct risk as being the risk that its customers are not treated fairly at all times and has in place a mechanism for identifying, monitoring, reporting and mitigating its exposure to conduct related issues. This includes monitoring and reporting on a wide range of conduct management information and risk appetite metrics to the ASML board, risk framework and compliance committee and product oversight group.

#### Investment managers and policy

During 2018, the syndicate's surplus funds were retained in bank deposits. As the syndicate's assets under management grow, unitised money market funds that are both highly liquid and highly rated will be used to enhance returns.

## Research and development

The syndicate has not participated in any research and development activity during the year.

### Disclosure of information to the auditor

In the case of each of the persons who are directors of the managing agent at the time the report is approved:

- So far as the director is aware, there is no relevant audit information, being information needed by the syndicate's auditor in connection with the auditor's report, of which the auditor is unaware; and
- Having made enquiries of fellow directors of the agency and the syndicate's auditor, each director has taken all the steps that
  he or she ought to have taken as a director to become aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the
  syndicate's auditor is aware of that information.

#### Auditor

Ernst & Young LLP continues to act as the auditor of the syndicate annual accounts, and also as the auditor of ASML. Lloyd's approval for this arrangement under the relevant provisions of the Audit Arrangements Byelaw (No. 7 of 1988) was granted following notification to the syndicate member and their non-objection to the arrangement. Notice is hereby given that it is intended to continue with this arrangement unless objections to this proposal are received from the syndicate member. Any such objection should be made in writing to the registered office of ASML, within 21 days of receipt of this statement.

Under the 2008 Regulations, the auditor is deemed reappointed in subsequent years if there is no objection. Ernst & Young LLP has signified its willingness to continue in office as the independent auditor to the syndicate and it is proposed that the appointment remains in force.

## Annual general meeting with the syndicate member

In accordance with the provisions of the 2008 Regulations, it is not intended to hold an annual general meeting with the member of Syndicate 6134, unless objections to this proposal or to the deemed reappointment of the auditor are received from the syndicate member. Any such objection should be made in writing to the registered office of ASML, within 21 days of receipt of this statement.

## Andrew J Annandale

Managing Director

Approved by the board of Argenta Syndicate Management Limited on 19 March 2019.

SYNDICATE

6134

**ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2018** 

# Statement of Managing Agent's Responsibilities

The managing agent is responsible for preparing the syndicate annual accounts in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The 2008 Regulations require the managing agent to prepare syndicate annual accounts at 31 December each year in accordance with UK GAAP (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The syndicate annual accounts are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the syndicate as at that date and of its profit or loss for that year.

In preparing the syndicate annual accounts, the managing agent is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the notes to the syndicate annual accounts; and
- prepare the syndicate annual accounts on the basis that the syndicate will continue to write future business unless it is inappropriate to presume that the syndicate will do so.

The managing agent is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the syndicate and enable it to ensure that the syndicate annual accounts comply with the 2008 Regulations. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the syndicate and hence for taking reasonable steps for prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The managing agent is 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 annual accounts may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

# Independent Auditor's Report to the Member of Syndicate 6134

#### Opinion

We have audited the syndicate annual accounts of syndicate 6134 ('the syndicate') for the year ended 31 December 2018 which comprise the Income Statement, the Statement of Changes in Member's Balances, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes 1 to 13, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and FRS 103 'Insurance Contracts' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the syndicate annual accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the syndicate's affairs as at 31 December 2018 and of its loss for the year then ended;
- · have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of The Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the syndicate annual accounts section of our report below. We are independent of the syndicate in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the syndicate annual accounts in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the managing agent's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the syndicate annual accounts is not appropriate; or
- the managing agent has not disclosed in the syndicate annual accounts any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the syndicate's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the syndicate annual accounts are authorised for issue.

# Independent Auditor's Report to the Member of Syndicate 6134

continued

#### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the syndicate annual accounts and our auditor's report thereon. The managing agent is responsible for the other information.

Our opinion on the syndicate annual accounts does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the syndicate annual accounts, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the syndicate annual accounts or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the syndicate annual accounts or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of the other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

# Opinion on other matter prescribed by The Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the managing agent's report for the financial year in which the syndicate annual accounts are prepared is consistent with the syndicate annual accounts; and
- the managing agent's report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

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

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the syndicate and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the managing agent's report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where The Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you, if in our opinion:

- the managing agent in respect of the syndicate has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the syndicate annual accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- · we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- certain disclosures of the managing agent's emoluments specified by law are not made.

## Responsibilities of the managing agent

As explained more fully in the Statement of Managing Agent's Responsibilities set out on page 11, the managing agent is responsible for the preparation of the syndicate annual accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the managing agent determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the syndicate annual accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the syndicate annual accounts, the managing agent is responsible for assessing the syndicate's ability to continue in operation, disclosing as applicable, matters related to its ability to continue in operation and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the managing agent either intends to cease to operate the syndicate, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

# Independent Auditor's Report to the Member of Syndicate 6134

continued

## Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the syndicate annual accounts

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

#### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the syndicate's member, in accordance with The Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the syndicate's member those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the syndicate and the syndicate's member, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Michael Purrington (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of Ernst & Young LLP, Statutory Auditor London

20 March 2019

# **Income Statement**

for the year ended 31 December 2018

All items relate only to continuing operations.

Technical account – general business		2018	
	Notes	£'000	£'000
Earned premiums, net of reinsurance			
Gross premiums written	2	31,442	
Outward reinsurance premiums		-	
Net premiums written		31,442	
Change in the provision for unearned premiums			
Gross amount		(18,458)	
Reinsurers' share		-	
Change in the net provision for unearned premiums		(18,458)	
Earned premiums, net of reinsurance			12,984
Allocated investment return transferred from the non-technical account			-
Claims incurred, net of reinsurance			
Claims paid			
Gross amount		-	
Reinsurers' share		-	
Net claims paid		-	
Change in the provision for claims			
Gross amount		(8,891)	
Reinsurers' share		-	
Change in the net provisions for claims		(8,891)	
Claims incurred, net of reinsurance			(8,891)
Net operating expenses	3		(6,663)
Balance on the technical account for general business		_	(2,570)

# **Income Statement**

for the year ended 31 December 2018 continued

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Non-technical account		2018
	Notes	£'000
Balance on the general business technical account		(2,570)
Investment Return		-
Allocated investment return transferred to the general business technical account		-
Exchange losses		(96)
Loss for the financial year		(2,666)

There is no other comprehensive income in the accounting period other than that dealt with in the technical and non-technical accounts. Accordingly, a separate statement of comprehensive income has not been presented.

