Registration number: 03530461

# **Bibby Financial Services Limited**

Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

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Chair	Jonathan Lewis
Chief executive officer	Jonathan Andrew
Other Directors	
	Geoffrey Bibby
	Theovinder Chatha
	Marion King
	Simon Perry
	Ian Ramsden
Company secretary	Bibby Bros. & Co. (Management) Limited
Registered office	3rd Floor Walker House Exchange Flags Liverpool L2 3YL
Ultimate parent undertaking	Bibby Line Group Limited
Auditor	Forvis Mazars LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor 30 Old Bailey London United Kingdom EC4M 7AU

# **Company Information**

## **Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

The Directors present their strategic report for the year ended 31 December 2024.

#### Our businesses

Bibby Financial Services ('BFS') is an international provider of working capital, cashflow, asset based funding and foreign exchange solutions for small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs).

A values-driven business committed to supporting our customers, colleagues, communities and the environment, we have over 8,000 business customers around the world and employ around 1,000 people in 26 offices across Europe and Asia.

BFS is a subsidiary of the Bibby Line Group (BLG). BLG was founded in Liverpool in 1807 and is one of the UK's oldest family-owned businesses, with almost 220 years' experience of providing personal, responsive and flexible customer solutions.

#### **Invoice Finance**

BFS's Invoice Finance division supports SMEs through the provision of Factoring and Invoice Discounting solutions, distributed through direct and intermediary channels. In addition to core invoice financing products, it provides specialist financing for SMEs in the construction and recruitment sectors, bad debt protection, and dedicated support for those trading internationally.

#### **Asset Finance**

BFS's Asset Finance business provides leasing, hire purchase and refinance solutions for a range of hard and soft assets, including commercial vehicles, construction plant, machinery and IT hardware and software.

#### Foreign Exchange (FX)

Bibby Foreign Exchange specialises in supporting SMEs trading internationally through the provision of spot conversions for the immediate purchase or sale of currency, or forward contracts to minimise the risk of exchange rate fluctuation.

#### Marine Finance

BFS Marine Finance provides specialist financing and support to the maritime sector across a wide range of vessel types, including wind farm service vessels, general purpose workboats, passenger vessels and ferries, survey vessels, tugs and barges, coastal ships, charter boats and hire boat fleets.

### Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### **Chief Executive's statement**

#### **Business highlights**

2024 was a year of significant progress, as we continued to focus on supporting our customers by leveraging the passion of our people, our growing product range, and international footprint to help them to navigate challenges and seize opportunities.

Though the global economy showed signs of resilience with steady but subdued growth in 2024, obstacles remain for small and medium sized enterprises around the world, including stubborn inflation, high energy costs, and supply chain disruption. We are proud to continue to play a vital role in helping businesses to overcome these challenges.

Since launching in 2021, our strategy, BFS 4.0, saw us focus on optimising our business model, a phase of work which has seen us upgrade several core platforms, launch 'Smart, Safe, Secure', our organisational resilience framework, and reduce costs whilst improving customer and colleague satisfaction. Underpinned by our 'Speak Up, Speak Out and Listen' culture, we have delivered strong and sustained improvements in underlying profitability.

In addition to operating improvements, BFS 4.0 has delivered growth through key strategic achievements including the acquisition of Aldermore's Working Capital Finance division, the launch of our Marine Finance division, and the creation of regional structures across Europe.

To build on this progress, we successfully evolved BFS 4.0, to launch our new strategy, BFS 5.0. BFS 5.0 focuses on accelerating our growth by empowering our people and leveraging technology to deliver sustainable value to our customers, shareholders and communities. We are confident it is the right time to make this change, and BFS 5.0 is already helping us harness the opportunities arising with changing global economic conditions, enabling us to play to our strengths, balancing growth and efficiency.

Our 2024 performance continues to demonstrate a return to sustainable profits. Income growth and cost discipline were offset by continued investment, inflation and higher bad debt charge resulting in Profit Before Tax of £11.2m (2023: £12.1m), marginally below the previous year. The higher bad debt charge represents a return to normalised levels after a period of relatively benign credit conditions, which contributed to our prior year profitability.

Combined with our focus on Customers and Colleagues, as part of our Bibby Line Group-wide Compass initiative, this resulted in good performance in 2024. Highlights include:

- A strengthened financial position with 5.5% growth in turnover to £188.6m (2023: £178.8m).

- Growth in debts factored of 5.4% to £11.8bn (2023: £11.2bn).

- Continued high levels of customer service, including a record high Net Promoter Score of +53 (2023: +40) and an 'Excellent' Trustpilot rating (4.7/5).

- Strong colleague engagement, with an overall score of 8.0 (0.2 above industry benchmark).

During the year, we focused on improving how we serve customers, completing a series of IT infrastructure improvements, including major re-platforming projects in France, Germany, Poland and Singapore, and for our Asset Finance and Bad Debt Protection offerings. In addition, we have begun to implement virtual bank accounts in Poland, the Netherlands, and the UK to enhance service for customers while optimising our cash management processes.

In 2025, we have launched a further review of our Customer Journeys to inform how we can further improve our customer experience while driving operational efficiencies. In line with the objectives of BFS 5.0, this ensures we are leveraging technology effectively, at the same time continuing to enhance the relationship-based service our customers value.

## Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

Our preference to using best-in-class systems from third party vendors continues to serve us well. We have made good progress with the implementation of Microsoft D365 as our customer relationship management system, enabling us to unify our approach to sales, marketing and customer service, and provide greater automation to reduce manual tasks. To maintain and accelerate this momentum, we are creating investment capacity in priority areas, focusing on long-term strategic growth, harnessing cost-effective technology, data and Artificial Intelligence (AI) to deliver outstanding customer experiences.

We remain well capitalised, and the renegotiation of our UK securitisation and pan-Eurasian facilities ensure we have adequate headroom to support our long-term growth ambitions. We maintain strong relationships with our funders through regular dialogue regarding our strategy and performance.

Our people remain at the heart of what we do and BFS 5.0 is focused on further empowering our teams to deliver while continuing to provide growth opportunities for all. We continue to embed our 'Speak Up, Speak Out and Listen' principles, and this has resulted in strong colleague engagement, enhanced development opportunities and a positive, values-based culture.

Our strong emphasis on enhancing customer experience and optimising technology, coupled with the diversification of our portfolio, has strengthened our resilience, enabling us to navigate the volatility of recent years. This approach, combined with the disciplined execution of our strategy, delivered robust financial performance in 2024. The Board and I are confident that BFS is well positioned for the future.

#### **Board changes**

There were no Board changes in 2024.

## Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### Strategic overview

#### Our purpose

We understand our long-term success is only possible via relentless customer centricity, delivered by a team with a clear and compelling purpose. This purpose is to help SMEs grow and thrive. We do this by having robust risk management, deep insights and enabling technology to deliver relationship-driven financial solutions to empower SMEs.

#### Our values

Our Bibby Family values underpin our purpose and strategy. These are to:

- Work Together
- Be Better
- Be Innovative
- Do The Right Thing
- Trust Each Other

#### Our strategy - BFS 5.0: Empowered people, enabled by technology

In 2024, we continued to deliver our strategy aligned to our purpose, values and growth ambition.

