Registered number: 02906593 (England and Wales)

REGULATORY ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

FOR

NORTHERN POWERGRID (NORTHEAST) PLC

Northern Powergrid (Northeast) plc
(Registration number: 02906593)

Contents

Northern Powergrid (Northeast) plc
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Company Information

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The directors present the annual reports and financial statements for the Regulatory Year ended 31 March 2022 of Northern Powergrid (Northeast) plc (the "Company"), which have been prepared in accordance with Part A of standard condition 44 (Regulatory Accounts) of the electricity distribution licence (“Licence”).

BUSINESS MODEL

The Company is as an authorised distributor under the Electricity Act 1989 and holds a Licence granted by the Secretary of State. In addition, the Company owns all of the shares of Northern Electric Finance plc (together, the “Group”), a company that acts as the issuer of long-term debt securities. As the Company is the largest contributor to the Group in terms of revenue, the Strategic Report concentrates on the performance and progress of the Company throughout the Regulatory year.

As a distribution network operator ("DNO"), the Company is regulated by the Office of Gas and Electricity Markets (“Ofgem”), which in turn, is governed by the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority (“GEMA”). Ofgem requires the DNOs to operate within a regulatory framework known as a price control, the purpose of which is to protect the interests of end consumers by setting an upper limit on the amount the DNOs can charge for the use of their networks. The completion of the 2021/22 Regulatory Year (on 31 March 2022), represented the end of year seven of the current RIIO-ED1 price control, which became effective on 1 April 2015 and is due to end on 31 March 2023 (the “ED1 period”).

The principal activity of the Company is the distribution of electricity to approximately 1.6 million customers connected to its electricity distribution network (the “Network”) within its distribution services area in the northeast of England, which extends from North Northumberland, south to York and west to the Pennines. The Company's Network includes over 41,000 kilometres of overhead and underground cables and over 28,000 substations. Electricity is received from National Grid's transmission system and from generators connected directly to the Network, and then distributed at voltages of up to 132 kilovolts.

The majority of revenue generated by the Company is controlled by a distribution price control formula which is set out in the Licence. The price control formula does not directly constrain profits from year-to-year but is a control on revenue that operates independently of a significant portion of the Company’s costs. Allowed revenue is recovered from electricity suppliers via the application of Distribution use of System charges. These charges account for approximately 15% of the electricity end user’s overall electricity bill. The Company’s opening base allowed revenue (excluding the effects of incentive schemes and any deferred revenues from the prior price control) has been set to remain constant and therefore provides the Company with some stability in terms of its income for each Regulatory Year from 1 April 2015 through to 31 March 2023. Nominal opening base allowed revenues will increase in line with inflation (as measured by the United Kingdom's Retail Prices Index “RPI”).

STRATEGY

In common with Northern Powergrid Holdings Company and its subsidiaries (the “Northern Powergrid Group”), the Company operates a strategy based on six core principles (the "Core Principles"), which comprise Financial Strength, Customer Service, Operational Excellence, Employee Commitment, Environmental Respect and Regulatory Integrity. The Core Principles (which are applied by the Northern Powergrid Group’s parent company, Berkshire Hathaway Energy Company ("Berkshire Hathaway Energy")), set out the basis on which the Company generates shareholder value over the longer-term and defines the standards by which the Northern Powergrid Group holds itself accountable. Each Core Principle is defined by a strategic objective which is intrinsically linked to the commitments made in the Company’s 2015 to 2023 regulatory well-justified business plan (“the Business Plan”).

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Submitted to Ofgem in March 2014, the Business Plan described the long-term strategy and commitments that the Company would achieve during the ED1 period in order to deliver sustainable growth with regard to those with whom the Company interacted and served. Developed after a period of consultation with stakeholders, the Business Plan focused on a number of priorities (described throughout the Strategic Report) including minimising costs, improving flood defences, enhancing customer service, prioritising employee safety, supporting vulnerable customers, protecting the environment and transitioning to low carbon technologies.

The directors refer to the values established by the Core Principles and the commitments contained within the Business Plan when considering the consequence of decisions they make.

Following the publication of RIIO-ED2 (“ED2”) Business Planning guidance by Ofgem in August 2020, the Company commenced the development of its regulatory business plan for the ED2 period (1 April 2023 to 31 March 2028) (the “ED2 Plan”), which was submitted to Ofgem on 1 December 2021 (a copy of which can be found on the Northern Powergrid Group website). As part of the development of the ED2 Plan, the Company worked with the Customer Engagement Group (“CEG”), which was established for the purpose of providing independent scrutiny and challenge to ensure that customers’ interests are adequately reflected in the ED2 Plan. Ahead of the implementation of the ED2 Plan on 1 April 2023, the Company has participated in open hearings with Ofgem and interested stakeholders to discuss the details of various initiatives. Ofgem published its draft determination on the ED2 plan on 29 June 2022. The Company will continue to liaise with Ofgem and industry partners during the period until Ofgem publishes its final determination in December 2022 (for further detail, see Regulatory Integrity). Detail concerning the outcome of the investigation into Storm Arwen and the Northern Powergrid Group’s progress in setting up a charitable fund can be found in ‘the response to Storm Arwen’.

The delivery of the Business Plan is supported by an annual business plan (the “Annual Plan”) which is submitted to the Northern Powergrid Group’s shareholder each financial year and is designed to phase progress towards the achievement of each commitment over the duration of the ED1 period. The phasing ensures that the deliverables in both plans can be measured effectively by using a mix of financial and non-financial Key Performance Indicators (“KPI”).

The Strategic Report focuses on each Core Principle and the performance of the associated KPIs throughout the Regulatory Year in order to provide a summary of the success in achieving each strategic objective, progress made against certain Business Plan commitments and performance in relation to the Annual Plan.

FINANCIAL STRENGTH

Strategic objective: Strong finances that enable improvement and growth.

KPI	**2021/22**	**2020/21**
Operating profit	£145.2 million	£129.0 million
Cash from operating activities	£178.0 million	£150.5 million
Cash used in investing activities	£157.5 million	£173.1 million
Credit Rating (Standard & Poor's)	A	A

Business Plan commitment: To build on the efficiencies achieved to date and in doing so, reduce base costs by 3.1% in 2015 to 2023 compared to the previous price control period.

Performance during the Regulatory Year: The Company continued to maintain good control in respect of both its capital and operating costs by effectively managing the financial risks that could have had an adverse impact on its business. Seven years through the ED1 period, the Company had implemented efficiencies equivalent to a 4% reduction in base costs relative to the prior regulatory period.

Revenue: The Company's revenue at £391.9 million was £32.3 million higher than the prior Regulatory Year (2020/21: £359.6 million) primarily due to higher distribution use of system revenues as the result of higher tariffs and the impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic ("the Pandemic") between the years.

Operating profit and position at the Regulatory Year-end: The Company's operating profit of £145.2 million was £16.2 million more than the previous Regulatory Year (2020/21: £129.0 million), primarily reflecting higher revenues (£32.3 million) and lower pension deficit repair payments (£19.2 million), offset by higher depreciation and amortisation (£5.3 million), costs of Storm Arwen (£26.6 million) and higher bad debt costs (£2.6 million). The statement of financial position on page 41 shows that, as at 31 March 2022 the Group had total equity of £1,183.1 million (2020/21: £1,142.6 million). The directors consider the Company to have a strong financial position which, when coupled with the preference of its parent Company, Berkshire Hathaway Energy, for operating with lower levels of debt than equivalent companies in the sector, creates a stable base for continued strong performance during the remainder of the ED1 period.

In April 2022, the Company issued a £350 million bond at 3.25% maturing in 2052, the funds will be used for general corporate purposes.

Finance costs and investments: Finance costs net of investment income at £26.8 million was £3.7 million lower than prior Regulatory Year (2020/21: £30.5 million) mainly reflecting decreased borrowings and refinancing at lower rates in the prior year.

Cash flow: The Company aims to collect from customers and pay suppliers within contracted terms. Any surplus cash held is remitted to Yorkshire Electricity Group plc ("YEG"), a company in the Northern Powergrid Group, and invested accordingly, generating a market rate of return for the Group. Movements in cash flows were as follows:

- Cash flow from operating activities at £178.0 million was £27.5 million higher than the previous Regulatory Year mainly due to higher operating profit before depreciation and amortisation and favourable movements in working capital.

- The net cash used in investing activities at £157.5 million was £15.6 million lower than the previous Regulatory Year, mainly reflecting higher receipt of customer contributions.

- The net cash outflow from financing activities at £20.6 million was £43.3 million higher than the £22.7 million inflow in the previous Regulatory Year mainly due to the net movement in operating and investing cash flows.

Pensions: The Company is a participating employer in the Northern Powergrid Group of the Electricity Supply Pension Scheme (the "DB Scheme"), a defined benefit scheme. Further details of the Company's commitments to the DB Scheme and the associated deficit repair payments are provided in Note 23 to the financial statements. The Company also participates in the Northern Powergrid Pension Scheme, which is a defined contribution scheme.

Insurance: As part of its insurance and risk strategy, the Northern Powergrid Group has in place insurance policies, which cover risks associated with employees, third party motor and public liability. The Northern Powergrid Group carries appropriate excesses on those policies and is effectively self-insured up to the level of those excesses.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Strategic objective: Delivering exceptional customer service.

KPI	**2021/22**	**2020/21**
Broad Measure of Customer Satisfaction ("BMCS")	88.8%	91.4%
BMCS Rank (out of 14)	11	10
BMCS Power Cuts	87.7%	91.3%
BMCS General Enquiries	93.5%	95.2%
BMCS Connections	87.4%	89.9%
Stakeholder Engagement and Customer Vulnerability ("SECV") rank (out of 5) (combined with Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) plc)	5	5

Business plan commitment: To provide a reliable, better communicated and faster customer service offering through a range of channels to suit stakeholder needs.

Performance during the Regulatory Year: Storm Arwen had a significant impact upon a relatively small number of Northern Powergrid's customers, with some households being left without power for prolonged periods. The scale and nature of the event meant that Northern Powergrid's strong levels of customer service was affected, due to the number of customers who needed help, high call volumes and overwhelming website demand. Northern Powergrid recognises the impact going without power can have on its customers and has worked with Ofgem to ensure those who were affected were properly compensated and that improvements are made in the future.

The impact of extreme weather events such as Storm Arwen are largely excluded from the Customer Service KPIs. Under the BMCS, an independent market research company carried out telephone surveys with the Company's customers to find out how satisfied they were with services related to unplanned or planned power cuts, quotations and subsequent connections, and general enquiries. The Company recorded a decline in overall satisfaction scores at 88.8% compared to the prior year (91.4%) which had resulted in an overall BMCS rank of 11 out of 14, falling one place from the prior Regulatory year.

To further enhance the service provided to customers, initiatives from the Company's customer service improvement plan were implemented during the year. This included the continued development of the customer relationship management ("CRM") system, including the roll-out of CRM Go for unplanned power cuts which provides improved real-time customer communication during an outage, the transition to a six region structure within Connections and the continued rollout of a 'Customer First' training programme which was introduced to improve the proactivity and effectiveness of communication with customers.

Activity scheduled to take place during 2022/23 is to focus on technology enablement including the development of the CRM system to enhance outbound communications to support a self-serve connections solution for low carbon technology additional load requests.
The deployment of a new contact centre telephony platform and an upgrade to the Northern Powergrid Group's external website is also due to take place in 2022.

Business plan commitments: To further implement customer service improvements in support of the commitment to reduce routine, small works end-to-end connections lead times by 30% during the ED1 period, actively facilitate the development of competition from independent connections providers ("ICPs") and deliver the major works service improvement plan as part of the Ofgem Incentive on Connections Engagement ("ICE").

Performance during the Regulatory Year: Reducing end-to-end connections lead times continued to pose a challenge and, as such, work to improve the level of customer service within the small works connections business (measured by the BMCS connections KPI) continued. In support of this, the process whereby one individual assumes responsibility throughout each connections process from creating a quotation on site to the final delivery of the connection itself was further embedded. By continuing to introduce further enhancements, the Company remains confident that whilst a 30% reduction in end-to-end lead times will be challenging, (currently at 19%) it remains achievable by the end of the ED1 period.

The Company continued to comply with the processes set out in Standard Licence Condition 52 and the Competition in Connections Code of Practice. This included the provision of dual quotations, enabling ICPs to self-determine points of connection to the existing Network and self-approve designs, and by facilitating the self-connection of new assets to the Company's low and high voltage networks by suitably accredited ICP operatives as a contestable activity.

In relation to the Company's ICE commitments for the 2021/22 regulatory year, the 18 actions included in the service improvement work plan were successfully delivered.

Corporate responsibility

Business Plan commitment: To build effective relationships with stakeholders whilst maximising the value of contact with customers, especially those who are vulnerable and hard to reach.

Performance during the Regulatory Year: In May 2022, the Company (together with Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) plc) put forward its SECV submission to Ofgem in respect of work undertaken during the 2021/22 Regulatory Year. The material provided an overview of activities and case studies in areas such as support for vulnerable customers, decarbonisation, safety, environment, customer service, reliability and availability. Following the review by Ofgem's panel, the Company achieved fifth place (of five) in the context of the DNOs, a step down from third place in the prior Regulatory Year. In response, an external assessment of the approach to engagement, fuel poverty provision and support provided to vulnerable customers was undertaken and improvement plans were subsequently established.

During the Regulatory year, the Company continued to develop its routine engagement activity by enhancing existing relationships with elected representatives at the local council and parliamentary level as well as with civic leaders from Local Enterprise Partnerships, particularly during periods of severe weather and when providing support to vulnerable customers. In addition, virtual one-to-one and group engagement sessions were held (and attended by the CEG) for the purpose of understanding stakeholders' priorities and opinion on commitments developed and the level of proposed investment set out in the draft and then subsequent ED2 Plan. The feedback, along with an understanding of customers' willingness to accept various proposals provided invaluable insight, enabling the board and senior managers to critically evaluate a range of stakeholder opinions in order to inform the finalisation of the ED2 Plan.

The continuing challenges of the Pandemic and restrictions meant that the way in which the Company and its partners provided support to vulnerable customers continued to be primarily via website and telephone advice and support. This enabled more people to access the services and has continued as part of a hybrid delivery model.

Where necessary and safe, partners have delivered face to face advice and share energy efficiency advice and tools to those who cannot use online channels. The Company's Community Partnering Fund (in conjunction with Northern Gas Networks) funded 15 organisations who deliver a range of services including fuel poverty and energy efficiency advice, electrical and gas safety, help recruit vulnerable customers to the Priority Services Register and support with Pandemic resilience.

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Strategic objective: High-quality, efficient operators running a smart reliable energy system.

	2021/22		2020/21	
KPI	**Actual**	**Target**	**Actual**	**Target**
Customer minutes lost ("CML")	46.54	<52.8	36.8	<55.2
Customer interruptions ("CI")	50.19	<59.2	45.3	<60.0
Network investment (million)	£184.3	-	£190.9	-
High voltage restoration time (minutes)	56.2	-	51.2	-

Business Plan commitment: To enhance the reliability of the Network in support of the commitment to achieve 8% fewer unplanned power cuts and reduce the average length of unplanned power cuts by 20% during the ED1 period.

Performance during the Regulatory Year: CML and CI are the KPIs set by Ofgem and used by the Company to measure the quality of supply and system performance. CML measures the average number of supply minutes lost for every connected customer due to both planned and unplanned power cuts that last for three minutes or longer. CI measures the average number of supply interruptions per every 100 connected customers due to planned and unplanned power cuts that last for three minutes or longer. After allowing for severe weather incidents and other exemptions (as referenced in Customer Service above)., performance during the Regulatory Year was better than Ofgem's target for both CML and CI.

In relation to high voltage restoration, the Company's high-voltage restoration performance during the year averaged 56.2 minutes (2020/21: 51.2 minutes), again, after allowing for severe weather incidents and other exemptions.

In respect of the Business Plan commitments, the Company together with its affiliate (Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) plc) had achieved 26% fewer unplanned power cuts and a reduction of the average length of unplanned power cuts by 34.5% (relative to the prior regulatory period). Progress remains on track to achieve the continuous improvement target of 30% for the number of unplanned power cuts and 20% to 40% for the average duration.

The Company invested £184.3 million during the Regulatory Year through its approved Network investment strategy (2020/21: £190.9 million), which was designed to deliver improvements in Network performance and increase resilience. Various major projects were undertaken to reinforce the primary Network, refurbish transformers, rebuild overhead lines, remove and replace oil-filled cables, change deteriorated poles, replace switchgear and install and commission new remote-control points. Routine Network maintenance was completed in addition to work required to support rebuild to parts of the Network after various storms.

Further Network enhancements included the continued roll-out of the automatic power restoration system on the high voltage Network. At low voltage the implementation of next generation innovative low voltage technology devices continued with the addition of low-cost Network monitoring sensors which detect developing faults so that they can be proactively managed whilst gathering of Network condition information. Initiatives were also implemented as a result of the Reliability Improvement Plan including increasing the use of mobile generation to restore supplies and enhancements to vegetation management practices.

By the end of the ED1 Period, the Company expects to deliver a more resilient Network and enhanced outputs to customers that exceed those originally targeted in the Business Plan.
Additional investment in priority areas such as to underground overhead lines in areas of outstanding natural beauty and remove fluid and gas filled cables from the Network has been offset by efficiency savings and the use of new technologies.

Additionally, progress has been made on the Company and its affiliate's new £53.1 million (at 2012/13 prices) green investment programme that was agreed with Ofgem in early 2021 which will help accelerate progress to net zero and provide vital regional economic stimulus.

Climate Change Adaptation

Strategic objective: Operate a highly reliable and resilient Network

KPI

	2021/22			2020/21		
	Annual	**Cumulative**	**Target**	**Annual**	**Cumulative**	**Target**
Flood Defences:						
High risk sites protected		**95%**	**88%**		**94%**	**75%**
Flood defence upgrades	0	125		1	125	
Major substation flood defences installed	7	81		12	74	
Vegetation Management:						
High voltage Network resilient to high winds	**16.5**		**544**	**53**		**585**
Vegetation management clearance spans	29,469		29,328	28,246		28,004
Collaboration:						
Local Resilience Forums (LRFs)	35		28	28		28

Business Plan commitment: To adapt to the effects of climate change by establishing and maintaining flood defences at all high-risk substations to national standards, delivering a programme of vegetation management and working collaboratively with regional infrastructure providers and local resilience forums.

Performance during the Regulatory year: The climate is changing and, despite international efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, it is expected to continue to change over the course of the century. The Company has worked to understand the risks and opportunities presented by climate change and has established initiatives in response such as industry leading flood mitigation programme and a robust vegetation management programme.

The Company has focused on two climate pathways, one which is in line with the 2°C global warming considered in the Paris agreement and the second representing the worst-case scenario of a global mean surface temperature rise of 4.3°C by 2081 to 2100.

By using the latest projections (UKCP18) to carry out a full risk assessment, the Company has identified and prioritised key climate related risks and their impact on the Network. Once identified, the key risks were included in the Electricity Networks Association's Climate Change Adaptation Report which was submitted to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs ("Defra") in March 2021 on behalf of all gas and electricity network operators. The report then contributed to the National Adaptation Plan and accordingly, the risks were covered in detail in the Company and its affiliate's Climate Change Adaptation report submitted to Defra in December 2021 in line with the requirements of the Adaptation Reporting Power under the Climate Change Act 2008 (available to view on the Northern Powergrid Group website). In July 2021 the Company and its affiliate published its draft Climate Resilience Strategy for 2023 to 2028 in line with the requirements of Ofgem and the final version was published in December 2021 (also available on the Northern Powergrid Group website).

The Company together with Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) plc have followed the approach laid out in the supplementary Green Book Guidance on 'Accounting for the Effects of Climate Change' published by Defra in November 2020 and in response, has developed a climate resilience framework in line with the National Infrastructure Commission's report (Anticipate, React, Recover: Resilient Infrastructure Systems - published in May 2020) detailing its approach to Climate Resilience.

In respect of its routine activity, during 2021, the Company and its affiliate invested £5.0 million on flood mitigation works, and £8.6 million on the continuation of the vegetation management programme.