# **Statement of Changes in Member's Balances**

for the year ended 31 December 2018

	Notes	2018 £'000
At 1 January		-
Loss for the financial year		(2,666)
Member's agent's fees		(26)
At 31 December		(2,692)

# **Statement of Financial Position**

as at 31 December 2018

	Notes	£'000	018 £'000
ASSETS			
Reinsurers' share of technical provisions			
Provision for unearned premiums		-	
Claims outstanding		-	
			-
Debtors			
Debtors arising out of reinsurance operations	7		20,137
Cash and other assets			
Cash at bank and in hand			2,397
Prepayments and accrued income			
Deferred acquisition costs	8	7,017	
Other prepayments and accrued income		219	
			7,236
TOTAL ASSETS			29,770

# Statement of Financial Position

as at 31 December 2018 continued

	Notes	£'000	2018 £'000
MEMBER'S BALANCES AND LIABILITIES			(0.000)
Member's balances			(2,692)
Technical provisions			
Provision for unearned premiums	8	19,038	
Claims outstanding	8	9,216	
			28,254
Creditors			
Creditors arising out of reinsurance operations		-	
Other creditors		4,058	
			4,058
Accruals and deferred income			150
TOTAL MEMBER'S BALANCES AND LIABILITIES			29,770

The syndicate annual accounts on pages 15 to 42 were approved by the board of Argenta Syndicate Management Limited on 19 March 2019 and were signed on its behalf by

## Andrew J Annandale

Managing Director

# **Statement of Cash Flows**

for the year ended 31 December 2018

	Notes	2018 £'000
Loss on ordinary activities		(2,666)
Increase/(decrease) in unearned premiums and outstanding claims (Increase)/decrease in debtors Increase/(decrease) in creditors  Net cash outflow from operating activities	-	28,254 (27,373) 208 (1,577)
Financing activities Capital provider loan Member's agent's fee advances Net cash inflow from financing activities	-	4,000 (26) 3,974
Increase in cash and cash equivalents Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	9	2,397

# **Notes to the Accounts**

## 1. Accounting policies

#### 1.1 Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in compliance with the 2008 Regulations and FRS 102 and FRS 103, being applicable UK GAAP accounting standards, and in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 3 of the Large and Medium-sized Companies and Groups (Accounts and Reports) Regulations relating to insurance companies.

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention except for certain financial instruments which are measured at fair value.

#### 1.2 Basis of preparation

The premiums written by the syndicate under the quota reinsurance share contracts with Syndicate 2121, as host syndicate, are gross premiums written by Syndicate 2121 less the cost of specific reinsurance contracts that protect the gross exposure of Syndicate 2121 and which the syndicate has benefit of. Accordingly, premiums reported in the annual accounts are stated net of the cost of the applicable reinsurance purchased by Syndicate 2121 and claims are ceded from Syndicate 2121 net of applicable reinsurance recoveries. The syndicate has not purchased any additional reinsurance on its own account.

The financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2018 were approved for issue by the board of directors on 19 March 2019.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional and presentational currency of the syndicate and rounded to the nearest  $\mathfrak{L}'000$ .

#### 1.3 Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities as at the year-end date and the amounts reported for revenues and expenses during the year. However, the nature of estimation means that actual outcomes could differ from those estimates. The syndicate's key sources of estimation uncertainty are as follows:

## Insurance contract technical provisions

For insurance contracts, estimates have to be made both for the expected ultimate cost of claims reported at the reporting date and for the expected ultimate cost of claims incurred but not yet reported (IBNR) at the reporting date. It can take a significant period of time before the ultimate claims cost can be established with certainty and for some types of policies, claims IBNR form the majority of the liability in the statement of financial position.

The ultimate cost of outstanding claims is estimated by using a range of standard actuarial claims projection techniques, such as Chain Ladder and Bornhuetter-Ferguson methods.

The main assumption underlying these techniques is that past claims development experience can be used to project future claims development and hence ultimate claims costs. The provision for claims outstanding is based on the estimated ultimate cost of all claims notified but not settled by the year-end date assessed on an individual case basis, together with the provision for related claims handling costs. The provision also includes the estimated cost of claims IBNR at the year-end date based on statistical methods.

continued

# **Argenta Syndicate 6134**

## 1. Accounting policies continued

These methods generally involve projecting from past experience the development of claims over time to form a view of the likely ultimate claims to be experienced for more recent underwriting, having regard to variations in the business accepted and the underlying terms and conditions. For the most recent years, where a high degree of volatility arises from projections, estimates may be based in part on output from rating and other models of the business accepted and assessments of underwriting conditions. The amount of salvage and subrogation recoveries is separately identified and, where material, reported as an asset.

Similar judgements, estimates and assumptions are employed in the assessment of adequacy of provisions for unearned premiums. Judgement is also required in determining whether the pattern of insurance service provided by a contract requires amortisation of unearned premiums on a basis other than time apportionment.

#### Estimates of future premiums

For certain insurance contracts, premium is initially recognised based on estimates of ultimate premiums. These estimates are judgemental and could result in misstatements of revenue being recorded in the financial statements.

The main assumption underlying these estimates is that past premium development can be used to project future premium development.

#### 1.4 Significant accounting policies

#### Funds withheld

The syndicate operates on a "funds withheld basis" and primarily operates its own bank account for the purpose of settling direct expenses.

### Financial investments

As permitted by FRS 102, the syndicate has elected to apply the recognition and measurement provisions of sections 11 and 12 in full to account for all of its financial instruments.

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the syndicate becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

## Derivative financial instruments

The syndicate uses derivative financial instruments to reduce exposure to foreign exchange risk and interest rate movements. The syndicate does not hold or issue derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes. Derivatives are initially recognised at fair value at the date a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently remeasured to their fair value at each reporting date. The resulting gain or loss is recognised in profit or loss immediately unless the derivative is designated and effective as a hedging instrument, in which event the timing of the recognition in profit or loss depends on the nature of the hedge relationship.

continued

# **Argenta Syndicate 6134**

#### Cash and cash equivalents

For the purpose of the cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at banks and in hand and short term deposits with an original maturity date of three months or less, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

#### Fair value of financial assets

The syndicate uses the following hierarchy for determining the fair value of financial instruments by valuation technique:

- Level 1: The unadjusted quoted price in an active market for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access
  at the measurement date.
- Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable (i.e. developed using market data) for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3: Inputs are unobservable (i.e. for which market data is unavailable) for the asset or liability.

