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Syndicate 1902

Syndicate Annual Report and Accounts
31 December 2023

Contents

Directors and Administration	1
Managing Agent's report	2
Statement of Managing Agent's responsibilities	8
Independent auditors' report	9
Income statement	13
Statement of changes in Members' balances	14
Statement of financial position	15
Statement of cash flows	17
Notes to the syndicate annual accounts	18
1. Basis of preparation	18
2. Accounting policies	18
3. Segmental analysis.....	25
4. Technical provisions	26
5. Net operating expenses	27
6. Auditors' remuneration.....	27
7. Emoluments of the directors of Asta Managing Agency Ltd	27
8. Financial Investments	28
9. Debtors arising out of direct insurance operations.....	29
10. Debtors arising out of reinsurance operations	30
11. Other assets.....	30
12. Creditors arising out of direct insurance operations	30
13. Creditors arising out of reinsurance operations.....	30
14. Cash and cash equivalents.....	30
15. Related parties	31
16. Disclosure of interests	31
17. Funds at Lloyd's	31
18. Off-balance sheet items.....	32
19. Risk management	32
20. Post balance sheet events.....	39

Directors and Administration

Managing Agent

Asta Managing Agency Ltd

Directors

P A Jardine (Chairman)*

R P Barke

C V Barley

S Bradbury

E M Catchpole*

K A Green*

L Harfitt

D B Jones

L J M McMaster

S D Redmond*

K Shah*

Non-Executive Directors*

Managing Agent's Registered Office

5th Floor

20 Gracechurch Street

London

EC3V 0BG

Managing Agent's Registered Number

1918744

Active Underwriter

P Trafford

Bankers

Barclays Plc

Citibank NA

RBC Dexia

Registered Auditors

PKF Littlejohn LLP

Signing Actuary

PKF Littlejohn LLP

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 2023.

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").

In assessing going concern for the Syndicate, this is reviewed monthly during our Liquidity Committee (a sub-committee of the Executive Performance Oversight Working Group) and as such these financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. For further information, please see note 1 to the financial statements.

Results

The result for the calendar year 2023 is a profit of £5.4m. (2022 calendar year profit £0.1m). Profits and losses will be distributed and collected by reference to the results of individual underwriting years.

This is the second year of the Syndicate's operations. The Syndicate's principal activity is the underwriting of Third party liability insurance business in the Lloyd's market.

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 Insurance Contracts.

Principal activity and review of the business

The Syndicate's principal activity is the underwriting of direct insurance and reinsurance business, of Life Science and Clinical Trials, Medical Malpractice and Commercial Liability business in the Lloyd's market.

Gross written premium income by class of business for the calendar year was as follows;

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Energy Non Marine	50	32
Third Party Liability	46,729	18,965
Reinsurance	1,835	3,433
	<hr/> 48,614	<hr/> 22,430

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

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Gross written premiums	48,614	22,430
Profit for the financial year	5,402	73
Combined ratio*	83.6%	102.2%

Managing Agent's report continued

*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.

The forecast return on capacity for the 2023 and 2022 year of accounts at 31 December 2023 are shown below:

	2023 YOA Open	2022 YOA Open
Capacity (£'000)	52,562	38,500
Forecast result (£'000)	9,421	6,599
Forecast return on capacity (%)	17.92%	17.14%

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 in a Box Board, a sub-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 risk 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 in a Box Board manages insurance risk through challenge and oversight of the approved business plan, which sets out targets for volumes, pricing, line sizes and retention by class of business. The Syndicate in a Box Board then monitors performance against the business plan and the aggregation of risk through the exposure management reporting through the year. The Syndicate in a Box Board considers any proposed underwriting that impacts the syndicate's ESG profile to ensure consistency with the agreed ESG approach. Reserve adequacy is monitored through quarterly review by the Asta Actuarial team and the Syndicate Management Committee.

The Syndicate is exposed to risks arising from the legal environment in the UK, given the nature of the policies written, which could impact on the Syndicate's claims. Inflation assumptions are included within the Syndicate's reserving processes to cover all material, known forms of inflation, which will increase future claims payments.

Credit risk

The key aspect of syndicate 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 policy is to only use 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.

Managing Agent's report continued

The syndicate may also be exposed to broker credit risk, in particular where risk transfer arrangements are in place. Aged debt reporting for premiums is reviewed in the Syndicate in a Box Board.