Since launching in 2021, BFS 4.0 saw us focus on optimising our business model, a phase of work which has seen us replace several core platforms, move to an evergreen technology suite, reduce costs, improve customer and colleague satisfaction, and to continue to improve underlying profitability.

In 2024, we developed BFS 5.0. It is a clear strategy to deliver revenue and profit growth, further improve cost efficiency, enhance customer service and create long-term shareholder value. We have three strategic drivers that help us to fulfil our purpose:

- 1. Harness technology, data and AI to deliver outstanding, scalable customer experiences.
- 2. Empower our people, enabling colleagues to thrive.
- 3. Provide the right products to our targeted customers.

Underpinned by our values and Compass commitments, BFS 5.0 sets out our ambition for how to use our strengths and unique international footprint for greater growth, and to continue to operate the business in a sustainable way.

#### Our Compass - A family business known for creating a better future together

Project Compass is our Bibby Line Group-wide commitment to be a sustainable and resilient business. It is the foundation of our strategic implementation driving us to improve outcomes for stakeholders by focusing on four strategic pillars: People, Customer, Community and Environment.

#### People

To create long-term value for all stakeholders, we remain focused on fostering an inclusive, healthy and rewarding environment to enable us to attract, retain and develop the best talent. We recognise our people are the most important driver of our success and we are committed to helping them to grow and develop, and to shape BFS's future.

### Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

At the heart of our people strategy, Together We Grow, is our 'Speak Up, Speak Out and Listen' culture and these principles provide colleagues with tangible influence on the direction of the business. Developing colleagues, organisation and culture is a key enabler for the Group and the BFS Board seeks to put colleagues at the heart of the business, working together to create safe and inclusive environments where colleagues can thrive, grow and make a difference.

Outputs from our Peakon colleague engagement platform, and Colleague Voice - our quarterly people forum - directly inform decision making at global leadership and local levels, and this is driving results in four areas:

1. Engagement - we strive to create a compelling colleague experience, which inspires colleagues to deliver results.

2. Active Inclusion - we are committed to becoming a truly inclusive place to work and we strive to make continuous improvements which create equitable opportunities for all colleagues.

3. Health and Wellbeing - we understand colleagues who have time and resources to prioritise wellbeing are more productive and happier at work, so we frequently promote the importance of good health and wellbeing.

4. Learning and Development - we are committed to the training, retaining and growing of our teams so that all colleagues can thrive during their time with us.

Since 2021, our colleague engagement score has increased by 0.4, reaching 8.0 in 2024, which places us 0.2 above the industry benchmark when adjusted for demographic variations such as age and location. While a strong achievement, we are committed to improving this further and in 2024 we delivered a series of initiatives to improve outcomes for colleagues, including:

• A comprehensive review of our Talent and Succession planning, providing greater development opportunities.

• Strengthening our inclusive resourcing practice, including the launch of inclusive recruitment guidance and People Manager training, aligned to our Active Inclusion plans.

• Promoting Learning and Development initiatives such as 'Learning at Work Week' and 'National Apprenticeship Week'.

• The launch of a Health & Wellbeing Guide, including workshops for People Managers to provide greater support to colleagues in improving mental and physical health.

• Relaunching the Bibby Go Joe challenge to promote the benefits of physical health and partnering with a new occupational health supplier to assist People Managers and their teams.

• Raising awareness of our network of trained Mental Health First Aiders, and EveryMind platform.

• Advocating the use of our Employee Assistance Programme, in addition to offering regular financial awareness webinars to promote financial well-being.

#### Customer

BFS is a strong and sustainable business that puts customers at the heart of what we do, and we aim to operate in accordance with our values at all times, helping our valued SME customers to grow and thrive.

During 2024, we invested in several areas to enhance our customer experience, including significant improvements to IT systems in France, Germany, Poland and Singapore, and for our Asset Finance and Bad Debt Protection offerings. We began to implement virtual bank accounts in Poland, the Netherlands and the UK to augment service for customers while optimising cash management processes. Additionally, we launched our Cashflow Advance product in the UK to provide additional financial support to customers in periods of high growth with high working capital demands.

New business volumes remain strong. Across our international invoice finance divisions, we achieved year-on-year sales growth, and throughout 2024, we won industry awards in recognition of our support for SMEs, including Factoring and Invoice Discounter of the Year at the National Association of Commercial Finance Broker awards in the UK, Trustworthy Brand 2024 in Poland, and nominations for the FS Awards in the Republic of Ireland. Subsequent to the year end, BFS was named Best Factoring & Invoice Discounting Provider at the 2025 Business Moneyfacts Awards in the UK.

## Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

Our relentless focus on customer-centricity is working. In 2024 we achieved a record high NPS of +53, in addition to maintaining our 'Excellent' Trustpilot rating (4.7/5). Both reflect the dedication of our teams in providing excellent service to our customers.

Demonstrating this customer-centric approach was our second annual Customer First Week, which saw colleagues from across the group collaborate to promote the importance of this customer focus; inform and inspire colleagues to deliver the best experience; and share learnings of customer innovation across different markets. Following the year end, we have celebrated our third Customer First Week, which saw us redouble our efforts.

We continue to listen to and learn from customers via several mechanisms as part of our comprehensive Customer Feedback process, including onboarding surveys for new customers, twice-yearly NPS surveys, and our Customer Forum, providing us with qualitative insight to support continuous improvement.

As part of BFS 5.0, The Board recognises the opportunities presented by AI in improving how we support customers, while continuing to offer excellent relationship-based service.

#### Community

We empower colleagues to donate time to local communities through our 'Donate a Day' initiative. In 2024, this resulted in almost 1,200 days donated across the whole BLG Group, including an Age UK Christmas lunch which appeared on BBC News, local partnerships with Ronald McDonald House that serve to improve the health and wellbeing of children, volunteering initiatives with charitable food redistributors and foodbanks, and donating time to support regional hospices.

Our teams are passionate about social mobility, and our schools outreach programme sees us partner with schools in under-privileged locations to provide support through mentoring, careers fairs and bespoke events. In 2024, we conducted mock interviews with over 300 students at Fullhurst Community College in Leicester and extended this support to North Oxfordshire Academy in Banbury.

Colleagues are also able to dedicate their time to fundraising for charities of their choice, with thousands of pounds being donated each year. Such efforts are bolstered by Bibby Line Group's match-funding incentive.

#### Environment

Our Compass initiative is directing us to become a more sustainable business. We are focused on achieving our group-wide goal of Net Zero carbon emissions by 2040 by:

- Decarbonising our assets
- Reducing the use of single use plastic
- 100% renewable energy

Since launching our strategy in 2021, we have made strong progress. We have achieved a reduction in Scope 1 and Scope 2 carbon emissions through the procurement of renewable sources of energy across our office network and changes to our company owned car policy within the UK.

Such changes have resulted in reduced numbers of company vehicles owned or leased by BFS, as well as moving company cars to be exclusively EV or PHEV powered. As of August 2024, BFS UK does not own or lease diesel or petrol vehicles. Furthermore, our refreshed Travel Policy encourages more sustainable, lower emissions travel, among colleagues.

Following work undertaken as part of our 'Plastic Free in 2023' initiative, we maintained the elimination of single-use plastics throughout our operations by adopting sustainable alternatives in our supply chains.

## Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### Outlook

The macroeconomic outlook remains uncertain with geopolitical tensions and downside risk of trade friction and supply chain disruption prevalent. Though inflation has declined from its peak, it remains high, impacted by elevated energy prices and actual and potential tariffs.

Global growth is predicted to slow, however, we are seeing some tentative signs of consumer and business confidence returning.

2025 will undoubtedly remain challenging for our customers, however, while we remain alert to the challenges posed by trade friction and global economic conditions, we believe this presents BFS with an opportunity to grow our support for those trading domestically and internationally.

Our resilience and ongoing discipline, combined with the continued execution of our BFS 5.0 strategy, provides us with momentum to continue to deliver sustainable value for all stakeholders in 2025 and beyond.

## Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### **Financial performance**

Key financial and other performance indicators during the year in respect of consolidated performance of continuing operations were as follows:

	Unit	2024	2023
Debts factored	£m	11,825	11,175
Average Funds advanced	£m	821	795
Turnover	£000	188,577	178,754
Cost of sales	£000	122,456	115,872
Interest payable and similar charges	£000	56,324	52,132
Profit before tax	£000	11,153	12,107

Demand for finance remained subdued in 2024 as macroeconomic and geopolitical conditions continued to impact SME confidence.

Despite this, debts factored increased by 5.8% to £11.8bn (2023: £11.2bn), with funds advanced increasing 3.3% to reach £821m (2023: £795m) by year end, which, along with higher interest rates, led to 5.5% growth in turnover to £188.6m during the year (2023: £178.8m).

Profit before tax was 7.9% lower than the year prior at £11.2m (2023: £12.1m), primarily due to income growth and cost discipline being offset by bad debt.

Disciplined risk management and robust underwriting remain fundamental to our approach. As economic challenges applied pressure to SME customers with global insolvencies growing, bad debt impairments as a proportion of average funds advanced increased to 1.0% (2023: 0.5%), reflecting a return to normalised levels following a period of benign credit conditions.

Cost of sales increased to £122.5m (2023: £115.9m) reflecting inflation and continued investment across the group.

Interest payable and similar charges increased to £56.3m (2023: £52.1m) reflecting higher cost of funds, principally due to higher interest rates in our markets.

During the year, we reduced our total funding capacity to  $\pounds 1.1$ bn to match expectation of SME borrowing behaviour (2023:  $\pounds 1.3$ bn). We renewed our Pan EurAsian facility for a further two years to March 2027 in addition to securing new funding for our Marine Finance business. Subsequent to year-end, BFS has renewed its UK securitisation facility to 2028.

The group maintains adequate levels of capital, funding capacity and liquidity with sufficient headroom in key funding covenants, underpinning our ability to support the developing needs of SMEs.

We remain confident that our resilient business model, coupled with the strong experience of our colleagues, will respond well to the challenges and opportunities that may arise in 2025.

## Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### Risk management

#### Our approach

Active, prudent and robust risk management helps us to achieve our strategy, serve our customers and grow our business sustainably. Underpinned by our values, purpose and culture, responsible practices and firm processes are central to how our global businesses operate.

We take a long-term view of risk, and our strategy remains focused on risk mitigation, rather than elimination. Overseen by our Global Risk Team on behalf of the Board, our risk governance strategy is based on our 'three lines of defence model':

• Ownership of risk at a business level

• Central management support and board oversight

• Independent review

This framework protects our profitability and ensures we operate responsibly, ensuring key risks facing individual businesses or the Group are escalated in a timely manner.

The third line of defence, independent review, includes our internal audit function and the BFS Audit Committee which regularly reviews and challenges BFS's risk management controls, processes and systems.

Though bad debt impairments increased due to mounting pressure on SMEs around the world in 2024, credit risk was robustly managed by our Operational and Central Risk teams. Bad debt was 1.0% (2023: 0.5%) of average funds advanced during the year.

Parts of the BFS Group are regulated by the following bodies:

• **Bibby Leasing Ltd** is authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) for consumer credit and consumer hire.

• **Bibby Financial Services GmbH** is authorised by the Bunesanstalt fur Finanzdienstleistungsaufsicht (BaFin) for factoring business.

• **Bibby Factors France S.A.** is authorised by the Banque de France (through the Autorité de Contrôle Prudentiel et de Résolution) as a "societe de financement".

• Bibby Foreign Exchange Ltd is also authorised as a payments institution by the FCA to conduct Forex business in the UK.

In the UK, BFS is also a member of UK Finance, and complies with the Invoice Finance and Asset Based Lending Code (2018) and Standards Framework.

Along with meeting regulatory requirements, BFS operates in an evolving, self-regulated market and continues to proactively strengthen standards to ensure that robust quality assurance and risk management processes are embedded at all levels of the organisation. Delivering excellent client service is central to these processes as BFS develops and grows. BFS therefore endeavours to manage operations responsibly and conduct business in an ethical and transparent way.

## Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### Principal risks and uncertainties

We continue to closely monitor new and existing risks and ensure appropriate mitigants are in place. The table below sets out the principal risks that may impact BFS's ability to deliver its strategy over the coming year. This should not be considered as a complete list of risks the business may face.

Risk	Description	Risk Outlook vs prior year
Business Risk	The risk of lower than anticipated financial performance, from external factors including a deteriorating macroeconomic environment, or internally led factors such as implementation of our strategy. Despite the challenging external environment, BFS has a proven and resilient business model that is counter cyclical, a clear strategic plan that is being executed, and strong support from shareholders and funders. BFS continually re-forecasts its performance outlook, considering risks & opportunities and prevailing market conditions that are reviewed regularly by the Executive Leadership Team.	Unchanged
Credit Risk	The risk of financial loss in relation to an advance made by a BFS business unit, particularly during times of economic stress. BFS closely sets and monitors credit exposures in line with credit policy and Board risk appetite, with escalating governance and approvals for larger advances, and credit insurance in place where appropriate. BFS has a well-diversified portfolio of clients and debtors, and concentration of exposure remains low, with oversight from an experienced central Risk function.	Unchanged
Market Risk	The risk of financial loss through unhedged or mismatched asset and liability positions that are sensitive to changes in interest rates or currencies. BFS advances funds to clients on a largely matched basis, aligned in currency and underlying base reference rate terms which are monitored through the BFS Asset & Liability Committee (ALCO).	Unchanged
Liquidity, Funding and Capital Risk	The risk that BFS is unable to meet its financial obligations as they fall due or is only able to do so at excessive cost, is unable to raise funds at an acceptable price or timely manner or has insufficient capital to operate effectively and support strategic goals. BFS extended its Pan EurAsian facility in 2024, and subsequent to the year-end, BFS has renewed its UK securitisation facility to 2028. Liquidity oversight and governance is provided from a long-established ALCO and highly experienced Treasury function. A good capital position has been further enhanced by our continued profitability. Strong funding capacity was maintained in 2024, and covenant headroom remains appropriate, facilitating both support of our clients and the liquidity requirements of BFS.	Unchanged
Operationa Risk	I The risk of loss resulting from inadequate internal processes or people. Mitigated by well-established group policies and processes, compliance training, attracting & retaining high quality staff, business continuity planning, and investing in technology all assist the operational resiliance of BES	Unchanged

## Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

Cyber The risk of financial, reputational, operational, and regulatory related impacts of the Unchanged **Risk** constantly evolving threat of cyber-attacks. Despite the increase in sophistication of cyber attacks, our resilience in this regard was further enhanced in 2024 through continued investment in technology, capability and specialist resource and therefore the risk outlook remains unchanged versus the prior year. As part of our Smart, Safe, Secure organisational safety programme, we continue to test and bolster our emergency response planning to provide enhanced support for customers, colleagues and partners.