#### Impairment of financial assets

For financial assets not held at fair value through profit or loss, the syndicate assesses at each reporting date whether the financial asset or group of financial assets is impaired. The syndicate first assesses whether objective evidence of impairment exists for financial assets. If it is determined that no objective evidence of impairment exists for an individually assessed financial asset, the asset is included in a group of financial assets with similar credit risk characteristics and that group of financial assets is collectively assessed for impairment. Assets that are individually assessed for impairment and for which an impairment loss is or continues to be recognised are not included in the collective assessment of impairment.

#### Derecognition of financial assets

A financial asset or, when applicable, a part of a financial asset is derecognised when:

- The rights to the cash flows from the asset have expired; or
- The syndicate retains the right to receive cash flows from the asset or has assumed an obligation to pay the received cash flows in full without material delay to a third party under a 'pass-through' arrangement and either (a) the syndicate has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset; or (b) the syndicate has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset, but has transferred control of the asset.

When the syndicate has transferred its right to receive cash flows from an asset or has entered into a pass-through arrangement, and has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards nor transferred control of the asset, the asset is recognised to the extent of the syndicate's continuing involvement in the asset. Continuing involvement that takes the form of a guarantee over the transferred asset is measured at the lower of the original carrying amount of the asset and the maximum amount of consideration that the syndicate could be required to repay. In that case, the syndicate also recognises an associated liability.

## Offsetting of financial instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset and the net amount is reported in the statement of financial position if, and only if:

- There is a currently enforceable legal right to offset the recognised amounts; and
- There is an intention to settle on a net basis, to realise the assets and settle the liabilities simultaneously.

#### Financial liabilities

The syndicate's financial liabilities include trade and other payables, borrowings, insurance payables and derivative financial instruments, where applicable. All financial liabilities are recognised initially at fair value and, in the case of loans and borrowings, net of directly attributable transaction costs.

Trade and other payables and loans and borrowings are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate (EIR) method. Gains and losses are recognised in the income statement when the liabilities are derecognised as well as through the EIR method amortisation process.

Amortised cost is calculated by taking into account any discount or premium on acquisition and fee or costs that are an integral part of the EIR. The EIR amortisation is included in investment return in the profit or loss.

Derivative financial liabilities are subsequently measured at fair value through profit or loss. A financial liability is derecognised when the obligation under the liability is discharged or expires. When an existing financial liability is replaced by another from the same lender on substantially different terms, or the terms of the existing liability are substantially modified, such an exchange or modification is treated as a derecognition of the original liability and the recognition of a new liability, and the difference in the respective amounts is recognised in profit or loss.

#### Investment return

Dividends are recognised when the investments to which they relate are declared 'ex-dividend'. Interest income is recognised on a time proportionate basis taking into account effective interest yield.

Unrealised and realised gains and losses on financial investments are recognised based on the appropriate classification of financial investments and are covered in detail under the accounting policy for financial investments.

An allocation of actual investment return on investments supporting the general insurance technical provisions and associated members' balance is made from the non-technical account to the technical account. Investment return related to non-insurance business and members' balance is attributed to the non-technical account. Investment return has been wholly allocated to the technical account as all investments relate to the technical account.

## Insurance contracts – product classification

Insurance contracts are those contracts when the syndicate (the insurer/reinsurer) has accepted significant insurance risk from another party (the policyholder/reinsured) by agreeing to compensate the policyholder if a specified uncertain future event (the re/insured event) adversely affects the policyholder. As a general guideline, the syndicate determines whether it has significant insurance risk, by comparing benefits paid with benefits payable if the insured event did not occur. Insurance contracts can also transfer financial risk.

Once a contract has been classified as an insurance contract, it remains an insurance contract for the remainder of its lifetime, even if the insurance risk reduces significantly during this period, unless all rights and obligations are extinguished or expire.

Any separable embedded derivatives within an insurance contract are separated and accounted for in accordance with sections 11 and 12 of FRS102 unless the embedded derivative is itself an insurance contract (i.e. the derivative is not separated if the policyholder benefits from the derivative only when the insured event occurs).

#### Premiums written

Syndicate 6134 solely writes quota share reinsurances of business written by Syndicate 2121. Gross written premiums comprise the syndicate's share of total premiums receivable by Syndicate 2121, net of reinsurance purchased by Syndicate 2121 where applicable, for the whole period of cover provided by the contracts entered into during the reporting period by Syndicate 2121. This is regardless of whether these are wholly due for payment in the reporting period. They are recognised on the date on which the policy written or reinsurance purchased by Syndicate 2121 commences. Additional or return premiums are treated as a remeasurement of the initial premium. Gross written premiums are stated gross of brokerage payable and exclude taxes and duties levied on them.

Written premiums include an estimate for pipeline premiums (i.e. premiums written but not reported to the syndicate by the reporting date) relating only to those underlying contracts of insurance where the period of cover has commenced with Syndicate 2121 prior to the reporting date. The most significant assumption in this estimate is that current experience will be consistent with prior year experience.

Under some policies, written premiums are adjusted retrospectively in the light of claims experience or where the risk covered cannot be assessed accurately at the commencement of cover. Where written premiums are subject to an increase retrospectively, potential increases are recognised as follows:

- In respect of the policies underwritten by Syndicate 2121, the increase is deferred until the additional amount can be ascertained with reasonable certainty; and
- In respect of reinsurance purchased by Syndicate 2121, the increase is recognised as soon as there is an obligation to the reinsurer.

Where written premiums are subject to a reduction, a remeasurement taking account of such a reduction is made as soon as there is an obligation to the policyholder or deferred until the reduction in the amount due to the reinsurer can be ascertained with reasonable certainty.

#### Profit commission

Profit commission is charged by the managing agent at a rate of 17.5% of the profit on a year of account basis subject to the operation of a deficit clause. This is charged to the syndicate as incurred but does not become payable until after the appropriate year of account closes, normally at 36 months, although the managing agent may receive payments on account of anticipated profit commissions in line with interim profits released to the member.

#### Claims

Gross claims include the syndicate's share of Syndicate 2121 claims occurring during the year, whether reported or not; related internal and external claims handling costs that are directly related to the processing and settlement of claims; and a reduction for the value of salvage and other recoveries. These amounts are ceded from Syndicate 2121 net of applicable reinsurance that is required when the related gross insurance claim is recognised.