Response to storm Arwen

The Company and its affiliate have robust processes and procedures in place in the form of a Major Incident Management Plan ("MIMP"), which is deployed during extreme weather events. Employees are well practiced at operating under MIMP conditions. Nonetheless, storm Arwen was the most significant weather event that the Company had faced in more than two decades.

A MIMP was triggered on 26 November 2021, following which, to mitigate the loss of supply, switching of the Network commenced and safety response activities were initiated. Whilst initial repairs to the Network were hampered by the strength of the wind, 90% of all affected customers had their power restored by 28 November 2021. However, the severity of the damage caused to the Network in more remote rural locations meant that supplies to all affected customers were not restored until 8 December 2021.

On 9 June 2022, Ofgem and the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy ("BEIS"). Published their reports concerning the Company's response to storm Arwen. The findings detailed a number of recommendations in the areas of network resilience, planning and preparedness and communication and support for customers during and after extreme weather events. As part of the improvement actions, the Company and its affiliate has agreed with Ofgem that it will donate over £7.5 million to charitable and not-for-profit activities that improve the resilience of communities, with a particular focus on those people who need help the most both in storm situations and as we address the longer-term effects of climate change.

EMPLOYEE COMMITMENT

Strategic objective: High-performing people doing rewarding jobs in a safe and secure workplace.

	2021		2020	
KPI (all calendar year)	**Actual**	**Target**	**Actual**	**Target**
Northern Powergrid Group Occupational Safety and Health Administration ("OSHA")	0.29	0.09	0.13	0.13
Preventable vehicle accidents	23	<14	17	<15
Lost time accidents	1	0	0	<1
Medical treatment accidents	2	<1	2	0
Operational incidents	6	<4	4	<5
Northern Powergrid Group absence rate	3.3%		2.8%	

Health and Safety

Business Plan commitment: To deliver world class safety performance and halve the accident rate during the ED1 period.

Performance during the Regulatory Year: In common with the Berkshire Hathaway Energy group, the Northern Powergrid Group measures its safety performance in terms of the OSHA rate, which is a measure used in the United States ("US") to capture safety incidents down to minor levels of medical treatment. The Northern Powergrid Group failed to meet its target of 0.09 in 2021 having achieved an OSHA rate of 0.29 (2020: 0.13), which equated to seven recordable incidents (four of which were lost time) against the goal of two or fewer. Whilst this was very disappointing, none of the incidents themselves were serious and additional training is to be implemented to reduce the exposure to minor slips, trips and falls - and even dog bites. The Company also had a poor year in terms of preventable vehicle accidents, with twenty-three recorded against a target of fourteen or fewer. This was largely attributed to the lack of passengers acting as 'spotters' as a consequence of social distancing in vehicles.

In respect of the Business Plan commitment, at 31 December 2021, the Company's accident rate had been reduced by 58%, which was ahead of the target to achieve a 50% reduction by 31 March 2023. The Company successfully retained its ISO 45001 accreditation scheme for its health and safety management system.

The challenges posed by the Pandemic in relation of safe working practices and procedures were, and remain, constantly under review by members of the safety team, senior management team, Health and Safety Committee and the Board, in conjunction with trade union representatives. Robust business continuity plans and risk management procedures meant that the Company continued to adapt to new ways of working and provide essential safety and personal protective equipment.

Improving safety performance remains a priority and the way in which this is achieved is set out in the Company's safety and health improvement plan ("SHIP"). During the year, the SHIP focused on more than 50 initiatives in the areas of enhanced engagement, operational performance, risk management, road risk, occupational health and public safety and included the launch of the Institute of Advanced Motorists programme and the upgrade of fleet vehicles with new technology and driver assistance packages as standard.

The mental health and wellbeing of staff continues to form an integral part of the SHIP. Existing support available to employees includes an independent employee assistance service, which is a confidential, self-referral counselling and information service to assist with personal or work-related problems and access to services including counselling and physiotherapy referrals.

Employees

Business Plan commitment: To emphasise the importance of leadership and high standards of performance by engaging, collaborating and working with employees and their trade union representatives.

Performance during the Regulatory Year: The changing circumstances of the Pandemic required the Company to continue to adjust and adapt employee working arrangements. For those that were able, home working continued as did the Company's support offered to working parents or those that were required to self-isolate. Ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all employees, whether that was in an office, or for those key workers operating in the field environment, remained paramount. To help employees understand the frequent changes to government advice, updates were communicated regularly via multiple channels to ensure that all colleagues were able to continue to perform their duties safely and effectively. The Company remains committed not only to the physical health, but to the broader wellbeing of its staff and is aware that for some, the Pandemic has exacerbated mental health issues including isolation and anxiety. Consequently, weekly wellbeing advice continued to be promoted alongside the standard support services which are available.

Alongside any new measures, the Company continued to ensure that all colleagues had regular conversations about their performance with their line managers, and leadership engagement continued. Training was delivered via a number of methods including physically (socially distanced) and online via e-learning such as Customer First training and the 'Best Welcome' corporate induction.

The Northern Powergrid Group has adopted the Berkshire Hathaway Energy code of business conduct ("Code of Conduct"), which details the commitment to ethics and compliance with the law, provides reporting mechanisms for known or suspected ethical or legal violations, and establishes minimum standards of behaviour expected of all employees. In support of this, a "speaking up" process is in place enabling all employees to raise concerns of unethical acts, malpractice or impropriety (including bribery or corruption), and an anonymous help line operated by an independent company is also available. All colleagues complete an annual online training programme covering the requirements of the Code of Conduct.

During the Regulatory Year, 46 new recruits (2020/21: 40) joined the Company and Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) plc's workforce renewal programme. At 31 March 2022, the Company had 1,246 employees (2020/21: 1,262). Further information concerning how the Northern Powergrid Group is supporting gender diversity in the energy industry can be found in the Northern Powergrid Group's gender pay gap report via the Northern Powergrid Group's corporate website.

	2021/22			2020/21		
	Male	**Female**	**All**	**Male**	**Female**	**All**
Directors	5	1	6	4	1	5
Senior Managers*	11	1	12	11	3	14
Total Number of Employees	958	288	1,246	969	293	1,262

*Includes the Senior Managers employed by the Company only and not those employed elsewhere in the Northern Powergrid Group who provide services to the Company.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPECT

Strategic objective: Leaders in environmental respect and low carbon technologies

	2021/22		2020/21	
KPI	**Actual**	**Target**	**Actual**	**Target**
Total oil/fluid lost (litres)	8,979	<8,730	7,831	<8,910
SF6 gas discharges (kg)	14.5	<15	24.05	<16.2
Environmental incidents	0	1	0	1
KWh energy consumed	21,175,435		21,066,930	

Business carbon footprint	Tonnes	Per km^2	Tonnes	Per km^2
Building electricity use	865	0.06	855	0.06
Substation electricity use	1,770	0.12	1,906	0.13
Fleet fuel use	2,035	0.14	2,149	0.15
Business fuel use	811	0.06	738	0.05
Other (including fugitive emissions)	546	0.04	774	0.05
Contractor emissions	11,071	0.77	8,327	0.58
Total carbon footprint (tonnes)	17,098	1.19	14,749	1.02

Notes:

KWh energy consumed relates to depot energy and fleet fuel usage.

The chosen business carbon footprint intensity ratio is based on the Company's licence area which equals 14.394 km.

The methodology adopted to calculate energy and business carbon footprint data is aligned with international standards, those required by Defra and BEIS, is compliant with ISO 14064-1:2006 and are all externally validated.

Business Plan commitment: Deliver Environmental "RESPECT" (Responsibility, Efficiency, Stewardship, Performance, Evaluation, Communication and Training) and in doing so reduce oil and fluid loss by 15% and our business carbon footprint by 10% during the ED1 period.

Performance during the Regulatory year: The Company operates a United Kingdom Accreditation Service scheme for environmental management and is certified to the environmental management systems standard ISO 14001:2015. The ISO 14001 standard is designed to enhance environmental performance, fulfil compliance obligations and achieve environmental objectives, all of which contribute to the achievement of the Company's KPIs. A full recertification assessment was carried out in March 2020 and surveillance audits are carried out twice per calendar year, the last one being conducted in October 2021. Continued certification was confirmed following each audit.

The Company's carbon footprint reporting framework is certified under the Certified Emissions Measurement and Reduction Scheme for compliance with ISO 14064-1:2006. The last full audit was undertaken in August 2021, where continued certification was confirmed. Remote working and less travel has led to a further reduction in the Company's carbon footprint to 17,098 (2020/21: 14,749 tonnes).
This improvement (combined with Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) plc) demonstrated a carbon footprint reduction of 49% at 31 December 2021, well ahead of the original 10% commitment and in line with the forecast of 50% by the end of the ED1 Period.

In support of the target to further reduce oil and fluid loss, the 2021 annual environmental improvement plan included replacing fluid-filled cables and locating cable fluid leaks more quickly. This was hampered by a small number of leaking cable circuits where location prohibited sufficient fluid recovery resulting in a total fluid loss of 8,979 (2020/21: 7,831). In relation to the Business Plan commitment, at 31 December 2021, the Company and its affiliate (Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) plc) had achieved a 43% reduction in oil and fluid loss, well ahead of the original 15% commitment and on target to achieve a 49% reduction by the end of the ED1 Period.

To maintain its strict policy of environmental protection and legal compliance, the Company continues to assess environmental risks and mitigate threats through programmes of work such as fluid-filled cable replacement, undergrounding overhead lines in areas of outstanding natural beauty, installing flood defences, implementing secondary containment in high-risk substations and removing equipment containing polychlorinated biphenyl from the Network. Whilst prevention is paramount, in the event the Company's activity does result in a leak or spill, the services of an appointed 24-hour a day environmental response consultancy is used to minimise the effects of any incident.

The Company takes its environmental responsibilities very seriously and has a proven track record of lowering emissions and minimising the wider environmental impact of Network activity. Reducing the level of internal carbon footprint is a key priority and consequently, plans have been developed to become carbon net neutral by 2040. This includes initiatives such as increasing ultra-low emission or zero emission vehicles to 40% of the Company's fleet of vehicles by 2028 and the adoption of science-based targets.

Science-based targets are a set of goals developed to provide a clear route to reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Emissions reduction targets are considered science based if they are consistent with keeping global warming below 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. Targets are calculated by taking the world's carbon budget (consistent with 1.5°C) and deriving the corresponding reduction required each year to meet that carbon budget. The Company's science-based targets were verified by the Science-based Targets Initiative on 23 December 2021.

In respect of the Company's wider environmental impact, plans have been developed to achieve zero waste to landfill by 2035 and, to divert 90% of waste from all of the Company's operations by 2028. In addition to safeguarding the environment from its direct activity, the Company also operates a habitats programme which is aimed at protecting natural habitats and increasing the variety and variability of species and ecosystems at 200 of the Company's and its affiliate's major sites.

To date, the Company's performance against a number of stretching KPIs to reduce carbon usage and minimise the effects of the Company on stakeholders and the environment has been positive. However, it is acknowledged that becoming carbon neutral by 2040 and working with suppliers and partners in order to accomplish this, is not without its challenges and risks. Accordingly, the Company will continue to evolve its ambitions and enhance the implementation of environmental plans throughout the ED2 period.

Environmental Sustainability

Strategic focus: Enable significant growth in customers connecting low carbon technologies, support all pathways to net zero emissions and significantly reduce our own carbon footprint.

Performance during the Regulatory year: As the country takes action to make significant reductions in its carbon emissions following the establishment of a net zero carbon emissions target by 2050, the way in which electricity is produced and used is expected to have a substantial impact on the Network over time. The Company laid out its intention to act as a key facilitator in the country's net zero transition by placing decarbonisation at the heart of its investment and actions for the ED2 period.

The volume and total capacity of decentralised energy generation and customer has continued to grow steadily and, given the greater range of load and generation technologies now connected to the Network, the Company is developing and actioning innovative solutions that will reduce the need for traditional and potentially expensive reinforcement of the Network.

In the past year, the Company has continued to engage with the market for flexibility by consulting on investment solutions where there was an option for customers to support the Network by changing their energy consumption and generation patterns, facilitating a more efficient and greener Network. To understand how to most efficiently prepare the Network for the future needs of its customers, the Company has continued to build on its views of potential pathways to net zero in its region through its publication of Distribution Future Energy Scenarios in May 2021.

From an innovation perspective, the Company continues to run and develop a portfolio of projects in the priority areas of smart meters, digital-enabled customer service and affordability. The field trial phase of the Boston Spa Energy Efficiency Trial has commenced which has the potential to deliver a 4% reduction in domestic energy use which in turn gives rise to a £20 saving to customers annually - vital for both decarbonisation and caring for vulnerable customers. The success of the Silent Power vans (which now address 25% of all generator restorations for small faults) has led to the exploration of whether larger, multi-phase, or even high voltage capable units can be developed, while at a smaller scale it is being established if fixed domestic units can be used at single premises to support vulnerable customers.

As the Company transitions into the ED2 period, decarbonisation will continue to become central not only to the Company's strategy, but the way in which the Company contributes more broadly to the evolution of the energy industry and the stakeholders with whom it interacts. The Company has been progressive in its ambition to reduce its own business carbon footprint. However, more is required and it is acknowledged that the Company has a key role to play in facilitating regional decarbonisation by fulfilling the functions of Distribution System Operation (DSO). This means investing in people, processes and systems in order to actively manage the Network and to optimise the use of assets and generated energy in the region. As part of the Company's ED2 Plan submission, a number of strategic objectives shaped the development of the accompanying DSO strategy. This included 'flexibility first', involving deploying flexible solutions as an alternative to Network reinforcement, 'whole system collaboration' in order to engage with the wider market on whole system energy solutions, 'data and digitalisation', to facilitate solutions in areas such as open data, 'openness and transparency', to collaborate in joint planning with our stakeholders and finally, fostering a 'workplace and workforce fit for the future', to build regional and national skills.

Collectively, these objectives have been developed to achieve a number of outcomes and benefits, including to enable open energy data sharing, transform the way decisions and plans are made throughout the Company, support the development of new flexible energy markets, increase customer and Network flexibility and facilitate a whole system energy system. During the remainder of the ED1 Period, the Company will continue to build on the significant activity that has already been undertaken to decarbonise its operations and reduce the impact that it has upon its stakeholders as it prepares for the implementation of the ED2 Plan.

REGULATORY INTEGRITY

Strategic objective: Trustworthy, fair and balanced.

KPI: Completion of a quarterly regulatory compliance affirmation process.

Business Plan commitment: To manage the Company's business to the highest behavioural standards and adhere to a policy of strict compliance with all relevant standards, legislation and regulatory conditions.

Performance during the Regulatory Year: In order to assure compliance with distribution licence and other regulatory obligations, the Company operates a regulatory compliance affirmation process, under which ownership of approximately 2,000 regulatory obligations is assigned to 74 responsible managers. Those responsible managers are required to review compliance with the relevant obligations on a quarterly basis and report on any identified non-compliances or perceived risks which are then addressed by members of the senior management team.
To minimise the risk of the Company breaching its licence conditions and other statutory requirements (which could lead to financial penalties), the board reviews the outcomes of each exercise. Each quarterly regulatory compliance affirmation process was completed
satisfactorily during the year.

The Company submitted its annual Data Assurance Report to Ofgem in February 2022, which included risk assessments of the regulatory returns to be submitted for the Regulatory Year ahead (April 2022 to March 2023), together with a report detailing the assurance work actually carried out in the year ended 28 February 2022 and the findings of that work.

Ofgem is undertaking its review process to determine the charges that DNOs are able to levy over the next price control period (the ED2 period), which will run from April 2023 to March 2028). This process is following the sector-specific methodology that Ofgem published in December 2020 and March 2021. These decisions indicated the outputs and uncertainty mechanisms that are likely to apply and also set working assumptions for the allowed cost of capital parameters, all of which are subject to finalisation. The process is expected to conclude with final determinations in December 2022, with draft determinations published in June 2022.

In December 2021 the Company published and submitted to Ofgem its finalised business plan for the ED2 period. The ED2 plan involves £661.3 million in annual investment, a 41% increase on the comparable measure over the ED1 period (April 2015 to March 2023). It is now subject to regulatory evaluation by Ofgem as part of its ongoing price review process.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Northern Powergrid Group operates a structured and disciplined approach to the management of risk as part of its overall risk management policy and in support of its financial reporting practices. A system is in place to facilitate the identification of new and emerging opportunities and risks, including those associated with the achievement of the Northern Powergrid Group’s strategic objectives and Core Principles. This includes regular reviews of the macro environment as well as risks that arise from within functional business areas. Once identified, key risks and their respective controls and mitigation plans are continually assessed and formally reviewed on a quarterly basis by the Risk Advisory Board ("RAB") in order that they are managed to an acceptable level in accordance with the Northern Powergrid Group’s risk appetite. The RAB routinely reports its findings to the board to ensure the directors are sufficiently appraised of the risk exposure associated with the pursuit of the Company’s long-term strategy.
evaluation by Ofgem as part of its ongoing price review process.

The risk management programme includes regular reviews of the crisis management, disaster recovery and major incident plans. To determine the level of disaster preparedness and responsiveness against threats to business continuity, risk management plans and processes are periodically tested. This self-evaluation approach is reinforced by that of the Berkshire Hathaway Energy group, which benchmarks risk management activities across its business units and shares significant lessons learned. The business continuity and disaster recovery plans were fully tested as a result of the Pandemic, and whilst adaptation and flexibility was required, operational performance remained resilient and employees continued to perform their duties safely.

Principal Risks

The Northern Powergrid Group's principal risks are not ranked or prioritised in any particular order. During the Regulatory Year, the risk posed by leaving the European Union was removed given the departure date of 31 January 2020 and as the impact upon the Company had been limited. The Pandemic remains a principal risk. However, its status will continue to be reviewed each quarter by the RAB. No other notable changes to the principal risks have taken place during the Regulatory Year

Cyber and Information Security
Unauthorised access or compromise of the Information Technology or Operational Technology networks, resulting in loss of network control and availability. Unauthorised access or loss of large volumes of data or sensitive data.

Mitigation

- Robust cyber security risk mitigation programme is in place.
- Accreditation under the ISO 27001 Information Security standard for operational, customer, employee and financial information.
- Compliant to the Network Information Security Directive and the Basic Cyber Assessment Frameworks.
- Compliance with the Centre for Internet Security Critical Security Controls.
- Monitored by the Information Security Executive Committee and the board.

Regulatory and policy positioning
Decisions taken resulting in negative impacts to our business model.

Mitigation

- The Company's policy position supporting the expanded role of DSO was published in December 2021.
- Innovation projects are in place to develop and demonstrate future technologies and commercial practices.
- The Company engages in a robust regulatory and stakeholder engagement programme, the latter of which is scrutinised by the CEG.
- The Company is actively involved in consultations on the ED2 price controls.

Network resilience
Loss of the operational network due to significant weather events, targeted physical attack or catastrophic asset failure resulting in sustained or widespread loss of essential supply.

Mitigation

- Major incident and crisis management policies, plans and governance arrangements are in place.
- An industry mutual aid agreement exists.
- Network investment ensures grid resilience.
- Grid resilience programme and audits.
- Vulnerable site protocols.
- Climate resilience strategy and framework.

Safety
Fatality or serious harm caused to an employee or a third party.

Mitigation

- Overseen by the Health and Safety Committee.
- Clear policies and procedures exist that comply with legislation to ensure the safety of employees and customers.
- Safety Health and Improvement plan.
- Health and safety training is provided to employees on a continuous basis.
- Audit programme and inspection regimes are in place.
- ISO45001 safety management system in place.

Environment and climate protection
Failure to prevent network assets from having a significant negative impact on the climate and environment.

Mitigation

- Incident response process and robust policies and procedures in place.
- Programme to reduce fluid loss and the Company's business carbon footprint and remove assets containing polychlorinated biphenyl from the network.
- Investment in technology to minimise environmental incidents and 'self-heal' the network.
- Asset inspection and maintenance programme.
- Environment improvement plan and Environment Action Plan.
- Path to carbon neutrality by 2040.
- Waste management and habitat protection programmes.
- Science-based targets approved by the Science-based Targets initiative.
- ISO14001 environmental management system in place.

