

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2020

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TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC

COMPANY INFORMATION

Directors

DRT Thompson	– Non-Executive Chairman
KGJ Birch	– Chief Executive
DP Birch	– Commercial Director
C Butler	– Finance Director

Registered office

46 Worship Street
London
EC2A 2EA

Secretary

DP Birch

Auditor

RSM UK Audit LLP
3rd Floor
One London Square
Cross Lanes
Guildford, Surrey
GU1 1UN

Bankers

National Westminster Bank Plc
North London Business Centre
PO Box 6333
2/3 Upper Street
London N1 0QE

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC

STRATEGIC REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Business Review

The following business review has been provided by the directors in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

The Group achieved healthy revenue growth in the financial year, and pleasingly gross profit margins have been maintained at a similar level, and due to closer control over the overheads we have seen an improvement in net trading profits.

Overall Group turnover improved 10.2 % (2019: 5.6%) on last year to £26.36m (2019: £23.92m).

At an adjusted level, EBITDA increased by 31% (2019: decreased by 7.8%) to £1.93m (2019: £1.47m). The Group's net results before tax but after financial charges, depreciation and amortisation increased by 56% (2019: decreased by 22%) to £1.36m (2018: 0.87m).

In February 2020 the Group disposed of its subsidiary Touchstone (C.I.) Limited, which had been part of the group for the last 15 years. This has generated an initial net profit on disposal of £12.7m. For further details see note 12. All of the above figures include 10 months of the discontinued operations (vs 12 months in 2019).

The Group no longer has a requirement to provide details of its earnings per share performance having de-listed from AIM in 2009. However, to assist, the Board can confirm that Basic adjusted* Earnings per share for the period has increased to 19.7p (2019: 15.0p).

The Group's liquidity position remains strong with a strengthening in cash balances to £16.3m (2019: £5.2m). This increase is after a substantial capital repayment (£1.6m) to settle the Bank mortgage on its London offices.

The Board uses a range of performance indicators to monitor and manage the business and ensure focus is maintained on the key priorities of the Group.

The Key Performance Indicators ("KPIs"), which are set at board level, have been devised to allow the Board and shareholders to monitor the Group as a whole.

The performance indicators which the Board currently considers to be the most important are as follows:

	31 March 2020	31 March 2019
1. Revenue	£26.36m	£23.92m
2. Trading Gross Profit (GP Margin %)	£18.8m (71.0%)	£17.6m (72.6%)
3. Adjusted EBITDA*	£1.93m	£1.47m
4. Cash and cash equivalents	£16.3m	£5.2m
5. Working capital (net current assets)	£13.0m	£2.5m
6. Average salaried Staff headcount during year	158	153
7. Total staff including Contractors @ year end	143 Staff	174 Staff

**Trading GP is Turnover less direct Costs of sales relating to Software, support and external freelance contractor costs. These numbers are all taken from the March 2020 management accounts*

***Adjusted EBITDA is Operating profit stated prior to bank interest, tax and charges, depreciation, amortisation and impairment of intangible fixed assets. All of the above figures include 10 months of the discontinued operations (vs 12 months in 2019)*

Actual performance in respect of these KPIs is provided in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income on page 9 and the Consolidated Balance Sheet on page 10. The reduction in staff shown in KPI 7 above was due to the disposal of Touchstone (C.I.) Limited.

Principal Risks and uncertainties:

The principal risks and uncertainties facing the group are broadly grouped as competitive, author, staff and COVID-19 related:

Competitive risks

The Group has contracts with a number of major customers that are subject to periodic reviews, often resulting in competitive tender. However, the Board believe that the group's diversity of both customers and products substantially mitigate any uncertainties that caused the renewal of these contracts. Additionally, it is vitally important that the Group maintains service margins, particularly in the increasingly competitive market place that it currently faces. Project managers rigorously monitor project plans, budgets and milestones to ensure this risk factor is kept closely under review.

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC

STRATEGIC REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Author risk:

Historically, as a software reseller, the Group has been dependent on a small number of software authors to provide the software products it resells. If some of these authors were to develop financial instability this could have an adverse impact on the Group's business, results and financial position. Additionally, these authors could exert influence on pricing which could adversely affect the Group's profits. The Group mitigates this risk by monitoring financial performance of its authors and having strong, lasting relationships with them. The Group's strategy has also been to diversify its product and services portfolio, which now includes "blue chip" global software providers such as Microsoft and INFOR. Services make up 84% of the Group's revenue (2019: 84%).

Staff risk:

The Group's success is dependent on its ability to retain and recruit suitably qualified, high calibre staff. The Board actively monitors retention rates, internal and external staff surveys and reward packages to manage and reduce this risk.

COVID-19 risk:

The business and staff have adapted well to working under lockdown during the COVID 19 crisis, and to date the Group has remained profitable in the trading period since the year end. The resulting rapid changes in the trading climate, carries a risk that the underlying business of the Group's customers may suffer in the long-term. Further, until the Government support schemes end later in the year, the Directors are unlikely to see the full impact of COVID-19 on trading levels. However, with the existing resources available to the Group, the Directors believe that the business is well placed to cope with these challenges and anticipates emerging from the crisis in good shape.

Going Concern:

Since the start of lockdown during the COVID-19 crisis, with the resulting rapid change in the trading climate, the Directors have been placing more emphasis on a rolling quarterly review of projections, as well as considering the future 12 month period. This approach has meant the Board have been able to adopt flexible initiatives, which has helped the Group remain profitable up to the date of signing of these financial statements and based on the healthy level of existing cash, which exceeds the projected overhead expenditure for the next 12 months, the Directors are satisfied that the Company and the Group have adequate resources to continue for a period of at least 12 months from the date of signing of these financial statements. As a result the Directors consider it appropriate for the financial statements to be prepared on a going concern basis.