#### Technical provisions

Technical provisions comprise claims outstanding, provisions for unearned premiums and provisions for unexpired risks.

#### Claims outstanding

The outstanding claims provision is based on the syndicate's share of the Syndicate 2121 estimated ultimate cost of all claims incurred at the reporting date, whether reported or not, together with related claims handling costs and reduction for the expected value of salvage and other recoveries. Delays can be experienced in the notification and settlement of certain types of claims, therefore the ultimate cost of these cannot be known with certainty at the reporting date. The liability is calculated at the reporting date using a range of standard actuarial claim projection techniques, based on empirical data and current assumptions that may include a margin for adverse deviation. The liability is not discounted for the time value of money. The claims provision is recognised net of the applicable reinsurer's share of provisions for claims in Syndicate 2121.

#### Provisions for unearned premiums

Unearned premiums are those proportions of premiums written in a year that relate to periods of risk after the reporting date. In respect of general insurance business, written premiums are recognised as earned over the period of the policy on a time apportionment basis having regard, where appropriate, to the incidence of risk. Reinsurance purchased by Syndicate 2121 is deferred over the term of the underlying direct insurance policies for risks attaching contracts and over the term of the reinsurance contract for losses occurring contracts. The proportion attributable to subsequent periods is deferred as a provision for unearned premiums.

#### Unexpired risks

A liability adequacy provision (the unexpired risks provision) is made where the cost of claims and expenses arising after the end of the financial year from contracts concluded before that date is expected to exceed the provision for unearned premiums, net of deferred acquisition costs.

The assessment of whether a provision is necessary is made by considering separately each category of business on the basis of information available at the reporting date, after offsetting surpluses and deficits arising on products which are managed together. Investment income is taken into account in calculating the provision.

At 31 December 2018 the syndicate did not have an unexpired risks provision.

#### Deferred acquisition costs

Acquisition costs take account of the syndicate's share of the Syndicate 2121 acquisition costs arising from the conclusion of insurance contracts. They include both direct costs, such as intermediary commissions or the cost of drawing up the insurance document or including the insurance contract in the portfolio, and indirect costs, such as the advertising costs or the administrative expenses connected with the processing of proposals and the issuing of policies. Acquisition costs also include overriding commissions and profit commissions payable to Syndicate 2121 under the quota share reinsurance agreements.

Deferred acquisition costs are costs arising from the conclusion of insurance contracts that are incurred during the reporting period but which relate to a subsequent reporting period and which are carried forward to subsequent reporting periods.

Deferred acquisition costs are amortised over the period in which the related premiums are earned.

## Insurance receivables

Insurance receivables relate to the funds withheld in respect of the business ceded by Syndicate 2121 and are recognised when due and measured on initial recognition at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Subsequent to initial recognition, insurance receivables are measured at amortised cost. The carrying value of insurance receivables is reviewed for impairment whenever events or circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable, with the impairment loss recorded in the income statement.

Insurance receivables are derecognised when the derecognition criteria for financial assets have been met.

## Insurance payables

Insurance payables are recognised when due and measured on initial recognition at the fair value of the consideration received less directly attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, they are measured at amortised cost using the EIR method. Insurance payables are derecognised when the obligation under the liability is settled, cancelled or expired.

#### Foreign currencies

The syndicate's functional currency and presentational currency is sterling. Transactions denominated in currencies other than the functional currency are initially recorded in the functional currency at the exchange rate ruling at the date of the transactions or at an approximate average rate.

Monetary assets and liabilities (which include all assets and liabilities arising from insurance contracts including unearned premiums and deferred acquisition costs) denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated into the functional currency at the exchange rate ruling on the reporting date.

Non-monetary items that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rate as at the date of the initial transaction and are not subsequently restated. Non-monetary items denominated in a foreign currency, measured at fair value, are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rate ruling at the date when the fair value was determined.

Exchange differences are recorded in the non-technical account.

#### Taxation

Under Schedule 19 of the Finance Act 1993 managing agents are not required to deduct basic rate income tax from trading income. In addition, any UK basic rate income tax deducted from syndicate investment income is recoverable by managing agents and consequently the distribution made to the member or their members' agents is gross of tax. Capital appreciation falls within trading income and is also distributed gross of tax.

No provision has been made for any United States Federal Income Tax payable on underwriting results or investment earnings. Any payments on account made by the syndicate are included in the statement of financial position under the heading 'other debtors'.

No provision has been made for any overseas tax payable by the member on underwriting results.

#### Pension costs

The underwriting agency operates a defined contribution scheme. Pension contributions relating to syndicate staff are charged to the syndicate and included within net operating expenses.

## 2. Particulars of business written

Type of business

An analysis of the technical account balance before investment return is set out below:

2018	Gross premiums written	Gross premiums earned	Gross claims incurred	Gross operating expenses *	Reinsurance balance	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fire and other damage to property	12,856	4,889	(5,397)	(2,791)	-	(3,299)
Casualty	18,586	8,095	(3,494)	(3,872)	-	729
	31,442	12,984	(8,891)	(6,663)		(2,570)

<sup>\*</sup>Gross operating expenses are the same as net operating expenses shown in the income statement, as no commissions in respect of outward reinsurance were set off in arriving at the net operating expenses.

All premiums were concluded in the UK. The syndicate solely writes quota share reinsurances of business written by Syndicate 2121 that operates within the Lloyd's of London insurance market.

## 3. Net operating expenses

	2018
	£'000
Acquisition costs	11,913
Change in deferred acquisition costs	(6,815)
Administrative expenses	1,565
	6,663
Administrative expenses include:	
	2018
	£'000
Auditor's remuneration – audit of the syndicate accounts	35
<ul> <li>– other services pursuant to regulations and Lloyd's byelaws</li> </ul>	38
Operating lease rentals – office equipment	-
Member's standard personal expenses	781
Other remuneration paid to auditors:	
Audit of the managing agent's annual accounts	16

No commissions for direct insurance were accounted for during the year.

Member's standard personal expenses include managing agent's fees.