Resource availability
Access to and availability of skilled resource resulting in an inability to deliver work programmes.

Mitigation

- Mix of direct labour and contracted resource is used.
- Workforce renewal programmes in place to recruit and retain employees.
- Ongoing training and development builds internal capability.
- Employee engagement and health and well-being initiatives are in place.
- Diversity, equality and inclusion plan.

Efficiency and output performance
Failure to maintain cost and output performance competitiveness in the industry.

Mitigation

- Robust business planning process.
- Financial controls in place including detailed review of actuals against budget, competitive tendering process, and capital expenditure approvals process.
- Monthly executive business performance review.
- Comprehensive "Efficient Output Delivery" programme.

Financial risks
The exposure to interest rate, tax, liquidity and treasury risks.

Mitigation

- Monitored by the treasury department.
- The Company is financed by long-term borrowings at fixed rates and has access to short-term borrowing facilities at floating rates of interest.
- As at 31 March 2022, 100% of the Company's long-term borrowings were at fixed rates and the average maturity for these borrowings was 25 years.
- Financial covenant monitoring is in place.
- Regulatory revenue adjustments reduce the effect of changes to tax payments as a result of changes to tax legislation or accounting standards.

Pandemic
Infection rate leads to high staff absence.

Mitigation

- Pandemic mitigation plan in place.
- Crisis management and business recovery procedures.
- Geographical distribution of facilities and staff.
- Briefings and advice provided on safety, health and well-being.
- Independent external support and resources available.
- Response aligned with UK Government advice and formulated with the oversight of BEIS.

Internal Control

A strong internal control environment exists within the Company to support the financial reporting process, the key features of which include regular reporting, a series of operational and financial policies, investigations undertaken by internal audit and a stringent process for ensuring the implementation of internal audit recommendations. In addition, the Company utilises comprehensive business planning procedures, regularly reviews KPIs to assess progress towards its goals, and has a strong internal audit function to provide independent scrutiny. Financial controls include centralised treasury operations and established procedures for the planning, approving and monitoring of major capital expenditure. The RAB monitors the effectiveness of internal controls and reports on its findings to the board and Berkshire Hathaway Energy. As part of the statutory reporting process, the Company's external auditor reviews and tests a number of internal controls and reports their findings and recommendations for improvements to the board.

Controls which are applicable to financial decisions are governed via a schedule of delegations of authority which are approved by the board (and applies to the Northern Powergrid Group) for the purpose of enabling the senior management team to make decisions up to certain financial limits, above which point the decision making reverts to the directors. These limits reflect the board's level of risk appetite and are reviewed on an annual basis.

In accordance with Berkshire Hathaway Energy's requirements to comply with the US Sarbanes-Oxley Act, the Company undertakes a quarterly risk control assessment confirming that the effectiveness of the system of internal controls have been reviewed during the year. A self-certification process is in place, in support of this review, whereby certain senior managers are required to confirm that the system of internal control in their area of the business is operating effectively. Consequently, the directors believe that a robust system of risk assessment and management is in place.

The Northern Powergrid Group does not have a specific human rights policy. However, in accordance with the Core Principles, it remains fully committed to operating ethically and responsibly and with fairness and integrity. This is implemented through the policies and procedures it has in place which are applicable to all stakeholder groups and encompasses employees' health, safety and welfare, dealings with customers (particularly those who are vulnerable), the impact of the Northern Powergrid Group on the environment and the contribution to sustainability.

To ensure that the Northern Powergrid Group maintains the highest level of ethical standards in the conduct of its business, Berkshire Hathaway Energy's Code of Conduct has been adopted, further details of which can be found in the 'Employees' section. The Northern Powergrid Group has robust procedures in place to meet the requirements of the Bribery Act 2010. Every employee must undertake training in respect of the Northern Powergrid Group's anti-corruption and anti-bribery policy each Regulatory Year.

Viability statement

The directors have chosen a period of not less than ten years for the purposes of making this statement. The timeframe corresponds with the ten-year plan that is submitted to the Northern Powergrid Group's shareholder each year alongside the Annual Plan and which sets out the Northern Powergrid Group's long term strategy. Given the Company's business model, which operates in a stable sector, the directors believe that the Company and the Northern Powergrid Group as a whole are very likely to be viable for longer than the period chosen for the purpose of this statement.

In addition, various factors were contemplated when making an assessment of the Company and Northern Powergrid Group's prospects including the general stability associated with the regulatory environment, the principal risks and uncertainties facing the Company, the Company's business model and strategy, the effect of the coronavirus pandemic upon the Company, the forecasts developed as part of the Annual Plan, the commitments made in the Business Plan, and the fact that the notice period that GEMA must provide to Company in the event it wishes to revoke either of the electricity distribution licences is twenty five years.

During their assessment, the directors also appraised the Company's financial prospects including the access to and availability of finance as set out in the Going Concern statement.

Consideration was also given to the obligations contained in Company's licence to provide Ofgem with annual certificates, confirming that the directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company will have sufficient financial and operational resources available for the continuation of business for a period of at least 12 months. The board determined any material variations to the assumptions used when providing those certificates were unlikely. Based on the results of their review, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company will be able to continue in operation and meet its liabilities as they fall due over the next ten-year period.

Section 172(1) statement
Decision-making at the Board
All matters which under the Company's governance arrangements are reserved for decision by the Directors are presented at Board meetings. Directors are briefed on any potential impacts and risks for customers, and other stakeholders including investors, suppliers, the community and environment and how they are to be managed. The Directors take these factors into account before making a final decision which together they believe is in the best interests of the Company and its member.

Long-term sustainability
The Company aims to make sufficient profit in order to invest in the Network thereby, ensuring the integrity of the electricity supply for its customers. This is balanced against the needs of other stakeholders and the community and to ensure all business relationships are conducted in an open and transparent manner. The long-term sustainability of the Company is at the forefront of decision-making, particularly in response to the challenging conditions in the energy sector and those introduced in recent years by the Pandemic.

Stakeholders	Board actions during the Regulatory Year
Employees As detailed in the Employee and Employee Engagement sections, the Company works hard to ensure the health and safety of employees and to provide them with opportunities for advancement alongside fair terms whilst remunerating appropriately. The Company engages with the Trade Unions in relation to collectively bargained employees.	- Reviewed health and safety performance. - Considered the Company's ongoing response in relation to the Pandemic. - Monitored key appointment changes. - Engaged with employees on the ED2 plan. - Approved the ED2 business plan. - Approved the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion plan. - Reviewed the Company's gender pay gap report. - Approved delegations of authority.
Customers As outlined in the Customer Service section, feedback is routinely collected on our levels of service performance in the areas of connections, power cuts and general enquiries.	- Closely monitored the response in respect of Storm Arwen and the level of customer service and compensation. - Routinely reviewed customer service performance. - Engaged with the Chair of the CEG. - Approved the ED2 business plan.
Producers and suppliers The Company works closely with the supply chain and has measures in place to ensure the treatment of all supplies is fair and equitable. Further detail can be found in Business Relationships. The Company has taken measures to prevent modern slavery and human trafficking in its business and supply chains.	- Reviewed and approved the Company's modern slavery statement. - Engaged with suppliers concerning the ED2 plan.
Financial stakeholders The Company makes information available to financial stakeholders, including our relationship banks and bondholders, as part of information provided by the Northern Powergrid Group. Directors participate in financial updates when entering into new financial arrangements, which gives stakeholders an opportunity to engage directly with them.	- Approved the issue of corporate bonds, liaising with the Northern Powergrid Group's shareholder, banks, HMRC and potential investors. - Approved an interim dividend. - Approved the annual and interim accounts. - Approved the tax strategy.
Community and environment As defined by the Core Principles, each Director is required to take all reasonable steps to minimise any detrimental impact the Company's operations may have on the environment. Further detail can be found in the Environmental Respect section. The Company also supports a range of charitable and community activities to help customers manage with important issues such as fuel poverty and safety around electricity. Further detail can be found in the Community section.	- Approved the ED2 environmental plan and community initiatives. - Routinely reviewed environmental performance. - Made decisions pursuant to Environmental Respect.

Regulator The Company is in regular dialogue with Ofgem concerning new policy development and emerging risks or opportunities within the sector. In order to meet its licence conditions, the Company provides regular reporting to Ofgem.	- Approved the annual regulatory certificates and Regulatory Accounts. - Submitted the ED2 business plan and various annexes. - Contributed to various regulatory consultations. - Monitored regulatory compliance.
Business conduct As outlined in Regulatory Integrity, the Company manages its business to the highest behavioural standards and adheres to a policy of strict compliance with all relevant standards, legislation and regulatory conditions.	- Executive Directors Undertook the Annual Code of Business Conduct training. - Quarterly affirmation compliance checks were completed.
Acting fairly as between the Company's owners The Company has one class of ordinary shares which are all held by Northern Electric plc, a company owned by the Northern Powergrid Group.	- Declared an interim dividend. - Approved the ten-year business plan.

Further information pursuant to Section 414CZA of the Companies Act 2006 can be found throughout the Strategic Report, Principal Risks and Uncertainties, Directors Report and Corporate Governance Statement.

Non-financial information statement

The non-financial reporting information pursuant to Section 414CA and 414CB of the Companies Act 2006 has been reported throughout the Strategic Report and principal risks and uncertainties.

Approved by the Board on 15 July 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

A P Jones
Director

The directors present their report and the consolidated financial statements for the Regulatory Year ended 31 March 2022.

Dividends

During the Regulatory Year, an interim dividend of £26.0 million was paid (2020/21: £25.4 million). The directors recommend that no final dividend be paid in respect of the Regulatory Year (2020/21: £nil).

The Company's dividend policy is that dividends will be paid only after having due regard to available distributable reserves, available liquid funds and the financial resources and facilities needed to enable the Company to carry on its business for at least the next Regulatory Year. In addition, the level of dividends is set to maintain sufficient equity in the Company so as not to jeopardise its investment grade issuer credit rating. These strict parameters align with the conditions set out in the Licence and are considered carefully by the board so as to ensure that the payment of any dividend does not cause the Company to breach any Licence obligations in the future.

Directors of the Company

The directors, who held office during the Regulatory Year and up to the date of signing, were as follows:

T H France
A P Jones (Appointed 14 April 2022)
P A Jones
P C Taylor
A J Maclennan
AR Marshall

During the year, none of the directors had an interest in any contract which was material to the business of the Company or Group. During the Regulatory Year and up to the date of approval of the Directors Report, an indemnity contained in the Company's (and each company within the Northern Powergrid Group's) Articles of Association was in force for the benefit of the directors of the Company and as directors of associated companies, which was a qualifying indemnity provision for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006.

Future Developments

The financial position of the Company, as at 31 March 2022, is shown in the statement of financial position. There have been no significant events since the Regulatory Year end. The directors intend that the Company will continue to implement the Business Plan during the remainder of the ED1 period and by delivering the strategic objectives linked to the Core Principles, the Company will continue to develop its business by efficiently investing in the Network and improving the quality of supply and service provided to customers. There are no plans to change the existing business model of the Company, or any of the companies within the Group.

Research and Development

The Company supports a programme of research that is expected to contribute to higher standards of performance and a more cost-effective operation of its business. During the Regulatory Year, the Company invested £0.6m (2020/21: £1.2 million) (Note 6 to the financial statements) in its research and development activities.

Financial Instruments
Details of financial risks are included in the Principal Risks and Uncertainties in the Strategic Report to the regulatory accounts.

As at 31 March 2022 and during the Regulatory Year it was the Group's policy not to hold any derivative financial instruments.

Employment of Disabled Persons
The Group's policy is to provide all protected groups, including disabled people, with equality at work in respect of employment, training, career development and promotion, having regard to their aptitudes and abilities. Should any member of staff become disabled during their employment, the Group will make reasonable adjustments, wherever possible

Engagement with Employees
A constitutional framework agreed with trade union representatives exists in respect of employee consultation. The board and senior management team keep employees and trade union representatives informed of and involved as appropriate in developments that may impact them now or in the future. This approach has been chosen as the most effective way of interacting with employees due to the combination of collectively bargained and personal contract holders. In support of this process, the senior management team routinely report to the board and the Health and Safety Committee to ensure that the views of employees are considered and to facilitate the discussion of and any subsequent decision making in respect of employee related concerns or issues.

Employee engagement continues to show improvement with local action plans augmented by routine communication channels including regular colleague briefings, meaningful conversations between colleagues and their line manager, council meetings with trade union representatives, and utilising the Northern Powergrid Group's intranet.

During the Regulatory year, the President and Chief Executive Officer and members of the board and senior management team of the Northern Powergrid Group continued to provide colleagues with updates on the Northern Powergrid Group's response to the Pandemic and financial, organisational, safety and customer service performance through weekly recorded electronic briefings. In addition, group wide text messages were used to quickly disseminate key information concerning the Pandemic or the invoking of major incident responses. Where appropriate, the executive directors and the senior management team engaged with employees during operational and office-based site visits and induction and graduation events ensuring safety measures were maintained throughout.

In accordance with Section 414C of the Companies Act 2006 further disclosures details concerning the Group's relationship with employees (including the principal decisions taken during the Regulatory Year) and information concerning greenhouse gas emissions can be found in the Strategic Report (Employee Commitment and Environmental Respect).

Business Relationships
As referenced throughout the Strategic Report, the Company's business model is to provide and maintain a reliable, safe and cost-effective Network. To achieve this objective, the Company delivers its service to fulfil the needs of the stakeholders with whom it interacts, a concept which underpinned the formulation of the Business Plan and will be repeated as the ED2 Plan develops. Consequently, fostering business relationships is a prerequisite of the activity performed by the Company in the pursuit of its goals.

The Group's policy in respect of engaging with stakeholders is governed by the Core Principles and the Code of Conduct.

The Core Principle of 'Regulatory Integrity' defines the Northern Powergrid Group's commitment to comply with all laws wherever it does business and the expectation that all employees (including directors) manage their activities in a manner that is compliant with all standards, regulations and corporate policies. In addition, the Code of Conduct requires adherence to the highest level of ethical conduct and fair dealings with all customers, suppliers and competitors.

Relations with suppliers is managed using a supplier registration system which supports a robust and transparent procurement process and ensures strict compliance with the prevention of slavery and human trafficking. As a consequence, the system allows the Group to make informed decisions which align with its values when awarding contracts. When considering suppliers, the board advocates prompt payment practices which are reviewed regularly by the internal audit function and the implementation of procedures to reduce the risk of modern slavery in supply chains - as set out in the Northern Powergrid Group's annual Modern Slavery Act statement which is reviewed and approved by the board each year.

Customers, whether they are domestic or commercial, are the primary stakeholder group served by the Company and therefore the services offered are all tailored to provide a benefit or enhance an experience. Further detail of the Company's relationship with customers, the support programmes and the decisions made during the Regulatory Year is discussed in the Strategic Report (Customer Service). The independent scrutiny and challenge provided by the CEG during the Regulatory Year has helped determine those areas most important to customers and what they expect to be achieved during the ED2 period.

As outlined in the Strategic Report, activity in respect of Regulatory Integrity and engagement with Ofgem was prevalent during the Regulatory Year and included participation in various consultations concerning the ED2 period. Given the implications on the Company's long-term strategy, the relationship with Ofgem, the evolving ED2 framework, the transition to DSO as well as the effects of the Pandemic were regular items on the board agenda throughout the Regulatory Year.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

The Company has sought to apply the UK Corporate Governance Code 2018 (the "Code") and report on the application of the Principles and supporting Provisions.

The directors confirm that the governance framework in place is appropriate to the circumstances of the Company and the Group. The framework is agreed with the Group's shareholder, Berkshire Hathaway Energy. The Company and the Group has not complied with Provisions 4, 9, 12, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 26, 32, 33, 35, 40 and 41 as they are deemed not to be relevant to the Company's or the Group's circumstances (given it is privately owned) or for the reasons explained in the pages that follow. Consequently, the Company and Group do not intend to put actions in place in order to comply with the aforementioned provisions at this time. A copy of the Code can be found at https://frc.org.uk/.

BOARD LEADERSHIP AND COMPANY EXPOSURE

Strategic Ownership

The board is collectively responsible for generating value for the Group's shareholder and wider society which is achieved through the delivery of a strategy which corresponds to Berkshire Hathaway Energy's six Core Principles. As discussed in the Strategic Report, the strategy is set out in two forms of business plan (the Business Plan and Annual Plan), both of which are approved and monitored by the board and are designed to promote the long-term sustainable success of the Company and the Group whilst achieving the commitments developed to address stakeholder requirements.

For the purpose of scrutinising performance in respect of both business plans, the board review a range of financial and non-financial KPIs which correspond to the Core Principles and have been established to operate within a framework of internal controls.

The deliverables set out in the business plans shape the allocation of both financial and operational resource for which the board delegates the responsibility to a single senior management team who have specific functional responsibilities in respect of operations, safety, health and environment, asset management, customer service, business development, policy and markets, regulation, human resources, organisation development, legal and finance.

Engagement and Values

The Company and Group has an established relationship with its shareholder, reflected by the leadership structure, whereby the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Group reports directly to the President and Chief Executive Officer of Berkshire Hathaway Energy. Frequent interaction and dialogue with Berkshire Hathaway Energy (which is maintained through regular reporting and meetings with the Group's President and Chief Executive Officer and senior management team) ensures that strategic views are understood and aligned, and that appropriate values, standards and a desired culture of integrity, openness and transparency are set. Demonstrated by the adoption of Berkshire Hathaway Energy's 'Core Leadership Expectations', required behaviour and standards include the delivery of quality and improvement (for which all employees are responsible) to developing individuals and teams, building stakeholder relationships and establishing strategic direction (predominantly responsibilities of the senior management team and the board).

As described in the Directors' Report, employee engagement (and the investment therein) is implemented through consistent messaging which commences with the induction programme, during which colleagues are introduced to the Group, its business model, strategy and the Core Leadership Expectations. Throughout the year, every employee has regular meetings with line management and communications from the President and Chief Executive Officer in addition to having access to the board and senior leadership team during events (whether virtual or physical), via engagement visits and as a result of rotational working locations. Whilst there is direct exposure, given the Group's large and disparate workforce, the board elect to engage with employees via the senior management team and the reporting hierarchy which is deemed to be very effective. However, to supplement the existing arrangement, the board is planning to engage directly with members of each of the trade unions which represent the workforce.

A number of policies such as the Code of Conduct and Code of Practice and Business Ethics support the employee engagement programme and underpin the onward dissemination of the values, desired culture and expected standards of behaviour to the wider employee population. The board is able to reassure itself that corporate messaging concerning behaviour and culture is provided on an annual basis in the form of training on the aforementioned policies. In addition, the Group's non-executive directors and independent member routinely challenge the executive team on topics that are more difficult to track, including cultural change and diversity. As outlined in the strategic report, in the event employees have concerns regarding behaviour, ethics or compliance related matters, they are able to raise these confidentially via either internal or externally facilitated independent channels.

Throughout the year, the board routinely monitor the effectiveness of engagement with the Group's various stakeholders via updates and bespoke briefings. In addition, the directors participate in direct engagement with the Group's shareholder, Chair of the CEG, the external auditor, employees (as detailed above) as well as various political and regulatory representatives. Further detail concerning the way in which the Company and Group participates in engagement with stakeholders is set out in the Directors' report.

DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITIES

The role of the President and Chief Executive Officer

The President and Chief Executive Officer combines the executive responsibility of running the Group's business with the responsibility for the leadership of the Company and Group's various boards of directors, which includes directing the Company and the Group, ensuring its effectiveness and facilitating a constructive and open board culture. The Group's shareholder supports the role undertaken by the President and Chief Executive Officer and, through the shareholder's regular interaction with the President and Chief Executive Officer and input into and oversight of the principles governing to whom the board of the Company (and the wider Group) delegates its authority, ensures no one person has unfettered powers of decision. Chairpersons and senior independent non-executive directors are not routinely appointed to the Group's boards.