Approved by the Board of directors and signed on its behalf by:

KGJ Birch

Director

15th July 2020

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC

DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Directors' report

The Directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Directors:

The Directors who have held office since 1 April 2019 are as follows:

DRT Thompson
KGJ Birch
DP Birch
C Butler

Principal activities

Touchstone Group plc is a holding company.

The principal activity of its trading subsidiaries during the financial year was the provision of integrated business software and associated consulting and support services.

Touchstone Group plc is incorporated and domiciled in the United Kingdom.

A review of the business's performance is presented in the Strategic report.

Cash Distribution

Distributions - Dividends

In December 2019, the Board declared an interim dividend of 4p per share (2018: 2p), and with the final dividend for last year declared in July 2019 these dividends consumed £1,320k (net of £48k waived by ESOT) of Group cash reserves (vs total dividends paid in 2019: £894k).

Due to a reasonable second half performance, the Board will be proposing a final dividend of 10p per share (2019: 9.5p). The total Ordinary dividend for the year as whole will therefore be 14p (2019: 12p) for the year as a whole.

Current Trading

With the impact of COVID-19 and the resulting lock down it has been a fine example of how well the Group's staff have adopted to remote working over recent months. Whilst the Group may not be trading as well as originally budgeted, the Board is still hopeful that all operational units will continue to be profitable during the year ahead.

The Board would like to thank all management and staff for their sterling efforts throughout the year and to all the Group's customers for their business and on-going loyalty.

Policy and practice on payment of creditors

The Group's policy is to pay suppliers in accordance with terms and conditions agreed when orders are placed. Although the Group does not follow any code or standard on payment policy, where payment terms have not been specifically agreed, invoices dated in one calendar month are paid close to the end of the following month.

Treasury and funding activities

The Group's financial instruments comprise cash, short term deposits and various items such as trade receivables and trade payables that arise directly from its operations.

The Group finances its operations primarily through retained profits, and the year-end cash position has been bolstered by the sale in February of one of its subsidiaries.

As such, it has no significant interest rate risk or liquidity risk.

Environmental policy

Recognising that the Group's operations are themselves of minimal environmental impact, the Group's environmental policy is to:

- Meet the statutory requirements placed on us.

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC

DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

- Apply good environmental practice both in our business operations and in the development of systems and products for our customers, recognising, however, that we are contractually obliged to conform with our customers' requirements.

Disclosure of information to auditor

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

Employment policies

The Group places great emphasis on providing equality of opportunity for all employees and in particular ensures that fair selection and development procedures apply. The aim of the policy is to ensure that no job applicant or employee receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of age, sex, sexual orientation, disability, marital status, colour, religion or ethnic origin.

Research and development expenditure

The Group undertakes software product development activities in the normal course of its business, none of these costs have been capitalised during the year.

Future developments of the Group

The directors continue to invest in growth of all of the Group business units.

Auditor

The auditor, RSM UK Audit LLP, Chartered Accountants, has indicated its willingness to continue in office.

By order of the Board

KGJ Birch
Director

15th July 2020

46 Worship Street
London
EC2A 2EA

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Statement of Directors' responsibilities in respect of the Annual Report and the Financial Statements

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

Company law requires the directors to prepare group and company financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the company financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law).

Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the group for that period.

In preparing the company financial statements, the directors are required to:

- a. select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- b. make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- c. prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Touchstone Group plc (the 'parent company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2020 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income, Consolidated Balance Sheet, Company Balance Sheet, Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity, Company Statement of Changes in Equity, Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, 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" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent company's affairs as at 31 March 2020 and of the group's profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and parent company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

- the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the directors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the group's or the parent company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of 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 Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the strategic report and the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and the directors' report have 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 group and the parent company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report and the directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement set out on page 6, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the group's and the parent company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the group or the parent company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue 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 financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <http://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 company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Stuart Clowser ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of RSM UK AUDIT LLP, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
3rd Floor
One London Square
Cross Lanes
Guildford
Surrey GU1 1UN

15th July 2020

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

AS AT 31 MARCH 2020

	<i>Note</i>	2020	2020	2020	2019	2019	2019
		Continuing	Discontinued		Continuing	Discontinued	
		Operations	Operations		Operations	Operations	
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Turnover	2	19,455	6,904	26,359	15,689	8,229	23,918
Operating expenses before specific expenses		(18,231)	(6,203)	(24,434)	(14,966)	(7,484)	(22,450)
Depreciation	3,11	(181)	(95)	(276)	(173)	(123)	(296)
Amortisation	3,10	(293)	-	(293)	(300)	-	(300)
Total operating costs	3,5	(18,705)	(6,298)	(25,003)	(15,439)	(7,607)	(23,046)
Operating profit before specific expenses below:		1,224	701	1,925	723	745	1,468
Depreciation	3,11	(181)	(95)	(276)	(173)	(123)	(296)
Amortisation	3,10	(293)	-	(293)	(300)	-	(300)
Operating profit		750	606	1,356	250	622	872
Investment income		-	-	-	6	-	6
Finance income / (expense)		31	(2)	29	(72)	7	(65)
Profit on disposal of operations		-	12,727	12,727	-	-	-
Profit before taxation	3	781	13,331	14,112	184	629	813
Taxation	8			(236)			(82)
Profit for the financial year				13,876			731
Total comprehensive income for the year				13,876			731