Market risk

Market risk exposure impacting the Syndicate relates to fluctuations in interest rates or exchange rates. 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 syndicate 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 in a Box Board.

Liquidity risk

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 in a Box Board 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 with Barclays Bank.

Operational risk

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 a robust operational risk and control framework including detailed procedures manuals and a thorough training programme. This is underpinned by a structured programme of testing of processes and systems by internal audit, who serve as an independent line of assurance, reporting directly to the Chair of the Agency Audit Committee. 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. The Agency has a Head of Regulatory Affairs who manages a function that monitor business activity and regulatory developments to assess any effects on both the Agency and the Syndicate.

The Syndicate has no appetite for failing to adhere to the requirements of the FCA Consumer Duty regulations and continues its focus on ensuring that it is treating customers fairly. The Syndicate manages and monitors consumer duty risk through a suite of risk indicators and reporting metrics as part of its documented consumer duty risk framework. The consumer duty risk framework is consistently applied across all Asta syndicates and is overseen by the Conduct Oversight Group (COG), which is an AMA Board Committee that includes a non-executive director as a member who fulfils the role of Consumer Duty Champion.

Managing Agent's report continued

Group risk

Group risk 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

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).

Strategic issues are considered on a regular basis through the discussion of elevated Risks, Appetite and other matters at the SIAB Assurance Working Group, Syndicate in a Box Board and AMA Board. The Performance Oversight Working Group also monitors premium income and performance each quarter, with matters escalated for discussion at the AMA Risk Committee / Board as required.

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 2024 year of account is £62.3m (2023 year of account £52.6m).

Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)

The Syndicate has an ESG policy in place, which was submitted to Lloyd's alongside the 2023 Business plan. The policy was aligned to Lloyd's ESG guidance from October 2021. In November 2023, Lloyd's launched a consultation on their roadmap for "Insuring the transition", setting out their proposed approach for the next three years across all areas of sustainability for the market, including underwriting, investments, exposure management, capital and reserving. During 2024, the Syndicate ESG policy will be reviewed and developed against the roadmap, including the development of management information for ongoing monitoring and action, where required.

Managing the Financial Risks of Climate Change

Following the Prudential Regulation Authority's (PRA) Supervisory Statement in 2019 and subsequent Dear CEO letter in 2020, Asta 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, provided it is understood, managed and controlled and/or compensated. There is no appetite for uncontrolled, unmanaged exposure to the financial risks of climate change.

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

Asta continues on an ongoing basis to monitor against regulatory guidance and expectations as it is released on managing the financial risks of climate change.

Managing Agent's report continued

Emerging Risks

An emerging risk or opportunity is defined as “a developing issue, triggered externally, with the potential to have a significant business impact but which may not be sufficiently understood or accounted for”.

The business impact in this case could represent a downside risk or an upside opportunity. Emerging risks and opportunities include:

- Syndicate insurable risks, as areas of potential future losses or new product offerings;
- Those risks that may affect a syndicate's ability to carry out normal business operations and/or lead to unplanned significant costs/income;
- Both new risks and those which are re-emerging in a new context.

The Agency and Syndicate continue to monitor the impact of emerging risks on syndicate business, taking into account their impacts on the strategic direction of the syndicate.

Monitoring takes place in various forums, including the Asta Emerging Risks and Opportunities Group (“EROG”) which meets quarterly and considers emerging risks and opportunities from both an internal and external lens. Specific areas of focus over the external environment across the year at Syndicate and Asta level include:

- The geopolitical landscape from a tension and broader political risk impact, including any exposures stemming from regional conflicts (e.g. Russia - Ukraine conflict).
- The heightened inflationary environment and subsequent volatility surrounding inflation risk. This has also been considered by the Syndicate within their annual business planning process and reserve reviews.

2024 will see a significant proportion of the world go to the polls in elections including both in the UK and US, which may see changes of government on both sides of the Atlantic. Knock-on impacts from worldwide elections in 2024 may impact geopolitical stability in the wider world as well as having more regional social impacts.

Directors and officers

Details of the Directors and officers 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:-

C N Griffiths	Resigned 28 February 2023
S Bradbury	Appointed 22 May 2023
A J Hubbard	Resigned 30 June 2023

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.

Managing Agent's report continued

Auditors

The Managing Agent intends to reappoint PKF Littlejohn LLP 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 within 21 days of this notice.

