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Hampden Risk Partners (formerly Verto) Syndicate 2689

Syndicate Annual Report and Accounts
31 December 2022

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Directors and Administration

Managing Agent

Asta Managing Agency Ltd

Directors

P A Jardine (Chairman)*

R P Barke

C V Barley

E M Catchpole*

K A Green*

C N Griffiths

L Harfitt

D B Jones

A J Hubbard*

L J M McMaster

S D Redmond*

K Shah*

Non-Executive Directors*

Signing Director

C V Barley

Managing Agent's Registered Office

5th Floor
20 Gracechurch Street
London
EC3V 0BG

Managing Agent's Registered Number

1918744

Active Underwriter

C P Sharp

Bankers

Barclays Bank

Citibank NA

RBC Dexia

Registered Auditors

Ernst & Young LLP

Signing Actuaries

Ernst & Young LLP

Active Underwriter's report

I am delighted to have successfully completed my first full year as Active Underwriter of Syndicate 2689. As we enter 2023, it is an opportune time to reflect upon the lessons we have learned and focus upon the challenges ahead. Political and economic turbulence remain, and thoughts are with those suffering in the ongoing conflicts and from the effects of more recent natural catastrophes.

When we look back on the last 12 months, it is clear 2022 has proven to be eventful and exciting, both from a global insurance perspective as well as for the Syndicate itself.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine on 24th February 2022 has shaped the insurance sector for years to come. In addition to the devastating destruction and the consequential insurance implications, this event has driven inflation to levels not seen for decades. Underwriters now, more than ever, must understand and be certain of the values that they are insuring before discussions on pricing can ensue. Putin's confiscation of some 500 planes leased by Western companies and the extensive legal discussions as to whom is ultimately liable for the associated costs is a further example of a what, for the insurance sector, has become a growing flock of black swans.

The destructive impact of Hurricane Ian in September 2022 has proven to be the final nail in the soft market coffin. Underwriters are now driving terms and conditions in a manner not seen since 2006.

As a follow-only model, Syndicate 2689 vastly benefits from these welcome trading conditions. The syndicates we support are formidable leaders in their respective fields and have the experience and position to maximise these opportunities.

For Syndicate 2689, 2022 has been a year of transition. We welcomed the final two members of the team – Ben Ormerod as Chief Data Officer (Ark 4020, Dale 1729) and Alice Gilbert (Dale 1729) as Syndicate Analyst, joining myself and Leah Rose (General Counsel). We also said farewell to our previous identity, moving from Verto to Hampden Risk Partners (HRP). This was an important step in drawing a line under the past and underpinning our relationship with the Hampden Group, who has commendably maintained a strong market reputation over its many years of trading.

The business plan we inherited for 2022 Year of Account (YOA) did not come without its challenges, and as an Active Underwriter you take responsibility for ensuring your underwriting performance is a worthy candidate for sustainable profitability. To that end certain accounts were not renewed. Prominent amongst these were several Floridian Property Quota Share accounts. As it transpired this was a saving grace; the impact of Hurricane Ian on the domestic Florida market was significant. I am confident that this action alone has enhanced the prospects of the 2022 year of account making a profit; the syndicate's first since its establishment for the 2017 year of account.

By mid-year 2022, we were already thinking about the imminent future, how do we shape the 2023 year of account? The planning process correctly focussed on the ways in which Syndicate 2689 could fulfil its promise to its capital providers and deliver strong, sustainable profits throughout the cycle. It was decided the key to success for our follow-only model was partnerships with truly outperforming teams within Lloyd's syndicates. This resulted in the issuance of notice of termination on the largest single source of business for the Syndicate, Chord Re, with effect 31st December 2022. As expected, this affected deal flow in certain classes resulting in a premium income reduction in the last quarter of the year. We knew this would strain operating ratios, however, offset in part by a lower than planned reliance on outwards reinsurance. The Syndicate's overall exposure to Hurricane Ian was modest with

Active Underwriter's report continued

losses well within expected catastrophe loads for the year and exposure to Russia / Ukraine positions has also been within expected ranges.

The decision to immediately reposition our portfolio has thus enabled Syndicate 2689 to focus on establishing long term relationships with leading Lloyd's syndicates, offering consortium and quota share support. Syndicate 2689's model is to both enhance and augment lead underwriters' capabilities. Our capacity is 'automatic' only to the extent that the leaders we back wish to write a risk. We bolster the power of the leader without introducing a competing supply channel.

In addition to the refinement of the underwriting strategy, we have made excellent progress along our technology roadmap. Business and Management Information has been considerably enhanced to assist all aspects of portfolio analytics. We are also working with the syndicates we support to establish direct data feeds, allowing Syndicate 2689 to view 'real time' the decisions our partners make.

Spring will soon be upon us and with it comes a reinvigorated Syndicate 2689 that has a growth mindset, seeking and finding the opportunities that will enable it to be prosperous in the years to come.

2022 Year Update

The 2022 Syndicate Business Plan was approved on stable capacity of £71.5m. The Chord Re relationship was simplified to one, common consortium arrangement with a consistent 49% share of all business written. Chord Re had expanded their offering into Casualty Excess of Loss and a modest book of 'Insurance Opportunities' – consortium writings of specialty insurance lines. Income for the year is estimated to be 87% of plan, such a reduction driven by Syndicate 2689 issuing termination for 2023.

Outside of the reduction in income, Risk Adjusted Rate Change has been ahead of plan at 4.7% (Plan: 3.2%) with lower than planned acquisition costs at 25.2% (Plan: 27.7%).

Syndicate 2689 was also successful in establishing three new syndicate partnerships outside of Chord Re underwriting, encompassing 6 separate lines of business.

The Syndicate projects an ultimate Gross Combined Ratio of 87.8% with the Net Combined Ratio of 94.3% (plan 92.1%), generating a forecast return on capacity of 6.5%. The impact of excess inflation accounts for 2.5% of our NCOR, pointing to a year that has beaten plan absent this dynamic.

2023 Trading Conditions and Strategic Update

The Syndicate's refreshed strategy has been timely and appealing to our desired partners. Syndicates have faced a reinsurance market that has demanded increased premiums, higher retentions, and reduced coverage. Syndicate 2689's true follow-the-fortunes product of consortium or quota share partnerships has therefore allowed our clients to cede portions of their business to Syndicate 2689 and reduce reliance on costly and potentially inefficient excess of loss reinsurance.

Active Underwriter's report continued

Undoubtedly, Syndicate 2689 has made a strong start to 2023 and we are delighted with the calibre of business we have been able to attract. We have, in a short period of time, harnessed an enviable roster of outperforming partners.

Despite the challenges of the outwards reinsurance market, the syndicate has managed to purchase a structure that is aligned with its risk appetite for retention levels and gross exposure projections. The programme has also been bought within budget.

The syndicate is establishing its strategic framework, focusing on the following elements:

- **Culture** – be a responsible and aspirational member of the insurance community
- **Finance** – target lower expense ratios, lowering the cost of access to our follow portfolio
- **Capital** – expand and diversify our capital providers
- **Technology** – use technology as an efficient and cost-effective manner to drive underwriting decisions and assist in portfolio construction
- **Reputation** – enhance 2689's reputation with all stakeholders to facilitate growth and encourage long term partnerships

2023 looks to be the start of a period of prolonged market strength. The model of aligning the Syndicate with those best to take advantage of these conditions has positioned Syndicate 2689 well for the coming period. We have emerged as a unique proposition in the follow only space and look forward to delivering upon our promise to our capital providers.

Chris Sharp

Active Underwriter – Hampden Risk Partners Syndicate 2689

27 February 2023

Managing Agent's report

The Syndicate's Managing Agent is a company registered in England and Wales. The Directors of the Managing Agent present their report for the year ended 31 December 2022

This annual report is 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 ("Lloyd's Regulations 2008").

Results

The total recognised result for calendar year 2022 is a loss of \$4.6m (2021: loss of \$17.1m).

The Syndicate has presented its results under FRS102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland. In accordance with FRS102, the Syndicate has identified its insurance contracts and accounted for them in accordance with FRS103.

Principal activity and review of the business

The Syndicate's principal activity is the underwriting of insurance and reinsurance business. The Syndicate facilitates this by supporting selected insurance teams, via consortium and quota share agreements.