#### Section 172(1) statement

The Board of Directors of BFS consider, both individually and together, that they have acted in the way they consider, in good faith, would be most likely to promote success of the Group for the benefit of its members as a whole (having regard to the stakeholders and matters set out in s172 (1)(a-f) of the Companies Act) in the decisions taken during the year ended 31 December 2024.

The Directors give careful consideration to the factors set out in s172 (1)(a-f) of the Companies Act in discharging their duties. The stakeholders we consider in this regard are our colleagues, our clients, our shareholders, our funders and the local communities in which we are located.

The Board recognises that building strong relationships with our stakeholders will help us to deliver our strategy in line with our long-term values and operate the business in a sustainable way.

#### Stakeholder engagement

The Board is committed to effective engagement with all stakeholders. The Board and its Committees regularly receive reports from management on issues concerning clients, the environment, communities, suppliers, colleagues, funders and shareholders, which they consider in their discussions and their decision-making process under section 172.

The Board and its Committees undertake detailed reviews to further develop their understanding of key issues impacting all stakeholders. In addition to this, the Board seeks to understand the interests and views of the Group's stakeholders by engaging with them directly as appropriate.

Project Compass reinforces our commitment to responsible business, and focuses on Colleagues, Customers, Communities and the Environment, as detailed on pages 5-7 of the Strategic Report.

Other key stakeholders include our shareholders and funders.

#### Shareholders

The Board regularly receives feedback from shareholders, principally via members of the Board who are also members of the Bibby Line Group (parent company) Board. This gives the shareholders full visibility and inclusion in the BFS business. Additionally, the Executive Directors attend an annual strategy day to discuss the BFS strategy, operating plan and long-term financial performance with the Bibby Line Group Board. During the year, the Company paid a dividend of  $\pounds 10m$  (2023:  $\pounds 10m$ ), and a further  $\pounds 10m$  after the year end.

## Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### Funders

We maintain strong relationships with and support from our key funders and engage regularly with them to update and discuss our strategy and financial performance. We continue to strengthen these relationships, demonstrated by our Marine Finance facility secured in 2024, and the renewal of our Pan EurAsian facility for a further two years to March 2027. After the year-end, we have extended our UK securitisation facility for a further three years to May 2028, in addition to securing two new facilities to support our Marine Finance business, including a £20m facility with the British Business Investments part of British Business Bank.

This ongoing engagement, coupled with the continued improvement in our financial performance provides confidence in our strategic implementation, and we look forward to maintaining existing partnerships and building new relationships in 2025.

BFS's total funding capacity of £1.1bn ensures we remain well funded to support our customers.

#### Summary

2024 was a year of solid performance, as we continued to focus on supporting our customers and colleagues, helping them to navigate challenges and cease emerging opportunities. We have a clear and compelling strategy to accelerate our growth, enhance customer service and create long-term value for all stakeholders.

Our resilience, combined with our positive culture and the continued execution of our strategy provide us with solid foundations to continue to deliver sustainable value to our customers, shareholders and communities in 2025.

Approved by the Board on 15 May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Jonathan Andrew - Chief Executive Officer

## Directors' Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

The Directors present their report and the audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

#### **Directors of the Group**

The directors who held office during the year and thereafter were as follows:

Jonathan Lewis - Chair, Chief Executive Officer of Bibby Line Group

Jonathan Andrew - Chief Executive Officer

Geoffrey Bibby - Non Executive Director, family member and Bibby Line Group Director

Theovinder Chatha - Chief Financial Officer

Marion King - Independent Non Executive Director

Simon Perry - Independent Non Executive Director and Chair of Audit Committee

Ian Ramsden - Chief Risk Officer

#### **Composition of the Board**

The Board is comprised of individuals selected to provide the optimal balance of independent governance, relevant experience, and expertise, alongside representation of the Bibby family interests, Bibby Line Group as shareholder, and key BFS executives.

#### Directors' liabilities

The Company has made qualifying third party indemnity provisions for the benefit of its Directors which were in place during the year and remain in force at the date of this report. Similar provisions are in place for directors of all subsidiaries within the Group.

#### **Going concern**

The Directors have a reasonable expectation that the company and the Group have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for a period of at least 12 months from the date of this report. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. In reaching this assessment, the Directors considered the financial statements, the Group's budget, operating plan and updated forecast scenarios. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies in Note 2 of the Financial Statements.

#### Matters included in Strategic Report

In accordance with s414C(11) of the Companies Act 2006, included within the Strategic report is information relating to the future development of the business and the principal risks and uncertainties of the business, which would otherwise be required by Schedule 7 of the 'Large and Medium-sized Companies and Groups (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008' to be contained in the Directors' report.

The Strategic report, specifically the s172 statement, includes information the following:

i) how the Directors have engaged with employees; and

ii) how the Directors have had regard to employee interests, and the effect of that regard, including on the principal decisions taken by the Group during the financial year.

The Strategic report contains information on how the Directors have had regard to the need to foster the Group's business relationships with key stakeholders, and the effect of that regard.

The Strategic report also contains information on the Group's policy for employment of disabled people, the action taken to engage with employees and information on the Groups emissions and energy consumption.

## **Directors' Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)**

#### Stakeholders

As outlined in the Strategic Report, we proactively seek to build and maintain strong relationships with our stakeholders. Our main stakeholders comprise our people, customers, partners, funders and the communities in which we operate. Understanding their views is a key part of managing our business and we actively engage with them on a regular basis to listen to their views and concerns and gather feedback on our activities.

#### **Corporate responsibility**

Our approach to corporate responsibility has been integral to how we operate for forty years, enabling us to operate and grow in a responsible and ethical manner, and contribute positively to the communities around us. Although not a requirement to report on Corporate Governance, BFS is committed to good corporate governance with the Directors having regard to the Wates Corporate Governance Principles.

In 2024, as covered in the Strategic Report, Project Compass has further accelerated our progress with Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). The four points of Compass are People, Environment, Community and Customer, the first three of which now form our CSR and Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) strategies. BFS is exempt from detailed Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR) disclosures as its energy and carbon information is included in the consolidated group report of its parent undertaking, Bibby Line Group Limited, which prepares group-level disclosures.

Core to the Directors delivering on our responsibilities is continuing to grow BFS's sustainable profitability and linking together the various initiatives outlined in the Strategic Report and here to drive long term value for all stakeholders.

#### Social and community issues

BFS recognise that we serve a broader purpose. Our business nurtures a 'Speak up, Speak Out and Listen' culture, which is respectful, open to feedback, inclusive, transparent, continually learning and accountable. All colleagues are expected to act ethically and responsibly, and to contribute positively to society. Our response to social and community issues is covered in the Strategic report, within the Compass section.

#### Dividends

During the year, interim dividends totalling  $\pounds 10,000,000$  were paid (2023:  $\pounds 10,000,000$ ). This comprised of a dividend of  $\pounds 5,000,000$  paid in February 2024 and a further dividend of  $\pounds 5,000,000$  paid in July 2024. No final dividend has been announced or will be paid in respect of the year ended 31 December 2024.