Non-executive directors

The board of the Company comprises four executive directors and two non-executive directors. There is one additional non-executive director appointed to Group. Each of the Group's non-executive directors and Mr Knowles (a member of the Group's audit committee) are considered to be independent. Although the board of the Company (nor that of any other Group company) does not include a balanced number of executive and non-executive directors, the board believes that the combination is appropriate, and it possesses the requisite skills and experience necessary to provide effective leadership, stewardship and control of the Company and the Group. The non-executive directors of the Company and the Group constructively challenge the executive board and senior management team on the delivery of the Company's and the Group's strategic objectives. In accordance with their individual areas of specialism, the non-executive directors chair a number of the Group's board sub-groups, which combined with the guidance and challenge they provide during routine board meetings, gives them additional opportunity to hold the executive directors and senior management team to account.

Time Commitment and Resources

To facilitate the delivery of their duties, the directors continually update their knowledge of and familiarity with the operations of the Company and the Group. This is supported by robust reporting arrangements, access to the Group's operations and interaction with its staff. Under the direction of the President and Chief Executive Officer, information is provided to the board in a timely manner to enable directors to commit sufficient time to the preparation for and attendance at board meetings. In addition, updates and briefings are circulated during the course of the regular board meeting cycle. The directors are able to utilise the advice and services of the Company Secretary and her team. Upon request, the directors have access to independent professional advice. A register of situational conflicts is held centrally to ensure independent judgment is maintained and time commitment is not jeopardised. Conflicts of interests are declared as a matter of routine pursuant to individual director's duties.

The board meet on a quarterly basis to review business performance, strategic initiatives and operational and risk-related issues. Additional board meetings are held as required. Meetings of the board are chaired by the President and Chief Executive.

Board committees and sub-groups

During the year, there were a number of committees and board sub-groups in operation, acting under delegated terms of reference which oversee the Group and report regularly on their activities. Attendance at meetings by the Company's board members and the senior management team during the year was as follows:

Name	Position	Board meeting	Audit Committee	Health and Safety Committee	Risk Advisory Board	Innovation Advisory Board
P A Jones	President and Chief Executive Officer	9/9 (Chair)		2/2 (Chair)		2/3
T H France	General Counsel	8/9		2/2	2/3	
A P Jones (appointed 14 April 2022)	Finance Director	0/0			3/3*	2/3*
A J Maclennan	Commercial Director	9/9		2/2	3/3	3/3
A R Marshall	Independent non-executive Director	9/9		2/2	3/3 (Chair)	
P C Taylor	Independent non-executive Director	8/9				3/3 (Chair)
J C Riley	Company Secretary	9/9	2/2	2/2		3/3
J N Reynolds	Independent non-executive Director		2/2 (Chair)			
M Knowles	Independent member (Audit Committee)		2/2		3/3	
A E Bilclough	Director of Field Operations				3/3	3/3
P S Erwin (resigned 11 August 2021)	Policy and Markets Director				1/1	1/1
P Fitton	Head of Information Systems				3/3	
N M Gill	Director of Risk Management and Project Assurance				42/3	
P Glendinning	Director of Policy and Markets				2/2	2/2
S J Lockwood	Director of Finance - Interim		2/2	2/2	3/3	
A J Patterson	Director of Organisation Development				3/3	
G Pearson	Head of Health, Safety and Training			1/1	3/3	

* As Director of Performance and Planning

The executive directors who hold office at Berkshire Hathaway Energy do not routinely attend board meetings of the Company.

1 *Health and Safety Committee*
Role: Meets bi-annually to manage the health and safety policy and performance of the Group.

Duties:

- oversee the implementation and review the effectiveness of health and safety policy;
- develop the strategy for managing health and safety issues;
- monitor health and safety performance consider policy changes; and
- report to the board.

2 *Innovation Advisory Board*

Role: Meets quarterly to monitor the effectiveness of the innovation programme in achieving its objectives.

Duties:

- contribute to the development, review and approval of the Group's innovation strategy;
- keep under review the current portfolio and pipeline of new innovation projects;
- monitor the level of risk associated with the programme; and
- report to the board.

Further detail concerning the Audit Committee and RAB can be found in 'Audit, risk and internal control' below.

COMPOSITION, SUCCESSION AND EVALUATION

Appointments

Given the nature of the relationship between the Group and its shareholder, a nominations committee has not been established for the purpose of identifying board appointments, or indeed considering the removal of directors. Instead, this function is undertaken by the appropriate representative of Berkshire Hathaway Energy and the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Group. All board appointments are subject to a formal and rigorous process and are considered with due regard to the board's overall composition including the balance of skills and experience ahead of recommendations being put to the board. Succession plans are in place for all board and senior management positions and are reviewed and agreed by the President and Chief Executive Officer of Berkshire Hathaway Energy. Prior to appointment, the commitments already held by directors are considered so as to ensure each individual has sufficient time to discharge their duties.

Evaluation

The board of the Company (and that of each Group subsidiary) is subject to thorough evaluation as a consequence of its performance being continually monitored and assessed by Berkshire Hathaway Energy through the delivery of the Annual Plan. In addition, each year, the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Group considers the composition of the board as a whole and its effectiveness in achieving strategic objectives during the annual performance evaluation process. Off cycle reviews of the Group's governance arrangements (including the composition or board and sub-board groups) is also undertaken at regular intervals to ensure its structure remains fit for purpose and evolves to reflect changes to strategic priorities. The Group does not and is not required to undertake external evaluation of its boards.

As a matter of routine, the committees and sub-groups that have been constituted on behalf of the Group have historically been evaluated through the activity delivered in accordance with their terms of reference. In addition, board committees and sub-groups are also subject to the aforementioned off-cycle governance reviews, whereby the scope, purpose, duties and membership are revisited so as to ensure they remain effective, are refreshed as appropriate and have the requisite level of skill and expertise.

The Company's Articles of Association do not require the periodic retirement and re-election of directors. Therefore, the letters of appointment in place for each of the Group's non-executive directors are reviewed regularly allowing for a mutual evaluation of the benefit of individuals remaining in post. The notice period for all board members is less than one year.

Diversity policy

The Group has adopted a number of policies (including the policy on diversity at work and the Code of Conduct) that collectively comprise the policy on diversity. Diversity is actively supported through recruitment, educational programmes, employee opportunities and the Global Days of Service charitable support programme. All appointments (which includes board, board committee, and senior management appointments) are based on merit with due regard for diversity, including gender, social and ethnic backgrounds, and cognitive and personal strengths. During the year, the Company published its Diversity, Equality and Inclusion plan ("DEI Plan") as part of the ED2 Plan submission (a copy of which can be found on the Group's website). The DEI Plan sets out the way in which the Company (although it is also applicable to the wider Group) intends to go beyond gender and ethnicity diversity in order to benefit from a wider range of skills, backgrounds, perspectives and experiences. Further information concerning how the Group is supporting gender diversity in the energy industry can be found in the Group's gender pay gap report via the Group's corporate website.

AUDIT, RISK AND INTERNAL CONTROL

Each of the Company's and Group's directors is responsible for the management of risk and the internal control environment which is designed to address Berkshire Hathaway Energy's United States Sarbanes-Oxley Act requirement, the key features of which can be found in the Strategic Report. As part of this responsibility, the board has established robust procedures and processes which ensure the effectiveness of both the internal and external audit functions.

Audit committee

The audit committee meets twice per year as a minimum to consider the application of corporate reporting, risk management and internal control principles. Membership comprises, an independent non-executive director (chair), an independent member and the Director of Finance. All members are considered to have relevant financial experience. Its duties include:

- carrying out the functions required by DTR 7.1.3R;
- overseeing the RAB;
- monitoring the internal audit plan;
- sub-delegating activities to another person or body as seen fit. At the December 2021 meeting, duties were sub-delegated to Berkshire Hathaway Energy's audit committee; and
- reporting to the board.

Internal Audit

The internal audit team operates in an independent and objective manner without interference from the Company or the Group. This provides the flexibility to refocus the scope of the annual internal audit plan to align with changing priorities if required. Internal audit findings including the resilience of internal controls are reported to the board on a quarterly basis in order to keep the directors sufficiently apprised of areas of risk. An external assessment of the activity of the internal audit team confirmed it operates at the highest level in accordance with the Institute of Internal Audit standards.

External Audit

An appropriate relationship is maintained with the Group's external auditor to ensure independence and rigour is preserved. The Audit Partner has regular interaction with the Director of Finance and routinely attends two board meetings per year to present the audit plan for the forthcoming year and subsequently disseminate the findings. Deloitte LLP staff have full access to the Group's systems and premises for the purpose of conducting their audit work in a robust and efficient manner. In addition to a series of internal checks and comprehensive reviews, the external audit process supports the verification of the integrity of the annual reports and financial statements and the fair, balanced and understandable assessment of the Company's and the Group's position and prospects being presented.

RAB

The RAB is chaired by one of the Group's independent non-executive directors and meets quarterly to ensure effective risk management and internal control processes are in place. Its duties include:

- contributing to the setting of the Group's risk tolerance and appetite;
- keeping under review current business risks and the effectiveness of internal controls;
- overseeing the processes for the identification of emerging risks; and
- reporting to the board, Berkshire Hathaway Energy and the Audit Committee.

Further detail concerning the procedures to manage risk, oversee the internal framework, set the boards risk appetite and the Company's principal risks can be found on pages 17 to 20.

REMUNERATION

As outlined above, the board has not elected to establish a remuneration committee for the purpose of determining executive directors' and senior managers' compensation. However, this does not reflect a lack of policy or rigour given the process is instead managed by the Group's shareholder. As a consequence, remuneration is strictly aligned to both the Company's and the Group's long-term strategy, the delivery of sustainable growth and Berkshire Hathaway Energy's values as defined by the Core Principles. No individual is involved in determining their own remuneration.

The Company's and the Group's executive directors' and senior managers' remuneration is considered on an annual basis and is explicitly linked to the employee performance evaluation process. Each individual's effectiveness is measured against both personal and Berkshire Hathaway Energy goals with all resulting awards based on merit and linked to the delivery of stretching accountabilities. Only basic salary is pensionable and the notice periods in contract are for less than one year.

Non-executive director remuneration is also reviewed on an annual basis and is reflective of time commitment and level of responsibility. Any increases are made in line with the wider Group's employee population and is subject to continued satisfactory performance.

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The directors are responsible for preparing the Regulatory Accounts, including the Strategic Report, the Directors’ Report and the Corporate Governance Statement in accordance with standard condition 44 of the Company’s Licence and International Financial Reporting Standards adopted pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1606/2002 as it applies in the European Union. The financial statements also comply with International Financial Reporting Standards (“IFRSs”) as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (“IASB”). 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 Group and of the profit or loss of the Company and Group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, International Accounting Standard 1 requires that directors:

- properly select and apply accounting policies;
- present information, including accounting policies, in a manner that provides relevant, reliable, comparable and understandable information;
- provide additional disclosures when compliance with the specific requirements in IFRSs are insufficient to enable users to understand the impact of particular transactions, other events and conditions on the entity's financial position and financial performance; and
- make an assessment of the Company and Group's ability to continue as a going concern.

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 Group 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 Group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Going Concern

A review of the Company and Group's business activities during the Regulatory Year, together with details regarding its future development, performance and position, its objectives, policies and processes for managing its capital, its financial risk management objectives and details of its exposures to trading risk, credit risk and liquidity risk are set out in the Strategic Report, the Report of the Directors and the appropriate notes to the financial statements.

The Northern Powergrid Group is financed both in its operating companies and in other entities within the Northern Powergrid Group, and companies may lend within the Northern Powergrid Group. For that reason, financial health is considered with reference to the Northern Powergrid Group. Those entities with a net current liabilities position have obtained a letter of support from Northern Powergrid Holdings Company.

When considering continuing to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual reports and financial statements, the directors have taken into account a number of factors, including the following:

- The Company's revenue derives principally from regulated electricity distribution and this was not materiality affected by the Pandemic. The regulatory regime allows for the recovery of allowed costs in full over the long term;
- The Company is a stable electricity distribution business operating an essential public service and is regulated by GEMA. In carrying out its functions, GEMA has a statutory duty under the Electricity Act 1989 to have regard to the need to secure that licence holders are able to finance the activities, which are the subject of obligations under Part 1 of the Electricity Act 1989 (including the obligations imposed by the electricity distribution licence) or by the Utilities Act 2000;

- The Company is profitable with strong underlying cash flows and holds investment grade credit ratings;
- The Company is financed by long-term borrowings with an average maturity of 25 years and has access to borrowing facilities provided by Barclays Bank plc, Lloyds Bank plc, HSBC UK Bank plc and Royal Bank of Canada
- The Northern Powergrid Group benefits from strong investment-grade credit ratings which allow access to a range of financing options. Recent successful bond issues by the Northern Powergrid Group and by other issuers in the weeks immediately prior to the date of these accounts suggest that the Northern Powergrid Group's bonds remain attractive to investors;
- The Northern Powergrid Group has prepared forecasts which taking into account reasonable possible changes in trading performance, show that the Northern Powergrid Group has sufficient resources to settle its liabilities as they fall due for at least the 12 months from the date of these accounts. The directors have had discussions with the bank who have indicated that they would continue to provide the short-term facilities to the Northern Powergrid Group for the foreseeable future on acceptable terms; and
- Consideration was also given to the obligations contained in the Company's and Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) plc's distribution licences to provide Ofgem with annual certificates, confirming that the directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company and Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) plc will have sufficient financial and operational resources available for the continuation of business for a period of at least 12 months. The board determined any material variations to the assumptions used when providing those certificates were unlikely within the eight-year period or beyond.

Consequently, after making enquiries, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and financial statements.

Each of the directors as at the date of the annual reports and financial statements, whose names and functions are in the Directors Report confirms that, to the best of their knowledge:

- the financial statements, prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union, give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the Company and the undertakings included in the consolidation taken as a whole;
- the strategic report includes a fair review of the development and performance of the business and the position of the Company and the undertakings included in the consolidation taken as a whole, together with a description of the principal risks and uncertainties that they face; and
- the annual report and financial statements, taken as a whole, are fair, balanced and understandable and provide the information necessary for shareholders to assess the Company and Group's position and performance, business model and strategy.

Disclosure of information to the auditor

Each director has taken steps that they ought to have taken as a director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditor is aware of that information. The directors confirm that there is no relevant information that they know of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

Reappointment of auditor

Deloitte LLP will continue in office in accordance with the provisions in Section 487 of the Companies Act 2006 and has indicated its willingness to do so.

Approved by the Board on 15 July 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

A P Jones

Director

Independent Auditor's Report to the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority (the "Regulator") and to Northern Powergrid (Northeast") plc (the "Company) (continued)

Report on the audit of the Regulatory Accounts

Opinion
In our opinion the regulatory accounts of Northern Powergrid (Northeast) plc (the 'company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2022 present fairly, in all material aspects, in accordance with Standard Special Condition A30 of the Regulatory Licence and the Company's accounting policies.

We have audited the regulatory accounts which comprise:

- the statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income;
- the statement of financial position;
- the statement of changes in equity;
- the statement of cash flows; and
- the notes to the Regulatory Accounts 1 to 29.

Basis for opinion
We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)), including ISA (UK) 800. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the regulatory accounts section of our report. We also conducted our report in accordance with applicable law, and having regard to the guidance contained in ICAEW Technical Release Tech 02/16 AAF 'Reporting to Regulators on Regulatory Accounts' issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the non-statutory financial statements in the UK, including the Financial Reporting Council's (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.

Emphasis of matter – basis of accounting
We draw attention to Note 2 to the regulatory accounts, which describes the basis of accounting. The regulatory accounts are separate from the statutory financial statements of the Company and are to meet the requirements of Standard Special Condition A30 of the Regulatory Licence. As a result, the regulatory accounts may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the regulatory accounts, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the regulatory accounts is appropriate.

Our evaluation of the directors' assessment of the Company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting included:

- assessing financing facilities including nature of facilities, repayment terms and covenants;
- evaluating the linkage to business model and medium-term risks;
- assessing assumptions used in the forecasts, including forecasted information relating to next price control review RIIO-ED2;
- calculating the amount of headroom in the forecasts, specifically relating to cash and covenants on borrowings;
- performing sensitivity analysis; and
- evaluating sophistication of the model used to prepare the forecasts, testing of clerical accuracy of those forecasts and our assessment of the historical accuracy of forecasts prepared by management.

Independent Auditor’s Report to the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority (the “Regulator”) and to Northern Powergrid (Northeast”) plc (the “Company) (continued)

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Group and parent’s ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the regulatory accounts are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors 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 annual report, other than the regulatory accounts and our auditor’s report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the regulatory 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.

In connection with our audit of the regulatory accounts, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the non-statutory financial statements 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 regulatory 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.

Responsibilities of directors
As explained more fully in the directors’ responsibilities statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the regulatory accounts 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 the regulatory accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the regulatory accounts, the directors are responsible for assessing the 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 Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor’s responsibilities for the audit of the non-statutory financial statements
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Regulatory 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 Regulatory Accounts.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the Regulatory Accounts is located on the FRC’s website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor’s report.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud
Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect 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 considered the nature of the group’s industry and its control environment, and reviewed the group’s documentation of their policies and procedures relating to fraud and compliance with laws and regulations.

Independent Auditor’s Report to the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority (the “Regulator”) and to Northern Powergrid (Northeast”) plc (the “Company) (continued)

We also enquired of management and internal audit about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities.
We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the Company operates in, and identified the key laws and regulations that:

- had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the regulatory accounts. These included the Standard Special Condition A30 of the Regulatory Licence; and
- do not have a direct effect on the regulatory accounts but compliance with which may be fundamental to the Company’s ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty.

We discussed among the audit engagement team regarding the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud and how and where fraud might occur in the regulatory accounts.

In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override. In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluated the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

In addition to the above, our procedures to respond to the risks identified included the following:

- reviewing disclosures in the regulatory accounts by testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the regulatory accounts;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- enquiring of management and legal counsel concerning actual and potential litigation and claims, and instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations; and
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and reviewing internal audit reports.

Use of our report
This report is made solely to the Company’s directors and the Regulator in order to meet the requirements of Standard Special Condition A30 of the Regulatory Licence. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Company’s directors and the Regulator 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 Regulator, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Our opinion on the Regulatory Accounts within the annual report is separate from our opinion on the statutory financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2021 which are prepared for a different purpose. Our audit in relation to the statutory financial statements of the Company was made solely to the Company’s members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our statutory audit work was undertaken so that we might state to the Company’s members those matters we are required to state to them in a stator audit report and for no other purpose. In these circumstances, to the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom our statutory audit report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

Anthony Matthews (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Deloitte LLP
Statutory Auditor
London, United Kingdom

Date: 15 July 2022

Northern Powergrid (Northeast) plc
(Registration number: 02906593)

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	**2022 £m**	2021 £m
Revenue	3	**391.9**	359.6
Cost of sales		(14.4)	(15.5)
Gross profit		**377.5**	344.1
Distribution costs		**(140.6)**	(131.0)
Administrative costs		**(91.7)**	(84.1)
Operating profit	6	**145.2**	129.0
Other gains		**0.3**	0.1
Finance income		**0.1**	0.1
Finance costs	7	**(26.9)**	(30.6)
Profit before tax		**118.7**	98.6
Income tax expense	8	**(52.2)**	(19.0)
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation		**66.5**	79.6

All activities relate to continuing operations.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

There has been no other comprehensive income for the Group. Therefore, total comprehensive income for the year is £66.5 million (2021: £79.6 million).