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2020

		2020	2019
		£000	£000
	<i>Note</i>		
Fixed assets			
Goodwill	10	948	1,789
Other intangible assets	10	-	2
Property, plant and equipment	11	3,998	4,330
Financial asset investments	12	1,808	33
		<u>6,754</u>	<u>6,154</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	13	5,304	7,671
Cash at bank and in hand	18	16,315	5,198
		<u>21,619</u>	<u>12,869</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(8,598)</u>	<u>(10,344)</u>
Net current assets		<u>13,021</u>	<u>2,525</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>19,775</u>	<u>8,679</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due in more than one year	15	-	(1,463)
Net assets		<u>19,775</u>	<u>7,216</u>
		=====	=====
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	16	977	977
Share premium reserve		3,829	3,829
Capital redemption reserve		280	280
Profit and loss account		14,689	2,130
Total equity		<u>19,775</u>	<u>7,216</u>
		=====	=====

These financial statements on pages 9 to 30 were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue On 15th July 2020 and were signed on its behalf by:

KGJ Birch
Director

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC
PARENT COMPANY BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

		2020 £000	2019 £000
	<i>Note</i>		
Fixed assets			
Freehold property	11	3,657	3,657
Investments	12	6,980	8,107
		<u>10,637</u>	<u>11,764</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	13	10,368	3,355
Cash at bank and in hand		210	32
		<u>10,578</u>	<u>3,387</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(41)	(7,250)
Net current assets / (liabilities)		<u>10,537</u>	<u>(3,863)</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		21,174	7,901
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15	-	(1,463)
Net assets		<u>21,174</u>	<u>6,438</u>
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	16	977	977
Share premium reserve		3,829	3,829
Capital redemption reserve		329	329
Other reserve		843	843
Profit and loss account		15,196	460
Total equity		<u>21,174</u>	<u>6,438</u>

The Company's total comprehensive income for the year was £16.1m – (2019: £5,000 loss).

These financial statements on pages 9 to 30 were approved by the Board of Directors on 15th July 2020 and were authorised for issue and signed on its behalf by:

KGJ Birch
Director

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

	Share premium reserve £000	Share redemption reserve £000	Capital redemption reserve £000	Retained earnings £000	Total attributable to equity holders of parent £000
Balance at 31 March 2018 and Brought Forward At 1 April 2018	977	3,829	280	2,290	7,376
Changes in equity for the year ended 31 March 2019:					
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	731	731
Transactions with owners:					
Dividends	-	-	-	(894)	(894)
Share based payment	-	-	-	3	3
Balance Carried Forward At 31 March 2019	<u>977</u>	<u>3,829</u>	<u>280</u>	<u>2,130</u>	<u>7,216</u>
Changes in equity for the year ended 31 March 2020:					
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	13,876	13,876
Transactions with owners:					
Dividends	-	-	-	(1,320)	(1,320)
Share based payment	-	-	-	3	3
Balance Carried Forward At 31 March 2020	<u>977</u>	<u>3,829</u>	<u>280</u>	<u>14,689</u>	<u>19,775</u>

Share capital

Represents the nominal value of shares in issue.

Share premium reserve

Represents amounts subscribed for share capital in excess of nominal value, net of directly attributable issue costs.

Capital redemption reserve

The capital redemption reserve arose due to the repurchase of its own shares by the Company during prior years. It represents an amount equivalent to the nominal share capital of the shares purchased.

Retained earnings

Represent the cumulative profit and loss net of distribution to owners.

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC

PARENT COMPANY STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

	Share capital £000	Share premium reserve £000	Capital redemption reserve £000	Other reserves £000	Profit and loss account £000	TOTAL EQUITY £000
Balance at 31 March 2018 and Brought Forward At 1 April 2018	977	3,829	329	843	1,356	7,334
Changes in equity for the year ended 31 March 2019:						
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	-	(5)	(5)
Transactions with owners:						
Dividends	-	-	-	-	(894)	(894)
Share based payments	-	-	-	-	3	3
Balance Carried Forward At 31 March 2019	<u>977</u>	<u>3,829</u>	<u>329</u>	<u>843</u>	<u>460</u>	<u>6,438</u>
Changes in equity for the year ended 31 March 2020:						
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	-	16,053	16,053
Transactions with owners:						
Dividends	-	-	-	-	(1,320)	(1,320)
Share based payments	-	-	-	-	3	3
Balance Carried Forward At 31 March 2020	<u>977</u>	<u>3,829</u>	<u>329</u>	<u>843</u>	<u>15,196</u>	<u>21,174</u>

Share capital

Represents the nominal value of shares in issue.

Share premium reserve

Represents amounts subscribed for share capital in excess of nominal value, net of directly attributable issue costs.

Capital redemption reserve

The capital redemption reserve arose due to the repurchase of its own shares by the Company during prior years. It represents an amount equivalent to the nominal share capital of the shares purchased.

Other reserves

The Company's 'other reserves' figure of £843,000 (2018: £843,000) represents the differences arising from historical share for share exchanges, together with the premium on shares issued for the total consideration of past acquisitions.

Retained earnings

Represent the cumulative profit and loss net of distribution to owners.

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

	<i>Note</i>	2020 £000	2019 £000
Cash flows from operating activities	<i>21</i>	3,336	2,353
Income taxes paid		(112)	(76)
Finance expenses		(30)	(65)
Net cash generated from operating activities		3,194	2,212
Cash flows from investing activities			
Net Proceeds on disposal of subsidiary	<i>12</i>	12,727	-
Repayment of bank loan	<i>15</i>	(1,658)	(169)
Purchase of Investments	<i>12</i>	(1,775)	-
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	<i>11</i>	(110)	(170)
Interest received		59	6
Net cash used in investing activities		9,243	(333)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Dividends paid	<i>9</i>	(1,320)	(894)
Net cash used from financing activities		(1,320)	(894)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	<i>18</i>	11,117	985
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	<i>18</i>	5,198	4,213
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	<i>18</i>	16,315	5,198

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC

NOTES (FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

1 Accounting policies

Company information

Touchstone Group Plc is a company limited by shares incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office and principal place of business is 46 Worship Street, London, EC2A 2EA.