Amounts falling due after one year - Syndicate 2121

continued

# Argenta Syndicate 6134

4.	Staff numbers and costs	
	The following amounts were recharged to the syndicate in respect of staff costs:	
		2018
		£'000
	Wages and salaries	444
	Social security costs	51
	Other pension costs	18
		513
	The average number of employees employed by the managing agency but working for the syndicate of year was as follows:	luring the
		2018
		2018 Number
	Administration and finance Underwriting support	2 1
	onderwriting support	3
	The staff numbers exclude employees providing services by way of a cross charge from other group of	companies.
5.	Emoluments of the directors of ASML and the active underwriter	
	Emoluments of the directors of ASML and the active underwriter	
	Emoluments of the directors of ASML and the active underwriter	2018
	Emoluments of the directors of ASML and the active underwriter	2018 £'000
		£'000
	Emoluments of the directors of ASML and the active underwriter  Emoluments	
		£'000 170
	Emoluments	£'000 170
6.	Emoluments  ASML charged the syndicate the amounts above in respect of emoluments paid to its directors, include	£'000 170
6.	Emoluments  ASML charged the syndicate the amounts above in respect of emoluments paid to its directors, includ No advances or credits granted by ASML to any of its directors subsisted during the year.	£'000 170
6.	Emoluments  ASML charged the syndicate the amounts above in respect of emoluments paid to its directors, includ No advances or credits granted by ASML to any of its directors subsisted during the year.	£'000 170 ing the active underwri
6.	Emoluments  ASML charged the syndicate the amounts above in respect of emoluments paid to its directors, includ No advances or credits granted by ASML to any of its directors subsisted during the year.	£'000  170  ing the active underwri
6.	Emoluments  ASML charged the syndicate the amounts above in respect of emoluments paid to its directors, includ No advances or credits granted by ASML to any of its directors subsisted during the year.  Active underwriter's emoluments  Emoluments	£'000  170  ing the active underwri  2018 £'000
6.	Emoluments  ASML charged the syndicate the amounts above in respect of emoluments paid to its directors, includ No advances or credits granted by ASML to any of its directors subsisted during the year.  Active underwriter's emoluments	£'000  170  ing the active underwri  2018 £'000
	Emoluments  ASML charged the syndicate the amounts above in respect of emoluments paid to its directors, includ No advances or credits granted by ASML to any of its directors subsisted during the year.  Active underwriter's emoluments  Emoluments	£'000  170  ing the active underwri  2018 £'000
6.	Emoluments  ASML charged the syndicate the amounts above in respect of emoluments paid to its directors, include No advances or credits granted by ASML to any of its directors subsisted during the year.  Active underwriter's emoluments  Emoluments  The aggregate remuneration above was charged to the syndicate in respect of the active underwriter.	£'000  170  ing the active underwri  2018 £'000

20,137

continued

# Argenta Syndicate 6134

## 8. Technical provisions

Claims outstanding

	Gross	2018 Reinsurers' Share	Net
	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 January	-	-	-
Claims incurred in current underwriting year	8,891	-	8,891
Foreign exchange	325	-	325
At 31 December	9,216	-	9,216

# Provision for unearned premiums

	Gross	2018 Reinsurers' Share	Net
	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 January	-	-	-
Premiums written in the year	31,442	-	31,442
Premiums earned in the year	(12,984)	-	(12,984)
Foreign exchange	580	-	580
At 31 December	19,038	-	19,038

## Deferred acquisition costs

	2018 £'000
At 1 January	-
Change in deferred acquisition costs	6,815
Foreign exchange	202
At 31 December	7,017

continued

# **Argenta Syndicate 6134**

#### 9. Cash and cash equivalents

2018

£'000

Cash at bank and in hand

2,397

#### 10. Off balance sheet items

The syndicate has not been party to an arrangement which is not reflected in its statement of financial position, where material risks or benefits arise for the syndicate.

#### 11. Related parties

#### Argenta Holdings Ltd

ASML is a wholly owned subsidiary of AHL which owns 100% of the voting and economic rights of ASML. AHL is regarded by ASML as its immediate parent and is also the parent undertaking of the smallest group to consolidate the financial statements of ASML. Copies of the accounts for AHL can be obtained from Companies House.

Prior to July 2017 AHL was controlled by Glenrinnes Farms Ltd, RBC cees Trustee Ltd as trustee of the Argenta Employee Benefit Trust and Wren Properties Ltd, who owned 44.75%, 25% and 25% of the economic and voting rights in the company respectively. Mr Alasdair Locke is a 99% controller of Glenrinnes Farms Ltd and up until 2014 owned this shareholding directly. Wren Properties Ltd is owned and controlled by members of the Robinson family. In July 2017, the then shareholders of AHL entered into a transaction whereby Hannover Re acquired 100% of the issued share capital of AHL. The parent undertaking of Hannover Re is Talanx AG which holds a 50.2% interest in the company. The principal shareholder in Talanx AG is Haftpflichtverband Der Deutschen Industrie V.a.G. ("HDI") which holds 79.0% of Talanx AG's issued share capital.

AHL and its related parties provide certain underwriting, administrative, accounting, human resource, information technology, risk management and compliance services to ASML. These services are provided on a non-profit making basis by way of inter-group cross charges and direct salary charges.

Argenta Tax & Corporate Services Ltd ("ATCSL"), an AHL group company, provides taxation services to the syndicate. Fees are agreed on a commercial basis and the profit to ATCSL generated from providing these services is, less than £1,000.

AUA, a subsidiary of AHL, is a service company approved by Lloyd's and the MAS to operate on the Lloyd's Asia platform. AUA also holds a licence granted by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission and has a branch office approved by Lloyd's in Sydney, Australia. Syndicate 2121 as host to Syndicate 6134 uses this service company as a coverholder to bind risks on its behalf. Such services relating to business written in Singapore are provided at cost plus a small profit margin of 5% mainly for tax purposes. The total value of the margin is less than £80,000. The commission retained by AUA for business underwritten by the Australian branch is at most 28.5% of gross premium, which is in line with other Australian facilities currently supported by Syndicate 2121. The commission charged in Australia covers original acquisition costs, branch office expenses and processing costs. The total commissions payable by Syndicate 2121 were £7.9 million.

Mr Andrew Annandale and Mr Ian Maguire are directors of AUA.

continued

#### 11. Related parties continued

Other than by virtue of directorship fees, salaries and other related remuneration in respect of their employment by either AHL or its related parties, and the increase in capital value arising on their historic shareholdings, none of the directors, officers, shareholders or related parties concerned, derive any personal benefit from the arrangements that exist.

#### **Business transactions**

Hannover Re

Hannover Re and certain of its subsidiaries have, in the past, provided and are likely to provide in the future, traditional types of reinsurance protection to Syndicate 2121.

Syndicate 2121 has in the past, and may in the future, provide insurance or reinsurance cover to Hannover Re and its subsidiaries.