Northern Powergrid (Northeast) plc
(Registration number: 02906593)

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £m	2021 £m
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	10	**2,800.5**	2,704.4
Intangible assets	12	**47.7**	51.3
Right of use assets	11	**11.1**	13.5
		2,859.3	2,769.2
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	16	**-**	0.1
Inventories	14	**19.9**	18.4
Income tax asset		**3.6**	0.2
Trade and other receivables	15	**53.4**	51.1
		76.9	69.8
Total assets		**2,936.2**	2,839.0
Equity			
Called-up share capital	21	**200.0**	200.0
Retained earnings	22	**983.1**	942.6
Total equity		**1,183.1**	1,142.6
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	17	**97.2**	82.4
Current portion of long-term lease liabilities		**2.8**	4.0
Borrowings	18	**27.0**	17.3
Deferred revenue	19	**29.4**	27.9
Provisions	20	**1.4**	1.1
		157.8	132.7
Non-current liabilities			
Borrowings	18	**810.6**	810.3
Long-term lease liabilities		**8.5**	9.8
Deferred tax	8	**128.5**	100.6
Deferred revenue	19	**647.6**	643.0
Provisions	20	**0.1**	-
		1,595.3	1,563.7
Total liabilities		**1,753.1**	1,696.4
Totally equity and liabilities		**2,936.2**	2,839.0

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 15 July 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:

A P Jones
Director

Northern Powergrid (Northeast) plc
(Registration number: 02906593)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	**2022 £m**	2021 £m
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	10	**2,800.5**	2,704.4
Intangible assets	12	**47.7**	51.3
Right of use assets	11	**11.1**	13.5
Investments	13	**0.1**	0.1
		2,859.4	2,769.3
Current assets			
Income tax		**3.6**	0.2
Inventories	14	**19.9**	18.4
Trade and other receivables	15	**53.4**	51.1
		76.9	69.7
Total assets		**2,936.3**	2,389.0
Equity			
Called-up share capital	21	**200.0**	200.0
Retained earnings	22	**984.9**	944.4
Total equity		**1,184.9**	1,144.4
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	17	**97.3**	82.4
Current portion of long - term lease liabilities		**2.8**	4.0
Borrowings	18	**25.3**	15.5
Deferred revenue	19	**29.4**	27.9
Provisions	20	**1.4**	1.1
		156.2	130.9
Non-current liabilities			
Borrowings	18	**810.5**	810.3
Long - term lease liabilities		**8.5**	9.8
Deferred tax	8	**128.5**	100.6
Deferred revenue	19	**647.6**	643.0
Provisions	20	**0.1**	-
		1,595.2	1,563.7
Total liabilities		**1,751.4**	1,694.6
Totally equity and liabilities		**2,936.3**	2,839.0

The Directors have taken exemption offered under section 408 of the Act from publishing a separate Income Statement. The Company reported a profit for the regulatory year ended 31 March 2022 of £66.5m (2021: £79.6m).

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 15 July 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:

A P Jones
Director

Northern Powergrid (Northeast) plc
(Registration number: 02906593)

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Share Capital (Note 21) £m	Retained Earnings (Note 22) £m	Total Equity £m
At 1 April 2020	**200.0**	888.4	1,088.4
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	79.6	79.6
Dividends paid – Note 9	-	(25.4)	(25.4)
At 31 March 2021	**200.0**	**942.6**	**1,142.6**
Total comprehensive income for the year		**66.5**	**66.5**
Dividends paid – Note 9	**-**	**(26.0)**	**(26.0)**
At 31 March 2022	**200.0**	**983.1**	**1,183.1**

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Share Capital (Note 21) £m	Retained Earnings (Note 22) £m	Total Equity £m
At 1 April 2020	200.0	890.2	1,090.2
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	79.6	79.6
Dividends paid – Note 9	-	(25.4)	(25.4)
At 31 March 2021	**200.0**	**944.4**	**1,144.4**
Total comprehensive income for the year	**-**	**66.5**	66.5
Dividends paid – Note 9	**-**	**(26.0)**	**(26.0)**
At 31 March 2022	**200.0**	**984.9**	**1,184.9**

Northern Powergrid (Northeast) plc
(Registration number: 02906593)
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Note	2022 £m	2021 £m
Cash flows from operating activities			
Profit for the year		**66.5**	79.6
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation and amortisation	**10,12**	**104.2**	98.9
Depreciation on right of use assets	**11**	**4.1**	5.0
Amortisation of deferred revenue	**19**	**(28.3)**	(26.9)
Profit on disposal of property plant and equipment		**(0.3)**	(0.1)
Finance income		**(0.1)**	(0.1)
Finance costs	**7**	**26.9**	30.6
Income tax expense	**8**	**52.2**	19.0
		225.2	206.0
(Increase)/decrease in inventories	**14**	**(1.5)**	0.7
Increase in trade and other receivables	**15**	**(2.2)**	(0.7)
Increase in trade and other payables	**17**	**11.2**	0.1
Increase in provisions	**20**	**0.4**	0.4
Cash generated from operations		**233.1**	206.5
Income taxes paid		**(27.6)**	(25.3)
Finance costs paid		**(27.4)**	(30.7)
Net cash flow from operating activities		**178.1**	150.5
Cash flows used in investing activities			
Acquisitions of property plant and equipment	**10**	**(187.8)**	(187.6)
Proceeds from sale of property plant and equipment		**0.3**	0.1
Acquisition of intangible assets	**12**	**(8.7)**	(8.8)
Receipt of customer contributions		**38.7**	23.2
Net cash flows used in investing activities		**(157.5)**	(173.1)
Cash flows (used in)/from financing activities			
Movement on intercompany loans		**9.7**	(129.1)
Repayment of short-term borrowing		**-**	(11.8)
Interest expense on leases	**7**	**(0.3)**	(0.4)
Proceeds from long-term borrowings		**-**	294.4
Repayment of long-term borrowings		**-**	(100.0)
Payments to finance lease creditors		**(4.1)**	(5.0)
Dividends paid	**9**	**(26.0)**	(25.4)
Net cash flows (used in)/from financing activities		**(20.7)**	22.7
Net movement in cash and cash equivalents		**(0.1)**	0.1
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		**0.1**	-
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		**-**	0.1

Northern Powergrid (Northeast) plc
(Registration number: 02906593)
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Note	2022 £m	2021 £m
Cash flows from operating activities			
Profit for the year		**66.5**	79.6
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation and amortisation	**10,12**	**104.2**	98.9
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Profit on disposal of property plant and equipment		**(0.3)**	(0.1)
Finance income		**(0.1)**	(0.1)
Finance costs	**7**	**26.9**	30.6
Income tax expense	**8**	**52.2**	19.0
		225.2	206.0
(Increase)/decrease in inventories	**14**	**(1.5)**	0.7
Increase in trade and other receivables	**15**	**(2.2)**	(0.9)
Increase in trade and other payables	**17**	**11.2**	0.2
Increase in provisions	**20**	**0.4**	0.4
Cash generated from operations		**233.1**	206.4
Income taxes paid		**(27.6)**	(25.4)
Finance costs paid		**(27.5)**	(30.8)
Interest received		**0.1**	-
Net cash flow from operating activities		**178.1**	150.2
Cash flows used in investing activities			
Acquisitions of property plant and equipment	**10**	**(187.8)**	(187.6)
Proceeds from sale of property plant and equipment		**0.3**	0.1
Acquisition of intangible assets	**12**	**(8.7)**	(8.8)
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Net cash flows used in investing activities		**(157.5)**	(173.1)
Cash flows (used in)/from financing activities			
Movement on intercompany loans		**9.8**	(228.9)
Repayment from short-term borrowing		**-**	(11.8)
Interest expense on leases	**7**	**(0.3)**	(0.4)
Proceeds from long-term borrowings		**-**	294.4
Repayment of long-term borrowings		**-**	-
Payments to finance lease creditors		**(4.1)**	(5.0)
Dividends paid	**9**	**(26.0)**	(25.4)
Net cash flows (used in)/from financing activities		**(20.6)**	22.9
Net movement in cash and cash equivalents		**-**	-
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		**-**	-
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		**-**	-

NOTES TO THE REGULATORY ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 GENERAL INFORMATION

Northern Powergrid (Northeast) plc is a public Company limited by shares incorporated in England and Wales and is part of the Northern Powergrid Holdings Company Group of companies (the "Northern Powergrid Group"). The Company is registered in England and Wales and the address of the registered office is Lloyds Court, 78 Grey Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 6AF.

The nature of the Company's business model, strategic objectives, operations and activities are set out in the Strategic Report and in the Directors' Report.

2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Statement of compliance
The Company financial statements have been prepared in accordance with United Kingdom adopted international accounting standards. The financial statements also comply with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as issued by the IASB.

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates
The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Basis of preparation
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with adopted IFRSs and under historical cost convention as modified by financial instruments recognised at fair value.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Group's accounting policies.

The nature of the Company's business model, strategic objectives, operations and activities are set out in the Strategic Report.

Going Concern
A review of the Company and Group's business activities during the Regulatory Year, together with details regarding its future development, performance and position, its objectives, policies and processes for managing its capital, its financial risk management objectives and details of its exposures to trading risk, credit risk and liquidity risk are set out in the Strategic Report, the Report of the Directors and the appropriate notes to the financial statements.

The Northern Powergrid Group is financed both in its operating companies and in other entities within the Northern Powergrid Group, and companies may lend within the Northern Powergrid Group. For that reason, financial health is considered with reference to the Northern Powergrid Group. Those entities with a net current liabilities position have obtained a letter of support from Northern Powergrid Holdings Company.

When considering continuing to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual reports and financial statements, the directors have taken into account a number of factors, including the following:

- The Company's revenue derives principally from regulated electricity distribution and this was not materiality affected by the Pandemic. The regulatory regime allows for the recovery of allowed costs in full over the long term;
- The Company is a stable electricity distribution business operating an essential public service and is regulated by GEMA. In carrying out its functions, GEMA has a statutory duty under the Electricity Act 1989 to have regard to the need to secure that licence holders are able to finance the activities, which are the subject of obligations under Part 1 of the Electricity Act 1989 (including the obligations imposed by the electricity distribution licence) or by the Utilities Act 2000;
  The Company is profitable with strong underlying cash flows and holds investment grade credit ratings;

2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

- The Company is financed by long-term borrowings with an average maturity of 25 years and has access to borrowing facilities provided by Barclays Bank plc, Lloyds Bank plc, HSBC UK Bank plc and Royal Bank of Canada
- The Northern Powergrid Group benefits from strong investment-grade credit ratings which allow access to a range of financing options. Recent successful bond issues by the Northern Powergrid Group and by other issuers in the weeks immediately prior to the date of these accounts suggest that the Northern Powergrid Group's bonds remain attractive to investors;
- The Northern Powergrid Group has prepared forecasts which taking into account reasonable possible changes in trading performance, show that the Northern Powergrid Group has sufficient resources to settle its liabilities as they fall due for at least the 12 months from the date of these accounts. The directors have had discussions with the bank who have indicated that they would continue to provide the short-term facilities to the Northern Powergrid Group for the foreseeable future on acceptable terms; and
- Consideration was also given to the obligations contained in the Company's and Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) plc's distribution licences to provide Ofgem with annual certificates, confirming that the directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company and Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) plc will have sufficient financial and operational resources available for the continuation of business for a period of at least 12 months. The board determined any material variations to the assumptions used when providing those certificates were unlikely within the eight-year period or beyond.

Consequently, after making enquiries, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and financial statements.

Critical judgements in applying accounting policies
The following are the critical judgements, apart from those involving estimations, that the directors have made in the process of applying the Northern Powergrid Group's accounting policies and that have the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the consolidated financial statements:

Split of operating and capital expenditure and the allocation of overheads to property, plant and equipment

The allocation of overheads to property, plant and equipment which results in higher capital expenditure and a reduction in operating costs. Costs are capitalised where it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the asset will flow to the enterprise; and the cost of the item can be reliably measured.

The allocation of overheads to capital is derived from a detailed analysis of the costs and their relevant cost drivers, which is reviewed on an annual basis. There has been no change in the methodology since the prior year.

The amounts of overheads capitalised in the year was £41.0 million (2020/21: £38.3 million), this was a decrease from 54.3% to 53.9%.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty
In the preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS the Directors did not identify any key assumptions concerning the future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the end of the reporting period that may have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Changes in accounting policy

Effective for periods beginning on or after 1 January 2021

- Amendment to IFRS 16 - COVID-19 related rent concessions.
- Amendments to IFRS 9, IAS 39, IFRS 7, IFRS 4 and IFRS 16 - Interest rate benchmark reform.

These amendments did not have a material impact on the financial statements. The other amendments have had no material impact on the financial statements including the comparatives.

The directors have considered new accounting standards issued that are not yet applicable and have noted no material changes are likely to arise.

Revenue recognition
Recognition
The Group earns revenue from the provision of services relating to Revenue from a contract to provide services is recognised by the following means:
- - Distribution use of system income is primarily recognised on a per unit (volumetric i.e. kWh and capacity (kVA)) and fixed (per 'customer' per day) basis;
- Customer contributions for connections are amortised over the life of the corresponding asset;
- Meter asset provision are recognised over time;
- Intercompany recharges for services provided are based on costs incurred; and
- Other revenue includes assessment and design fees and disconnections from the network, these are recognised by reference to the proportion of total costs of providing the service.

This revenue is recognised in the accounting period when the services are rendered at an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for fulfilling its performance obligations to customers.

The principles in IFRS are applied to revenue recognition criteria using the following 5 step model:
1. Identify the contracts with the customer;
2. Identify the performance obligations in the contract;
3. Determine the transaction price;
4. Allocate the transaction price to the performance obligations in the contract; and
5. Recognise revenue when or as the entity satisfies its performance obligations.

Fee arrangements
Below are details of fee arrangements and how these are measured and recognised, for revenue from the provision of services:

- For regulated fees the revenue for the service is recognised on the basis of agreed charging methodologies which is primarily recognised on a per unit (volumetric i.e. kWh and capacity (kVA)) and fixed (per 'customer' per day) basis;

- For fixed fee arrangements from services revenue is recognised based on the stage of completion and performance obligations met for actual services provided as a proportion of the total fixed fee agreed in the contract.

- For fee for service (time) revenue is recognised by time performed on the contract to the year-end date using contractual rates specified in the contract.

The main performance obligations in contracts consist of the provision of a distribution network to electricity suppliers. For these contracts, through the distribution and connection use of system agreement (DCUSA) the delivery of performance obligations are measured at the balance sheet date by recognised on a per unit (volumetric i.e. kWh and capacity (kVA)) and fixed (per 'customer' per day) basis.

2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Finance income and costs policy
Finance income from a financial asset is recognised when it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Company and the amount of income can be measured reliably. Interest income is accrued on a time basis, by reference to the principal outstanding and at the effective interest rate applicable, which is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset to that asset's net carrying amount on initial recognition.

Finance costs directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of qualifying assets, which are assets that necessarily take a substantial period of time to get ready for their intended use are added to the cost of those assets, until such time as the assets are substantially ready for their intended use. All other borrowing costs are recognised in profit or loss in the period which they are incurred.

Tax
The tax expense for the period comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in profit or loss, except that a change attributable to an item of income or expense recognised as other comprehensive income is also recognised directly in other comprehensive income.

The current income tax charge is calculated on the basis of tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date in the countries where the Company operates and generates taxable income.

Deferred income tax is recognised on temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements and on unused tax losses or tax credits in the Company. Deferred income tax is determined using tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date.

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets are reviewed at each reporting date and a valuation allowance is set up against deferred tax assets so that the net carrying amount equals the highest amount that is more likely than not to be recovered based on current or future taxable profit.

Property, plant and equipment
Property, plant and equipment is stated in the statement of financial position at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

The cost of property, plant and equipment includes directly attributable incremental costs incurred in their acquisition and installation.

Assets in the course of construction are carried at cost, less any recognised impairment loss. Costs include professional fees, and, for qualifying assets, borrowing costs capitalised in accordance with the Company's accounting policy. Such assets are classified to the appropriate categories of property, plant and equipment when completed and ready for intended use. Depreciation on these assets, on the same basis as other assets, commences when the assets are commissioned. Assets are derecognised when they are disposed of profit or loss on disposal is recognised in other gains on the statement of profit or loss.

2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Depreciation
Depreciation is charged so as to write off the cost of assets, other than land and properties under construction over their estimated useful lives. Depreciation is recognised on a straight line basis as follows:

Asset class	***Depreciation rate***
Distribution System:	
- Generation assets	15 years
- Metering equipment	up to 5 years
- Information technology equipment	up to 10 years
- Land	not depreciated
- Other system assets	45 years
Buildings:	
- Freehold	Up to 60 years
- Leasehold	Lower of lease period or 60 years
Non-operational land	not depreciated
Furniture, fittings and equipment	up to 10 years

Intangible assets
An internally generated intangible asset arising from development is recognised if the conditions set out in IAS 38 relating to the recognition of intangible assets are met. The amount initially recognised for internally-generated intangible assets is the sum of expenditure incurred from the date when the intangible asset first meets the recognition criteria.

Amortisation
Amortisation is charged to operating costs and is provided on intangible assets so as to write off the cost, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows using a straight-line method:

Asset class	***Amortisation method and rate***
Software development costs	up to 10 years

Derecognition
An intangible asset is derecognised on disposal, or when no future economic benefits are expected from use or disposal. Gains or losses arising from derecognition of an intangible asset, measured as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset, are recognised in the profit or loss when the asset is derecognised.

Investments
Investments in securities are classified on initial recognition as available-for-sale and are carried at fair value, except where their fair value cannot be measured reliably, in which case they are carried at cost, less any impairment.

Unrealised holding gains and losses other than impairments are recognised in other comprehensive income. On maturity or disposal, net gains and losses previously deferred in accumulated other comprehensive income are recognised in income.

Interest income on debt securities, where applicable, is recognised in income using the effective interest method. Dividends on equity securities are recognised in income when receivable.

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Trade receivables

Trade receivables are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business. If collection is expected in one year or less (or in the normal operating cycle of the business if longer), they are classified as current assets. If not, they are presented as non-current assets.

Trade receivables are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the Company will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Inventories
Inventories are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is determined using the average cost method.

At each reporting date, inventories are assessed for impairment. If inventory is impaired, the carrying amount is reduced to its selling price less costs to complete and sell; the impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

Trade payables
Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less (or in the normal operating cycle of the business if longer). If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade payables are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Borrowings
All borrowings are initially recorded at the amount of proceeds received, net of transaction costs. Borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the income statement over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in finance costs.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the Company has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date.

Provisions
Provisions are recognised when the Company has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that the Northern Powergrid Group will be required to settle that obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

Provisions are measured at the directors' best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the obligation at the reporting date and are discounted to present value where the effect is material.

Leases
For lessees, all leases will be recorded on the balance sheet as liabilities, at the present value of the future lease payments, along with an asset reflecting the right to use the asset over the lease term. Short-term leases (a lease that, at the commencement date has a lease term of 12 months or less) and low value leases will be excluded.

The Group applies IFRS 16 to all leases (except as noted below) which include buildings, Land and fleet vehicles. The right-of-use assets are initially measured at the amount of the lease liability plus any initial

2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

direct costs incurred by the lessee. Subsequently, the assets are measured under the fair value method. The corresponding lease liability is initially measured at present value of all lease payments over the lease term and can be restated if the terms or other criteria of the contract change. These values can be found in the Statement of Financial Position.

The Group has taken practical expedients as per below:

- For short-term leases (lease term of 12 months or less) and leases of low-value assets (which includes personal computers, small items of office furniture and telephones), the Company has opted to recognise a lease expense on a straight-line basis as permitted by IFRS 16. This expense is presented within 'administrative expenses' in the Statement of Profit or Loss;
-Applies single discount rate to a portfolio of leases;
-Uses hindsight to determine the lease term when contract contains options to extend or terminate the lease; and
-Adjusts right of use asset by provision for onerous leases as an alternative to performing an impairment review.

The weighted average lessee's incremental borrowing rate applied to determine the present value of the lease liabilities during the current period was 1.753% (2020/21: 2.43%)

The Group recognises deprecation of right-of-use assets (within administration expenses) and interest on lease liabilities (within finance costs) in the Statement of Profit and Loss. Within the Statement of cash flow, the Group separates the total amount of cash paid between the principal portion and the interest, both of which are presented within financing activities.

Right-of-use assets are depreciated over the shorter of the useful life of the asset or the lease term. For information regarding the depreciation charge per class of asset and carrying value, please refer to Note 11 Right of use assets.