On behalf of the Board

C V Barley
Director
27 February 2024

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

Independent auditors' report to the members of Syndicate 1902

Opinion

We have audited the syndicate annual accounts of Syndicate 1902 (the 'syndicate') for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the Income Statement, the Statement of changes in Members' Balances, Statement of financial position, statement of cash flows and notes to the syndicate annual accounts, including 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 (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the syndicate annual accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the syndicate's affairs as at 31 December 2023 and of its profit 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, 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 upon 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 at least twelve 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.

Other information

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

Independent auditors' report continued

The managing agent is responsible for the other information contained within the syndicate annual report. Our opinion on the syndicate annual accounts does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our 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 this 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 for 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 in relation to which the Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept on behalf of the syndicate; or
- the syndicate annual accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of managing agent emoluments and other benefits specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of the managing agent

As explained more fully in the statement of managing agent's responsibilities, 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 syndicate annual accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Independent auditors' report continued

In preparing the syndicate annual accounts, the managing agent is responsible for assessing the syndicate's ability to continue to write new business, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to its ability to continue to operate and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless the managing agent 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- We obtained an understanding of the syndicate and the insurance sector in which it operates to identify laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a direct effect on the syndicate annual accounts. We obtained our understanding in this regard through discussions with management, industry research and the application of our cumulative audit knowledge and experience of the insurance sector.
- We determined the principal laws and regulations relevant to the syndicate in this regard to be those arising from the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA), Lloyd's of London and the Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicates and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008, and the financial reporting framework (UK GAAP).
- We designed our audit procedures to ensure the audit team considered whether there were any indications of non-compliance by the syndicate with those laws and regulations. These procedures included, but were not limited to:
 - agreement of the syndicate annual accounts disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
 - making enquiries of management and review of minutes of Board and management meetings throughout the period;
 - understanding the syndicate's policies and procedures in monitoring compliance with laws and regulations;
 - inspecting correspondence with Lloyd's of London, the PRA and FCA; and
 - reviewing compliance reports and internal audit reports relating to the syndicate.

Independent auditors' report continued

- We also identified possible risks of material misstatement of the syndicate annual accounts due to fraud. We considered, in addition to the non-rebuttable presumption of a risk of fraud arising from management override of controls, that there was potential for management bias in the reporting of events and transactions in the syndicate annual accounts relating to the valuation of technical provisions and the calculation of the reinsurer's share of technical provisions. To address this, we challenged the assumptions and judgements made by management when auditing those significant accounting estimates.
- As in all of our audits, we addressed the risk of fraud arising from management override of controls by performing audit procedures which included, but were not limited to, the testing of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for evidence of bias and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that were unusual or outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the syndicate annual accounts or non-compliance with laws and regulations. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the syndicate annual accounts, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. This risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, conclusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the syndicate's members, as a body, in accordance with Part 2 of 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.

Thomas Seaman (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of PKF Littlejohn LLP
Statutory Auditor

15 Westferry Circus
Canary Wharf
London E14 4HD

27 February 2024

Income statement

Technical account - General business

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Gross premiums written	3	48,614	22,430
Outward reinsurance premiums		<u>(5,918)</u>	<u>(3,435)</u>
Net written premiums		42,696	18,995
Change in the provision for unearned premiums			
Gross amount		(11,567)	(13,280)
Reinsurers' share		<u>2,228</u>	<u>2,524</u>
Change in the net provision for unearned premiums	4	(9,339)	(10,756)
Earned premiums, net of reinsurance		33,357	8,239
Allocated investment return transferred from the non-technical account		436	19
Claims paid			
Gross amount		(389)	(1)
Reinsurers' share		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net claims paid		(389)	(1)
Changes in the provision for claims outstanding			
Gross amount		(17,698)	(4,754)
Reinsurers' share		<u>2,069</u>	<u>500</u>
Change in the net provision for claims	4	(15,629)	(4,254)
Claims incurred, net of reinsurance		(16,018)	(4,255)
Net operating expenses	5	<u>(11,866)</u>	<u>(4,164)</u>
Balance on technical account – general business		<u>5,909</u>	<u>(161)</u>

All the amounts above are in respect of continuing operations.

The notes on pages 18 to 39 form part of these financial statements.

Income statement continued

Non-technical account - General business

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Balance on technical account – general business		5,909	(161)
Investment income		436	19
Allocated investment return transferred to the general business technical account		(436)	(19)
Exchange (losses)/gains		<u>(507)</u>	<u>234</u>
Profit for the financial year		<u>5,402</u>	<u>73</u>

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

The notes on pages 18 to 39 form part of these financial statements.