All such business underwritten and reinsurances purchased have in the past been, and will continue to be, transacted on an arm's length commercial basis with no personal benefit derived by the directors, officers, shareholders or related parties concerned.

#### ASML Directors

Mr John Whiter is chairman of two Lloyd's brokers, Ed Broking (London) Ltd (formerly Cooper Gay Swett & Crawford Ltd) and Ed Broking LLP (formerly CGNMB LLP), and a director of Ed Broking Group Ltd, their ultimate parent company (formerly Cooper Gay Swett & Crawford Ltd).

Mr Paul Hunt is a director of Britannia Steam Ship Insurance Association Limited.

Mr Alan Grant is a director of Thomas Miller Holdings Limited and a director of Thomas Miller Specialty Underwriting Agency Limited (formerly Osprey Underwriting Agency Limited), a Lloyd's coverholder.

Mr Sven Althoff is a member of the Executive Board of Hannover Re. He was also a director of Apollo Syndicate Management Limited, a Lloyd's Managing Agent, until his resignation on 7 March 2019; and a director of Integra Insurance Solutions Ltd, a UK managing general agent, until his resignation on 15 March 2018.

Mr Jens Schäfermeier is the managing director of the property and casualty division within Hannover Re.

The above entities may in the past have transacted business with syndicates managed by ASML and may do so in the future. Any such business, however, has been and will continue to be, conducted on an arm's length commercial basis with no involvement, either directly or indirectly, from the individuals above.

Other than directorship fees, salaries and other related remuneration, no personal benefit is derived by the individuals concerned from these arrangements.

Messrs Grant and Hunt benefitted from fees paid in respect of independent review services that they carried out, or continue to carry out, on sections of Syndicate 2121's book of business. It is a regulatory requirement that such reviews are performed by individuals who are separate from the day to day underwriting of the specific classes of business under review and have the necessary skills and experience to fulfil the independent review obligations.

11. Related parties continued

**ASMI** 

continued

Total fees payable to ASML in respect of services provided to the syndicate amounted to £1.0 million. Profit commission is only due on closure of the year of account although managing agents may receive payments on account of anticipated profit commissions in line with interim profits released to the member. During 2018, no profit commission was due to ASML.

In addition to this, £0.6 million was recharged by ASML for expenses paid on behalf of the syndicate. Creditors at the year-end include amounts due to ASML of £0.1 million.

Capital support for Syndicate 6134

Hannover Re supports Syndicate 6134 for the 2018 and 2019 years of account through Inter Hannover (No.1) Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Hannover Re group. Inter Hannover (No.1) Ltd also participates on Syndicate 2121 for the 2018 and 2019 years of account and Hannover Re also provides capital support to Argenta Underwriting No. 3 Ltd for the 2018 and 2019 years of account by way of an excess participation agreement, which supports Syndicate 2121.

Other than by virtue of directors' fees, salaries and other related remuneration in respect of their employment and any potential future investment earnings or growth in capital value arising from their shareholdings, none of the Hannover Re directors, officers, shareholders or related parties concerned, derive any personal benefits from the arrangements that exist.

Mr Annandale is a director of Argenta Private Capital Limited (APCL), a subsidiary of AHL.

APCL allocates capacity to Syndicate 2121 for the 2018 and 2019 years of account.

Mr Annandale is or was a director of the following corporate members that are or were subsidiaries of AHL:

Argenta Underwriting No. 2 Limited (AU2)

Argenta Underwriting No. 3 Limited (AU3)

Argenta Underwriting No. 8 Limited (AU8) (Resigned 28 February 2019)

Argenta Underwriting No. 9 Limited (AU9)

Argenta Underwriting No. 10 Limited (AU10)

Argenta Underwriting No. 11 Limited (AU11)

Argenta Underwriting No. 12 Limited (AU12) (Resigned 15 December 2016)

AU12 and AU8 were sold to third parties in December 2016 and February 2019 respectively. Whilst he was a director of these members AU2, AU3, AU8, AU9 and AU10 participated on Syndicate 2121 for the 2016 to 2019 years of account. AU11 participated on Syndicate 2121 for the 2016 and 2017 years of account and AU12 participated on the 2016 year of account.

Other than directorship fees, salaries and other related remuneration and the increase in capital value arising on any direct or indirect historic shareholdings in the Lloyd's corporate members, no personal benefit is derived by the individuals concerned from these arrangements.

There are no other transactions or arrangements to be disclosed.

#### 12. Funds at Lloyd's

In case syndicate assets prove insufficient to meet the member's underwriting liabilities, the member is required to hold additional capital at Lloyd's which is held in trust and known as Funds at Lloyd's (FAL).

The level of FAL that Lloyd's requires a member to maintain is determined by Lloyd's based on PRA requirements and resource criteria according to the nature and the amount of risk to be underwritten by the member and the assessment of the reserving risk in respect of business that has been underwritten. FAL is not hypothecated to any specific syndicate participation by a member and therefore there are no specific funds available to a syndicate which can be precisely identified as its capital. As such, no amount has been shown in these annual accounts by way of FAL. However, the managing agent is able to make a call on the member's FAL to meet liquidity requirements or to settle losses.

## 13. Risk management

Syndicate 6134 writes quota share reinsurances of the host Syndicate 2121. Therefore the risk policies described below are in some cases implemented at the host level.

#### (a) Governance framework

The primary objective of the syndicate's risk management framework is to protect the syndicate's member from events that hinder the sustainable achievement of financial performance objectives, including failing to exploit opportunities. ASML recognises the critical importance of having efficient and effective risk management systems in place.

The managing agent has established a risk management function for the syndicate with clear terms of reference from the board of directors and its sub-committees. This is supplemented with a clear organisational structure with documented delegated authorities and responsibilities from the board of directors to executive management committees and senior managers. Lastly, a syndicate policy framework which sets out the risk profiles for the syndicate, risk management, control and business conduct standards for the syndicate's operations has been put in place. Each policy has a member of senior management charged with overseeing compliance with the policy throughout the syndicate.

The board of directors approves the risk management policies and meets regularly to approve any commercial, regulatory and organisational requirements of such policies. These policies define the identification of risk and its interpretation to ensure the appropriate quality and diversification of assets, align underwriting and reinsurance strategy to the syndicate's objectives, and specify reporting requirements. Significant emphasis is placed on assessment and documentation of risks and controls, including the articulation of 'risk appetite'.

#### 13. Risk management continued

#### (b) Capital management objectives

Capital framework at Lloyd's

Lloyd's is a regulated undertaking and subject to the supervision of the PRA under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.