Impairment of non-financial assets
At the balance sheet 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 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 Northern Powergrid 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 at least annually and whenever there is an indication that the asset may be impaired.

Where the recoverable amount is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

Share capital
Ordinary shares are classified as equity. Equity instruments are measured at the fair value of the cash or other resources received or receivable, net of the direct costs of issuing the equity instruments. If payment is deferred and the time value of money is material, the initial measurement is on a present value basis.

Dividends
Dividend distribution to the Company's shareholders is recognised as a liability in the Company's financial statements in the period in which the dividends are approved by the Company's shareholders.

2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Defined benefit pension obligation
The Company contributes to the Northern Powergrid Group of the Electricity Supply Pension Scheme (the "DB Scheme"), a defined benefit scheme that shares risk between various entities under common control. There is no contractual agreement or stated policy for charging the net defined benefit cost for the plan as a whole to individual Group entities and accordingly the Company financial statements account for the DB Scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme.

Contributions to the DB Scheme are charged to the statement of profit or loss. The capital costs of ex-gratia and supplementary pensions are normally charged to the statement of profit or loss in the period in which they are granted. The Company also participates in a defined contribution scheme. Contributions payable to the defined contribution scheme are charged to the statement of profit or loss in the year. Differences between contributions payable in the year and contributions actually paid are shown as either accruals or prepayments in the statement of financial position.

Financial instruments

Initial recognition
Financial assets and financial liabilities comprise all assets and liabilities reflected in the statement of financial position, although excluding property, plant and equipment, investment properties, intangible assets, deferred tax assets, prepayments, deferred tax liabilities and employee benefits plan.

The Company recognises financial assets and financial liabilities in the statement of financial position when, and only when, the Company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument.

Financial assets are initially recognised at fair value. Financial liabilities are initially recognised at fair value, representing the proceeds received net of premiums, discounts and transaction costs that are directly attributable to the financial liability.

All regular way purchases and sales of financial assets and financial liabilities classified as fair value through profit or loss ("FVTPL") are recognised on the trade date, i.e. the date on which the Company commits to purchase or sell the financial assets or financial liabilities.

All regular way purchases and sales of other financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised on the settlement date, i.e. the date on which the asset or liability is received from or delivered to the counterparty. Regular way purchases or sales are purchases or sales of financial assets that require delivery within the time frame generally established by regulation or convention in the market place.

Subsequent to initial measurement, financial assets and financial liabilities are measured at either amortised cost or fair value.

Classification and measurement
Financial instruments are classified at inception into one of the following categories, which then determine the subsequent measurement methodology:

Financial assets are classified into one of the following three categories:
· financial assets at amortised cost;
· financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income (FVTOCI); or
· financial assets at fair value through the profit or loss (FVTPL).

The classification and the basis for measurement are subject to the Company's business model for managing the financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets, as detailed below:

2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Financial assets at amortised cost
A financial asset is measured at amortised cost if it meets both of the following conditions and is not designated as at FVTPL:
· the assets are held within a business model whose objective is to hold assets in order to collect contractual cash flows; and
· the contractual terms of the financial assets give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

If either of the above two criteria is not met, the financial assets are classified and measured at fair value through the profit or loss (FVTPL).

If a financial asset meets the amortised cost criteria, the Company may choose to designate the financial asset at FVTPL. Such an election is irrevocable and applicable only if the FVTPL classification significantly reduces a measurement or recognition inconsistency.

Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income (FVTOCI)
A financial asset is measured at FVTOCI only if it meets both of the following conditions and is not designated as at FVTPL:
· the asset is held within a business model whose objective is achieved by both collecting contractual cash flows and selling financial assets; and
· the contractual terms of the financial assets give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.
On initial recognition of an equity investments that is not held for trading, the Company may irrevocably elect to present subsequent changes in fair value in OCI. This election is made on an investment-by-investment basis.

If an equity investment is designated as FVTOCI, all gains and losses, except for dividend income, are recognised in other comprehensive income and are not subsequently included in the statement of income.

Financial assets at fair value through the profit or loss (FVTPL)
Financial assets not otherwise classified above are classified and measured as FVTPL.

Financial liabilities at amortised cost
All financial liabilities, other than those classified as financial liabilities at FVTPL, are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Financial liabilities at fair value through the profit or loss
Financial liabilities not measured at amortised cost are classified and measured at FVTPL. This classification includes derivative liabilities.

Derecognition

Financial assets
The Company derecognises a financial asset when;
- the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire,
- it transfers the right to receive the contractual cash flows in a transaction in which substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset are transferred; or
- the Company neither transfers nor retains substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership and it does not retain control of the financial asset.

On derecognition of a financial asset, the difference between the carrying amount of the asset and the sum of the consideration received is recognised as a gain or loss in the profit or loss.
Any cumulative gain or loss recognised in OCI in respect of equity investment securities designated as FVTOCI is not recognised in profit or loss on derecognition of such securities. Any interest in transferred financial assets that qualify for derecognition that is created or retained by the Company is recognised as a separate asset or liability.

2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

The Company enters into transactions whereby it transfers assets recognised on its statement of financial position, but retains either all or substantially all of risks and rewards of the transferred assets or a portion of them. In such cases, the transferred assets are not derecognised.

When the Company derecognises transferred financial assets in their entirety, but has continuing involvement in them then the entity should disclose for each type of continuing involvement at the reporting date:

(a) The carrying amount of the assets and liabilities that are recognised in the entity's statement of financial position and represent the entity's continuing involvement in the derecognised financial assets, and the line items in which those assets and liabilities are recognised;

(b) The fair value of the assets and liabilities that represent the entity's continuing involvement in the derecognised financial assets;

(c) The amount that best represents the entity's maximum exposure to loss from its continuing involvement in the derecognised financial assets, and how the maximum exposure to loss is determined;

(d) The undiscounted cash outflows that would or may be required to repurchase the derecognised financial assets or other amounts payable to the transferee for the transferred assets.

Financial liabilities
The Company derecognises a financial liability when its contractual obligations are discharged, cancelled, or expire.

Modification of financial assets and financial liabilities

Financial assets
If the terms of a financial asset are modified, the Company evaluates whether the cash flows of the modified asset are substantially different. If the cash flows are substantially different, then the contractual rights to the cash flows from the original financial asset are deemed to expire. In this case the original financial asset is derecognised and a new financial asset is recognised at either amortised cost or fair value.

If the cash flows are not substantially different, then the modification does not result in derecognition of the financial asset. In this case, the Company recalculates the gross carrying amount of the financial asset and recognises the amount arising from adjusting the gross carrying amount as a modification gain or loss in the statement of income.

Financial liabilities
If the terms of a financial liability are modified, the Company evaluates whether the cash flows of the modified asset are substantially different. If the cash flows are substantially different, then the contractual obligations from the cash flows from the original financial liabilities are deemed to expire. In this case the original financial liabilities are derecognised and new financial liabilities are recognised at either amortised cost or fair value.

If the cash flows are not substantially different, then the modification does not result in derecognition of the financial liabilities. In this case, the Company recalculates the gross carrying amount of the financial liabilities and recognises the amount arising from adjusting the gross carrying amount as a modification gain or loss in the statement of income.

Impairment of financial assets

Measurement of Expected Credit Loss
The Company recognises loss allowances for expected credit losses (ECL) on financial instruments that are not measured at FVTPL, namely:

- Financial assets that are debt instruments;

2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

- Accounts and other receivables;
- Financial guarantee contracts issued; and
- Loan commitments issued.

The Company classifies its financial instruments into stage 1, stage 2 and stage 3, based on the applied impairment methodology, as described below:

Stage 1: for financial instruments where there has not been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition and that are not credit-impaired on origination, the Company recognises an allowance based on the 12-month ECL.

Stage 2: for financial instruments where there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition but they are not credit-impaired, the Company recognises an allowance for the lifetime ECL.

Stage 3: for credit-impaired financial instruments, the Company recognises the lifetime ECL.

The Company measures loss allowances at an amount equal to the lifetime ECL, except for the following, for which they are measured as a 12-month ECL:

- debt securities that are determined to have a low credit risk (equivalent to investment grade rating) at the reporting date; and
- other financial instruments on which the credit risk has not increased significantly since their initial recognition.

The Company considers a debt security to have low credit risk when their credit risk rating is equivalent to the globally understood definition of 'investment grade'.

A 12-month ECL is the portion of the ECL that results from default events on a financial instrument that are probable within 12 months from the reporting date.

Provisions for credit-impairment are recognised in the statement of income and are reflected in accumulated provision balances against each relevant financial instruments balance.

Evidence that the financial asset is credit-impaired include the following;

- Significant financial difficulties of the borrower or issuer;
- A breach of contract such as default or past due event;
- The restructuring of the loan or advance by the Company on terms that the Company would not consider otherwise;
- It is becoming probable that the borrower will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganisation;
- The disappearance of an active market for the security because of financial difficulties; or
- There is other observable data relating to a Group of assets such as adverse changes in the payment status of borrowers or issuers in the Company, or economic conditions that correlate with defaults in the Company.

For trade receivables, the Company applies the simplified approach, which requires expected lifetime losses to be recognised from initial recognition of the receivables.

To measure the expected credit losses, trade receivables and contract assets have been Grouped based on shared credit risk characteristics and the days past due. The contract assets relate to unbilled work in progress and have substantially the same risk characteristics as the trade receivables for the same types of contracts. The Company has therefore concluded that the expected loss rates for trade receivables are a reasonable approximation of the loss rates for the contract assets.

2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

The expected loss rates are based on the payment profiles of sales over a period of 36 month before 31 December 2020 and the corresponding historical credit losses experienced within this period. The historical loss rates are adjusted to reflect current and forward-looking information on macroeconomic factors affecting the ability of the customers to settle the receivables. The Company has identified the GDP and the unemployment rate of the countries in which it sells its goods and services to be the most relevant factors, and accordingly adjusts the historical loss rates based on expected changes in these factors.

Definition of default
The Company considers the following as constituting an event of default for internal credit risk management purposes as historical experience indicates that financial assets that meet either of the following criteria are not recoverable:
- when there is a breach of financial covenants by the debtor; and
- information developed internally or obtained from external sources indicates that the debtor is unlikely to pay its creditors, including the Company, in full.

Accounting estimates and assumptions
The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of certain financial assets, liabilities, income and expenses.

The use of estimates and assumptions is principally limited to the determination of provisions for impairment, the valuation of financial instruments and as explained in more detail below.

Provisions for impairment
In determining impairment of financial assets, judgement is required in the estimation of the amount and timing of future cash flows as well as an assessment of whether the credit risk on the financial asset has increased significantly since initial recognition and incorporation of forward-looking information in the measurement of expected credit loss (ECL).

Fair value of financial assets and liabilities
Where the fair value of financial assets and liabilities cannot be derived from active markets, they are determined using a variety of valuation techniques that include the use of mathematical models. The input to these models is derived from observable markets where available, but where this is not feasible, a degree of judgement is required in determining assumptions used in the models. Changes in assumptions used in the models could affect the reported fair value of financial assets and liabilities.

3 SEGMENTAL REPORTING

IFRS 8 requires operating segments to be identified on the basis of internal reports about components of the Company that are regularly reviewed by the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Northern Powergrid Group in order to allocate resources to those segments and to assess their performance.

In practice, the President and Chief Executive Officer allocates resources and assesses performance based upon the aggregate results of the Company and Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) plc, another distribution network operator in the Northern Powergrid Group, suggesting that no segmental reporting is required. However, in accordance with the Company's distribution licence, the Company must publish certain segmental information in the Regulatory Accounts, as follows:

	Distribution 2022 £m	Distributed Generation 2022 £m	Excluded Services 2022 £m	Metering 2022 £m	De Minimis 2022 £m	Total 2022 £m
STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS						
Revenue	349.1	3.1	9.2	2.6	27.9	391.9
Cost of sales	(8.4)	-	(4.5)	-	(1.5)	(14.4)
Gross profit	340.7	3.1	4.7	2.6	26.4	377.5
Distribution costs	(133.6)	(6.9)	0.1	(0.2)	-	(140.6)
Administration costs	(65.9)	-	-	(0.4)	(25.4)	(91.7)
Operating profit/(loss)	141.2	(3.8)	4.8	2.0	1.0	145.2
Profit on disposal of property, plant and equipment						0.3
Net finance costs						(26.8)
Profit before tax						118.7
OTHER INFORMATION						
PPE additions	155.3	8.0	24.7	-	-	188.0
Capital intangible additions	7.8	0.2	0.7	-	-	8.7
Depreciation and amortisation	95.9	6.9	(0.1)	-	5.6	108.3
Amortisation of deferred revenue	(17.2)	(6.9)	(4.2)	-	-	(28.3)

3 SEGMENTAL REPORTING (CONTINUED)

	Distribution 2021 £m	**Distributed Generation 2021 £m**	**Excluded Services 2021 £m**	**Metering 2021 £m**	**De Minimis 2021 £m**	**Total 2021 £m**
STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS						
Revenue	319.8	5.2	7.2	2.9	24.5	359.6
Cost of sales	(11.3)	-	(2.6)	-	(1.6)	(15.5)
Gross profit	308.5	5.2	4.6	2.9	22.9	344.1
Distribution costs	(121.8)	(9.2)	0.1	(0.1)	-	(131.0)
Administration costs	(61.0)	-	(0.2)	(0.4)	(22.5)	(84.1)
Operating profit/(loss)	125.7	(4.0)	4.5	2.4	0.4	129.0
Profit on disposal of PPE						0.1
Finance costs						(30.5)
Profit Before Tax						98.6
OTHER INFORMATION						
PPE additions	164.6	7.2	20.0	-	-	191.8
Capital intangible additions	9.1	0.1	0.4	-	-	9.6
Depreciation and amortisation	90.4	9.2	(0.1)	-	4.4	103.9
Amortisation of deferred revenue	(13.8)	(9.1)	(4.0)	-	-	(26.9)

Revenue is all in respect of contracts with customers in the United Kingdom.

4 STAFF COSTS

	2022 £m	2021 £m
Salaries	**60.6**	56.7
Social security costs	**6.8**	6.3
Defined benefit pension costs	**7.2**	26.3
Defined contribution pension costs	**4.0**	3.6
	78.6	92.9
Less charged to property, plant and equipment	**(43.5)**	(43.6)
	35.1	49.3

The costs in the table above relate to the Company only. A large proportion of the Company's employees are members of the Northern Powergrid Group of the ESPS, details of which are given in Note 23.

The average monthly number of persons employed by the Group and Company (including directors) during the year was:

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Technical	**364**	362
Industrial	**460**	463
Administration	**286**	252
Other	**129**	128
	1,239	1,205

5 DIRECTORS' & KEY PERSONNEL REMUNERATION

DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION	**2022 £'000**	2021 £'000
Highest Paid		
Short-term employee benefits	**378**	344
Post-employment benefits	**-**	-
Other long-term benefits	**387**	417
	765	761

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Total		
Short-term employee benefits	**552**	609
Post-employment benefits	**13**	8
Other long-term benefits	**461**	523
	1,026	1,140
Directors who are members of the defined benefit scheme	**-**	-
Accrued defined pension benefit relating to highest paid director	**-**	-

5 DIRECTORS' & KEY PERSONNEL REMUNERATION (CONTINUED)

OTHER KEY PERSONNEL REMUNERATION	**2022**	2021
	£000	£000
Total		
Short-term employee benefits	**492**	442
Post-employment benefits	**106**	84
Other long-term benefits	**196**	154
	794	680

Other key personnel includes a number of senior functional managers who, whilst not board directors, have authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Group.

The directors and key personnel are remunerated for their services to the Northern Powergrid Group, of which the Company is a subsidiary. The figures above represent the share of the costs borne by the Group and Company.

6 OPERATING PROFIT

	2022	2021
	£m	£m
This is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Staff costs (Note 4)	**34.0**	49.3
Research and development	**0.6**	1.2
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	**91.9**	88.8
Amortisation of deferred revenue	**(28.3)**	(26.9)
Amortisation of intangibles	**12.3**	10.1
Right of use asset depreciation	**4.1**	5.0
Impairment loss on trade and other receivables	**3.5**	0.9
Charitable donation in relation to response to storm Arwen	**7.1**	-

Analysis of auditor's remuneration is as follows:

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Fees payable to the Company's auditor for the audit of the Company's annual accounts	**159**	158
Fees payable to the auditor for audit of the Company's subsidiaries	**20**	20
Other services supplied pursuant to legislation	**96**	51
	275	229

Other services supplied pursuant to legislation relate to regulatory reporting in line with Ofgem's requirements.

7 FINANCE COSTS

	2022 **£m**	2021 £m
Interest payable on loans from Group undertakings	**5.9**	6.0
Interest payable on other loans	**21.4**	25.0
Interest on leases	**0.3**	0.4
Total interest expense	**27.6**	31.4
Amounts included in the cost of qualifying assets	**(0.7)**	(0.8)
Total finance costs	**26.9**	30.6

Interest is capitalised at 3.25% (2020/21: 3.94%).

8 INCOME TAX

Tax charged in the income statement

	2022 **£m**	**2021** **£m**
Current taxation		
UK corporation tax	**25.1**	20.0
UK corporation tax adjustment to prior periods	**(0.9)**	(0.5)
	24.2	19.5
Deferred taxation		
Arising from origination and reversal of temporary differences	**(2.8)**	(1.6)
Deferred tax adjustment to prior periods	**1.0**	1.1
Effect of changes in legislation	**29.8**	-
Total deferred taxation	**28.0**	(0.5)
Tax expense in the income statement	**52.2**	19.0

The tax on profit before tax for the year is higher than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK (2021 - higher than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK) of 19% (2021 - 19%).

The differences are reconciled below:

	2022 **£m**	**2021** **£m**
Profit before tax	**118.7**	98.6
Corporation tax at standard rate	**22.6**	18.7
(Decrease) in current tax from adjustment for prior periods	**(0.9)**	(0.5)
Increase in deferred tax from adjustment for prior periods	**1.0**	1.1
Effect of income and expenses not taxable/deductible in determining taxable profit	**(0.3)**	(0.3)
Increase in deferred tax due to changes to legislation	**29.8**	-
Total tax charge	**52.2**	19.0

8 INCOME TAX (CONTINUED)

Finance Act 2021 was enacted on the 10 June 2021 and the impact of the Finance Act has increased the rate of corporation tax from 19% to 25% from 1 April 2023. As a result, deferred tax balances have been re-measured at the 25% rate and this remeasurement (after taking into account the estimated temporary differences which will reverse at the 19% rate prior to 1 April 2023) has given rise to an increased deferred tax liability of £29.8m which is reflected within the above tax charge.

Should any uncertainties arise the Group will apply adopted amendments to IFRIC 23.

Deferred tax

Group

Deferred tax movement during the year:

	At 1 April 2021 £m	**Recognised in income £m**	**At 31 March 2022 £m**
Accelerated tax depreciation	**101.6**	**30.3**	**131.9**
Other	**(1.0)**	**(2.4)**	**(3.4)**
Net tax liabilities	**100.6**	**27.9**	**128.5**

Deferred tax movement during the prior year:

	At 1 April 2020 £m	**Recognised in income £m**	**At 31 March 2021 £m**
Accelerated tax depreciation	101.8	(0.2)	101.6
Other	(0.7)	(0.3)	(1.0)
Net tax liabilities	101.1	(0.5)	100.6

Other comprises provisions and employee expenses deductible for tax on a paid basis and claims for hold over relief.

8 INCOME TAX (CONTINUED)

Company

Deferred tax movement during the year:

	At 1 April 2021 £m	Recognised in income £m	At 31 March 2022 £m
Accelerated tax depreciation	**101.6**	**30.3**	**131.9**
Other	**(1.0)**	**(2.4)**	**(3.4)**
Net tax liabilities	**100.6**	**27.9**	**128.5**

Deferred tax movement during the prior year:

	At 1 April 2020 £m	Recognised in income £m	At 31 March 2021 £m
Accelerated tax depreciation	101.8	(0.2)	101.6
Other	(0.7)	(0.3)	(1.0)
Net tax liabilities	101.1	(0.5)	100.6

Other comprises provisions and employee expenses deductible for tax on a paid basis and claims for hold over relief.