The Syndicate's key financial performance indicators during the year were as follows;

	2022	2021	Change
	\$'000	\$'000	%
Gross written premiums	105,725	115,910	-8.8%
Loss for the financial year	(4,610)	(17,126)	-73.1%
Combined ratio*	102.1%	117.5%	-15.4%

**The combined ratio is the ratio of net claims incurred and net operating expenses to net premiums earned. Lower ratios represent better performance.*

The performance of the Syndicate has been assessed by measuring, as a percentage of underwriting capacity, the 36-month forecasted result on a funded accounting basis for a "closed" underwriting year of account.

	2022 YOA	2021 YOA	2020 YOA
	Open	Open	Closed
Capacity (\$'000)	85,825	95,495	84,364
Forecasted result (Unaudited) (\$'000)	5,589	(13,351)	(17,200)
Forecast return on capacity (%)	6.5%	(14.0%)	(20.4%)

Managing Agent's report continued

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Syndicate sets risk appetite annually, which is approved by the Agency as part of the Syndicate's business planning and Solvency Capital Requirement ('SCR') process. The Agency Risk Committee meets at least quarterly to oversee the risk management framework. The Syndicate Board, an executive committee of the Agency Board, reviews the risk profile as reflected in the risk register, and monitors performance against risk appetite using a series of key risk indicators. The principal risks and uncertainties facing the Syndicate are as follows:

Insurance risk

Insurance risk includes the risks that a policy will be written for too low a premium or provide inappropriate cover (underwriting risk), that the frequency or severity of insured events will be higher than expected (claims risk), or that estimates of claims subsequently prove to be insufficient (reserving risk). The Syndicate Board manages insurance risk through the approved business plan, which sets out targets for volumes, pricing, line sizes and retention by class of business. The Syndicate Board then monitors performance against the business plan through the year. Reserve adequacy is monitored through quarterly review by the Asta Actuarial team and the Reserving Committee.

Credit risk

The key aspect of credit risk is reinsurance counterparty risk which is the risk of default by one or more of the Syndicate's reinsurers and intermediaries. The Syndicate Board's policy is that the Syndicate will only reinsure with approved reinsurers, supported by collateralisation where required. The Agency Reinsurance Security Committee sets approval and usage criteria, monitors reinsurer ratings and is required to approve and oversee the application of the reinsurer approval policy.

Market risk

Market risk exposure impacting the Syndicate relates to fluctuations in interest rates or exchange rates and inflation. The Syndicate is exposed to foreign exchange movements as a result of mismatches between the currencies in which assets and liabilities are denominated. The Agency's policy is to maintain received income or incurred expenditure in the core currencies in which they were received or paid. Any surplus or deficit in a core currency would be subject to review by the Syndicate Board. Through the course of 2022 we have seen large foreign currency fluctuations and the value of the Great British pound (GBP) fall to record lows against the United States Dollar (USD). Other major currencies such as CAD and AUD have also materially strengthened against the pound.

A multitude of factors including Brexit, the covid 19 pandemic and the Russian invasion of Ukraine has seen inflation increase to its highest level since 1982. Inflation is now expected to remain elevated for longer than previously forecast on higher commodity costs and broader price pressures and these expectations can pose difficulties in the insurance market. Uncertainty surrounding how long existing inflation issues will last could threaten the long-term stability of the insurance industry's reserve levels and underwriting profitability. Inflation has been at the forefront of Lloyd's additional reporting from Q2 2022 onwards and reserves have been analysed and uplifted where appropriate. Expense budgets for both 2022 and 2023 have been adjusted to reflect the current and forecast inflationary environment.

Managing Agent's report continued

Exposure to changes in interest rates comes from the Syndicate's investment portfolio. The Agency seeks to minimise this risk through investing in either fixed interest securities or high-quality floating rate notes.

In addition, an Investment Committee which reports to the Syndicate Board ensures that the Syndicate's investment portfolio is managed by the external investment manager in accordance with the Syndicate's risk appetite and to guidelines as approved by the Syndicate Board.

Liquidity risk

This is the risk that the Syndicate will not be able to meet its liabilities as they fall due, owing to a shortfall in cash or can only meet obligations at excessive cost. To mitigate this risk the Syndicate Board and Investment Committee reviews cash flow projections regularly and ensures that, where needed, the Syndicate has liquidity facilities in place or has utilised the option of a cash call from Capital providers.

The Syndicate has in place an overdraft facility and a letter of credit (LoC) facility with Barclays.

Operational risk

This is the risk that errors caused by people, processes, systems and external events lead to losses to the Syndicate. The Agency seeks to manage this risk through the use of an operational risk and control framework, detailed procedures manual, thorough training programme and a structured programme of testing of processes and systems by internal audit. Business continuity and disaster recovery plans are in place and are regularly updated and tested.

Regulatory risk is the risk of loss owing to a breach of regulatory requirements or failure to respond to regulatory change. The Agency is required to comply with the requirements of the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), Prudential Regulatory Authority (PRA) and Lloyd's. Lloyd's requirements include those imposed on the Lloyd's market by overseas regulators, particularly in respect of US situs business. The Agency has a Compliance Officer who manages a function that monitor business activity and regulatory developments to assess any effects on the Agency.

The Syndicate has no appetite for failing to treat customers fairly. The Syndicate manages and monitors its customer risk through a suite of risk indicators and reporting metrics as part of its documented customer risk framework. The customer risk framework is consistently applied across all Asta syndicates and is overseen by the Conduct Oversight Group (COG), which is an Asta Managing Agency (AMA) Board Committee that includes a non-executive director as a member who fulfils the role of Customer Champion.

Group / strategic risk

This is the risk of contagion that arises from being associated with key stakeholders and the impact that activities and events that occur within other connected or third parties has on the business.

Strategic risk covers the risks faced by the Syndicate due to changes in underlying strategy of the business or that of its key stakeholders (including strategic conflicts of interest).

Managing Agent's report continued

Future developments

The Syndicate will continue to transact the current classes of general direct insurance and reinsurance business. If opportunities arise to write new classes of business, these will be investigated at the appropriate time.

The capacity for the 2023 year of account is £52.0m (2022 year of account £71.5m).

Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)

During 2022, Asta has agreed its ESG policy, which defines the principles of ESG, the managing agency's approach and key initiatives to implement the policy. Asta has also further supported syndicates in the definition of their own ESG strategies, in line with Lloyd's requirements. The Asta syndicate ESG framework is aligned to Lloyd's ESG guidance from October 2021, and to Asta's climate change work detailed below.

Syndicate 2689 has also defined an ESG strategy which defines its overall strategy statement, principles and specific approach to Underwriting and Investments

Climate change

Following the Prudential Regulation Authority's (PRA) Supervisory Statement in 2019 and subsequent Dear CEO letter in 2020, Asta have built a climate change framework, applicable to all syndicates, covering physical, transition and liability climate change risks, based on the underlying business written by each syndicate. Asta's managed syndicates accept climate change risk where it is an inherent part of an insurance business model, providing it is understood, managed and controlled and/or compensated. There is no appetite for uncontrolled, unmanaged exposure to the financial risks of climate change.

A measure for climate change exposure within insurance risk appetites has been implemented to highlight where time and resource is most required in order to manage the potential exposure and successfully steer portfolios through global changes. The Syndicate has identified the level of climate change exposure in its business plans and will manage this accordingly, with the ability to change the level of risk being taken in future and thereby amend the oversight and monitoring framework.

The framework ensures Board-level engagement and accountability with the PRA's requirements, assigning clear responsibilities for managing the financial risks associated with climate change. The AMA Chief Financial Officer, who is a Board member, is responsible for the climate change framework, including identifying and managing financial climate related risks.

Asta continue to monitor and consider regulatory guidance as it is released on managing the financial risks of climate change (eg. the PRA's Dear CEO letter in October 2022 giving feedback on their thematic review of the market's response to the 2019 Supervisory Statement).

Managing Agent's report continued

Coronavirus

The company has now fully transitioned to a hybrid working practice that allows staff to work both at home and within the office environment. The Agency has been able to deliver from both a regulatory and client standpoint with no adverse outcomes through remote working. Through 2022 covid has become very much business as usual and exceptional measures have been phased out.

Russian Invasion of Ukraine

During February 2022, Russia instigated military action in Ukraine. This event was assessed by the Directors as an event that will increase risk and uncertainty globally in the foreseeable future and that view is unaltered.