Statement of changes in Members' balances

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023 £,000	2022 £'000
At 1 January	73	-
Profit for the financial year	5,402	73
Members' agent's fees	<u>(134)</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 December	<u>5,341</u>	<u>73</u>

Statement of financial position

As at 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
ASSETS			
<i>Investments</i>			
Other financial investments	8 & 14	18,578	2,302
<i>Reinsurers' share of technical provisions</i>			
Provision for unearned premiums	4	4,942	2,960
Claims outstanding	4	<u>2,530</u>	<u>487</u>
		7,472	3,447
<i>Debtors</i>			
Debtors arising out of direct insurance operations	9	15,078	8,506
Debtors arising out of reinsurance operations	10	631	1,906
Other debtors		<u>193</u>	<u>77</u>
		15,902	10,489
<i>Cash and other assets</i>			
Cash at bank and in hand	14	4,115	784
Other assets	8 & 11	<u>2,413</u>	<u>627</u>
		6,528	1,411
Deferred acquisition costs	4	5,043	2,360
Other prepayments and accrued income		<u>89</u>	<u>-</u>
		5,132	2,360
<i>Total assets</i>		<u>53,612</u>	<u>20,009</u>

The notes on pages 18 to 39 form part of these financial statements.

Statement of financial position continued

As at 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
MEMBERS' BALANCE AND LIABILITIES			
<i>Capital and reserves</i>			
Members' balances		5,341	73
Liabilities			
<i>Technical provisions</i>			
Provision for unearned premiums	4	24,482	13,311
Claims outstanding	4	<u>22,206</u>	<u>4,711</u>
		46,688	18,022
<i>Creditors</i>			
Creditors arising out of direct insurance operations	12	4	3
Creditors arising out of reinsurance operations	13	1,196	54
Amounts owed to credit institutions	14	-	1,584
Other creditors including taxation		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
		1,200	1,641
<i>Accruals and deferred income</i>			
		383	273
<i>Total liabilities</i>		<u>48,271</u>	<u>19,936</u>
		<u>53,612</u>	<u>20,009</u>
<i>Total members' balances and liabilities</i>			

The notes on pages 18 to 39 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 13 to 39 were approved by Board of Directors on 22 February 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

R P Barke
Director
27 February 2024

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
<i>Profit for the financial year</i>		5,402	73
Increase in gross technical provisions		28,666	18,022
(Increase) in reinsurers' share of gross technical provisions		(4,025)	(3,447)
(Increase) in debtors		(5,413)	(10,489)
Increase in creditors		1,143	57
Movement in other assets/liabilities		(4,448)	(2,714)
Movement in foreign exchange		50	-
Investment return		(436)	(19)
<i>Net cash inflow from operating activities</i>		<u>20,939</u>	<u>1,483</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of other financial investments		-	-
Sale of other financial investments		-	-
Investment income received		436	19
<i>Net cash inflow from investing activities</i>		<u>436</u>	<u>19</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Payments of profit to members' personal reserve fund		-	-
Members' agents fee advances		(134)	-
<i>Net cash (outflow) from financing activities</i>		<u>(134)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		21,241	1,502
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		1,502	-
Exchange differences on opening cash		(50)	-
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	14	<u>22,693</u>	<u>1,502</u>

Notes to the syndicate annual accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2023

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 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 GBP 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.

There is significant estimation involved in its estimates of gross pipeline premiums, although they are primarily based upon estimates from the business producers including information supplied in relation to bordereaux not yet processed by the syndicate at the year-end. The element of the premium that is uncertain will be within unearned premiums. These gross premium estimates will also be taken into account to estimate the pipeline premium amounts due to reinsurers, particularly quota shares, although this will be more formulaic and will also primarily be in relation to unearned reinsurance premiums.

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.

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. 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.

Accounting policies continued

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 certain insurance contracts, premium is initially recognised based on estimates of ultimate premiums. These estimates, primarily relating to risks incepting to date under binder business, are judgemental and could result in misstatements of revenue recorded in the financial statements.

The main assumption underlying pipeline premiums are estimates from the premium introducers.

Reinsurance premiums

Reinsurance written premiums comprise the total premiums payable for the whole cover provided by contracts entered in the period, including portfolio premiums payable, 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.

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 processed in the year, 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.

Accounting policies continued

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.

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 the 31 December 2023 the Syndicate had a nil net unexpired risk provision. (2022: 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.