The Group financial statements consolidate those of the Company and its subsidiaries (together referred to as the “Group”) all prepared in Sterling. The parent company financial statements present information about the Company as a separate entity and not about its Group.

Accounting Convention

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 “The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland” (“FRS 102”) and the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £’000.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

Reduced disclosures

In accordance with FRS 102, the Company has taken advantage of the exemptions from the following disclosure requirements;

- Section 4 ‘Statement of Financial Position’ – Reconciliation of the opening and closing number of shares.
- Section 7 ‘Statement of Cash Flows’ – Presentation of a Statement of Cash Flow and related notes and disclosures.
- Section 11 ‘Basic Financial Instruments’ & Section 12 ‘Other Financial Instrument Issues’ – Carrying amounts, interest income/expense and net gains/losses for each category of financial instrument; basis of determining fair values; details of collateral, loan defaults or breaches; details of hedges, hedging fair value changes recognised in profit or loss and in other comprehensive income.

Going concern

Since the start of lockdown during the COVID-19 crisis, with the resulting rapid change in the trading climate, the Directors have been placing more emphasis on a rolling quarterly review of projections, as well as considering the future 12 month period. This approach has meant the Board have been able to adopt flexible initiatives, to help us remain profitable up to the date of signing of these financial statements and based on the healthy level of existing cash, which exceeds the projected overhead expenditure for the next 12 months, the Directors are satisfied that the Company and the Group have adequate resources to continue for a period of at least 12 months from the date of signing of these financial statements. As a result the Directors consider it appropriate for the financial statements to be prepared on a going concern basis

Company statement of comprehensive income

As permitted by s408 Companies Act 2006, the Company has not presented its own statement of comprehensive income. The Company’s total comprehensive income for the year was £16.1m - 2019: £5,000 loss.

Basis of consolidation

The purchase method of accounting is used to account for the acquisition of subsidiaries by the Group. The cost of an acquisition is measured as the fair value of the assets given, equity instruments issued and liabilities incurred or assumed at the date of exchange, plus costs directly attributable to the acquisition. Identifiable assets acquired and liabilities and contingent liabilities assumed in a business combination are initially measured at fair value at the acquisition date irrespective of the extent of any minority interest.

Subsidiaries are entities controlled by the Group. Control is achieved when the Group has the power to govern the financial and operating policies of an investee entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

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

All intra-Group transactions, balances and unrealised gains and losses on transactions between Group companies are eliminated on consolidation.

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC

NOTES (FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)

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PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Freehold land and buildings

Freehold land and buildings are carried at fair value under the revaluation model. The fair value of the land and buildings is considered to be their market value. The directors estimate the fair value of freehold land and buildings, factors considered in estimating the fair value are market rents, yields and approximate costs to sell.

Revaluation gains and losses are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity, except to the extent that a revaluation gain reverses a revaluation loss previously recognised in profit or loss or a revaluation loss exceeds the accumulated revaluation gains recognised in equity, such gains and loss are recognised in profit or loss.

Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and any recognised impairment losses.

Depreciation is charged so as to write-off the cost of assets to their estimated residual values over their estimated useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold Improvements	20% straight line
Fixtures and fittings	20% reducing balance or 20% - 33 ¹ / ₃ % straight line
Computer equipment	over 3 year's straight line

Depreciation expense is included in administration expenses in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

The gain or loss arising on the disposal or retirement of an asset is determined as the difference between the sales proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and is recognised in income.

GOODWILL

Goodwill arising on consolidation represents the excess of the cost of acquisition over the Group's interest in the fair value of the identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities of a subsidiary at the date of acquisition.

Intangible assets acquired separately from a business are recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses. Intangible assets acquired on business combinations are recognised separately from goodwill at the acquisition date if the fair value can be measured reliably.

Amortisation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Goodwill 10 years

On disposal of a subsidiary, the attributable amount of goodwill is included in the determination of the profit or loss on disposal.

Negative goodwill arising on an acquisition is recognised immediately in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income.

At the date of transition, management performed a review of the goodwill. It has been determined that the remaining estimated useful life at this date is 10 years. Therefore the goodwill is being amortised on a straight line basis from the date of transition.

OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Research and development expenditure

Expenditure on research activities is recognised as an expense in the period in which it is incurred.

An internally-generated intangible asset arising from the Group's software product development is recognised only if all of the following conditions are met:

- an asset is created that can be identified;
- it is probable that the asset created will generate future economic benefits;
- the development cost of the asset can be measured reliably;
- the product or process is technically and commercially feasible; and
- sufficient resources are available to complete the development and to either sell or use the asset.

Where no internally-generated intangible asset can be recognised, development expenditure is recognised as an expense in the period in which it is incurred.

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC

NOTES (FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)

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Software and development

Intangible assets such as software and its development are measured initially at the directly attributable time costs incurred and amortised on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives. This is currently estimated as five years.

Intellectual property rights

Intangible assets such as Intellectual Property Rights are measured initially at their purchase cost and amortised on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives. This is currently estimated as five years.

Customer Relationships

Intangible assets such as Customer Relationships are measured initially at their purchase cost and amortised on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives. This is currently estimated as ten years.

IMPAIRMENT OF TANGIBLE AND INTANGIBLE ASSETS EXCLUDING GOODWILL

Intangible assets acquired as part of an acquisition are capitalised at their fair value where this can be reliably measured.

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

Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset for which the estimates of future cash flows have been adjusted.

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

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

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The company has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments. Financial instruments are recognised when the company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial instruments

Basic financial assets, which include trade and other receivables and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the financial asset is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest.