The Syndicate has reviewed its portfolio and has identified that there are policies that have direct exposure to the conflict. To date the Syndicate has a current ultimate loss forecast is £3.6m. The Syndicate has also been impacted by secondary factors of the conflict namely the rise in social and economic inflation which impacts operational cost on a day-to-day basis and the increased cost of future claims.

External RITC

Immediately following 31 December 2021, the 2019 and prior underwriting years were externally Reinsured-to-Close (RITC) to an external party, Syndicate 1254. All liabilities and assets on the 2019 and prior underwriting years were transferred to Syndicate 1254, and so neither the net assets nor the resulting income and losses feature in Syndicate 2689's 2022 calendar year financial statements.

Directors and Officers

Details of the Directors of the Managing Agent that were serving at the year end and up to the date of signing of the financial statements are provided on page 1. Changes to Directors and Officers from the last report were as follows:

N J Burdett**	Resigned 13 July 2022
M D Mohn	Resigned 13 July 2022
L J M McMaster	Appointed 12 September 2022
J M Tighe	Resigned 23 November 2022
D J G Hunt	Resigned 1 December 2022
E M Catchpole	Appointed 1 January 2023
D B Jones	Appointed 23 February 2023
S P A Norton	Resigned 23 February 2023

Company Secretary**

Managing Agent's report continued

Disclosure of information to the auditors

So far as each person who was a Director of the Managing Agent at the date of approving the report is aware, there is no relevant audit information, being information needed by the Syndicate auditor in connection with the auditor's report, of which the auditor is unaware. Having made enquiries of fellow Directors of the Agency and the Syndicate's auditors, 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.

Auditors

The Managing Agent intends to reappoint EY as the Syndicate's auditors.

Syndicate Annual General Meeting

In accordance with the Syndicate Meetings (Amendment No 1) Byelaw (No 18 of 2000) the Managing Agent does not propose holding an annual meeting this year; objections to this proposal or the intention to reappoint the auditors for a further 12 months can be made by Syndicate members before 28 April 2023.

On behalf of the Board

C V Barley
Director
27 February 2023

Statement of Managing Agent's responsibilities

The Managing Agent is responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008 require the managing agent to prepare financial statements at 31 December each year in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law) including FRS 102 the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland. The Financial statements 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 financial statements, the managing agent is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently subject to changes arising on the adoption of new accounting standards in the year;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the notes to the Syndicate accounts; and
- prepare the Syndicate 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 adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Syndicate and enable it to comply with the Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Syndicate and hence for taking reasonable steps for the 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 business' website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Independent auditors' report to the members of Syndicate 2689

Report on the Syndicate annual accounts

Opinion

We have audited the syndicate annual accounts of syndicate 2689 ('the syndicate') for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise the Income Statement, the Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Statement of Members' Balances, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes 1 to 22, 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 2022 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. 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 as applied to other entities of public interest, 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

In auditing the syndicate annual accounts, we have concluded that the managing agent's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the syndicate annual accounts is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the syndicate's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of 12 months from when the syndicate annual accounts are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the managing agent with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report. However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this statement is not a guarantee as to the syndicate's ability to continue as a going concern.

Independent auditors' report 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 directors of the managing agent are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report.

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.

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 course of 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the syndicate annual accounts themselves. 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.

Opinions on other matters 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
- ▶ certain disclosures of the managing agents' emoluments specified by law are not made; or
- ▶ we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Independent auditors' report continued

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.

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.

Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect irregularities, including fraud. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both those charged with governance of the managing agent and management.

Our approach was as follows:

- We obtained a general understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the syndicate and determined that the most significant are direct laws and regulations related to elements of Lloyd's Byelaws and Regulations, and the financial reporting framework (UK GAAP), and requirements referred to by Lloyd's in the instructions. Our considerations of other laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the syndicate annual accounts included permissions and supervisory requirements of Lloyd's of London, the Prudential Regulation Authority ('PRA') and the Financial Conduct Authority ('FCA').

Independent auditors' report continued

- We obtained a general understanding of how the syndicate is complying with those frameworks by making enquiries of management, internal audit, and those responsible for legal and compliance matters of the syndicate. In assessing the effectiveness of the control environment, we also reviewed significant correspondence between the syndicate, Lloyd's of London and other UK regulatory bodies; reviewed minutes of the Board and Risk Committee of the managing agent; and gained an understanding of the managing agent's approach to governance. We also performed procedures to understand the culture of compliance and governance including the obtainment and review of the code of conduct, employee handbook and whistleblowing policy. Furthermore in order to assess the internal views of risks and their likelihoods, we have reviewed the risk register and risk event summary for the syndicate.
- For direct laws and regulations, we considered the extent of compliance with those laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related syndicate annual accounts' items.
- For both direct and other laws and regulations, our procedures involved: making enquiries of the directors of the managing agent and senior management for their awareness of any non-compliance of laws or regulations, enquiring about the policies that have been established to prevent non-compliance with laws and regulations by officers and employees, enquiring about the managing agent's methods of enforcing and monitoring compliance with such policies, and inspecting significant correspondence with Lloyd's, the FCA and the PRA.
- The syndicate operates in the insurance industry which is a highly regulated environment. As such the Senior Statutory Auditor considered the experience and expertise of the engagement team to ensure that the team had the appropriate competence and capabilities, which included the use of specialists where appropriate.
- We assessed the susceptibility of the syndicate's annual accounts to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur by considering the controls that the managing agent has established to address risks identified by the managing agent, or that otherwise seek to prevent, deter or detect fraud. We also considered areas of significant judgement, complex transactions, performance targets, economic or external pressures and the impact these have on the control environment. Where this risk was considered to be higher, on the valuation of IBNR reserves, estimated premium income and misstatement due to fraud and error including management override of controls, we performed audit procedures to address each identified fraud risk. These procedures included testing manual journals and were designed to provide reasonable assurance that the syndicate annual accounts were free from fraud or error.

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.

Independent auditors' report continued

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the syndicate's members, as a body, 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 members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the syndicate and the syndicate's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Robert Bruce (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of Ernst & Young LLP, Statutory Auditor

London

Date: 27 February 2023

Income statement

Technical account - General business

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
Gross premiums written	3	105,725	115,910
Outward reinsurance premiums		(11,698)	(12,528)
Net written premiums		94,027	103,382
Change in the provision for unearned premiums			
Gross amount		(861)	(4,585)
Reinsurers' share		888	2,606
Change in the net provision for unearned premiums	4	27	(1,979)
		94,054	101,403
Earned premiums, net of reinsurance			
Allocated investment return transferred from the non-technical account		(1,286)	70
Claims paid			
Gross amount		(29,944)	(82,212)
Reinsurers' share		2,737	2,805
Net claims paid		(27,207)	(79,407)
Changes in claims outstanding			
Gross amount		(26,397)	(9,522)
Reinsurers' share		(5,771)	10,900
Change in the net provision for claims	4	(32,168)	1,378
Claims incurred, net of reinsurance		(59,375)	(78,029)
Net operating expenses	5	(36,581)	(41,132)
Balance on technical account – general business		(3,188)	(17,688)

Income statement continued

Non-technical account - General business

For the year ended 31 December 2022

		2022	2021
	Notes	\$'000	\$'000
Balance on technical account – general business		(3,188)	(17,688)
Investment return	9	631	644
Unrealised Gains on Investments		1	11
Losses on the realisation of investments		(287)	(10)
Unrealised losses on investments		(1,587)	(540)
Investment management charges		(44)	(35)
Allocated investment return transferred to the general business technical account		1,286	(70)
Exchange (Losses) / Gains		(1,422)	562
Loss for the financial year		(4,610)	(17,126)

All the amounts above are in respect of continuing operations.

The notes on pages 23 to 49 form part of these financial statements.

Statement of comprehensive income

There were no recognised gains and losses in the year other than those reported in the Income Statement and hence no Statement of Other Comprehensive Income has been presented.

There were no recognised gains or losses in the prior year other than those in the Income Statement.