9 DIVIDENDS

	2022 Pence per share	2021 Pence per share	2022 £m	2021 £m
Dividend paid	**13.0**	12.7	**26.0**	25.4

10 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Group and Company

	Distribution system £m	Furniture, Fittings and Equipment £m	Non-Operational Land & Buildings £m	Total £m
COST				
At 01 April 2020	3,369.8	49.7	4.2	3,423.7
Additions	190.9	0.9	-	191.8
Disposals	10.4)			(10.4)
At 31 March 2021	**3,550.3**	**50.6**	**4.2**	**3,605.1**
Additions	**184.3**	**3.7**	**-**	**188.0**
Disposals	**(7.2)**	**-**		**(7.2)**
At 31 March 2022	**3,727.4**	**54.3**	**4.2**	**3,785.9**
ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION				
At 1 April 2020	778.1	41.3	2.9	822.3
Charge for the year	85.3	3.2	0.3	88.8
Disposals	(10.4)		-	(10.4)
At 31 March 2021	**853.0**	**44.5**	**3.2**	**900.7**
Charge for the year	**89.3**	**2.4**	**0.2**	**91.9**
Disposals	**(7.2)**	**-**	**-**	**(7.2)**
At 31 March 2022	**935.1**	**46.9**	**3.4**	**985.4**
Net book value at 31 March 2022	**2,792.3**	**7.4**	**0.8**	**2,800.5**
Net book value at 31 March 2021	2,697.3	6.1	1.0	2,704.4

10 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (CONTINUED)

Assets in the course of construction included above

	Distribution system	Furniture, Fittings and Equipment	Non-Operational Land & Buildings	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m
At 1 April 2020	199.9	-	-	199.9
Additions	190.9	-	-	190.9
Available for use	(198.8)	-		(198.8)
At 31 March 2021	**192.0**	**-**	**-**	**192.0**
Additions	**189.6**	**3.6**		**193.2**
Available for use	**(186.8)**	**(3.6)**		**(190.4)**
At 31 March 2022	**194.8**	**-**	**-**	**194.8**

The net book value of non-operational land and buildings comprises:

	2022	2021
	£m	£m
Freehold	**0.6**	0.8
Long-leasehold	**0.2**	0.2
	0.8	1.0

The Group has entered into contractual commitments in relation to the future acquisition of property, plant and equipment of £23.0m (2020/21: £27.4m)

11 RIGHT OF USE ASSETS

Group and Company

Cost or Valuation

	Property	Fleet	Land	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m
At 1 April 2020	1.5	10.2	6.4	18.1
Additions	-	4.0	1.9	5.9
Disposals	(0.1)	(0.3)	-	(0.4)
At 31 March 2021	**1.4**	**13.9**	**8.3**	**23.6**
Additions	**-**	**1.7**	**-**	**1.7**
Disposals	**-**	**(0.5)**	**(6.4)**	**(6.9)**
At 31 March 2022	**1.4**	**15.1**	**1.9**	**18.4**

Depreciation

	Property	Fleet	Land	Total
At 1 April 2020	0.4	2.2	2.9	5.5
Charge for period	0.2	2.4	2.4	5.0
Eliminated on disposal	(0.1)	(0.3)	-	(0.4)
At 31 March 2021	**0.5**	**4.3**	**5.3**	**10.1**
Charge for period	**0.2**	**2.7**	**1.2**	**4.1**
Eliminated on disposal	**-**	**(0.5)**	**(6.4)**	**(6.9)**
At 31 March 2022	**0.7**	**6.5**	**0.1**	**7.3**

11 RIGHT OF USE ASSETS (CONTINUED)

Carrying Value at 31 March 2022	**0.7**	**8.6**	**1.8**	**11.1**
Carrying Value at 31 March 2021	0.9	9.6	3.0	13.5

12 INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Group and Company

	Software Development Costs £m
COST	
At 1 April 2020	113.9
Additions	9.6
Disposals	-
At 31 March 2021	**123.5**
Additions	**8.7**
Disposals	**(0.7)**
At 31 March 2022	**131.5**
AMORTISATION	
At 1 April 2020	62.1
Charge for the year	10.1
Disposals	-
At 31 March 2021	**72.2**
Charge for the year	**12.3**
Disposals	**(0.7)**
At 31 March 2022	**83.8**
Net book value at 31 March 2022	**47.7**
Net book value at 31 March 2021	51.3

13 INVESTMENTS

Summary of the Company investments

	£m
Cost or valuation	
At 1 April 2020	0.1
At 31 March 2021	0.1
At 1 April 2021	0.1
At 31 March 2022	0.1

13 INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

Carrying amount

At 31 March 2022	0.1
At 31 March 2021	0.1

Subsidiaries

Name of subsidiary	Principal activity	Registered office	Ownership interest and voting rights held 2022	2021
Northern Electric Finance plc*	Finance Company	Lloyds Court, 78 Grey Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 6AF, England and Wales	100%	100%

*This Company has taken advantage of s497A Companies Act exemption form audit. The Company registration number is 03070482.

Group Associates
Details of the associates as at 31 March 2022 are as follows:

Name of associate	Principal activity	Registered office	Ownership interest and voting rights held 2022	2021
Electralink Limited +	Data transfer network operator	Northumberland House, 303-306 Holborn, WC1V 7JZ, England and Wales	6.2%	6.2%
MRA Service Company Limited +	Governance of the electricity industry's Master Registration Agreement	8 Fenchurch Place, London, EC3M 4AJ, England and Wales	0.39%	0.39%
DCUSA Limited +	Governance of Distribution Connection and Use of System Agreement	Northumberland House, 303-306 Holborn, WC1V 7JZ, England and Wales	1.69%	1.69%
Smart Energy Code Company Limited +	Governance of smart metering energy agreement	8 Fenchurch Place, London, EC3m 4AJ	0.34%	0.34%

+ indicates accounted for using the equity method

The above investments are all held as ordinary shares.

14 INVENTORIES

	2022	2021
	£m	£m
Raw materials and consumables	**19.6**	17.8
Work in progress	**0.3**	0.6
	19.9	18.4

15 TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

Group and Company

	2022	2021
	£ m	£ m
Distribution use of system receivables	**52.8**	50.3
Trade receivables	**4.3**	1.9
Loss allowance	**(5.7)**	(3.1)
Net trade receivables	**51.4**	49.1
Accrued income	**0.5**	0.3
Prepayments	**1.5**	1.7
	53.4	51.1

The average credit period on receivables is 30 days. No interest is charged on outstanding trade receivables.

The Group always measures the loss allowance for trade receivables at an amount equal to lifetime expected credit loss. The expected credit losses on trade receivables are estimated using a provision matrix by reference to past default experience of the debtor and an analysis of the debtor’s current financial position, adjusted for factors that are specific to the debtors, general economic conditions of the industry in which the debtors operate and an assessment of both the current as well as the forecast direction of conditions at the reporting date.

There has been no change in the estimation techniques or significant assumptions made during the current reporting period.

The Group writes off a trade receivable when there is information indicating that the debtor is in severe financial difficulty and there is no realistic prospect of recovery, e.g. when the debtor has been placed under liquidation or has entered into bankruptcy proceedings, or when the trade receivables are over two years past due, whichever occurs earlier. None of the trade receivables that have been written off is subject to enforcement activities.

As the Group’s historical credit loss experience does shows significantly different loss patterns for different customer segments, the provision for loss allowance based on past due status is distinguished between DUoS receivables, non-damages receivables, and damages receivables.

15 TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES (CONTINUED)

Movement in the loss allowance

	31 March 2022 £m	31 March 2021 £m
At 1 April	**3.1**	2.6
Amounts utilised/written off in the year	**(0.9)**	(0.4)
Amounts recognised in the statement of profit or loss	**3.5**	0.9
At 31 March	**5.7**	3.1

The loss allowance is made on amount due net of VAT which would be recoverable from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs when the debt is written off.

The increase in the amount recognised in the year follows the failure of a number of electricity supply companies in 2021. Subject to certain conditions mentioned below, losses arising in relation to distribution use of system debts will be

Included in the allowance for doubtful debts are specific trade receivables, with a balance of £3.8 million (2020/21: £2.6 million), which have been placed in administration. The impairment represents the difference between the carrying amount of the specific trade receivable and the present value of the expected liquidation dividend.

Distribution use of system receivables

The customers served by the Group's distribution network are supplied predominantly by a small number of electricity supply businesses (circa 110) with the Eon Group plc accounting for approximately 21.2% of distribution revenues in the regulatory year to 31 March 2022 (2021: 22.5%); and British Gas accounting for approximately 10.9% of distribution revenues in the regulatory year to 31 March 2022 (2021: 11.2%). Ofgem has determined a framework which sets credit limits for each supply business based on its credit rating or payment history and requires them to provide credit cover if their value at risk (measured as being equivalent to 45 days usage) exceeds the credit limit. Acceptable credit typically is provided in the form of a parent Company guarantee, letter of credit or an escrow account. Included within other payables are customer deposits of £1.8m as at 31 March 2022 (2021: £1.9m).

Provided the Company has implemented credit control, billing and collection processes in line with best practice guidelines and can demonstrate compliance with the guidelines or is able to satisfactorily explain departure from the guidelines, any bad debt losses arising from supplier default will be recovered through an increase in future allowed income.

15 TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES (CONTINUED)

The following table details the age of DUoS receivables:

2022	**Not due £m**	**Current £m**	**1-3 months £m**	**Over 3 months £m**
Total balance	**28.9**	**20.8**	**0.3**	**2.8**
Less specific provisions	**-**	**(0.1)**	**(0.3)**	**(2.8)**
Balance on which ECL made	**28.9**	**20.7**	**-**	**-**
Lifetime ECL	**-**	**-**	**10%**	**50%**
Expected credit loss	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**

2021	**Not due £m**	**Current £m**	**1-3 months £m**	**Over 3 months £m**
Total balance	27.2	21.1	0.3	1.8
Less specific provisions	-	(0.2)	(0.3)	(1.5)
Balance on which ECL made	27.2	20.9	-	0.3
Lifetime ECL	-	-	10%	50%
Expected credit loss	-	-	-	0.2

Other trade receivables

Sales of goods and services comprise all income streams which are not classified as DUoS income. Examples of non-DUoS income streams would be service alterations/disconnections, assessment and design fees, and recovery of amounts for damage caused by third parties to the distribution system. The average credit period on sales of goods and services is 30 days. Interest is not generally charged on the trade receivables paid after the due date.

In determining the recoverability of the trade and other receivables, the Company considers any change in the credit quality of the trade and other receivable from the date credit was initially granted up to the reporting date. The concentration of credit risk, other than in relation to DUoS receivables, is limited due to the customer base being large and unrelated. Accordingly, the directors believe that there is no further credit provision required in excess of the allowance for doubtful debts.

15 TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES (CONTINUED)

Non-damages

2021/22	**Not due £m**	**Current £m**	**1-6 months £m**	**6-12 months £m**	**Over 1 year £m**
Total balance	**0.1**	**0.4**	**0.6**	**0.2**	**0.3**
Less specific provisions	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Balance on which ECL made	**0.1**	**0.4**	**0.6**	**0.2**	**0.3**
Lifetime ECL	**0%**	**0%**	**0%**	**50%**	**87%**
Expected credit loss	**-**	**-**	**-**	**0.1**	**0.3**

2020/21	**Not due £m**	**Current £m**	**1-6 months £m**	**6-12 months £m**	**Over 1 year £m**
Total balance	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2
Less specific provisions	-	-	-	-	-
Balance on which ECL made	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2
Lifetime ECL	0%	0%	0%	50%	50%
Expected credit loss	-	-	-	-	0.1

Damages

2021/2022	**1-6 months £m**	**6-12 months £m**	**1-2 years £m**	**2-3 years £m**	**Over 3 years £m**
Total balance	**1.6**	**0.5**	**0.3**	**0.1**	**0.3**
Less specific provisions	**(0.1)**	**(0.2)**	**(0.1)**	**-**	**(0.3)**
Balance on which ECL made	**1.5**	**0.3**	**0.2**	**0.1**	**-**
Lifetime ECL	**20%**	**25%**	**30%**	**40%**	**80%**
Expected credit loss	**0.3**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**-**	**-**

2020/2021	**1-6 months £m**	**6-12 months £m**	**1-2 years £m**	**2-3 years £m**	**Over 3 years £m**
Total balance	0.8	0.2	0.4	0.3	-
Less specific provisions	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.2)	(0.3)	-
Balance on which ECL made	0.7	0.1	0.2	-	-
Lifetime ECL	20%	25%	30%	40%	80%
Expected credit loss	0.1	-	0.1	-	-

There has been no significant change in the gross amounts of trade receivables that has affected the estimation of loss allowance.

15 TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES (CONTINUED)

Significant increase in credit risk

In assessing whether the credit risk on a financial instrument has increased significantly since initial recognition, the Company compares the risk of a default occurring on a financial instrument at the reporting date with the risk of a default occurring on the financial instrument at the date of initial recognition. In making this assessment the Company considers historical experience as well as forward-looking information that is available without undue cost or effort. Forward-looking information includes the future prospects of the industries in which the Company's debtors operate obtained from economic expert reports, financial analysts, government bodies, relevant think-tanks and other similar organisations. In particular the following information is taken into account when assessing whether credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition:

- existing or forecast adverse changes in business, financial or economic conditions that are expected to cause a significant decrease in the debtor's ability to meet its debt obligations;
- an actual or expected significant deterioration in the operating results of the debtor;
- significant increases in credit risk on other financial instruments of the same debtor; and
- an actual or expected significant adverse change in the regulatory, economic, or technological environment of the debtor that results in a significant decrease in the debtor's ability to meet its debt obligations.

16 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Group

	2022 £m	2021 £m
Cash and cash equivalents	**-**	0.1

The Company had no cash at the balance sheet date (2020/21: £nil).

17 OTHER FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

Trade and other payables

Group and Company

	2022 £m	**2021** £m
Payments received on account	**42.0**	38.0
Trade payables	**3.2**	7.9
Other taxes and social security costs	**9.0**	7.0
Accruals	**36.7**	22.9
Other payables	**6.3**	6.6
	97.2	82.4

17 OTHER FINANCIAL LIABILITIES (CONTINUED)

The directors consider that the carrying amount of other financial liabilities approximates their fair value, calculated by discounting future cash flows at market rate at the statement of financial position date. The fair valuation of liabilities is based on Level 1 inputs. Trade creditors and accruals principally comprise amounts outstanding for trade purchases and on-going costs. Invoices are paid at the end of the month following the date of the invoice. The average credit period on payables is 30 days. The Company has financial risk management policies in place to ensure that all payables are paid within the credit timeframe.

Categories of financial liabilities

Group

	2022 £m	2021 £m
Loans and payables at amortised cost	**847.1**	842.1
Total financial liabilities	**847.1**	842.1
Payments received on account	**42.0**	38.0
Income tax liabilities	**128.5**	100.6
Other taxes and social security	**9.0**	7.0
Accruals	**36.7**	22.9
Lease liabilities	**11.3**	13.8
Deferred revenue	**677.0**	670.9
Provisions	**1.5**	1.1
Total non-financial liabilities	**906.0**	854.3
Total liabilities	**1,753.1**	1,696.4

Company

	2022 £m	2021 £m
Loans and payables at amortised cost	**845.4**	840.3
Total financial liabilities	**845.4**	840.3
Payments received on account	**42.0**	38.0
Income tax liabilities	**128.5**	100.6
Other taxes and social security	**9.0**	7.0
Accruals	**36.7**	22.9
Lease liabilities	**11.3**	13.8
Deferred revenue	**677.0**	670.9
Provisions	**1.5**	1.1
Total non-financial liabilities	**906.0**	854.3
Total liabilities	**1,751.4**	1,694.6

18 BORROWINGS

The Directors' consideration of liquidity and interest rate is described in the Strategic Report on page 16.

Group

	Book value		Fair value	
	2022	**2021**	**2022**	2021
	£m	**£m**	**£m**	£m
Loans	**726.4**	726.1	**687.7**	785.6
Amounts owed to Group undertakings	**111.2**	101.5	**145.0**	150.4
	837.6	827.6	**832.7**	936.0
The borrowings are repayable as follows:				
On demand or within one year	**27.0**	17.3	**27.0**	17.3
After one year	**810.6**	810.3	**805.7**	918.7
	837.6	827.6	**832.7**	936.0
Analysis of borrowings:				
Yorkshire Electricity Group plc short-term loan	**9.7**	-	**9.7**	-
Northern Electric Finance plc 2035 - 5.125%	**155.4**	155.3	**188.6**	207.8
Northern Powergrid Holdings 2037 – 5.9%	**101.5**	101.5	**135.3**	150.4
Northern Electric Finance plc 2049 – 2.75%	**151.1**	151.0	**144.4**	170.3
Eurobond due 2062 – 1.875%	**299.0**	298.9	**233.5**	277.4
European Investment Bank 2027 – 2.564%	**120.9**	120.9	**121.2**	130.1
	837.6	827.6	**832.7**	936.0

18 BORROWINGS (CONTINUED)

Company

	Book value		Fair value	
	2022	**2021**	**2022**	2021
	£m	**£m**	**£m**	£m
Loans	**419.9**	419.8	**354.7**	407.5
Amounts owed to Group undertakings	**415.9**	406.0	**480.8**	532.7
	835.8	825.8	**835.5**	940.2
The borrowings are repayable as follows:				
On demand or within one year	**25.3**	15.5	**25.3**	15.5
After one years	**810.5**	810.3	**810.2**	924.7
	835.8	825.8	**835.5**	940.2
Analysis of borrowings:				
Yorkshire Electricity Group plc short-term loan	**11.3**	1.5	**11.3**	1.5
Northern Electric Finance plc 2035 - 5.125%	**50.8**	50.7	**62.9**	69.3
Northern Powergrid Holdings 2037 – 5.9%	**101.5**	101.5	**135.3**	150.4
Northern Electric Finance plc 2037 – 5.125%	**101.2**	101.2	**125.5**	139.6
Northern Electric Finance plc 2049 – 2.75%	**151.1**	151.1	**145.8**	171.9
Eurobond due 2062 – 1.875%	**299.0**	298.9	**233.5**	277.4
European Investment Bank 2027 – 2.564%	**120.9**	120.9	**121.2**	130.1
	835.8	825.8	**835.5**	940.2

In April 2022, the Group issued a £350 million bond at 3.25% maturing in 2052, the funds will be used for general corporate purposes including the repayment of debt maturities in 2022.

The fair value of bonds is determined with reference to quoted market prices. The directors' estimates of the fair value of bank loans and internal borrowings are determined in accordance with generally accepted pricing models based on discounted cash flow analysis using prices from observable current market transactions or dealer quotes for similar instruments. The fair value of short-term borrowings is equal to their book value. All loans are non-secured and are denominated in sterling. All loans are held at amortised cost.

The valuation of liabilities set out above is based on Level 1 inputs.

The Group and Company's exposure to market and liquidity risk; including maturity analysis, in respect of loans and borrowings is disclosed in financial risk review Note 28.

19 DEFERRED REVENUE

Group and Company

	2022	2021
	£m	£m
At 1 April	**670.9**	666.0
Additions	**34.4**	31.8
Amortisation	**(28.3)**	(26.9)
At 31 March	**677.0**	670.9

	2022	2021
	£m	£m
Included in current liabilities	**29.4**	27.9
Included in non-current liabilities	**647.6**	643.0
	677.0	670.9

Deferred revenue represents contributions from customers made in advance towards distribution system assets. This income is released to the statement of profit or loss up to 45 years on a straight-line basis in line with the useful economic life of the distribution system assets.