Accounting policies continued

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.

Reinsurance assets

The Syndicate cedes insurance risk in the normal course of business. Reinsurance assets represent balances due from reinsurance companies. Amounts recoverable from reinsurers are estimated in a manner consistent with the outstanding claims provision including IBNR or settled claims associated with the reinsurer's policies and are in accordance with the related reinsurance contract.

Reinsurance assets are reviewed for impairment at each reporting date, or more frequently, when an indication of impairment arises during the reporting year. Impairment occurs when there is objective evidence as a result of an event that occurred after initial recognition of the reinsurance asset that the Syndicate may not receive all outstanding amounts due under the terms of the contract and the event has a reliably measurable impact on the amounts that the Syndicate will receive from the reinsurer. The impairment loss is recorded in the income statement.

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.

Foreign currencies

The Syndicate's functional currency and presentational currency is GBP.

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.

Accounting policies continued

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:

	2023	2022
	Year End	Year End
CAD	1.68	1.63
EUR	1.15	1.13
USD	1.27	1.20

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.

Regular way purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised and derecognised, as applicable, on the trade date, i.e. the date that the Syndicate commits itself to purchase or sell the asset.

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.

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.

Accounting policies continued

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

Investment return comprises all investment income, realised investment gains and losses and movements in unrealised gains and losses, net of investment expenses, charges and interest.

Realised gains and losses on investments carried at market value are calculated as the difference between sale proceeds and purchase price. Movements in unrealised gains and losses on investments represent the difference between the valuation at the balance sheet date, together with the reversal of unrealised gains and losses recognised in earlier accounting periods in respect of investment disposals in the current period.

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.

Currently, the Syndicate has investments in Shares and other variable yield securities and units in unit trusts.

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.

Accounting policies continued

- Bonds have been valued at fair value using quoted prices in an active market.
- Deposits with credit institutions are included at cost plus accrued income.
- 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.

- 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.
- Currency derivatives and bond futures are included at market price.
- Investments in regulated collective investment schemes are valued on the NAVs of each of the individual funds as published publicly by the managers.
- 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.
- 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.

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

The Managing Agent operates a defined contribution scheme. Pension contributions to Syndicate staff are charged to the Syndicate and included within net operating expenses.

Accounting policies continued

Syndicate operating expenses

Where expenses are incurred by the Managing Agent or on behalf of the Managing Agent on the administration of managed Syndicate's, 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.

3. Segmental analysis

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

2023	Gross written premiums £'000	Gross premium earned £'000	Gross claims incurred £'000	Net operating expenses £'000	Reinsurance balance £'000	Total £'000
<u>Direct</u>						
Energy Non Marine	50	41	(21)	(15)	(1)	4
Third party liability	46,729	33,742	(16,447)	(10,686)	(1,366)	5,243
Total Direct	46,779	33,783	(16,468)	(10,701)	(1,367)	5,247
<u>Reinsurance</u>	1,835	3,264	(1,619)	(1,165)	(254)	226
Total	48,614	37,047	(18,087)	(11,866)	(1,621)	5,473
2022	Gross written premiums £'000	Gross premium earned £'000	Gross claims incurred £'000	Net operating expenses £'000	Reinsurance balance £'000	Total £'000
<u>Direct</u>						
Energy Non Marine	32	17	(7)	(9)	(1)	-
Third party liability	18,965	7,626	(3,990)	(3,465)	(344)	(173)
Total Direct	18,997	7,643	(3,997)	(3,474)	(345)	(173)
<u>Reinsurance</u>	3,433	1,507	(758)	(690)	(66)	(7)
Total	22,430	9,150	(4,755)	(4,164)	(411)	(180)

All premiums were derived in the UK.

The reinsurance balance is the aggregate total of all those items included in the technical account which relate to reinsurance outwards transactions.