Statement of changes in Members' balances

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000
At 1 January	(35,617)	(48,745)
Loss for the financial year	(4,610)	(17,126)
Amount due from members	(101)	(124)
Cash calls made to date	17,800	-
Loss Collection from Members	8,488	30,378
At 31 December	<u>(14,040)</u>	<u>(35,617)</u>

Statement of financial position

As at 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
ASSETS			
<i>Investments</i>			
Financial investments	10	38,685	71,761
<i>Reinsurers' share of technical provisions</i>			
Provision for unearned premiums	4	3,710	2,822
Claims outstanding	4	9,399	15,219
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		13,109	18,041
<i>Debtors</i>			
Debtors arising out of direct insurance operations	11	11,986	-
Debtors arising out of reinsurance operations	12	66,004	97,714
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		77,990	97,714
<i>Cash and other assets</i>			
Cash at bank and in hand	13	8,688	14,411
Deposits with ceding undertakings		230	88
Other assets	14	107	312
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		9,025	14,811
<i>Prepayments and accrued income</i>			
Deferred acquisition costs	4	15,936	17,160
Other prepayments and accrued income		426	442
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		16,362	17,602
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Total assets</i>		155,171	219,929

The notes on pages 23 to 49 form part of these financial statements.

Statement of financial position continued

As at 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
MEMBERS' BALANCE AND LIABILITIES			
<i>Capital and reserves</i>			
Members' balances		(14,040)	(35,617)
<i>Liabilities</i>			
<i>Technical provisions</i>			
Provision for unearned premiums	4	58,664	57,784
Claims outstanding	4	108,937	184,618
		<u>167,601</u>	<u>242,402</u>
<i>Creditors</i>			
Creditors arising out of direct insurance operations	15	62	-
Creditors arising out of reinsurance operations	16	908	11,401
		<u>970</u>	<u>11,401</u>
<i>Accruals and deferred income</i>		<u>640</u>	<u>1,743</u>
<i>Total liabilities</i>		<u>169,211</u>	<u>255,546</u>
<i>Total members' balances and liabilities</i>		<u>155,171</u>	<u>219,929</u>

The notes on pages 23 to 49 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 17 to 49 were approved by board of Directors on 21 February 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

R P Barke
Director
27 February 2023

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
<i>Loss for the financial year</i>		(4,610)	(17,126)
(Decrease) / Increase in gross technical provisions		(74,801)	13,938
Decrease / (Increase) in reinsurers' share of gross technical provisions		4,932	(13,505)
Decrease in debtors		19,724	51,337
(Decrease) in creditors		(10,431)	(66,617)
Movement in other assets/liabilities		200	5,658
Investment return		1,286	(70)
<i>Net cash (outflow) from operating activities</i>		<u>(63,700)</u>	<u>(26,385)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of other financial investments		(18,581)	(57,830)
Sale of other financial investments		47,274	-
Investment income received		716	70
Decrease in overseas deposits		(2,867)	530
<i>Net cash inflow / (outflow) from investing activities</i>		<u>26,542</u>	<u>(57,230)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Cash call		17,800	-
Distribution loss		8,488	30,378
Changes in amount due from members		(101)	(124)
<i>Net cash inflow from financing activities</i>		<u>26,187</u>	<u>30,254</u>
Net (outflow) in cash and cash equivalents		(10,971)	(53,361)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		25,353	78,132
Changes to market value and currency		(1,077)	582
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	13	<u>13,305</u>	<u>25,353</u>

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2022

1. Basis of preparation

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in compliance with The Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008 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.

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention as modified by the recognition of certain financial assets and liabilities measured at fair value.

The financial statements are prepared in US Dollars which is the functional and presentational currency of the Syndicate and rounded to the nearest \$'000.

2. Accounting policies

Use of estimates

In preparing these financial statements, the Directors of the Managing Agent have made judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of the Syndicate's accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. The measurement of the provision for claims outstanding involves judgements and assumptions about the future that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the annual accounts.

Actual results may differ from those estimates. Significant items subject to such estimates and assumptions include:

- (i) provision for claims outstanding (refer to claims incurred accounting policy);
- (ii) estimates of future premium for inwards quota share contracts (refer to gross premiums accounting policy).

The provision for claims outstanding comprises the estimated cost of settling all claims incurred but unpaid at the balance sheet date, whether reported or not. This is a judgemental and complex area due to the subjectivity inherent in estimating the impact of claims events that have occurred but for which the eventual outcome remains uncertain.

In particular, judgement is applied when estimating the value of amounts that should be provided for claims that have been incurred at the reporting date but have not yet been reported (IBNR) to the Syndicate.

The ultimate cost of outstanding claims is estimated using a range of techniques including actuarial and statistical projections, benchmarking, case by case review and judgement.

Accounting policies continued

Statistical techniques assume that past claims development experience can be used as a basis to project ultimate claims costs. Judgement is used to assess the extent to which past trends may not apply in the future.

Case estimates for the Hampden Risk Partners book are also based on bordereau information, and as such, the syndicate is reliant on each cedant for outstanding claims information. Each cedant also provides reserving data for significant large & Cat losses.

Whilst the Directors consider that the gross provision for claims and the related reinsurance recoveries are fairly stated based on the information currently available to them, the ultimate liability will vary as a result of subsequent information and events.

Significant accounting policies

The following principal accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the Syndicate's financial statements.

Gross premiums

Gross written premiums comprise the total premiums receivable for the whole period of cover provided by the contracts entered into during the reporting period, regardless of whether these are wholly due for payment in the reporting period, together with any adjustments arising in the reporting period to such premiums receivable in respect of business written in prior reporting periods. They are recognised on the date on which the policy commences. Gross written premiums are stated gross of brokerage payable and exclude taxes and duties levied on them.

For the majority of inwards reinsurance contracts, premium is initially recognised based on estimates of ultimate premiums. These estimates, primarily relating to quota share reinsurance business, are judgemental and could result in misstatements of revenue recorded in the financial statements.

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

Underwriters periodically review EPI on the underwriting system. After 33 months, written premium is reported as signed premium with the odd exception manually overriding this rule.

Reinsurance premiums

Reinsurance written premiums on business ceded comprise the total premiums payable for the whole cover provided by contracts entered into the period, and are recognised on the date on which the policy incepts. Premiums include any adjustments arising in the accounting period in respect of reinsurance contracts incepting in prior accounting periods. They are recognised on the date on which the policy commences.

Accounting policies continued

Claims incurred

Claims incurred comprise claims and settlement expenses (both internal and external) paid in the year and the movement in provision for outstanding claims and settlement expenses, including an allowance for the cost of claims incurred by the balance sheet date, but not reported until after the year end.

The provision for claims comprises amounts set aside for claims notified and claims incurred, but not yet reported (IBNR).

The amount included in respect of IBNR is based on statistical techniques of estimation applied by actuaries. These techniques generally involve projecting from past experience of 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. The provision for claims also includes amounts in respect of internal and external claims handling costs. 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. An element of IBNR also relates to specific large losses, such as catastrophe events.

The reinsurers' share of provisions for claims is based on calculated amounts of outstanding claims and projections for IBNR, net of estimated irrecoverable amounts, having regard to the reinsurance programme in place for the class of business and the claims experience for the year. The Syndicate uses a number of statistical techniques to assist in making these estimates where relevant.

Accordingly, the two most critical assumptions as regards claims provisions are that the past is a reasonable predictor of the likely level of claims development and that the rating and other models used for current business are fair reflections of the likely level of ultimate claims to be incurred.

The Directors consider that the provisions for gross claims and related reinsurance recoveries are fairly stated on the basis of the information currently available to them. However, ultimate liability will vary as a result of subsequent information and events and this may result in significant adjustments to the amounts provided.

Adjustments to the amounts of claims provisions established in prior years are reflected in the financial statements for the period in which the adjustments are made. The methods used, and the estimates made, are reviewed regularly.

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. The proportion attributable to subsequent periods is deferred as a provision for unearned premiums.

Unearned reinsurance premiums are those proportions of premiums written in a year that relate to periods of risk after the reporting date. Unearned reinsurance premiums are deferred over the term of the underlying insurance policies for risks-attaching contracts and over the term of the reinsurance contract for losses-occurring contracts.

Accounting policies continued

Unexpired risks

A provision for unexpired risks is made where claims and related expenses are likely to arise after the end of the financial period in respect of contracts concluded before that date, are expected to exceed the unearned premiums and premiums receivable under these contracts, after the deduction of any acquisition costs deferred.

The provision for unexpired risks is calculated separately by reference to classes of business which are managed together, after taking into account relevant investment return.

At 31 December 2022 the Syndicate had nil gross unexpired risk provision and nil net unexpired risk provision (2021 Nil).

Deferred acquisition costs

Acquisition costs comprise 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. It is not the Syndicate's policy to reallocate a portion of indirect costs, such as the advertising costs or the administrative expenses connected with the processing of proposals and the issuing of policies, to acquisition costs.