With effect from 1 January 2016, Lloyd's became subject to the Solvency II capital regime and the Solvency I figures were no longer applicable from that date. Although the capital regime changed, this did not significantly impact the solvency capital requirement (SCR) of syndicates at Lloyd's, since this had been previously calculated based on Solvency II principles, as described below.

Within the supervisory framework, Lloyd's applies capital requirements at member level and centrally to ensure that Lloyd's complies with Solvency II capital requirements, and beyond that to meet its own financial strength, licence and ratings objectives.

Although Lloyd's capital setting processes use a capital requirement set at syndicate level as a starting point, the requirement to meet Solvency II and Lloyd's capital requirements apply at overall and member level only respectively, not at syndicate level. Accordingly the capital requirement in respect of Syndicate 6134 is not disclosed in these financial statements.

### Lloyd's capital setting process

In order to meet Lloyd's requirements, each syndicate is required to calculate its SCR for the prospective underwriting year. This amount must be sufficient to cover a 1 in 200 year loss, reflecting uncertainty in the ultimate run-off of underwriting liabilities (SCR 'to ultimate'). The syndicate must also calculate its SCR at the same confidence level but reflecting uncertainty over a one year time horizon (one year SCR) for Lloyd's to use in meeting Solvency II requirements. The SCRs of each syndicate are subject to review by Lloyd's and approval by the Lloyd's Capital and Planning Group.

A syndicate may be comprised of one or more underwriting members of Lloyd's. Each member is liable for its own share of underwriting liabilities on the syndicate on which it participates but not other members' shares. Accordingly, the capital requirement that Lloyd's sets for each member operates on a similar basis. For a member participating on a single syndicate, its SCR is determined by the member's share of the syndicate SCR 'to ultimate'. Where a member participates on more than one syndicate a credit for diversification is included to reflect the spread of risk. The credit given is consistent with determining an SCR which reflects the capital requirement to cover a 1 in 200 year loss 'to ultimate' for that member. Over and above this, Lloyd's applies an uplift to the member's SCR to determine the overall level of capital required. This is known as the member's Economic Capital Assessment (ECA). The purpose of this uplift, which is a Lloyd's not a Solvency II requirement, is to meet Lloyd's financial strength, licence and ratings objectives. The capital uplift applied for 2018 was 35% of the member's SCR 'to ultimate'.

#### Provision of capital by members

Each member may provide capital to meet its ECA either by assets held in trust by Lloyd's specifically for that member (FAL), held within and managed within a syndicate (funds in syndicate) or as the member's share of the members' balances on each syndicate on which it participates (the latter being adjusted to reflect their value on a Solvency II basis).

#### 13. Risk management continued

Accordingly all of the assets less liabilities of the syndicate, as represented in the member's balances reported on the statement of financial position on page 18, represent resources available to meet members' and Lloyd's capital requirements.

## (c) Insurance risk

The principal risk the syndicate faces under insurance contracts is that the actual claims and benefit payments or the timing thereof, differ from expectations. This is influenced by the frequency of claims, severity of claims, actual benefits paid and subsequent development of long-term claims. Therefore, the objective of the syndicate is to ensure that sufficient reserves are available to cover these liabilities. References to insurance business should, as appropriate, be understood to include the equivalent reinsurance business underwritten by the syndicate.

The risk exposure is mitigated by diversification across a large portfolio of insurance contracts and geographical areas in the host syndicate. The variability of risks is also improved by careful selection and implementation of underwriting strategy guidelines, as well as the use of reinsurance arrangements.

The most significant risks arise from natural disasters, terrorist activities, cyber attacks, large risk losses and adverse attritional claims experience. For longer tail claims that take some years to settle, there is also inflation risk.

The host syndicate uses both its own and commercially available proprietary risk management software to assess catastrophe exposure. However, there is always a risk that the assumptions and techniques used in these models are unreliable or that claims arising from an unmodelled event are greater than those arising from a modelled event.

As a further guide to the level of catastrophe exposure written by the syndicate, the following table shows hypothetical claims arising for various RDS events based on the syndicate's expected risk exposures estimated for the 2019 Syndicate Business Forecast.

	Industry	Estimated	Estimated
RDS event	loss	gross loss	final net loss
	£m	£m	£m
Political Risks – China Scenario	N/A	38	38
Sydney Earthquake	N/A	13	13
Florida windstorm (Miami Dade)	99,242	12	12
Political Risks – Russian Scenario	N/A	10	10
Florida windstorm (Pinellas)	101,515	10	10

The table below sets out the concentration of outstanding claim liabilities and unearned premiums by type of contract:

31 December 2018

	Gross liabilities	Net liabilities
Reinsurance acceptances:	£'000	£'000
Fire and other damage to property	14,162	14,162
Casualty	14,092	14,092
	28,254	28,254

continued

# **Argenta Syndicate 6134**

## 13. Risk management continued

The geographical concentration of the outstanding claim liabilities and unearned premiums is noted below. The disclosure is based on the domicile of counterparties.

31 December 2018

Gross Net
liabilities liabilities
£'000 £'000

United Kingdom 28,254 28,254

#### Key assumptions

The principal assumption underlying the liability estimates is that the future claims development will follow a similar pattern to past claims development experience. This includes assumptions in respect of claim indemnity costs, claim handling costs and claims inflation for each underwriting year. For more recent years of account, 'a priori' loss ratio selections are also key assumptions in determining the reserves, which are themselves based on historical experience as well as judgements to reflect current underwriting conditions.

Additional qualitative judgements are used to assess the extent to which past trends may not apply in the future, for example: one—off occurrence; changes in market factors; economic conditions; as well as internal factors such as portfolio mix, policy conditions and claims handling procedures. Judgement is further used to assess the extent to which external factors such as judicial decisions and government legislation affect the estimates.

Other key circumstances affecting the reliability of assumptions include the occurrence of large losses, delays in settlement and changes in foreign currency rates.

#### Sensitivities

The claim liabilities are sensitive to the key assumptions that follow. It has not been possible to quantify the sensitivity of certain assumptions such as legislative changes or uncertainty in the estimation process.

The following analysis is performed for reasonably possible movements in key assumptions with all other assumptions held constant, showing the impact on gross and net liabilities, the profit and member's balances. The correlation of assumptions will have a significant effect in determining the ultimate claims liabilities, but to demonstrate the impact due to changes in each assumption, assumptions had to be changed on an individual basis. It should be noted that movements in these assumptions are non–linear.