20 PROVISIONS

Group and Company

	Claims	Other	Total
	£m	£m	£m
.t 1 April 2020	0.6	0.3	0.9
Utilised/paid in the year	(0.6)	(0.1)	(0.7)
Charged to statement of profit or loss	0.9	-	0.9
At 31 March 2021	**0.9**	**0.2**	**1.1**
Utilised/paid in year	**(1.0)**	**-**	**(1.0)**
Charged to statement of profit or loss	**1.2**	**0.2**	**1.4**
At 31 March 2022	**1.1**	**0.4**	**1.5**

	2022	2021
	£m	£m
Included in current liabilities	**1.4**	1.1
Included in non-current liabilities	**0.1**	-
	1.5	1.1

Claims: Provision has been made to cover costs arising from actual claims, which are not externally insured. Settlement is expected substantially within 12 months.

20 PROVISIONS (CONTINUED)

Other: Primarily consists of a provision for future safe disposal of transformers which contain oil contaminated with Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) and for an amount to cover claims made under section 74 of the New Road and Street Works Act 1991. Costs are expected to be incurred over the next 6 years.

21 SHARE CAPITAL

	2022 No./£	2021 No./£
Ordinary shares of £1 each		
Allotted, called-up and fully paid	**200,000,100**	200,000,100

The Group has 300 million shares authorised for issue. The Group has one class of ordinary shares which carries no right to fixed income.

22 RETAINED EARNINGS

Group

	£m
At 1 April 2020	**888.4**
Total comprehensive income for the year	**79.6**
Dividends paid	**(25.4)**
At 31 March 2021	**942.6**
Total comprehensive income for the year	**66.5**
Dividends paid	**(26.0)**
At 31 March 2022	**983.1**

Company

	£m
At 1 April 2020	**890.2**
Total comprehensive income for the year	**79.6**
Dividends paid	**(25.4)**
At 31 March 2021	**944.4**
Total comprehensive income for the year	**66.5**
Dividends paid	**(26.0)**
At 31 March 2022	**984.9**

23 PENSION SCHEMES

Defined contribution pension scheme
The Company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the Company to the scheme and amounted to £4.0m (2021 - £3.6m). The pension cost for 2022 is expected to be £4.2m.

Defined benefit pension scheme
The Company operates a defined benefit pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the company to the scheme and amounted to £7.2m (2021 - £26.3m). The pension cost for 2022 is expected to be £6.9m assuming no further deficit repair payments.

During the year ended 31 March 2022, the Company participated in a scheme which is part of the Northern Powergrid Group of the Electricity Supply Pension scheme (the “DB Scheme”). The DB Scheme provides benefits based on a member’s final permissible salary. The assets of the DB Scheme are held in a separate trustee-administered fund. Contributions to the DB Scheme are assessed in accordance with the advice of an independent qualified actuary. The DB Scheme has been closed to new entrants from 1997. The DB Scheme is a plan for related companies within the Northern Powergrid Group where risks are shared. The overall costs of the DB Scheme have been recognised in the Northern Powergrid Holdings Group financial statements according to IAS 19 (revised). Each of the participating companies accounts on the basis of contributions paid by that company. The Company accounts for the difference between the aggregate IAS 19 (revised) cost of the scheme and the aggregate contributions paid. The DB Scheme is governed by a Board of Trustees in accordance with a Trust Deed and Rules. It is also subject to regulation from the Pensions Regulator and relevant UK legislation. This regulatory framework requires the Trustees of the DB Scheme and the Northern Powergrid Group to agree upon the assumptions underlying the funding target, and the necessary contributions as part of each triennial valuation. The last actuarial valuation of the scheme had an effective date of 31 March 2019. The investment strategy of the scheme, which aims to meet liabilities as they fall due, is to invest plan assets in a mix of equities, other return seeking assets and liability driven investments to maximise the return on plan assets and minimise risks associated with lower than expected returns on plan assets. The Trustees are required to regularly review investment strategy. As it is not possible to identify the Company’s share of the net assets and liabilities of the DB Scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis due to the high volume of members/pensioners and the historic interaction between Northern Powergrid Group companies, and there is no contractual agreement or stated policy for charging to individual Northern Powergrid Group entities, the assets and liabilities are fully accounted for within the financial statements of Northern Powergrid Holdings Company.

Further details of the Northern Powergrid Group’s defined benefit scheme as at 31 December 2021 are disclosed in the consolidated financial statements of the Northern Powergrid Holdings Company financial statements.

24 LEASE LIABILITIES

Group and Company

Lease commitments
Operating lease commitments relate to fleet vehicles from Vehicle Lease and Service limited, a joint venture, with terms of up to 7 years and operational and non-operational land and buildings with terms of up to 50 years.

Maturity analysis - contractual undiscounted cash flows:

	2022 £m	2021 £m
Within one year	**3.1**	4.3
In the second to fifth year inclusive	**6.9**	7.9
After five years	**2.6**	3.0
Total Lease payment	**12.5**	15.2
Unearned interest	**(1.2)**	(1.4)
Total lease liability	**11.3**	13.8

The total cash outflow for leases during the year was £4.4m (2020/21: £5.4m). Within the cash outflow is lease expense of £4.1m (2020/21: £5.0m).

	2022 £m	2021 £m
Included in current liabilities	**2.8**	4.0
Included in non-current liabilities	**8.5**	9.8
	11.3	13.8

25 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Group has received loans from other companies in the Northern Powergrid Group. The total interest included in finance costs in the statement of profit or loss for the year ended 31 March 2022 was £5.9m (2020/21: £6.0m). Included within borrowings is £111.2 million as at 31 March 2022 (2020/21: £101.5 million)

The Company has received loans from other companies in the Northern Powergrid Group. The total interest included in finance costs in the statement of profit or loss for the year ended 31 March 2022 was £21.5m (2020/21: £23.2m). Included within borrowings is £415.9 million as at 31 March 2022 (2020/21: £406.1 million).

Interest on loans to/from Northern Powergrid Group companies is charged at a commercial rate; further details are shown in Note 17.

The Group entered into transactions, in the ordinary course of business, with affiliated companies. Transactions entered into and trading balances outstanding at the regulatory year-end were as follows:

Group and Company	**Sales to Related Party**	**Purchases from Related Party**
	£m	**£m**
2022:		
Integrated Utility Services Limited	**0.3**	**8.0**
Integrated Utility Services Limited (registered in Eire)		**1.7**
Northern Electric plc	**-**	**4.6**
Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) plc	**26.9**	**13.0**
Northern Powergrid Metering Limited	**0.1**	**-**
Vehicle Lease and Service Limited	**-**	**5.0**
2021:		
Integrated Utility Services Limited	**0.3**	**6.0**
Integrated Utility Services Limited (registered in Eire)	**-**	**1.8**
Northern Electric plc	**-**	**4.8**
Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) plc	**24.2**	**11.8**
Vehicle Lease and Service Limited	**-**	**4.6**

Sales and purchases from related parties were made at commercial prices.

The amounts outstanding are unsecured and will be settled in cash. No guarantees have been given or received. No provisions have been made for doubtful debts in respect of amounts owed by related parties.

26 CLASSIFICATION OF FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS AND FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

Group

The classification of financial assets and financial liabilities by accounting categorisation for the period ending 31 March 2022 was as follows:

	Financial assets at amortised cost £m	Financial liabilities at amortised cost £m	Non-financial assets & liabilities £m
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	-	-	2,800.5
Intangible assets	-	-	47.7
Investments	-	-	-
Right of use assets	-	-	11.1
	-	-	2,859.3
Current assets			
Income tax	3.6	-	-
Inventories	-	-	19.9
Cash			
Trade and other receivables	53.4	-	-
	57.0	-	19.9
Total assets	57.0	-	2,879.2
Non-current liabilities			
Loans and borrowings	-	(810.6)	-
Long Term Lease Liabilities	-	(8.5)	-
Provisions	-	-	(0.1)
Deferred revenue	-	(647.6)	-
Deferred tax liabilities	-	-	(128.5)
	-	(1,466.7)	(128.6)
Current liabilities			
Current Long Term Lease Liabilities	-	(2.8)	-
Trade and other payables	-	(97.2)	-
Loans and borrowings	-	(27.0)	-
Deferred revenue	-	(29.4)	-
Provisions	-	-	(1.4)
	-	(156.4)	(1.4)
Total liabilities	-	(1,623.1)	(130.0)

26 CLASSIFICATION OF FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS AND FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL LIABILITIES (CONTINUED)

The classification of financial assets and financial liabilities by accounting categorisation for the period ending 31 March 2021 was as follows:

	Financial assets at amortised cost £m	Financial liabilities at amortised cost £m	Non-financial assets & liabilities £m
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	-	-	2,704.4
Intangible assets	-	-	51.3
Investments	-	-	-
Right of use assets	-	-	13.5
	-	-	2,769.2
Current assets			
Inventories	-	-	18.4
Cash	0.1	-	-
Income tax	0.2	-	-
Trade and other receivables	49.4	-	1.7
	49.7	-	20.1
Total assets	49.7	-	2,789.3
Non-current liabilities			
Loans and borrowings	-	(810.3)	-
Long term lease liabilities	-	(9.8)	-
Provisions	-	-	-
Deferred revenue	-	(643.0)	-
Deferred tax liabilities	-	-	(100.6)
	-	(1,463.1)	(100.6)
Current liabilities			
Current long term lease liabilities	-	(4.0)	-
Trade and other payables	-	(82.4)	-
Loans and borrowings	-	(17.3)	-
Income tax liability	-	-	-
Deferred revenue	-	(27.9)	-
Provisions	-	-	(1.1)
	-	(131.6)	(1.1)
Total liabilities	-	(1,594.7)	(101.7)

26 CLASSIFICATION OF FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS AND FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL LIABILITIES (CONTINUED)

Company

The classification of financial assets and financial liabilities by accounting categorisation for the period ending 31 March 2022 was as follows:

	Financial assets at amortised cost £m	Financial liabilities at amortised cost £m	Non-financial assets & liabilities £m
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	-	-	2,800.5
Intangible assets	-	-	47.7
Investments	-	-	0.1
Right of use assets	-	-	11.1
	-	-	2,859.4
Current assets			
Inventories	-	-	19.9
Income tax	3.6		
Trade and other receivables	53.4	-	-
	57.0	-	19.9
Total assets	57.0	-	2,879.3
Non-current liabilities			
Loans and borrowings	-	(810.5)	-
Long Term Lease Liabilities	-	(8.5)	-
Provisions	-	-	(0.1)
Deferred revenue	-	(647.6)	-
Deferred tax liabilities	-	-	(128.5)
	-	(1,466.6)	(128.6)
Current liabilities			
Current Long Term Lease Liabilities	-	(2.8)	-
Trade and other payables	-	(97.3)	-
Loans and borrowings	-	(25.3)	-
Deferred revenue	-	(29.4)	-
Provisions	-	-	(1.4)
	-	(154.8)	(1.4)
Total liabilities	-	(1,621.4)	(130.0)

26 <u>CLASSIFICATION OF FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS AND FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL LIABILITIES (CONTINUED)</u>

The classification of financial assets and financial liabilities by accounting categorisation for the period ending 31 March 2021 was as follows:

	Financial assets at amortised cost £m	Financial liabilities at amortised cost £m	Non-financial assets & liabilities £m
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	-	-	2,704.5
Intangible assets	-	-	51.2
Investments	-	-	0.1
Right of use assets	-	-	13.5
	-	-	2,769.3
Current assets			
Inventories	-	-	18.4
Income tax asset	0.2	-	-
Trade and other receivables	49.4	-	1.6
	49.6	-	20.0
Total assets	49.6	-	2,789.3
Non-current liabilities			
Loans and borrowings	-	(810.3)	-
Long term lease liabilities	-	(9.8)	-
Provisions	-	-	-
Deferred revenue	-	(643.0)	-
Deferred tax liabilities	-	-	(100.6)
	-	(1,463.1)	(100.6)
Current liabilities			
Current long term lease liabilities	-	(4.0)	-
Trade and other payables	-	(82.4)	-
Loans and borrowings	-	(15.5)	-
Deferred revenue	-	(27.9)	-
Provisions	-	-	(1.1)
	-	(129.8)	(1.1)
Total liabilities	-	(1,592.9)	(101.7)

NORTHERN POWERGRID (NORTHEAST) PLC

27 RECONCILIATION OF LIABILITIES ARISING FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES

Net Debt Reconciliation:

Group

	At 1 April 2021 £m	Cash flows £m	New finance leases £m	Other changes £m	At 31 March 2022 £m
Cash and cash equivalents	**0.1**	**(0.1)**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Borrowings	**(827.6)**	**(9.7)**	**-**	**(0.3)**	**(837.6)**
Lease liabilities	**(13.8)**	**4.4**	**(1.9)**	**-**	**(11.3)**
	(841.3)	**(5.4)**	**(1.9)**	**(0.3)**	**(848.9)**

	At 1 April 2020 £m	Cash flows £m	New finance leases £m	Other changes £m	At 31 March 2021 £m
Cash and cash equivalents	-	0.1	-	-	0.1
Borrowings	(773.4)	(53.7)	-	(0.5)	(827.6)
Lease liabilities	(12.8)	5.4	(6.4)	-	(13.8)
	(786.2)	(48.0)	(6.4)	(0.5)	(841.3)

Company

	At 1 April 2021 £m	Cash flows £m	New finance leases £m	Other changes £m	At 31 March 2022 £m
Borrowings	**(825.8)**	**(9.8)**	**-**	**(0.2)**	**(835.8)**
Lease liabilities	**(13.8)**	**4.4**	**(1.9)**	**-**	**(11.3)**
	(839.6)	**(5.4)**	**(1.9)**	**(0.2)**	**(847.1)**

	At 1 April 2020 £m	Cash flows £m	New finance leases £m	Other changes £m	At 31 March 2021 £m
Borrowings	(771.7)	(54.1)	-	-	(825.8)
Lease liabilities	(12.8)	5.4	(6.4)	-	(13.8)
	(784.5)	(48.7)	(6.4)	-	(839.6)

Other changes relate to accrued interest and amortisation of financing fees and discounts.

28 FINANCIAL RISK REVIEW

This note presents information about the Company's exposure to financial risks and the Company's management of capital.

Capital management

The covenants associated with the 2035 bonds issued by Northern Electric Finance plc, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, include restrictions on the issuance of new indebtedness and the making of distributions dependent on the scale of the ratio of Senior Total Net Debt to Regulatory Asset Value ("RAV"). The definition of Senior Total Net Debt excludes any subordinated debt and any debt incurred on a non-recourse basis. In addition, it excludes interest payable, any fair value adjustments and unamortised issue costs.

The Senior Total Net Debt as at 31 March 2022 totalled £829.7m. Using the RAV value as at March 2022, as outlined by Ofgem in its electricity distribution price control financial model published in November 2021, and adjusting for the effects of movements in the value of the Retail Price Index gives an approximation for the RAV value as at 31 March 2022 of £1,584.9m. The Senior Total Net Debt to RAV ratio is therefore estimated at 52.4% (2021: 55.2%).

Credit risk

Credit risk refers to the risk that a counter party will default on its contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the Company. The Company has adopted a policy of only dealing with creditworthy counterparties. The Company's exposure and the credit ratings of its counterparties are continuously monitored and the aggregate value of transactions concluded is spread amongst approved counterparties. The carrying amount of financial assets recorded in the financial statements, which is net of impairment losses, represents the Company's maximum exposure to credit risk as no collateral or other credit enhancements are held.

The Company's income is primarily generated from use of system revenue from electricity suppliers; suppliers are credit checked by independent ratings agencies. Impaired income from DUoS will be recovered in future periods through system charges and is therefore of no material risk to the Company.

		Gross carrying amount	Loss allowance	Net carrying amount
2021	**Notes**	**£m**	**£m**	**£m**
		£m	**£m**	**£m**
Trade and other receivables	15	54.2	(3.1)	51.1
Equity investments at FVTPL	13	0.1	-	0.1
2022				
Trade and other receivables	15	**59.1**	**(5.7)**	**53.4**
Equity investments at FVTPL	13	**0.1**	**-**	**0.1**

28 FINANCIAL RISK REVIEW (CONTINUED)

For trade receivables the Company has applied the simplified approach in IFRS 9 to measure the loss allowance at lifetime ECL. The Company determines the expected credit losses on these items by using a provision matrix, estimated based on historical credit loss experience based on the past due status of the debtors, adjusted as appropriate to reflect current conditions and estimates of future economic conditions. Accordingly, the credit risk profile of these assets is presented based on their past due status in terms of the provision matrix. Note 15 includes further details on the loss allowance for these assets.

The carrying amount of the Company's financial assets at FVTPL as disclosed in Note 27 best represents their respective maximum exposure to credit risk. The Company holds no collateral over any of these balances.

Liquidity risk
The Group has access to a £100 million revolving credit facility provided by Barclays Bank plc, Lloyds Bank plc, HSBC UK Bank plc and Royal Bank of Canada. The Group entered into a new Facility Agreement in December 2021 for a period of three years, with two 1 year extension options. In addition, the Group has access to further short-term borrowing facilities provided by YEG and to a £19 million overdraft facility provided by Lloyds Bank plc, which is reviewed annually, these borrowings are repayable on demand.

At 31 March 2022, the Group had available £119.0m (2021: £94.0m) of undrawn committed borrowing facilities in respect of which all conditions precedent had been met.

Maturity analysis for financial liabilities

The following tables set out the remaining contractual maturities of the Company's financial liabilities by type.

Group

	Less than 3 months £m	**3 months To 1 year £m**	**1 to 5 Years £m**	**5+ Years £m**	**Total £m**
2022:					
Non-interest bearing	**51.5**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**51.5**
Variable interest rate liabilities	**9.7**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**9.7**
Fixed interest rate liability	**17.4**	**9.0**	**105.7**	**1,254.5**	**1,386.6**
	78.6	**9.0**	**105.7**	**1,254.5**	**1,447.8**
2021:					
Non-interest bearing	44.4	-	-	-	44.4
Fixed interest rate liability	17.4	9.0	105.7	1,280.9	1,413.0
	61.8	9.0	105.7	1,280.9	1,457.4

28 FINANCIAL RISK REVIEW (CONTINUED)

Company

	Less than 3 months £m	3 months To 1 year £m	1 to 5 Years £m	5+ Years £m	Total £m
2022:					
Non-interest bearing	**51.5**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**51.5**
Variable interest rate liability	**11.3**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**11.3**
Fixed interest rate liability	**12.4**	**14.1**	**105.9**	**1,266.5**	**1,398.9**
	75.2	**14.1**	**105.9**	**1,266.5**	**1,461.7**
2021:					
Non-interest bearing	44.4	-	-	-	44.4
Fixed interest rate liability	12.4	14.1	106.0	1,293	1,425.5
	56.8	**14.1**	**106.0**	**1,293**	**1,469.9**

Market risk

Short-term loans and inter-company short term loans is charged at a floating rate of interest based on Sonia plus a margin of 0.20% plus a credit adjustment spread, thus exposing the Group to cash flow interest rate risk. A 1% movement in interest rates would subject the Group to an approximate change in interest costs of £0.2m per year. This is considered an acceptable level of risk. All other loans are at fixed interest rates and expose the Group to fair value interest rate risk.

29 IMMEDIATE PARENT UNDERTAKING AND CONTROLLING PARTY

The immediate parent undertaking of Northern Powergrid (Northeast) plc is Northern Electric plc. The ultimate controlling party and ultimate parent undertaking of Northern Electric plc is Berkshire Hathaway, Inc., a Company incorporated in the United States of America.

Copies of the Group accounts to 31 December 2020 of Berkshire Hathaway, Inc. (the parent undertaking of the largest Group preparing Group accounts) which include Northern Powergrid (Northeast) plc and the Group accounts of Northern Electric plc, the smallest parent undertaking to prepare Group accounts in the United Kingdom, can both be obtained from the Company Secretary, Northern Powergrid Holdings Company, Lloyds Court, 78 Grey Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 6AF.

Relationship between entity and parents
The parent of the largest Group in which these financial statements are consolidated and the ultimate controlling party is Berkshire Hathaway, Inc, incorporated in United States.

The address of the registered office of Berkshire Hathaway, Inc is:
3555 Farnam Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68131.

The parent of the smallest Group in which these financial statements are consolidated is Northern Electric plc, incorporated in United Kingdom.

The address of the registered office of Northern Electric plc is:
Lloyds Court, 78 Grey Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 6AF