Deferred acquisition costs are costs arising from 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 and reinsurance receivables

Insurance and reinsurance receivables 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, using the effective interest rate method. 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 not recognised when the de-recognition criteria for financial assets have been met.

Insurance and reinsurance payables

Insurance and reinsurance 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 effective interest rate method. Insurance payables are derecognised when the obligation under the liability is settled, cancelled or expired.

Accounting policies continued

Foreign currencies

The Syndicate's functional currency and presentational currency is US Dollars.

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. 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.

Exchange differences are recorded in the non-technical account.

The following balance sheet rates of exchange have been used in the preparation of these accounts:

	2022	2021
	Year End	Year End
USD:GBP	0.83	0.74

Financial assets and liabilities

In applying FRS 102, the Syndicate has chosen to apply the recognition and measurement provisions of IAS 39 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement (as adopted for use in the EU).

Financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss comprise financial assets and financial liabilities held for trading and those designated as such on initial recognition. Investments in shares and other variable yield securities, units in unit trusts, and debt and other fixed income securities are designated as at fair value through profit or loss on initial recognition, as they are managed on a fair value basis in accordance with the Syndicate's investment strategy.

Financial instruments are recognised when the Syndicate becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Financial assets are derecognised if the Syndicate's contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial assets expire or if the Syndicate transfers the financial asset to another party without retaining control of substantially all risks and rewards of the asset. A financial liability is derecognised when its contractual obligations are discharged, cancelled, or expire.

A financial asset or financial liability is measured initially at fair value plus, for a financial liability at amortised cost, transaction costs that are directly attributable to its acquisition or issue.

Accounting policies continued

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are measured at fair value with fair value changes recognised immediately in the income statement. Net gains or net losses on financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss includes foreign exchange gains/losses arising on their translation to the functional currency, but excludes interest and dividend income.

At each reporting date the Syndicate assesses whether there is objective evidence that financial assets not measured at fair value through profit or loss are impaired. Financial assets are impaired when objective evidence demonstrates that a loss event has occurred after the initial recognition of an asset, and that the loss event has an impact on the future cash flows on the asset that can be estimated reliably.

Objective evidence that financial assets are impaired includes observable data that comes to the attention of the Syndicate about any significant financial difficulty of the issuer, or significant changes in the technological, market, economic or legal environment in which the issuer operates.

An impairment loss in respect of a financial asset measured at amortised cost is calculated as the difference between its carrying amount, and the present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. Individually significant financial assets are tested for impairment on an individual basis. The remaining financial assets are assessed collectively in groups that share similar credit risk characteristics.

An impairment loss recognised reduces directly the carrying amount of the impaired asset. All impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss. An impairment loss is reversed if the reversal can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised. For financial assets measured at amortised cost the reversal is recognised in profit or loss.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash balances and call deposits with maturities of three months or less from the acquisition date that are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in fair value, and are used by the Syndicate in the management of its short-term commitments.

Investment return is initially recorded in the non-technical account. A transfer is made from the non-technical account to the general business technical account to reflect the investment return on funds supporting underwriting business.

Accounting policies continued

Fair value measurement of investments

Financial instruments that are classified as fair value through the profit or loss account are assigned a level using a fair value hierarchy that reflects the significance of the inputs used in these measurements.

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

Level 1 financial instruments comprise government bonds that are regularly traded, deposits with credit institutions and collective investment schemes which comprise Money Market Funds. The Syndicate does not currently hold any level 1 financial instruments.

1. Bonds have been valued at fair value using quoted prices in an active market.
2. Deposits with credit institutions are included at cost plus accrued income.
3. Money Market Funds are valued on a stable net asset value (NAV) basis. Money Market Funds are readily convertible into cash, are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in fair value, and are used by the Syndicate in the management of its short-term commitments.

Level 2 financial instruments are less regularly traded government and agency bonds, supranational bonds, corporate bonds, currency derivatives, bond futures, and fund investments.

1. Bonds are included in the balance sheet at bid price using prices supplied by the custodian or by the investment managers, who obtain market data from numerous independent pricing services. The prices used are reconciled against a common market pricing source.
2. Currency derivatives and bond futures are included at market price.
3. Investments in regulated collective investment schemes are valued on the NAVs of each of the individual funds as published publicly by the managers.
4. Investments in pooled investments in unregulated investment schemes (hedge funds) are valued based on the underlying NAVs of each of the individual funds. Hedge fund NAVs are provided by the administrators of the schemes.
5. Investments in investment pools are valued on the valuations supplied by the investment manager (Lloyd's).

Level 3 financial instruments have a fair value derived from inputs that are not based on observable market data.

Accounting policies continued

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, all UK basic rate income tax (currently at 20%) deducted from Syndicate investment income is recoverable by managing agents and consequently the distribution made to members 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 other overseas tax payable by members on underwriting results or investment earnings. Any payments on account made by the Syndicate during the year have been included in the balance sheet under the heading 'other debtors'.

Pension costs

Hampden Syndicate Services Ltd operate a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of Syndicate staff. Pension contributions to Syndicate staff are charged to the Syndicate and included within net operating expenses.

Syndicate operating expenses

Where expenses are incurred by the Managing Agent or on behalf of the Managing Agent on the administration of managed syndicates, these expenses are apportioned using various methods depending on the type of expense. Expenses which are incurred jointly for the Managing Agent and managed syndicates are apportioned between the Managing Agent and the syndicates depending on the amount of work performed, resources used and volume of business transacted.

Profit commission is charged by the Managing Agent at a rate of 10% for the first £10m of profit and a rate of 7.5% of profit in excess of £10m subject to the operation of a deficit clause. Such commission does not become payable until after the appropriate year of account closes, normally at 36 months. Profit commission on naturally open years is accrued on the basis of earned profit to date.

3. Segmental analysis

An analysis of the underwriting result before investment return is set out below:

2022	Gross written premiums	Gross premium earned	Gross claims incurred	Gross operating expenses	Ceded Reinsurance balance	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Aviation	2,141	786	(417)	(318)	(37)	14
Fire and other damage to property	7,649	2,220	(1,056)	(748)	(335)	81
Third party liability	2,937	1,592	(739)	(667)	-	186
Total Direct	12,727	4,598	(2,212)	(1,733)	(372)	281
Reinsurance accepted	92,998	100,266	(54,129)	(34,848)	(13,472)	(2,183)
	105,725	104,864	(56,341)	(36,581)	(13,844)	(1,902)

2021	Gross written premiums	Gross premium earned	Gross claims incurred	Gross operating expenses	Ceded Reinsurance balance	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Aviation	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fire and other damage to property	-	-	-	-	-	-
Third party liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Direct	-	-	-	-	-	-
Reinsurance accepted	115,910	111,325	(91,734)	(41,134)	(3,783)	(17,760)
	115,910	111,325	(91,734)	(41,134)	(3,783)	(17,760)

All premiums were concluded in the UK.

Gross operating expenses are the same as net operating expenses shown in the income statement, as no commissions in respect of outward reinsurance were received and set off in arriving at the net operating expenses.

4. Technical provisions

	Gross provisions \$'000	2022 Reinsurance assets \$'000	Net \$'000
Claims outstanding			
Balance at 1 January	184,618	(15,219)	169,399
Change in claims outstanding	26,397	5,771	32,168
Effect of movements in exchange rates	(481)	30	(451)
External RITC	(101,597)	19	(101,578)
Balance at 31 December	108,937	(9,399)	99,538
Claims notified	23,442	-	23,442
Claims incurred but not reported	85,495	(9,399)	76,096
Balance at 31 December	108,937	(9,399)	99,538
Unearned premiums			
Balance at 1 January	57,784	(2,822)	54,962
Change in unearned premiums	861	(888)	(27)
Effect of movements in exchange rates	19	-	19
Balance at 31 December	58,664	(3,710)	54,954
Deferred acquisition costs			
Balance at 1 January	17,160	-	17,160
Change in deferred acquisition costs	(1,237)	-	(1,237)
Effect of movements in exchange rates	13	-	13
Balance at 31 December	15,936	-	15,936
2021			
	Gross provisions \$'000	Reinsurance assets \$'000	Net \$'000
Claims outstanding			
Balance at 1 January	175,110	(4,319)	170,791
Change in claims outstanding	9,522	(10,900)	(1,378)
Effect of movements in exchange rates	(14)	0	(14)
Balance at 31 December	184,618	(15,219)	169,399
Claims notified	56,522	-	56,522
Claims incurred but not reported	128,096	(15,219)	112,877
Balance at 31 December	184,618	(15,219)	169,399
Unearned premiums			
Balance at 1 January	53,354	(217)	53,137
Change in unearned premiums	4,585	(2,606)	1,979
Effect of movements in exchange rates	(155)	1	(154)
Balance at 31 December	57,784	(2,822)	54,962
Deferred acquisition costs			
Balance at 1 January	17,657	-	17,657
Change in deferred acquisition costs	(423)	-	(423)
Effect of movements in exchange rates	(74)	-	(74)
Balance at 31 December	17,160	-	17,160