#### Non adjusting events after the financial period

Dividend:

In January 2025, the Directors recommended and paid a dividend of  $\pounds 10,000,000$ . This dividend has not been recognised as a liability in the financial statements.

UK Securitisation renewal:

In April 2025, BFS agreed an extension to its UK Securitisation facility for three years ending in May 2028.

## **Directors' Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)**

#### Disclosure of information to the auditor

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

#### **Reappointment of auditors**

Forvis Mazars LLP are external independent auditors to the Company, Forvis Mazars LLP has expressed its willingness to continue in office and the Board recommends that Forvis Mazars LLP be re-appointed as the Company's independent auditors.

Approved by the Board on 15 May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

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Jeanette Hampson

Bibby Bros. & Co. (Management) Limited Company secretary

Duly Authorised Signatory For and on behalf of Bibby Bros. & Co. (Management) Limited, Secretary

## **Directors' Responsibilities Statement**

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

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law), including Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland. 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 Group and Company and of the profit or loss of the Group and Company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business.

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

## Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Bibby Financial Services Limited

#### **Report on the audit of the financial statements**

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Bibby Financial Services Limited (the 'Parent Company') and its subsidiaries (the 'Group') for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the Consolidated Profit and Loss Account, the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Consolidated Balance Sheet, the Company Balance Sheet, the Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity, the Company Statement of Changes in Equity, the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's and the Parent Company's affairs as at 31 December 2024 and of the Group's profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

#### Basis for opinion

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

#### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

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

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Group's and the Parent Company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements 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.

# Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Bibby Financial Services Limited (continued)

#### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report and consolidated financial statements, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the 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 financial statements 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.

#### **Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

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

- the information given in the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

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

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the Group and the Parent Company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Strategic Report or the Directors' Report.

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

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

# Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Bibby Financial Services Limited (continued)

#### **Responsibilities of directors**

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 17, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

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.

Based on our understanding of the Group and the Parent Company and their industry, we considered that non-compliance with the following laws and regulations might have a material effect on the financial statements: employment regulation, health and safety regulation and anti-money laundering regulation.

To help us identify instances of non-compliance with these laws and regulations, and in identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect to non-compliance, our procedures included, but were not limited to:

• Inquiring of management and, where appropriate, those charged with governance, as to whether the Group and the Parent Company is in compliance with laws and regulations, and discussing their policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations;

• Inspecting correspondence, if any, with relevant licensing or regulatory authorities;

• Communicating identified laws and regulations to the engagement team and remaining alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout our audit; and

• Considering the risk of acts by the Group and the Parent company which were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the preparation of the financial statements, such as tax legislation and the Companies Act 2006.

# Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Bibby Financial Services Limited (continued)

In addition, we evaluated the directors' and management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements, including the risk of management override of controls, and determined that the principal risks related to posting manual journal entries to manipulate financial performance, management bias through judgements and assumptions in significant accounting estimates, in particular in relation to, revenue recognition (which we pinpointed to the occurrence and accuracy assertions), impairment of financial assets (where we pinpointed to the valuation assertion) and significant one-off or unusual transactions.

Our audit procedures in relation to fraud included but were not limited to:

• Making enquiries of the directors and management on whether they had knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;

- Gaining an understanding of the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud;
- Discussing amongst the engagement team the risks of fraud; and
- Addressing the risks of fraud through management override of controls by performing journal entry testing.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of irregularities including fraud rests with management. As with any audit, there remained a risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal controls.

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

#### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

David Allen (Senior Statutory Auditor) For and on behalf of Forvis Mazars LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor 30 Old Bailey London United Kingdom EC4M 7AU

15 May 2025

	Note	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000
Turnover	3	188,577	178,754
Cost of sales	-	(122,456)	(115,872)
Operating profit	4 _	66,121	62,882
Other interest receivable and similar income	8	1,356	1,357
Interest payable and similar charges	9	(56,324)	(52,132)
	=	(54,968)	(50,775)
Profit before tax		11,153	12,107
Taxation	10	(1,085)	(1,941)
Profit for the financial year	_	10,068	10,166

## Consolidated Profit and Loss Account for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

# Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000
Profit for the year Unrealised foreign exchange losses on net investment in subsidiaries	10,068 (2,084)	10,166 (304)
Total comprehensive profit for the year attributable to equity shareholders	7,984	9,862

## (Registration number: 03530461) Consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	12	3,009	3,322
Tangible assets	13	2,631	3,699
		5,640	7,021
Current assets			
Debtors	15	1,058,024	1,043,002
Cash at bank and in hand	14	37,804	46,405
		1,095,828	1,089,407
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	16	(714,013)	(263,745)
Net current assets		381,815	825,662
Total assets less current liabilities		387,455	832,683
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	16	(252,474)	(695,686)
Net assets		134,981	136,997
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	17	5,000	5,000
Profit and loss account		129,981	131,997
Shareholders' funds		134,981	136,997

Approved and authorised by the Board on 15 May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

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Theovinder Chatha - Chief Financial Officer Director

## (Registration number: 03530461) Company Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000
Fixed assets			
Investments	11	77,850	77,850
Intangible assets	12	389	435
Tangible assets	13	1,434	2,060
		79,673	80,345
Current assets			
Debtors	15	38,817	37,300
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	16	(97,890)	(102,711)
Net current liabilities		(59,073)	(65,411)
Total assets less current liabilities		20,600	14,934
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	16		(164)
Net assets		20,600	14,770
Capital and reserves			
Called up share capital	17	5,000	5,000
Profit and loss account		15,600	9,770
Shareholders' funds		20,600	14,770

The Company profit for the year as reported in the Company Statement of Changes in Equity is £15,830,000 (2023: loss of £8,179,000).

Approved and authorised by the Board on 15 May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

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Theovinder Chatha - Chief Financial Officer Director

## Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

	Profit and loss		
	Share capital £ 000	account £ 000	Total £ 000
At 1 January 2024	5,000	131,997	136,997
Profit for the year	-	10,068	10,068
Other comprehensive expense		(2,084)	(2,084)
Total comprehensive income	-	7,984	7,984
Dividends		(10,000)	(10,000)
At 31 December 2024	5,000	129,981	134,981

	Share capital £ 000	Profit and loss account £ 000	Total £ 000
At 1 January 2023	62,600	74,535	137,135
Profit for the year	-	10,166	10,166
Other comprehensive expense		(304)	(304)
Total comprehensive income	-	9,862	9,862
Dividends	-	(10,000)	(10,000)
Share capital reduction	(57,600)	57,600	
At 31 December 2023	5,000	131,997	136,997

## **Company Statement of Changes in Equity for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

		Profit and loss	
	Share capital £ 000	account £ 000	Total £ 000
At 1 January 2024	5,000	9,770	14,770
Profit for the year	-	15,830	15,830
Dividends	<u> </u>	(10,000)	(10,000)
At 31 December 2024	5,000	15,600	20,600

		Profit and loss	
	Share capital £ 000	account £ 000	Total £ 000
At 1 January 2023	62,600	(29,651)	32,949
Loss for the year	-	(8,179)	(8,179)
Dividends	-	(10,000)	(10,000)
Share capital reduction	(57,600)	57,600	-
At 31 December 2023	5,000	9,770	14,770

## Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Profit for the year Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items		10,068	10,166
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of fixed assets	4	1,935	3,734
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	12, 13	3	195
Interest receivable and similar income	8	(1,356)	(1,357)
Interest payable and similar charges	9	56,324	52,132
Taxation	10	1,085	1,941
Working capital adjustments		68,059	66,811
Increase in trade debtors		(24,621)	(87,478)
(Decrease)/increase in trade creditors		(5,816)	44,200
Cash generated by operations	-	37,622	23,533
Corporation tax paid	-	(1,484)	(1,831)
Net cash flow from operating activities	-	36,138	21,702
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		1,260	1,357
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets		(55)	(479)
Acquisition of intangible fixed assets	-	(600)	(2,765)
Net cash flows from investing activities	-	605	(1,887)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Interest paid		(56,325)	(52,836)
Proceeds from / (repayment of) draw down of existing borrow facilities	ving	21,484	42,010
Decrease / (increase) in loan made to parent company		55	(1,153)
Repayments of finance leases		(416)	(516)
Dividends paid	-	(10,000)	(10,000)
Net cash flows from financing activities	-	(45,202)	(22,495)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(8,459)	(2,680)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		32,252	35,516
Effect of exchange rate fluctuations on cash held	-	(763)	(584)
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	14 _	23,030	32,252

The notes on pages 29 to 60 form an integral part of these financial statements. Page 28

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

#### 1 General information

Bibby Financial Services Limited is a private company limited by shares and incorporated in England under the Companies Act 2006, registration number 3530461. The address of its registered office and principal place of business is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL.

The company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Bibby Line Group Limited. Bibby Line Group Limited is the immediate and ultimate parent, and is the parent undertaking of the smallest and largest group which consolidates these financial statements for which the company is a member. The ultimate controlling party is disclosed in the financial statements of Bibby Line Group Limited. Copies of all financial statements can be obtained from Bibby Line Group Limited, 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL (www.bibbylinegroup.co.uk).

#### 2 Accounting policies

#### 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 in each of the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

#### **Statement of compliance**

The group and individual financial statements of Bibby Financial Services Limited have been prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102, and the Companies Act 2006.

#### **Basis of preparation**

These consolidated and separate financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention, as modified by the recognition of certain financial assets and liabilities measured at fair value. The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the group and company accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements, are disclosed on pages 38 and 39. The company has taken advantage of the exemption in section 408 of the Companies Act from presenting its individual profit and loss account.

#### Exemptions for qualifying entities under FRS102

FRS 102 allows a qualifying entity certain disclosure exemptions, subject to conditions. The company has taken advantage of the following exemptions in its individual financial statements:

- from preparing a statement of cash flows, on the basis that it is a qualifying entity and the consolidated statement of cash flows, included in these financial statements, includes the company's cash flows;

- from disclosing the company key management personnel compensation, as required by FRS 102 paragraph 33.7.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### **Business combinations**

Business combinations are accounted for by applying the purchase method. The cost of a business combination is the fair value of the consideration given, liabilities incurred or assumed and of equity instruments issued plus the costs directly attributable to the business combination. Where control is achieved in stages the cost is the consideration at the date of each transaction.

On acquisition of a business, fair values are attributed to the identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities unless the fair value cannot be measured reliably, in which case the value is incorporated in goodwill. Intangible assets are only recognised separately from goodwill where they are separable and arise from contractual or other legal rights. Where the fair value of contingent liabilities cannot be reliably measured they are disclosed on the same basis as other contingent liabilities.

Goodwill recognised represents the excess of the fair value and directly attributable costs of the purchase consideration over the fair values to the group's interest in the identifiable net assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities acquired.

Goodwill is amortised over its expected useful life which is estimated to be five years. Goodwill is assessed for impairment when there are indicators of impairment and any impairment is charged to the income statement. No reversals of impairment are recognised.

#### **Basis of consolidation**

The group consolidated financial statements include the financial statements of the company and all of its subsidiary undertakings together with the group's share of the results of associates made up to the year end. A subsidiary is an entity controlled by the group. Control is the power to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities. Where the group owns less than 50% of the voting powers of an entity but controls the entity by virtue of an agreement with other investors which give it control of the financial and operating policies of the entity, it accounts for that entity as a subsidiary. Where a subsidiary has different accounting policies to the group, adjustments are made to those subsidiary financial statements to apply the group's accounting policies when preparing the consolidated financial statements. An associate is an entity, being neither a subsidiary nor a joint venture, in which the group holds a long-term interest and where the group has significant influence.

The group considers that it has significant influence where it has the power to participate in the financial and operating decisions of the associate. The results of associates are accounted for using the equity method of accounting. Any subsidiary undertakings or associates sold or acquired during the year are included up to, or from, the dates of change of control or change of significant influence respectively. Where control of a subsidiary is lost, the gain or loss is recognised in the consolidated income statement. The cumulative amounts of any exchange differences on translation, recognised in equity, are not included in the gain or loss on disposal and are transferred to retained earnings. The gain or loss but excludes those amounts that are not required to be reclassified to profit or loss but excludes those amounts that are not required to be reclassified.

All intra-group transactions, balances, income and expenses are eliminated on consolidation. Adjustments are made to eliminate the profit or loss arising on transactions with associates to the extent of the group's interest in the entity.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### Going concern

In reaching their view on the preparation of the financial statements on a going concern basis, the Directors are required to consider whether the Company and Group can continue in operational existence for a period of at least 12 months from the date of this report. The continuing uncertain economic conditions present increased risks for all businesses and the Directors have taken account of these events as well as conflicts in Russia/Ukraine and the Middle East and the evolving global tariff situation in the going concern assessment.

The Group is funded through wholesale borrowings (principally securitisation facilities) and cash reserves, which at 31 December 2024 stood at £742.5m and £37.8m respectively. The facilities are available for at least the next 12 months and although they contain various financial covenants to ensure availability of funding for new business, the securitised nature of the facilities is such that in the event of a covenant breach they can enter into amortisation and will not be withdrawn immediately.

The Directors have carefully considered its principal risks which includes an assessment of any uncertainty on the viability of the Group's business model and the extent to which it may affect the preparation of the financial statements on a going concern basis. The Group is continually forecasting its financial performance under a range of scenarios assessing the impact on profitability, funding, liquidity, funding covenants and capital position. These scenarios and stress tests are based on both historical experience and, with reference to external guidance, recognising the different market and geographic territories in which the Group operates.

Based on these assessments, the Directors consider that the Company and the Group both maintain an appropriate level of capital and liquidity, sufficient to meet the demands of the business and the requirements which might arise in stressed circumstances. Specifically, in downside scenarios, appropriate management actions are available to improve profitability and maintain compliance with covenants and these have been assessed by Management as being plausible and deliverable. Management also takes confidence from the healthy cash position of the Group along with the Group's strong relationship with, and continued support from, its funders.

In addition, the Group's assets are assessed for recoverability on a regular basis and provision is made where appropriate. The Directors consider that the Group is not exposed to losses on these assets which would affect their decision to adopt the going concern basis.