Other financial assets

Listed investments, are initially measured at fair value, which is normally the transaction price. Such assets are subsequently carried at fair value and the changes in fair value are recognised in profit or loss. Investments in equity instruments (such as the ordinary shares, preference shares and loan notes as listed in note 12) that are not publicly traded and whose fair values cannot be measured reliably are measured at cost less impairment.

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Impairment of financial assets

Financial assets, other than those held at fair value through profit and loss, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting end date.

Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset, the estimated future cash flows have been affected. If an asset is impaired, the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the estimated cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. The impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

If there is a decrease in the impairment loss arising from an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the impairment is reversed. The reversal is such that the current carrying amount does not exceed what the carrying amount would have been, had the impairment not previously been recognised. The impairment reversal is recognised in profit or loss.

Derecognition of financial assets

Financial assets are derecognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the company transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to another entity, or if some significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained but control of the asset has transferred to another party that is able to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party.

Classification of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the company after deducting all of its liabilities.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including trade and other payables, bank loans, loans from fellow group companies and preference shares that are classified as debt, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Other financial liabilities

Derivatives, including interest rate swaps and forward foreign exchange contracts, are not basic financial instruments. Derivatives are initially recognised at fair value on the date a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently re-measured at their fair value. Changes in the fair value of derivatives are recognised in profit or loss in finance costs or finance income as appropriate, unless hedge accounting is applied, and the hedge is a cash flow hedge.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when, and only when, the company's contractual obligations are discharged, cancelled, or they expire.

Equity instruments

Equity instruments issued by the company are recorded at the proceeds received, net of direct issue costs. Dividends payable on equity instruments are recognised as liabilities once they are no longer at the discretion of the company.

LEASING

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to income on a straight-line basis over the term of the relevant lease. Benefits received and receivable as an incentive to enter into an operating lease are also spread on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

REVENUE RECOGNITION

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and represents amounts receivable for goods and services provided in the normal course of business, net of discounts, Value Added Tax and other sales related taxes. Sales of goods are recognised when goods are delivered, and title has passed.

The Group's main revenue categories are as follows:

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC

NOTES (FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Software sales

Revenue from direct software sales to end-users is recognised once a non-cancellable purchase order or contract has been received, and the product has been delivered to the customer.

Maintenance revenues

Maintenance revenues are recognised over the period of the contract on a pro-rata basis.

Professional services

Revenue from professional services is recognised following provision of those services on an hours completed basis and on a project percentage complete basis.

SHARE-BASED PAYMENTS

The Company grants share options (“equity-settled share-based payments”) to certain employees.

Equity-settled share-based payments are measured at fair value at the date of grant by reference to the fair value of the equity instruments granted using the Black-Scholes model. The fair value determined at the grant date is expensed on a straight-line basis over the vesting period, based on the estimate of shares that will eventually vest. A corresponding adjustment is made to equity.

Cancellations or settlements (including those resulting from employee redundancies) are treated as an acceleration of vesting and the amount that would have been recognised over the remaining vesting period is recognised immediately.

Where the Group is liable for National Insurance Contributions (NICs) on the share payment, provision is made for NICs on outstanding share options that are expected to be exercised, based upon the latest enacted NIC rates at the reporting date.

INTEREST IN OWN SHARES

The Group has an Employee Share Ownership Trust (ESOT) to assist with amongst other matters the obligations under share options. The ESOT is consolidated as if it were a subsidiary undertaking. Shares in the Group held by the (ESOT) are stated at cost and are disclosed as a deduction from equity.

RETIREMENT BENEFIT COSTS

The company operates neither a defined contribution nor a defined benefit pension scheme but makes contributions to employee’s personal pension schemes. Payments made to state-managed retirement benefit schemes are dealt with as payments to defined contribution plans where the Group’s obligations under the schemes are equivalent to those arising in a defined contribution retirement benefit plan.

TAXATION

The tax expense represents the sum of the current tax and the deferred tax elements. The current tax is based on taxable profit for the year. Taxable profit differs from net profit as reported in the income statement because it excludes items of income or expense that are taxable or deductible in other years and it further excludes items that are never taxable or deductible. The Group’s liability for current tax is calculated by using tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date.

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

Deferred tax liabilities are recognised for taxable temporary differences arising on investments in subsidiaries and associates, and interests in jointly controlled entities, except where the Group is able to control the reversal of the temporary difference and it is probable that the temporary difference will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

Deferred tax is calculated at the tax rates that are expected to apply to the period when the asset is realised or the liability is settled. Deferred tax is charged or credited in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, except when it relates to items credited or charged directly to equity, in which case the deferred tax is also dealt with in equity. Deferred tax is recognised on temporary differences between the tax rate on profits earned in foreign subsidiaries and the tax rates charged on remittance of those profits to the United Kingdom.

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC

NOTES (FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

FOREIGN CURRENCIES

Transactions in currencies other than sterling, the presentational and functional currency of the Group, are recorded at the rates of exchange prevailing on the dates of the transactions.

Items included in the financial statements of each of the Group's entities are measured using the functional currency of that entity. At the reporting date, the monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rates prevailing on the reporting date. Gains and losses arising on translation are included in the Statement of Comprehensive Income for the period.