5. Net operating expenses

	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000
Acquisition costs	(25,671)	(31,480)
Change in deferred acquisition costs	(1,237)	(424)
Brokerage rebates	101	-
Administration expenses	(9,774)	(9,228)
Net operating expenses	<u>(36,581)</u>	<u>(41,132)</u>

Members' standard personal expenses amounting to \$2,083k (2021: \$2,383k) are included in administrative expenses. Members' standard personal expenses include Lloyd's subscriptions, New Central Fund contributions, Managing Agent's fees and profit commission.

6. Staff costs

	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000
Wages and salaries	(1,192)	(859)
Social security costs	-	-
Other pension costs	-	-
	<u>(1,192)</u>	<u>(859)</u>

The average number of staff employed during the year was 3 members of staff (2021: 2). Staff costs are recharged from Hampden Syndicate Services Limited.

7. Auditors' remuneration

	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000
Audit of the financial statements	(50)	(42)
Other services pursuant to Regulations and Lloyd's Byelaws	(198)	(166)
Other services relating to actuarial review	(87)	(95)
	<u>(335)</u>	<u>(303)</u>

Auditors' remuneration is included as part of the administrative expenses in note 5 to the financial statements.

8. Emoluments of the Directors of Asta Managing Agency Ltd

The aggregate emoluments of the Directors and staff of the Managing Agency are met by Asta Managing Agency Ltd and are disclosed within the financial statements of that company, with the exception of J M Tighe, S P A Norton, D J G Hunt and L Harfitt. J M Tighe and S P A Norton's remuneration is disclosed in the financial statements of Asta Capital Ltd and the remuneration of D J G Hunt and L Harfitt is disclosed in the financial statements of Asta Insurance Markets Ltd, and were all charged in the accounts of Asta Managing Agency Ltd.

No emoluments of the directors or staff of Asta Managing Agency Ltd were directly charged to the Syndicate. (2021: nil) The emoluments of the Active Underwriter are borne by the Syndicate and amounted to \$557k (2021: \$447k) in the year.

No other compensation was payable to key management personnel.

9. Investment return

	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
Income from other financial investments	631	649
Income from funds withheld balance	-	(5)
Total investment return	<u>631</u>	<u>644</u>

10. Financial Investments

31 December 2022	Carrying value \$'000	Purchase price \$'000
Shares and other variable yield securities and units in unit trusts		
- Designated at fair value through profit or loss	6,053	6,053
- Overseas deposits as investments	4,454	4,454
Debt securities and other fixed income securities		
- Designated at fair value through profit or loss	<u>28,178</u>	<u>29,743</u>
Total	<u>38,685</u>	<u>40,250</u>

Financial investments continued

31 December 2021	Carrying value \$'000	Purchase price \$'000
Shares and other variable yield securities and units in unit trusts		
- Designated at fair value through profit or loss	13,005	13,004
- Overseas deposits as investments	926	926
Debt securities and other fixed income securities		
- Designated at fair value through profit or loss	57,830	58,367
Total	71,761	72,297

There was no material change in fair value for financial instruments held at fair value (other than derivatives) attributable to own credit risk in the current or comparative period.

The following table shows financial investments recorded at fair value analysed between the three levels in the fair value hierarchy.

	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
31 December 2022				
Shares and other variable yield securities and units in unit trusts	254	4,363	1,436	6,053
Debt securities and other fixed income securities	12,144	16,034	-	28,178
Overseas deposits	512	3,942	-	4,454
Total	12,910	24,339	1,436	38,685
	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
31 December 2021				
Shares and other variable yield securities and units in unit trusts	-	10,943	2,062	13,005
Debt securities and other fixed income securities	35,509	22,321	-	57,830
Overseas deposits	178	748	-	926
Total	35,687	34,012	2,062	71,761

Included in the level 1 category are financial assets that are measured by reference to published quotes in an active market. A financial instrument is regarded as quoted in an active market if quoted prices are readily and regularly available from an exchange, dealer, broker,

Financial investments continued

industry Syndicate, pricing service or regulatory agency and those prices represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis.

Included in the level 2 category are financial assets measured using a valuation technique based on assumptions that are supported by prices from observable current market transactions. For example, assets for which pricing is obtained via pricing services but where prices have not been determined in an active market, financial assets with fair values based on broker quotes, investments in private equity funds with fair values obtained via fund managers and assets that are valued using the Syndicate's own models whereby the significant inputs into the assumptions are market observable.

Included in the level 3 category, are financial assets measured using a valuation technique (model) based on assumptions that are neither supported by prices from observable current market transactions in the same instrument nor are they based on available market data. Therefore, unobservable inputs reflect the Syndicate's own assumptions about the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability (including assumptions about risk). These inputs are developed based on the best information available, which might include the Syndicate's own data. The only asset in this category is the loan provided to the Lloyd's Central Fund.

11. Debtors arising out of direct insurance operations

	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000
Debtors arising out of direct insurers (within one year)	11,985	-
Debtors arising out of direct insurers (after one year)	1	-
Total	<u>11,986</u>	<u>-</u>

12. Debtors arising out of reinsurance operations

	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000
Due from ceding reinsurers (within one year)	60,086	39,421
Due from ceding reinsurers (after one year)	5,918	58,293
Total	<u>66,004</u>	<u>97,714</u>

13. Cash and cash equivalents

	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000
Short-term deposits with financial institutions	6,053	13,005
Central fund loan	(1,436)	(2,063)
Cash at bank and in hand	8,688	14,411
Total	13,305	25,353

14. Other assets

Other assets comprise of VAT receivable from HMRC of \$27.6k (\$118k in 2021).

15. Creditors arising out of direct insurance operations

	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000
Due to direct insurers (within one year)	(62)	-
Due to direct insurers (after one year)	-	-
Total	(62)	-

16. Creditors arising out of reinsurance operations

	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000
Due to ceding reinsurers (within one year)	(908)	(11,401)
Due to ceding reinsurers (after one year)	-	-
Total	(908)	(11,401)

17. Related parties

The ultimate parent company of Asta Managing Agency Ltd is Tennessee Topco Ltd following the acquisition of Asta Capital Ltd by the Davies Group Ltd on 13 July 2022.

Asta provides services and support to Syndicate 2689 in its capacity as Managing Agent. During the year, managing agency fees of \$1,247k (2021: \$1,374k) were charged to the Syndicate. Asta also recharged \$3,414k (2021: \$3,044k) worth of service charges in the year and as at 31 December 2022 an amount of \$274k (2021: \$225k) was owed to Asta in respect of this service.

Another subsidiary of the Hampden Group, Hampden Agencies Ltd, acts as the Members Agent for most of the third-party capital providers of the Syndicate. The Syndicate had no outstanding balances with these entities as at 31 December 2022 (2021: nil).

Related Parties continued

Hampden Syndicate Services Limited recharged \$2,199k (2021: \$931k) to the syndicate in the year. There was \$99k (2021: \$48k) owed to Hampden Syndicate Services Limited as at 31 December 2022.

From time to time, Syndicates managed by Asta enter into (re)insurance contracts with one another. All such transactions are subject to Asta's internal controls which ensure that all are compliant with Lloyd's Related Party Byelaw provisions. All transactions are entered into on an arm's length basis.

18. Disclosure of interests

Managing Agent's interest

During 2022 Asta was the Managing Agent for twelve Syndicates, two Special Purpose Arrangements and six Syndicate in a Box. Syndicate 1609,1699,1729, 1892,1980,1988, 2288, 2525, 2689, 2786, 3268 and 4242 as well as Special Purpose Arrangements 1416 and 6131 and Syndicates in a Box 4747,1796,1902,2880,3456 and 5183 were managed on behalf of third party capital providers.