#### 13. Risk management continued

· ·	Change in assumptions	Impact on gross liabilities £'000	Impact on net liabilities £'000	Impact on profit £'000	Impact on member's balance £'000
31 December 2018					
'A priori' loss ratios	+5%	353	353	(358)	(358)
	Recede				
Incurred claims development	development	374	374	(382)	(382)
patterns	by 1 month				

The method used for deriving sensitivity information and the significant assumptions are the same for both periods.

## (d) Financial risk

#### (1) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss to the other party by failing to discharge an obligation.

The following policies and procedures are in place to mitigate the exposure to credit risk:

- A credit risk policy setting out the assessment and determination of what constitutes credit risk for the syndicate. Compliance with the policy is monitored and exposures and breaches are reported to the risk framework and compliance committee. The policy is regularly reviewed for pertinence and for changes in the risk environment.
- Net exposure limits are set for each investment counterparty or syndicate of counterparties, with minimum credit quality requirements at a portfolio level.
- Reinsurance is placed with counterparties that have a good credit rating and concentration of risk is avoided
  by following policy guidelines in respect of counterparties' limits that are set by the finance and investment
  committee and are subject to regular reviews. At each reporting date management performs an assessment
  of creditworthiness of reinsurers, ascertaining a suitable allowance for impairment.
- Guidelines determine when to obtain collateral and guarantees.
- The credit risk in respect of customer balances, incurred on non-payment of premiums or contributions, will
  only persist during the grace period specified in the policy document or trust deed until expiry, when the policy
  is either paid up or terminated. Commission paid to intermediaries is netted off against amounts receivable
  from them to reduce the risk of doubtful debts.

continued

# **Argenta Syndicate 6134**

## 13. Risk management continued

#### Maximum credit exposure

It is the syndicate's policy to maintain accurate credit ratings across its portfolio of investments and reinsurance counterparties. The management of the syndicate's investments is largely outsourced to professional investment managers.

## (2) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the syndicate will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial instruments. The syndicate is managed on a funds withheld basis and it primarily uses its bank account for paying expenses.

The following policies and procedures are in place to mitigate the syndicate's exposure to liquidity risk:

- A liquidity risk policy exists that sets out the assessment and determination of what constitutes liquidity
  risk. Compliance with the policy is monitored and exposures and breaches are reported to the risk
  framework and compliance committee. The policy is regularly reviewed for pertinence and for changes
  in the risk environment.
- Guidelines on asset allocation, portfolio limit structures and maturity profiles of assets are set, in order to
  ensure that sufficient funding is available to meet insurance and investment contracts obligations.

## Maturity profiles

The table below summarises the maturity profile of the syndicate's financial liabilities based on remaining undiscounted contractual obligations, including interest payable, and gross outstanding claim liabilities based on the estimated timing of claim payments resulting from recognised insurance liabilities. Repayments which are subject to notice are treated as if notice were to be given immediately.

	0–1 year	1–3 years	3–5 years	Over 5 years	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
31 December 2018					
Outstanding claim liabilities	-	9,216	-	-	9,216
Other	4,058	-	-	-	4,058

#### (3) Financial market risk

Financial market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Financial market risk comprises three types of risk:

- a. Currency risk;
- b. Interest rate risk; and
- c. Equity price risk.

#### 13. Risk management continued

The following policies and procedures are in place to mitigate the exposure to financial market risk:

- A financial market risk policy exists that sets out the assessment and determination of what constitutes financial
  market risk for the syndicate. Compliance with the policy is monitored and exposures and breaches are
  reported to the risk framework and compliance committee. The policy is reviewed regularly for pertinence and
  for changes in the risk environment.
- Strict control over derivative instruments (e.g. equity derivatives are only permitted to be held to facilitate portfolio management or to reduce investment risk).
- For assets backing outstanding claims provisions, financial market risk is managed by ensuring the duration
  and profile of assets are aligned to the technical provisions they are backing. This helps manage financial
  market risk to the extent that changes in the values of assets are matched by a corresponding movement in
  the values of the technical provisions.

## (a) Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates.

The syndicate's functional currency is sterling and its exposure to foreign exchange risk arises primarily with respect to transactions in euros, Australian dollars, US dollars and Canadian dollars. The syndicate seeks to mitigate the risk by seeking to match the estimated foreign currency denominated liabilities with assets denominated in the same currency.

The table below summarises the exposure of the financial assets and liabilities by settlement currency to foreign exchange risk at the reporting date, as follows:

Converted £'000	UK £	US \$	CAD \$	AUS\$	EUR€	OTH	Total
31 December 2018							
Total assets	8,137	17,009	568	2,947	973	136	29,770
Total liabilities	(9,002)	(19,058)	(613)	(2,818)	(849)	(122)	(32,462)
Net assets	(865)	(2,049)	(45)	129	124	14	(2,692)

The non-sterling denominated net assets of the syndicate may lead to a reported loss (depending on the mix relative to the liabilities), should sterling strengthen against these currencies. Conversely, reported gains may arise should sterling weaken.

In part, foreign currency forward contracts may be used to achieve the desired exposure to each currency. From time to time the syndicate may also choose to utilise options on foreign currency derivatives to mitigate the risk of reported losses due to changes in foreign exchange rates. The degree to which options are used is dependent on the prevailing cost versus the perceived benefit to the member's value from reducing the chance of a reported loss due to changes in foreign currency exchange rates.

continued

# **Argenta Syndicate 6134**

## 13. Risk management continued

Sensitivity to changes in foreign exchange rates

The table below gives an indication of the impact on the result of a percentage change in the relative strength of sterling against the value of the main settlement currencies simultaneously. The analysis is based on the information as at 31 December 2018.

	Impact on result
	2018
	£'000
Sterling weakens	
10% against other currencies	(192)
20% against other currencies	(433)
Sterling strengthens	
10% against other currencies	157
20% against other currencies	289

#### (b) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates.

The syndicate has no significant concentration of interest rate risk.

Insurance liabilities are not discounted and therefore are not exposed to interest rate risk.

## (c) Equity price risk

Equity price is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk or currency risk), whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual instrument or its issuer, or factors affecting all similar financial instruments traded in the market.

The syndicate's equity price risk exposure relates to financial assets and financial liabilities whose value will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices, principally investment securities.

The financial market risk policy requires it to manage such risks by setting and monitoring objectives and constraints on investments, diversification plans, limits on investment in each sector and market, and careful and planned use of derivative financial instruments.

There is no significant concentration of equity price risk.



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