4. Technical provisions

	2023		
	Gross provisions £'000	Reinsurance assets £'000	Net £'000
Claims outstanding			
Balance at 1 January	4,711	(487)	4,224
Change in claims outstanding	17,698	(2,069)	15,629
Effect of movements in exchange rates	(203)	26	(177)
Balance at 31 December	22,206	(2,530)	19,676
Claims notified	710	-	710
Claims incurred but not reported	21,496	(2,530)	18,966
Balance at 31 December	22,206	(2,530)	19,676
Unearned premiums			
Balance at 1 January	13,311	(2,960)	10,351
Change in unearned premiums	11,567	(2,228)	9,339
Effect of movements in exchange rates	(396)	246	(150)
Balance at 31 December	24,482	(4,942)	19,540
Deferred acquisition costs			
Balance at 1 January	2,360	-	2,360
Change in deferred acquisition costs	2,775	-	2,775
Effect of movements in exchange rates	(92)	-	(92)
Balance at 31 December	5,043	-	5,043
	2022		
	Gross provisions £'000	Reinsurance assets £'000	Net £'000
Claims outstanding			
Balance at 1 January	-	-	-
Change in claims outstanding	4,754	(500)	4,254
Effect of movements in exchange rates	(43)	13	(30)
Balance at 31 December	4,711	(487)	4,224
Claims notified	111	-	111
Claims incurred but not reported	4,600	(487)	4,113
Balance at 31 December	4,711	(487)	4,224
Unearned premiums			
Balance at 1 January	-	-	-
Change in unearned premiums	13,280	(2,524)	10,756
Effect of movements in exchange rates	31	(436)	(405)
Balance at 31 December	13,311	(2,960)	10,351
Deferred acquisition costs			
Balance at 1 January	-	-	-
Change in deferred acquisition costs	2,345	-	2,345
Effect of movements in exchange rates	15	-	15
Balance at 31 December	2,360	-	2,360

5. Net operating expenses

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Acquisition costs	(10,752)	(4,138)
Change in deferred acquisition costs	2,775	2,345
RI acquisition costs	-	-
Change in RI deferred acquisition costs	-	-
Administration expenses	(3,889)	(2,371)
Net operating expenses	<u>(11,866)</u>	<u>(4,164)</u>

Members' standard personal expenses amounting to £0.98m (2022 £0.77m) are included in administrative expenses. Members' standard personal expenses include Lloyd's subscriptions, New Central Fund contribution and Managing Agency fees.

6. Auditors' remuneration

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Audit of the Financial Statements	(47)	(34)
Audit related assurance service		
Other services pursuant to Regulations and Lloyd's Byelaws	(25)	(19)
Other services (Actuarial review)	(30)	(24)
	<u>(102)</u>	<u>(77)</u>

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

7. 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 S.P.A. Norton, L Harfitt and R.P. Barke. S.P.A Norton's and L Harfitt's remuneration is disclosed in the financial statements of Asta Capital Ltd and the remuneration of R.P. Barke 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. The emoluments of the Active Underwriter are borne by Medical and Commercial International Ltd and recharged to the Syndicate.

No other compensation was payable to key management personnel.

8. Financial Investments

	2023		
	Carrying value	Purchase price	Listed
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Shares and other variable yield securities and units in unit trusts			
- Designated at fair value through profit or loss	12,984	12,984	12,984
- Deposits with credit institutions	5,594	5,594	5,594
	18,578	18,578	18,578

	2022		
	Carrying value	Purchase price	Listed
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Shares and other variable yield securities and units in unit trusts			
- Designated at fair value through profit or loss	2,302	2,302	2,302
- Deposits with credit institutions	-	-	-
	2,302	2,302	2,302

Amounts included within Shares and other variable securities include Collective Investment Schemes (CIS)/Unit Trusts where funds are invested in a single entity which invests in investments. These have the attributes of a cash instrument with the carrying value and purchase price being the same.

There was no material change in fair value for financial instruments held at fair value 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	Level 2	Level 3	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
31 December 2023				
Shares and other variable yield securities and units in unit trusts	-	12,984	-	12,984
Loans and deposits with credit institutions	5,594	-	-	5,594
Overseas Deposits	421	1,992	-	2,413
Total	6,015	14,976	-	20,991

Financial Investments Continued

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
31 December 2022				
Shares and other variable yield securities and units in unit trusts	-	2,302	-	2,302
Loans and deposits with credit institutions	-	-	-	-
Overseas Deposits	278	349	-	627
Total	278	2,651	-	2,929

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, 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.

9. Debtors arising out of direct insurance operations

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Due from intermediaries within one year	15,078	8,506
	15,078	8,506

10. Debtors arising out of reinsurance operations

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Due from ceding insurers within one year	631	1,906
	<u>631</u>	<u>1,906</u>

11. Other assets

Other assets comprise solely of overseas deposits.