On 1 January 2022, Asta took on the management of Syndicate 1699.

On 1 January 2022, Asta took on the management of Syndicate in a box 1902.

On 10 February 2022, Asta took on management of Syndicate in a box 2880.

On 10 February 2022, Asta reinsured to close Syndicate 1980 into Riverstone Syndicate 3500.

On 22 March 2022, Asta took on the management of Syndicate in a box 3456.

On 13 May 2022, Asta migrated the management of 3268 to IQUW.

On 10 June 2022, Asta took on the management of Syndicate in a box 5183.

On 18 July 2022, Asta took on the management of Syndicate in a box 1796.

On 1 October 2022, Asta migrated Syndicate 1729 and SPA 6131 to Dale Managing Agency.

On 1 January 2023, Asta took on the management of Syndicate 1985.

On 1 January 2023, Asta took on the management of Syndicate 1322.

The agency also provides administrative services to Syndicates and Special Purpose Arrangements, also undertaking several ancillary roles for other clients.

The Financial Statements of the Managing Agency can be obtained by application to the Registered Office (see page 1).

19. Funds at Lloyd's

Every member is required to hold capital at Lloyd's which is held in trust and known as Funds at Lloyd's (FAL). These funds are intended primarily to cover circumstances where Syndicate assets prove insufficient to meet participating members' underwriting liabilities.

The level of FAL that Lloyd's requires a member to maintain is determined by Lloyd's based on PRA requirements and resource criteria. FAL has regard to a number of factors including the nature and amount of risk to be underwritten by the member and the assessment of the reserving risk in respect of business that has been underwritten. Since FAL is not under the management of the managing agent, no amount has been shown in these financial statements by way of such capital resources. However, the managing agent is able to make a call on the members' FAL to meet liquidity requirements or to settle losses.

20. Off-balance sheet items

At 31 December 2022, the Syndicate had utilised \$11m (2021: nil) of a letter of credit facility from Barclays Bank PLC (Barclays). The total facility provided by Barclays is \$15m for 2022 (2021: \$25m).

21. Risk management

a) Governance framework

The Syndicate's risk and financial management framework aims to protect the Syndicate's members capital from events that might otherwise prevent the Syndicate from meeting its policyholder obligations, while maximising the returns to its members. The Directors recognise the critical importance of having efficient and effective risk management systems in place.

Asta maintains a risk management function for the Syndicate with clear terms of reference from the Syndicate Board, its committees and sub committees. Asta supplements this with a clear organisational structure with documented delegated authorities and responsibilities from the main Asta managing agency board to the Syndicate who perform the underwriting activities. Lastly, the Syndicate policy framework sets its risk management and control and business conduct standards for operations. Asta reviews and monitors each policy to ensure compliance with the policy throughout the Syndicate.

The Syndicate board 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 goals, and specify reporting requirements. The Syndicate board places significant emphasis on the assessment and documentation of risks and controls, including the articulation of the Syndicate's risk appetite.

b) Capital management objectives, policies and approach

Capital framework at Lloyd's

The Society of Lloyd's (Lloyd's) is a regulated undertaking and subject to the supervision of the Prudential Regulatory Authority (PRA) under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000. 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.

Risk management continued

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 2689 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 Solvency Capital Requirement (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 is participating but not other members' shares. Accordingly, the capital requirement that Lloyd's sets for each member operates on a similar basis. Each member's SCR shall thus be determined by the sum of the member's share of the Syndicate SCR 'to ultimate'. Where a member participates on more than one Syndicate, a credit for diversification is provided to reflect the spread of risk, but 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 a capital uplift to the member's capital requirement, known as the 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 2022 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 (funds at Lloyd's), 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. Accordingly, the ending members balances reported on the statement of financial position on page 21, represent resources available or required 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.

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

Risk management continued

Sub committees of the Syndicate board oversee the management of reserving risk. The use of standardised and internal modelling techniques, as well as benchmarking and the review of claims development are key in mitigating reserving risk.

The purpose of these underwriting, reinsurance and reserving strategies is to limit exposure to catastrophes or large losses based on the Syndicate's risk appetite as decided by the Syndicate board.

The Syndicate uses both its own and commercially available 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 un-modelled 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 out of the RDS on the Syndicates in-force exposure at 31 December 2022.

2022	Estimated Gross loss	Estimated Net loss
	\$'000	\$'000
Terrorism - Rockefeller Center	(48,808)	(18,550)
Alternative RDS A	(7,521)	(6,522)
Alternative RDS B	(2,696)	(2,696)
Loss of Major Complex	(62,843)	(32,585)
Aviation Collision	(22,852)	(22,852)
Liability - Internal Scenario 1	(30,240)	(21,960)
Liability - Internal Scenario 2	(10,920)	(3,600)
AEP Loss 30 Year Return Period - US WS (Incl GM WS)	(16,188)	(8,200)
AEP Loss 30 Year Return Period - UC EQ	(10,159)	(6,566)
Cyber - Major Data Security Breach	(14,719)	(14,719)
AEP Loss 30 Year Return Period - Whole World	(27,658)	(16,269)
Terrorism - One World Trade Center	(48,808)	(18,550)
Marine - Marine Collision in US Waters	(33,516)	(4,655)
Marine - Major Cruise Vessel Incident	(33,516)	(4,655)
Cyber - Blackout II	(8,696)	(8,696)
Cyber - Ransomware Contagion	(8,696)	(8,696)
Cyber - Cloud Cascade	(8,696)	(8,696)

Risk management continued

2021	Estimated Gross loss	Estimated Net loss
	\$'000	\$'000
Terrorism - Rockefeller Center	(30,416)	(8,165)
Alternative RDS A	(105,126)	(10,887)
Alternative RDS B	(21,774)	(16,331)
Loss of Major Complex	(60,287)	(33,069)
Aviation Collision - To be specified by syndicate	(13,621)	(13,621)
Liability - Internal Scenario 1	(27,218)	(19,052)
Liability - Internal Scenario 2	(21,774)	(13,609)
AEP Loss 30 Year Return Period - US WS (Incl GM WS)	(43,924)	(15,675)
AEP Loss 30 Year Return Period - UC EQ	(8,848)	(7,681)
Cyber - Major Data Security Breach	(17,213)	(17,213)
AEP Loss 30 Year Return Period - Whole World	(53,686)	(25,735)
Terrorism - One World Trade Center	(28,034)	(8,165)
Marine - Marine Collision in US Waters	(28,910)	(8,165)
Marine - Major Cruise Vessel Incident	(20,870)	(8,165)

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 average claim costs, claim handling costs, claim inflation factors and claim numbers for each underwriting year. Additional qualitative judgements are used to assess the extent to which past trends may not apply in the future, for example: once-off occurrence; changes in market factors such as public attitude to claiming; 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.

There have been significant changes to price inflation in 2022 due to the war in Ukraine as well as supply side issues caused by covid (amongst other factors). Inflation has increased sharply for all economies, and most forward-looking inflation forecasts suggest high levels of inflation in the short term before reverting to previously observed averages over the longer term.

There are a number of factors which impact the inflationary environment; such as government or central bank actions, movements in exchange rates impacting the cost of imports, and geopolitical factors such as those already noted above. As such there is a high level of uncertainty around forward-looking inflation assumptions in both the short and long term.

Other key circumstances affecting the reliability of assumptions include variation in interest rates, 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, uncertainty in the estimation process.

Risk management continued

The following analysis is performed for reasonably possible movements in key assumptions with all other assumptions held constant, showing the impact on net liabilities, profit and members' 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 assumptions, assumptions had to be changed on an individual basis. It should be noted that movements in these assumptions are non-linear.

	2022	2021
Gross	\$'000	\$'000
Five percent increase in claim liabilities	5,447	9,231
Five percent decrease in claim liabilities	(5,447)	(9,231)
Net		
Five percent increase in claim liabilities	4,977	8,470
Five percent decrease in claim liabilities	(4,977)	(8,470)

Claims development table

The tables below show the Syndicate's cumulative incurred claims development, including both claims notified and IBNR for each underwriting year, together with the cumulative payments to date on a gross and net of reinsurance basis at the balance sheet date. The Syndicate has elected to translate estimated claims and claims payments at a consistent rate of exchange as determined by the balance sheet date.