The scenarios modelled by management demonstrate the Group is expected to have sufficient liquidity available from cash in hand and from committed facilities and maintains headroom against financial covenants, and therefore, support the going concern assessment for the Group and Company.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### **Foreign currency**

## i. Functional and presentational currency

The group financial statements are presented in pound sterling and rounded to thousands. The company's functional and presentation currency is the pound sterling.

#### ii. Transactions and balances

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the spot exchange rates at the dates of the transactions. At each period end foreign currency monetary items are translated using the closing rate. Non-monetary items measured at historical cost are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction and non-monetary items measured at fair value are measured using the exchange rate when fair value was determined. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of transactions and from the translation at period-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the profit and loss account.

#### iii. Translation

The trading results of group undertakings are translated into sterling at the average exchange rates for the year. The assets and liabilities of overseas undertakings, including goodwill and fair value adjustments arising on acquisition, are translated at the exchange rates ruling at the year-end. Exchange adjustments arising from the retranslation of opening net investments and from the translation of the profits or losses at average rates are recognised in Other comprehensive income.

#### Turnover

Turnover arises from asset based lending and financial services to clients, representing service charges, discount income and other charges.

Service and other income is measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable and is recognised when services are delivered, when the amount of revenue can be reliably measured and when it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the entity.

Discount income on financial assets that are classified as loans and receivables (including trade debtors and finance lease receivables) is determined using the effective interest method. Effective interest when applied against a financial asset, is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset and allocating the interest income over the expected life of the asset. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash flows to the instruments initial carrying value.

Turnover in relation to foreign exchange services provided to customers is the net value of currencies bought and sold and net income from derivatives and is recognised at the trade date.

#### Taxation

Taxation expense for the period comprises current and deferred tax recognised in the reporting period. Tax is recognised in the profit and loss account, except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity. In this case tax is also recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity.

Current or deferred taxation assets and liabilities are not discounted.

#### i) Current tax:

Current tax is the amount of income tax payable in respect of the taxable profit for the year or prior years. Tax is calculated on the basis of tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the period end. Management periodically evaluates positions taken in tax returns with respect to situations in which applicable tax regulation is subject to interpretation. It establishes provisions where appropriate on the basis of amounts expected to be paid to the tax authorities.

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### ii) Deferred tax:

Deferred tax arises from timing differences that are differences between taxable profits and total comprehensive income as stated in the financial statements. These timing differences arise from the inclusion of income and expenses in tax assessments in periods different from those in which they are recognised in financial statements.

Deferred tax is recognised on all timing differences at the reporting date. Unrelieved tax losses and other deferred tax assets are only recognised when it is probable that they will be recovered against the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future taxable profits.

Deferred tax is measured using tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the period end and that are expected to apply to the reversal of the timing difference.

#### **Investments - Company**

Investment in subsidiary companies is held at cost less accumulated impairment losses.

#### Intangible fixed assets

Goodwill is initially recognised at cost in line with the business combinations policy above and other intangible assets recognised at cost, are subsequently measured at cost less accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses. Amortisation is provided on intangible assets so as to write off the cost, less any estimated residual value, over their useful life as follows:

Asset class	Amortisation method and rate		
Goodwill	Straight line 5 years		
Software and development	Straight line up to 5 years		

Certain development costs have been capitalised in accordance with FRS 102 Section 18 and are therefore not treated as a realised loss in measuring statutory distributable reserves. The Group recognises an intangible asset arising from development (or from the development phase of an internal project) if it can demonstrate all of the following:

a) The technical feasibility of completing the intangible asset so that it will be available for use or sale.

b) Its intention to complete the intangible asset and use or sell it.

c) Its ability to use or sell the intangible asset.

d) How the intangible asset will generate probable future economic benefits. Among other things, the entity can demonstrate the existence of a market for the output of the intangible asset or the intangible asset itself or, if it is to be used internally, the usefulness of the intangible asset.

e) The availability of adequate technical, financial and other resources to complete the development and to use or sell the intangible asset.

f) Its ability to measure reliably the expenditure attributable to the intangible asset during its development.

#### Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Depreciation is provided to allocate the cost of the assets less their estimated residual values, over their expected useful economic life using a straight line basis as follows:

Asset class Office equipment

Leasehold improvements

Leased equipment

Depreciation method and rate

Straight line between 3 and 7 years Straight line on lower of 10 years or lease period Straight line over lease period

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting date the Group reviews the carrying value of fixed assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss. Where the recoverable amount of an asset is less than the carrying amount of the asset, an impairment loss is recognised immediately within profit or loss to reduce the carrying amount of the asset to its recoverable amount.

#### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts, when applicable, are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

The group is party to a composite accounting structure agreements with certain bankers. These agreements treat all the bank accounts included in each agreement as one account; as a result, positive and negative cash balances included in the agreement are shown net on balance sheet.

#### **Trade debtors**

Trade debtors represent debts assigned under factoring agreements, net of impairment provisions and deferred assignment consideration owed to factoring clients where there is a full right of recourse.

When debts are assigned, the Group obtains full ownership rights of the invoice, the economic rewards and risk. Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price less deferred assignment consideration owed to full-recourse clients. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment.

The Group raises some finance through securitisation of its debts, selling debts assigned to an issuing party who using the invoices as security, borrows funds from third party investors by issuing variable funding notes to those investors. Under securitisation, the accounting policy for securitised trade debtors remains unchanged. Although debts are assigned to the issuing party to enable funding, the Group retains the economic reward and risk of the debtor. With debtors remaining recognised, securitisation funding is reported within borrowings.

#### **Trade creditors**

Trade creditors are deferred assignment consideration owed to factoring clients where there is not a full right of recourse, and obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the Group does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

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

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and any amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge in profit or loss over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

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

#### Leases

Leases are classified as finance leases whenever the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the leased asset to the Group. All other leases are classified as operating leases.

Assets held under finance leases are recognised initially at the fair value of the leased asset (or, if the lower, the present value of minimum lease payments) at the inception of the lease. The corresponding liability to the lessor is included in the Balance Sheet as a finance lease obligation. Lease payments are apportioned between finance charges and reduction of the lease obligation using the effective interest method so as to achieve a constant rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability. Finance charges are deducted in measuring profit and loss. Assets held under finance leases are included in tangible fixed assets and depreciated and assessed for impairment losses in the same way as owned assets.

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to profit and loss on a straight-line basis over the lease term. The aggregate benefit of lease incentives are recognised as a reduction to the expense recognised over the lease term on a straight line basis.

#### Finance lease receivables

The Group recognises assets held under lessor finance leases as a financial asset, presenting them as receivables at an amount equal to the net investment in the lease. The net investment in a lease is the Group's gross investment in the lease discounted at the interest rate implicit in the lease. The gross investment in the lease is the aggregate of (i) the minimum lease payments receivable under a finance lease, and (ii) any unguaranteed residual value accruing. The net investment in a lease also includes initial direct costs, which are incremental to the origination of the finance leases.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### **Financial instruments**

The Company has considered and applied the provisions of FRS 102 Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' in full. The Company is also considered as a 'Financial Institution' and has applied the additional relevant provisions of Section 34 'Specialised Activities'.

#### Classification

Financial assets and liabilities are recognised when the Group becomes party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. The Group holds basic financial instruments which are defined below as well as complex derivative financial instruments.