12. Creditors arising out of direct insurance operations

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Due to intermediaries within one year	4	3
	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>

13. Creditors arising out of reinsurance operations

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Reinsurance ceded within one year	1,196	54
	<u>1,196</u>	<u>54</u>

14. Cash and cash equivalents

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Cash at bank and in hand	4,115	784
Shares and other variable yield securities and units in unit trusts	12,984	2,302
Deposits with credit institutions	5,594	-
Amounts owed to credit institutions	-	(1,584)
	<u>22,693</u>	<u>1,502</u>

Shares and other variable yield securities and units in unit trusts are investments in nature but are treated as Cash and cash equivalents for cash flow purposes, so therefore are included in both Financial investments and Cash and cash equivalents.

Amounts owed to credit institution is the utilised value of the Overdraft facility held with Barclays Bank.

15. 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 the 13th July 2022.

Asta provides services and support to Syndicate 1902 in its capacity as Managing Agent. During the year, Managing Agency fees of £0.57m (2022: £0.45m) were charged to the Syndicate. Asta also recharged £0.86m (2022: £0.57) worth of service charges in the year and as at 31 December 2023 there was a £0.1m (2022: £0.01m) outstanding balance owed to Asta in respect of this.

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 Bylaw provisions. All transactions are entered on an arm's length basis.

16. Disclosure of interests

Managing Agent's interest

During 2023 Asta was the Managing Agent for twelve Syndicates, one Special Purpose Arrangement and five Syndicates in a Box. Syndicates 1322, 1609, 1699, 1892, 1985, 1988, 2288, 2525, 2689, 2786, 4242 and 4747 as well as Special Purpose Arrangement 1416 and Syndicates in a Box 1796, 1902, 2880, 3456 and 5183 were managed on behalf of third party capital providers.

On 1 January 2024, Asta took on the management of Syndicate in a Box 1922.

On 1 January 2024, Asta reinsured to close Syndicate 2288 into Renaissance Re Syndicate 1458.

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).

17. 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.

18. Off-balance sheet items

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

19. 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 in a Box 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 in a Box 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 in a Box 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.

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 1902 is not disclosed in these financial statements.

Lloyd's capital setting process

As a Syndicate, 1902's Solvency Capital Requirement (SCR) is calculated by Lloyd's for the prospective underwriting year. This amount is intended to be sufficient to cover a 1 in 200 year loss, reflecting uncertainty in the ultimate run-off of underwriting liabilities (SCR 'to ultimate'). Lloyd's also calculate 1902's 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.

Risk management continued

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 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 2023 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 16, represent resources available to meet members' and Lloyd's capital requirements.

c) Insurance risk

The principal risk the Syndicate faces under insurance contracts is that the actual claims and benefit payments or the timing thereof, differ from expectations. This is influenced by the frequency of claims, severity of claims, actual benefits paid and subsequent development of long-term claims. Therefore, the objective of the Syndicate is to ensure that sufficient reserves are available to cover these liabilities.

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.

The Syndicate purchases reinsurance as part of its risk mitigation programme. The Syndicate's reinsurance program is predominantly covered by a whole account, non-proportional losses occurring during policy which covers the calendar year. Amounts recoverable from reinsurers are estimated in a manner consistent with the outstanding claims provision and are in accordance with the reinsurance contracts. The Syndicate's placement of reinsurance is diversified such that it is neither dependent on a single reinsurer nor are the operations substantially dependent upon any single reinsurance contract.

Sub committees of the Syndicate in a Box 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 in a Box Board.

Risk management continued

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.

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.

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.

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.

The method used for deriving sensitivity information and significant assumptions did not change from the previous period.

	2023	2022
	Loss/(Profit)	Loss/(Profit)
	£'000	£'000
Gross		
Five percent increase in claim liabilities	1,110	236
Five percent decrease in claim liabilities	(1,110)	(236)
Net		
Five percent increase in claim liabilities	984	211
Five percent decrease in claim liabilities	(984)	(211)

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.

Risk management continued

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	2022	2023
	£'000	£'000
Estimate of cumulative gross claims incurred:		
At end of first underwriting year	4,593	6,995
One year later	15,597	-
Less cumulative gross paid	(364)	(22)
Total gross outstanding claims	15,233	6,973
Total gross outstanding claims (all years)		22,206

Underwriting year	2022	2023
	£'000	£'000
Estimate of cumulative net claims incurred:		
At end of first underwriting year	4,119	6,098
One year later	13,964	-
Less cumulative net paid	(364)	(22)
Total net outstanding claims	13,600	6,076
Total net outstanding claims (all years)		19,676

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. This is particularly so for large catastrophe claims where uncertainty is initially great.