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The Group makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting judgements will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below:

- Management have considered the appropriate treatment of the financial instruments acquired in Redwood HoldCo Limited in the year (see note 12). Under section 2A.5 of FRS102 where the fair value cannot be measured reliably the entity it is precluded from measuring the asset at fair value. In such instances the asset would be measured at cost. In managements view it is not possible to reliably measure the fair value of these assets and as such they have been held at cost.
- The freehold land and buildings are accounted for at fair value. Due to the inherent uncertainties of any valuation technique, actual results could differ from those estimated and such differences could be material, especially under volatile economic conditions. The directors estimate the fair value of freehold land and buildings, factors considered in estimating the fair value are market rents, yields and approximate costs to sell. Note 11 shows the sensitivity to different inputs in the valuation model. The impact of the recent COVID-19 lock down, has made it more difficult to obtain data from any professional advisors without a supporting caveat as to the uncertainty attached to their accuracy. As at 31 March 2020, we consider that we can attach less weight to previous market evidence for comparison purposes, to inform opinions of value. Indeed, the current response to COVID-19 means that we are faced with an unprecedented set of circumstances on which to base a judgement. Given the unknown future impact that COVID-19 might have on the commercial property market, the directors will keep the valuation of the Group's property under review
- The sale of Touchstone (C.I) contains an element of contingent consideration. At the year-end management were not virtually certain that necessary criteria would be achieved in order to trigger the contingent consideration and as such have treated the expected amount as a contingent asset. Further details are provided in note 12.
- Revenue of £10.0m (2019: £10.1m) relates to income received from maintenance contracts. The income is spread over the contractual period which involves some degree of estimation. Revenue received in advance is accounted for as deferred income and released as appropriate.
- Goodwill has a carrying value of £0.9m (2019: £1.8m). Significant judgement is involved in determining the amortisation period of goodwill.
- Included within accruals is £63k (2019: £77k) in respect of dilapidations on property leases. Management have used estimates to arrive at this cost.

2 Turnover

The Group's turnover arises from its activities in the UK £17.5m (2019: £15.1m), Europe £6.9m (2019: £5.8m) and the rest of the world £2.0m (2019: £2.4m). Turnover and profits before tax arising in Ireland are not material. The Group has one principal class of business, the provision of integrated business software and consulting services, however revenue can be split into the following categories:

	2020	2019
	£000	£000
Software	3,259	3,201
Consultancy	12,726	10,334
Maintenance and support	10,029	10,127
Other (e.g. rechargeable costs)	345	256
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total turnover	26,359	23,918
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC

NOTES (FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

3 Operating profit before taxation

	2020 £000	2019 £000
<i>Profit before taxation has been arrived at after charging/(crediting):</i>		
Services provided by the company's auditors and its associates	10	10
Audit of parent Company and consolidated accounts	40	40
Audit of the subsidiaries		
Depreciation and other amounts written off property, plant and Equipment	276	296
Amortisation of intangible assets	293	300
Foreign exchange gains	28	50
Hire of land and buildings – operating leases	362	311
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	<u>-</u>	<u>9</u>

4 Directors' remuneration

Aggregate emoluments in respect of qualifying services amounted to £632,354 (2019: £542,173). Social security contributions were £84,400 (2019: £68,591).

Emoluments of the highest paid Director (excluding pension contributions) were £257,638 (2019: £207,846). Amounts paid by the Group in respect of his pension contributions were £20,804 (2019: £21,987). He currently holds no share options or entitlement to share options.

Total pension contributions of £51,127 (2019: £49,932) were made to the Executive Directors' personal pension plans. There are three executive Directors who all are accruing pension benefits (2019: three). The Directors are also considered to be key management. There are no employees of the company, other than director's who are remunerated through other group entities.

5 Employees

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

	Number of employees	
	2020 No	2019 No
Management	8	9
Administration	12	19
Sales, support and technical	148	135
	<u>168</u>	<u>163</u>

The above staff numbers include 10 contractors (2019: 10).

The aggregate payroll costs of these persons were as follows:

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Wages and salaries	10,087	10,275
Social security costs	1,086	971
Other pension costs (see note 22)	877	800
	<u>12,050</u>	<u>12,046</u>

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC

NOTES (FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

6 Interest receivable and similar income

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Bank interest	59	6

7 Finance Expenses

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Bank loan interest & fees	30	65

8 Taxation

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Current tax		
UK Corporation tax	236	111
Adjustment in respect of prior periods	-	(29)
Total tax charge	236	82

Factors affecting the tax charge for the current period

The current tax charge for the period is lower (2019: lower) than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19% (2019: 19%). The differences are explained below:

	2020 £000	2019 £000
<i>Current tax reconciliation</i>		
Profit before tax	14,112	813
Current tax at 19% (2019: 19%)	2,681	154
<i>Effects of:</i>		
Effect of depreciation in excess of capital allowances	12	12
Profits not chargeable to UK corporation tax	(101)	(102)
Non-deductible expenditure	(2,356)	64
Adjustments in respect of R&D	-	(17)
Adjustments in respect of prior periods	-	(29)
Total tax charge (see above)	236	82

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

9 Dividends

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Equity shares:		
4.0p Interim dividend paid in respect of current year (2019: 2.0p per share)	374	374
10p final dividend paid in respect of prior year (2019: 9.5p per share). Both not recognised as liabilities in that year.	946	706

The Directors have proposed a final ordinary dividend in respect of the current financial year 10p per share (2019: 10p per share).

There was an interim dividend of 4.0p per share declared during the year (2019: 2.0p per share).

The Employee Share Ownership Trust waived the dividend of £49,758 due from the Company on its shares (2019: £33,757).