Underwriting year	2020	2021	2022
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Estimate of cumulative gross claims incurred:			
At end of first underwriting year	42,665	50,773	33,142
One Year Later	85,339	77,230	
Two Years Later	81,688		
Less cumulative gross paid	(47,796)	(32,909)	(2,418)
Liability for gross outstanding claims (2020 to 2022)	33,892	44,321	30,724
Total gross outstanding claims (all years)			108,937

Risk management continued

Underwriting year	2020	2021	2022
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Estimate of cumulative net claims incurred:			
At end of first underwriting year	44,001	39,316	31,568
One Year Later	81,596	68,600	
Two Years Later	79,757		
Less cumulative gross paid	(47,796)	(30,173)	(2,418)
Liability for gross outstanding claims (2020 to 2022)	31,961	38,427	29,150
Total net outstanding claims (all years)			99,538

The uncertainty associated with the ultimate claims experience of an underwriting year is greatest when the underwriting year is at an early stage of development and the margin for future experience potentially being more adverse than assumed is at its highest. As claims develop, and the ultimate cost of the claims becomes more certain, the relative level of margin should decrease. Due, however, to the uncertainty inherent in the claims estimation process, initial reserves may not always be in a surplus.

In 2022, there has been an overall deterioration of \$2,438k on prior year reserves (2021: deficit \$2,626k).

d) Financial risk

The focus of financial risk management for the Syndicate is ensuring that the proceeds from its financial assets are sufficient to fund the obligations arising from its insurance contracts. The goal of the investment management process is to optimise the risk-adjusted investment income and risk-adjusted total return by investing in a diversified portfolio of securities, whilst ensuring that the assets and liabilities are managed on a cash flow and duration basis.

1) Credit risk

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

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

- Investment guidelines are established setting out the quality of investments to be included within the Syndicates portfolio. The policy is monitored by the Syndicate Board.
- 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. If the counterparty is downgraded or does not have a good credit rating, then collateral is sought to mitigate any risk. This is monitored by the Syndicate Board.

Risk management continued

The tables below show the maximum exposure to credit risk (including an analysis of financial assets exposed to credit risk) for the components of the statement of financial position. The maximum exposure is shown gross, before the effect of mitigation through collateral agreements and the use of credit derivatives.

	\$'000			Total
	Neither past due or impaired	Past due	Impaired	
Debtors arising out of reinsurance operations	66,004	-	-	66,004
Debtors arising out of direct operations	11,986			11,986
Other financial investments	38,685	-	-	38,685
Reinsurance share of claims outstanding	13,109	-	-	13,109
Cash at bank and in hand	8,688	-	-	8,688
Other debtors	16,699	-	-	16,699
Total	155,171	-	-	155,171

	\$'000			Total
	Neither past due or impaired	Past due	Impaired	
Debtors arising out of reinsurance operations	97,714	-	-	97,714
Debtors arising out of direct operations	-	-	-	-
Other financial investments	71,761	-	-	71,761
Reinsurance share of claims outstanding	18,041	-	-	18,041
Cash at bank and in hand	14,411	-	-	14,411
Other debtors	17,914	-	-	17,914
Total	219,841	-	-	219,841

The table below provides information regarding the credit risk exposure of the Syndicate at 31 December 2022 by classifying assets according to independent credit ratings of the counterparties. AAA is the highest possible rating. Assets that fall outside the range of AAA to BBB are classified as speculative grade and have not been rated. Debtors, other than amounts due from reinsurers, have been excluded from the table as these are not rated.

Risk management continued

	2022						Total
	AAA	AA	A	BBB	BBB or less	Not Rated	
Shares and other variable yield securities	-	-	6,053	-	-	-	6,053
Debt securities	16,754	1,920	6,966	-	-	2,538	28,178
Overseas deposits	471	95	92	3,271	1	524	4,454
Deposits with ceding undertakings	-	-	230	-	-	-	230
Reinsurers share of claims outstanding	-	652	2,347	-	-	6,400	9,399
Reinsurance debtors on ceded business	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cash and cash equivalents	-	-	8,688	-	-	-	8,688
Total	17,225	2,667	24,376	3,271	1	9,462	57,002

	2021						Total
	AAA	AA	A	BBB	BBB or less	Not Rated	
Shares and other variable yield securities	-	-	13,005	-	-	-	13,005
Debt securities	1,737	42,192	6,790	-	-	7,111	57,830
Overseas deposits	563	72	98	107	-	86	926
Reinsurers share of claims outstanding	-	-	88	-	-	-	88
Reinsurance debtors on ceded business	-	51	960	-	-	14,208	15,219
Cash and cash equivalents	-	-	14,411	-	-	-	14,411
Total	2,300	42,315	35,352	107	-	21,405	101,479

Maximum credit exposure

It is the Syndicate's policy to maintain accurate and consistent risk ratings across its credit portfolio. This enables management to focus on the applicable risks and the comparison of credit exposures across all lines of business.

During the year, no credit exposure limits were exceeded (2021: none).

Risk management continued

2) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Syndicate may not have enough cash to pay insurance claims and other liabilities. The Syndicate tries to reduce this risk by reviewing its expected cash obligations on a quarterly basis and keeping adequate cash on deposit to meet those obligations.

The table below summarises the maturity profile of the Syndicate's financial liabilities based on remaining undiscounted contractual obligations, including interest payable and 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.

2022		\$'000				
	No stated maturity	0-1 Year	1-3 Years	3-5 Years	More than 5 years	Total
Claims outstanding	-	43,485	44,093	13,568	7,791	108,937
Creditors	-	970	-	-	-	970
Total	-	44,455	44,093	13,568	7,791	109,907

2021		\$'000				
	No stated maturity	0-1 Year	1-3 Years	3-5 Years	More than 5 years	Total
Claims outstanding	-	68,100	63,155	23,916	29,447	184,618
Creditors	-	11,401	-	-	-	11,401
Total	-	79,501	63,155	23,916	29,447	196,019

3) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument or insurance contract will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk comprises three types of risk: interest rate risk, currency risk and other price risk.

The objective of market risk management is to manage and control market risk exposures within acceptable parameters, while optimising the return on risk. The nature of the Syndicate exposures to market risk and its objectives, policies and processes for managing market risk have not changed significantly from the prior year.

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 US Dollar and its exposure to foreign exchange risk arises primarily with respect to transactions in Sterling, Euro, Canadian and Australian dollar.

Risk management continued

The Syndicate seeks to mitigate the risk by matching 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 to foreign currency exchange risk at the reporting date, as follows:

2022	\$'000						Total
	GBP	EUR	USD	CAD	AUD	JPY	
Total Assets	12,717	2,557	134,236	4,314	290	1,057	155,171
Total Liabilities	(7,700)	(3,037)	(155,972)	(1,944)	(141)	(417)	(169,211)
Net Assets	5,017	(480)	(21,736)	2,370	149	640	(14,040)

2021	\$'000						Total
	GBP	EUR	USD	CAD	AUD	JPY	
Total Assets	5,124	6,462	193,781	11,719	1,645	1,199	219,930
Total Liabilities	(3,611)	(2,525)	(236,793)	(11,914)	(115)	(587)	(255,545)
Net Assets	1,513	3,937	(43,012)	(195)	1,530	612	(35,615)

Sensitivity to changes

The table below gives an indication of the impact on profit of a percentage change in the relative strength of the US dollar against the value of Sterling and all other currencies simultaneously. The analysis is based on the information as at 31 December 2022.

	Impact on profit and member's balance	
	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000
US Dollar weakens		
10% against other currencies	770	740
20% against other currencies	1,539	1,479
US Dollar strengthens		
10% against other currencies	(770)	(740)
20% against other currencies	(1,539)	(1,479)

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. Floating rate instruments expose the Syndicate to cash flow interest risk, whereas fixed rate instruments expose the Syndicate to fair value interest risk.

Risk management continued

The Syndicate has no significant concentration of interest rate risk.

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

Sensitivity to changes

The table below shows an indication of the potential impact on the Syndicate's result and net assets if interest rates had been 50 basis points higher or lower in the year.

	2022	2021
	\$'000	\$'000
Interest Rate Risk		
Impact of 50 basis point increase on result	(24)	(43)
Impact of 50 basis point decrease on result	24	43
Impact of 50 basis point increase on net assets	(24)	(43)
Impact of 50 basis point decrease on net assets	24	43

22. Post balance sheet events

In 2023, the Syndicate will collect \$4.5m in relation to the 2020 underwriting year losses.