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.

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. Syndicate 1902 has the following policies and procedures in place to mitigate the exposure to credit risk:

- 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 in a Box 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

2023	£'000			
	Neither past due or impaired	Past due	Impaired	Total
Shares and other variable yield securities	12,984	-	-	12,984
Reinsurers' share of claims outstanding	2,530	-	-	2,530
Debtors arising out of direct insurance operations	15,078	-	-	15,078
Cash at bank and in hand	4,115	-	-	4,115
Overseas deposits as assets	2,413	-	-	2,413
Deposits with credit institutions	5,594	-	-	5,594
Other debtors	10,898	-	-	10,898
Total	53,612	-	-	53,612

2022	£'000			
	Neither past due or impaired	Past due	Impaired	Total
Shares and other variable yield securities	2,302	-	-	2,302
Reinsurers' share of claims outstanding	487	-	-	487
Debtors arising out of direct insurance operations	8,506	-	-	8,506
Cash at bank and in hand	784	-	-	784
Overseas deposits as assets	627	-	-	627
Deposits with credit institutions	-	-	-	-
Other debtors	7,303	-	-	7,303
Total	20,009	-	-	20,009

The table below provides information regarding the credit risk exposure of the Syndicate at 31 December 2023 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

2023	£'000						Total
	AAA	AA	A	BBB	BBB or less	Not Rated	
Shares and other variable yield securities	-	-	12,984	-	-	-	12,984
Reinsurers' share of claims outstanding	-	-	2,530	-	-	-	2,530
Cash at bank and in hand	-	-	4,115	-	-	-	4,115
Overseas deposits as assets	1,671	82	310	168	182	-	2,413
Total	1,671	82	19,939	168	182	-	22,042

2022	£'000						Total
	AAA	AA	A	BBB	BBB or less	Not Rated	
Shares and other variable yield securities	-	-	2,302	-	-	-	2,302
Reinsurers' share of claims outstanding	-	-	487	-	-	-	487
Cash at bank and in hand	-	-	784	-	-	-	784
Overseas deposits as assets	199	183	135	16	94	-	627
Total	199	183	3,708	16	94	-	4,200

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.

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 weekly 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.

Risk management continued

2023	£'000					Total
	No stated maturity	0-1 Year	1-3 Years	3-5 Years	More than 5 years	
Claims outstanding	-	3,632	7,832	5,454	5,288	22,206
Creditors	-	1,200	-	-	-	1,200
Total	-	4,832	7,832	5,454	5,288	23,406

2022	£'000					Total
	No stated maturity	0-1 Year	1-3 Years	3-5 Years	More than 5 years	
Claims outstanding	-	528	1,434	1,204	1,545	4,711
Creditors	-	1,641	-	-	-	1,641
Total	-	2,169	1,434	1,204	1,545	6,352

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.

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 GBP and its exposure to foreign exchange risk arises primarily with respect to transactions in US dollar, Euro and Canadian dollar. 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:

2023	GBP	USD	EUR	CAD	Total
Total Assets	12,021	19,244	8,101	14,246	53,612
Total Liabilities	(12,718)	(18,479)	(6,416)	(10,658)	(48,271)
Net Assets	(697)	765	1,685	3,588	5,341

Risk management continued

2022

	GBP	USD	EUR	CAD	Total
Total Assets	4,717	6,831	3,443	5,018	20,009
Total Liabilities	(5,971)	(6,647)	(2,979)	(4,339)	(19,936)
Net Assets	(1,254)	184	464	679	73

The Syndicate matches its currency position, so it holds net assets across a number of currencies. The Syndicate takes into consideration the underlying currency of the Syndicate's required capital and invests its assets proportionately across these currencies so as to protect the solvency of the Syndicate, against variation in foreign exchange rates. As a result, the Syndicate holds a significant proportion of its assets in foreign currency adjustments.

Sensitivity to changes

The table below gives an indication of the impact on profit of a percentage change in the relative strength of the Sterling against the value of the US dollar, Euro and Canadian dollar simultaneously. The analysis is based on the information as at 31 December 2023.

	Impact on profit and member's balance	
	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Sterling weakens		
10% against other currencies	604	132
20% against other currencies	1,208	265
Sterling strengthens		
10% against other currencies	(604)	(132)
20% against other currencies	(1,208)	(265)

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.

The Syndicate has no significant concentration of interest rate risk.

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

20. Post balance sheet events

There are no post balance sheet events to report.