10 Goodwill and other intangible assets

	Customer Relation- ships	Intellectual Property	Software Development	Total Other Intangible Assets	Goodwill	Total Intangible Assets
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Cost						
Balance as at 1 April 2019	818	1,534	976	3,328	4,642	7,970
Disposal	-	-	-	-	(677)	(677)
Balance as at 31 March 2020	818	1,534	976	3,328	3,965	7,293
Amortisation and impairment						
Balance as at 1 April 2019	818	1,532	976	3,326	2,853	6,179
Charge for the year	-	2	-	2	293	295
Disposal	-	-	-	-	(129)	(129)
Balance at 31 March 2020	818	1,534	976	3,328	3,017	6,345
Net Book Value						
At 31 March 2020	-	-	-	-	948	948
At 31 March 2019	-	2	-	2	1,789	1,791

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

11. Tangible fixed assets

Group

	Freehold property	Fixtures, fittings, computer equipment and leasehold improvements	Total Fixed assets
<i>Cost / valuation</i>	£000	£000	£000
Balance at 1 April 2019	3,657	1,568	5,225
Additions	-	110	110
Disposals of discontinued operations	-	(628)	(628)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance at 31 March 2020	3,657	1,050	4,707
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Depreciation</i>			
Balance at 1 April 2019	-	895	895
Depreciation charge for the year	-	276	276
Disposals on discontinued operations	-	(462)	(462)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance at 31 March 2020	-	709	709
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Net Book Value</i>			
At 31 March 2020	3,657	341	3,998
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 March 2019	3,657	673	4,330
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Freehold property valuation

The freehold property is carried at valuation. The two main drivers in the valuation are the rent roll and the rental yield. A 10% increase or decrease in the rent roll would result in a respective increase or decrease in valuation of £372k. A 0.5% reduction or increase in rental yield would result in a valuation increase of £414k or decrease of £338k respectively.

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Company	Freehold property
<i>Cost / valuation</i>	£'000
Balance at 1 April 2019	3,657
	<hr/>
Balance at 31 March 2020	3,657
	<hr/>
<i>Depreciation</i>	
Balance at 1 April 2019	-
Depreciation charge for the year	-
	<hr/>
Balance at 31 March 2020	-
	<hr/>
<i>Net Book Value</i>	
At 31 March 2020	3,657
	<hr/> <hr/>
At 31 March 2019	3,657
	<hr/> <hr/>

Company

Depreciation expense is included in administration expenses in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

12 Financial asset investments

Group	Listed Investments £000	Unlisted Investments £000	Total Investments £000
<i>Cost</i>			
At 1 April 2019	125	-	125
Additions	-	1,775	1,775
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 March 2020	125	1,775	1,900
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Impairment Provision</i>			
Balance b/f from 1 April 2019	(92)	-	(92)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Net book value</i>			
At 31 March 2020	33	1,775	1,808
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
At 31 March 2019	33	-	33
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Touchstone FMS Ltd holds 43,000 (2019: 43,000) shares in Proactis Plc, representing a 0.07% (2019: 0.07%) shareholding and 25,000 (2019: 25,000) shares in Management Consulting plc representing a 0.001% (2019: 0.001%) shareholding. The listed investments had a market value of £28,000 as at 31 March 2020 (2019: £59,000).

Touchstone Group holds a 4.36% share in Redwood HoldCo Limited, acquired on 3rd February 2020, as part of the sale proceeds from Touchstone (C.I.) Limited. The investment in Redwood consists of £1 A Ordinary Shares in Redwood HoldCo Limited (£33,467) which carry full voting rights, Preference Shares in Redwood HoldCo Limited (£1,236,794) which carry a 12% annual dividend and Loan Notes in Redwood MidCo Limited (£504,739). The eventual realisable amount is dependent on any future disposal proceeds of the Redwood Group.

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Company	Shares in Non-listed Investments £000	Shares in group undertaking £000	Total Investments £000
Cost			
At 1 April 2019	-	9,289	9,289
Additions	1,775	-	1,775
Disposals	-	(2,902)	(2,902)
At 31 March 2020	1,775	6,387	8,162
Provisions			
At 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2020	-	(1,182)	(1,182)
Net book value			
At 31 March 2020	1,775	5,205	6,980
At 31 March 2019	-	8,107	8,107

The fixed asset investments of the company comprise the following companies:

	Country of incorporation	Principal Activity	Class and percentage of shares held Company Ordinary shares	Registered address
Direct subsidiary undertakings				
Touchstone FMS Limited	England and Wales	Supply and support of business software	100%	46 Worship Street, London, EC2A 2EA
Xpedition Limited	England and Wales	Supply and support of business software	100%	46 Worship Street, London, EC2A 2EA
Indirect subsidiary undertakings				
FMS BI Limited	England and Wales	Dormant	100%	46 Worship Street, London, EC2A 2EA
The shares in subsidiary undertakings carry full voting rights.				
Minority Holdings:				
Redwood HoldCo Limited	England and Wales	Supply and support of business software	4.36%	Sentinal House Harvest Crescent Fleet GU51 2UZ

In February 2020 the Group sold its subsidiary Touchstone (C.I.) Limited to Redwood HoldCo Limited for initial consideration of £14.9m. This was settled in cash of £13.1m and £1.8m of financial instruments in Redwood (see page 25). The profit on the sale was £11.7m in Touchstone Group plc, and £12.7m in the consolidated Group financial statement. There is potential for further consideration to be received, however this is contingent on certain operational performance criteria being achieved within the next financial period. COVID-19 will have an impact on achieving these performance criteria and if they are achieved then the Directors anticipate additional consideration of between £3m and £5m with future consideration being settled 40% in additional shares and the balance of 60% in cash.

TOUCHSTONE GROUP PLC

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

13 Debtors

	Group		Company	
	2020 £000	2019 £000	2020 £000	2019 £000
Trade debtors	2,313	4,019	-	-
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	9,958	3,029
Other debtors	112	8	410	326
Prepayments and accrued income	2,879	3,644	-	-
	<u>5,304</u>	<u>7,671</u>	<u>10,368</u>	<u>3,355</u>

At 31 March 2020, a provision of £82,000 (2019: £160,225) was carried in respect of trade debtors.

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group		Company	
	2020 £000	2019 £000	2020 £000	2019 £000
Bank loan	-	195	-	195
Trade creditors	735	1,271	-	-
Amounts owed to group undertakings	-	-	41	7,004
Corporation tax	124	-	-	-
Other creditors including tax and social security	960	1,243	-	51
Accruals and deferred income	6,779	7,635	-	-
	<u>8,598</u>	<u>10,344</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>7,250</u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Group		Company	
	2020 £000	2019 £000	2020 £000	2019 £000
Bank loan	-	1,463	-	1,463
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,463</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,463</u>

An analysis of maturity of loans is given below:

Group and company	2020	2019
	Bank loan £000	Bank loan £000
Amounts due:		
Within 1 year	-	195
Between 2 and 5 years	-	780
Over 5 years	-	853
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,678</u>

The fixed term loan, originally taken out for 10 years in 2017, was settled in full in February 2020. There were no early repayment charges incurred by the company for this early settlement.

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16 Share capital

	2020	2019
	£000	£000
<i>Allotted, called up and fully paid</i>		
9,772,237 ordinary shares of 10p each (2019: 9,772,237)	977	977
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	2020	2019
<i>Authorised</i>		
Ordinary shares of 10p each	14,210,000	14,210,000
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The company's ordinary shares, which carry no right to fixed income, each carry the right to one vote at general meetings of the company.

17 Commitments

Future aggregate minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating lease rentals are in aggregate as follows:

	2020	2019
	Land and Buildings £000	Land and buildings £000
Group		
Amounts due:		
Within 1 year	39	282
Between 2 and 5 years	121	987
Over 5 years	155	350
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	315	1,619
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The above commitments relate to one (2019: three) office lease rental with a fixed term over the next 7 years.

18 Analysis of net funds

2020:	At beginning of year £000	Cash flow £000	At end of year £000
Cash and short-term deposits	5,198	11,117	16,315
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
2019:	At beginning of year £000	Cash flow £000	At end of year £000
Cash and short-term deposits	4,213	985	5,198
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Short term bank deposits are included within the caption 'cash at bank and in hand' in the Statement of Financial Position.

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19 Financial instruments

	2020	2019
	£000	£000
Financial assets:		
Instrument measured at fair value through profit and loss	33	33

20 Share based payments

At the reporting date, the Group operated a share option schemes. Qualifying directors and certain employees of the Group are eligible to participate in the scheme.

Consistent with the rules of the schemes the vesting of options is generally contingent on continued employment for a period of at least three years, and the employee then has a ten-year period within which to exercise, subject to the Group meeting certain performance criteria in the period preceding exercise.

The number and weighted average exercise prices of share options are as follows:

	2020	2020	2019	2019
	Weighted average exercise price	Number of options	Weighted average exercise price	Number of options
Outstanding at the beginning of the period	52p	365,000	52p	365,000
Issued during the period	-	-	-	-
Lapsed during the period	52p	132,000	-	-
Exercised during the period	-	-	-	-
Outstanding at the end of the period	52p	233,000	52p	365,000
Exercisable at the end of the period	52p	NIL	52p	NIL

The fair value of services received in return for share options granted are measured by reference to the fair value of share options granted. The estimate of the fair value of the services received is measured based on a Black-Scholes model, assumptions for which are based on the following:

- The contractual life of the options is in accordance with the scheme rules, which vest after three years, the maximum exercise period is ten years,
- The expected volatility is wholly based on historic volatility, adjusted for any expected changes to future volatility due to publicly available information,
- The expected dividend yield is wholly based on historic yield,
- The risk-free rate is based on national government bonds.

An expense of £3,000 (2019: £3,000), has been recognised for the period arising from share-based payments.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

21 Reconciliation of profit after tax to net cash generated from/(used in) operations

	<i>Note</i>	2020 £000	2019 £000
Profit for the year after tax		13,876	813
Amortisation and impairment of intangible assets	10	293	300
Depreciation	11	276	296
Finance income	6	(59)	(6)
Finance expense	7	30	65
Share based payment expense	20	3	3
Goodwill disposed of in subsidiary share sale		548	-
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	11	141	(9)
(Profit) / loss on sale of investments		(12,727)	14
Taxation	8	236	-
Operating cash flows before movements in working capital		2,617	1,476
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables		2,479	(32)
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables		(1,760)	909
Movement in working capital		719	877
Cash flows from operating activities		3,336	2,353

22 Pension scheme

The Group does not operate an occupational pension scheme but makes a percentage contribution of qualifying salary to certain employees' personal pension schemes. The amount charged to the profit and loss account in respect of such contributions was £877,000 (2019: £800,000).

23 Related party transactions

The company has taken advantage of the exemptions provided by Section 33 of FRS 102 'Related Party Disclosures' and has not disclosed transactions entered into between two or more members of a group, provided that any subsidiary undertaking which is party to the transaction is wholly owned by a member of that group.

Dividends to Directors:

During the year dividends were paid to directors as follows:

	Shareholding No.	Dividend per share	Total dividend £
KGT Birch (Final 2019)	2,642,705	10.0p	264,270
KGT Birch (Interim 2020)	2,642,705	4.00p	105,708
DP Birch (Final 2019)	1,686,507	10.0p	168,651
DP Birch (Interim 2020)	1,686,507	4.0p	67,460
C Butler (Final 2019)	106,620	10.0p	10,662
C Butler (Interim 2020)	106,620	4.0p	4,265
DRT Thompson (Final 2019)	10,750	10.0p	1,075
DRT Thompson (Interim 2020)	10,750	4.0p	430

There were purchases of £6,810 (2019: £6,810) from Apposite Technology Partners Plc in the year.