Financial asset and liability debt instruments are classified as basic financial instruments where they meet all of the following conditions:

(A) Returns to the holder are (i) a fixed amount, or (ii) a fixed rate of return over the life of the instrument; or (iii) a variable return that, throughout the life of the instrument, is equal to a single referenced quoted or observable interest rate; or (iv) some combination of such fixed rate and variable rates, providing that both rates are positive;

(B) There is no contractual provision that could, by its terms, result in the holder losing the principal amount or any interest attributable to the current period or prior periods;

(C) Contractual provisions that permit the issuer to prepay a debt instrument or permit the holder to put it back to the issuer before maturity are not contingent on future events, other than to protect: (i) the holder against the credit deterioration of the issuer, or a change in control of the issuer; or (ii) the holder or issuer against changes in relevant taxation or law; and

(D) There are no conditional returns or repayment provisions except for the variable rate return described in (A) and prepayment provisions described in (C).

#### **Recognition and measurement**

Financial assets, classified as basic financial instruments are cash and cash equivalents and trade and other debtors. Financial liabilities, classified as basic financial instruments are trade and other creditors, including loans and borrowings. Financial assets and liabilities, classified as complex financial instruments are foreign currency derivatives. All specific recognition and measurement policies of each component are presented in the individual policies below.

Equity instruments are classified in accordance with the substance of the contractual agreement. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the Group after deducting all of its liabilities. Equity instruments issued by the Group are recorded at the fair value of the cash or other resources received or receivable, net of direct costs of issuing the equity instruments.

#### Impairment of financial assets

The Group assesses whether there is objective evidence that any financial asset may be impaired. A provision for impairment is established when the objective evidence that the Group will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the debtor. The amount of the provision is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of the estimated future cash flows, discounted at the effective interest rate. The amount of the provision is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### **Derivative financial instruments**

One of the Group's subsidiaries enters into a variety of derivative financial instruments for trading purposes acting as a broker in the provision of foreign exchange spot and forward contracts to its clients.

A smaller amount of derivative financial instruments are entered into by the Group to manage exposure to foreign exchange rate risk namely foreign exchange forward contracts. Further details of derivative financial instruments are disclosed in Note 21 to the Financial Statements.

Derivative financial instruments are initially recognised at fair value at the date the derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently re-measured to fair value at each reporting date. Fair value is estimated using valuation techniques which use market and non-market inputs to estimate the expected discounted cash flows. The valuation techniques use contracted pricing and forward market rates as determined by the issuer of the derivative. The resulting gain or loss arising on valuation is recognised in profit or loss.

Such derivatives are disclosed as Level 2 financial instruments in accordance with the below hierarchy of valuation techniques:

• Level 1: The unadjusted quoted price in active market for identical assets or liabilities that the Group can assess at the measurement date.

• Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable (i.e. developed using market data) for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

• Level 3: Inputs are unobservable (i.e. for which market data is unavailable) for the asset or liability.

A derivative with a positive fair value is recognised as a financial asset whereas a derivative with a negative fair value is recognised as a financial liability.

#### Share capital

Ordinary shares are classified as equity. Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of new ordinary shares or options are shown in equity as a deduction, net of tax, from the proceeds.

#### Dividends

Dividends and other distributions to the company's shareholders are recognised as a liability in the financial statements in the period in which the dividends and other distributions are approved by the shareholders. These amounts are recognised in the statement of changes in equity.

#### **Retirement benefits**

The BFS Group and Company is a member of the Bibby Line Group Limited Defined Benefit Pension Scheme. The scheme was closed to new entrants from 1 April 2000 and closed to future accruals for existing members from 30 September 2011. Bibby Line Group is legally responsible for the plan.

The Group pays contributions to defined contribution pension insurance plans on a contractual basis.

Under all pension schemes accounted for as defined contribution the amounts that become payable during the financial year are recognised in profit or loss. Differences between contributions payable during the financial year and contributions actually paid are shown as either accruals or prepayments in the balance sheet.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### Critical accounting policies and the use of judgements and estimates

In applying the Company's accounting policies, the Directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions in determining the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities. The Directors' judgements, estimates and assumptions are based on the best and most reliable evidence available at the time when the decisions are made, and are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be applicable. Due to the inherent subjectivity involved in making such judgements, estimates and assumptions, the actual results and outcomes may differ.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an on-going basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised, if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods, if the revision affects both current and future periods.

The critical judgements and estimates that the Directors have made in the process of applying the Company's accounting policies and that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in financial statements is within the impairment of financial assets, the recognition and subsequent amortisation of intangible fixed assets, transaction costs relating to lease assets and accounting for cash suspense income.

#### Assessment of the impairment of financial assets (judgement and estimate)

In considering indications of impairment of financial assets the Directors consider a number of qualitative and quantitative factors including but not limited to: client advance ratios; client recourse arrangements; receivables lending verification coverage; ordinary client commercial variation risk impacting on receivables measurement; valuation of client security; general debtor days, and other market led intelligence. Given the specialised nature of the company's activities and its application of FRS 102 Section 34, information about the credit quality of its financial assets is contained within the financial statements.

In setting the level of impairment provisions, management is required to estimate the level and timing of cash recoverable from collect-outs, realisation of security, payment plans, corporate and personal insolvencies, and other legal actions. A case by case assessment is carried out of all loans with incurred losses and an assessment made of the quantum and timing of likely cash recoveries based on the facts and circumstances of each case and on significant past experiences of the Group. The timing of the expected cash flows impacts the level of discounting that occurs in reflecting the time value of money.

There is particular complexity and judgement around the level of provision required when a debtor is in arrears and enters into collect out (the process of recovering delinquent debt). The Group assesses debtors in collect out on a case-by-case basis, in terms of the expected amount that will be recovered, and the timeframe to recover the monies, which require to be discounted to reflect the time value of money. There has been no change in the methodology used to assess expected recoveries in the period.

At the balance sheet date, non-performing trade debtors and finance lease receivables totalled £26.3m (2023: £25.4m), against which impairment provisions totalled £18.6m (2023: £16.8m). See Note 21 for further details. A 10% change in the expected level of collection from debtors in collect out at year end would result in an increase / decrease of £1.9m (2023: £1.6m) in the level of required provision.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### Cost capitalisation and setting useful economic lives of intangible fixed assets (judgement)

Software and development costs reflect investment in technological systems and advancements, the economic benefits of which the Directors believe will be realised over their useful economic life. Amounts capitalised in internally generated intangible assets comprises all directly attributable costs necessary to create, produce and prepare the asset to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management, which includes costs of materials and services used or consumed in generating the intangible asset, and costs of employee benefits arising from the generation of the intangible asset. There is judgement in determining the type and amount of internal costs to capitalise. The Directors also consider that the amortisation policies for software and development costs will reflect the period of benefit from intended use after reflecting further possible technological advancement and market conditions. There is particular subjectivity in assessing the useful life of intangible assets given the Group's ongoing investment programme to respond to the evolving nature of the technology required to serve the business's future needs.

#### Transaction costs relating to lease assets (judgement)

The net investment in the Group's finance leases includes initial direct costs which are incremental to the origination of the finance leases. These costs, which also include an element of internal staff costs, are amortised over the life of the finance lease receivable. There is particular complexity and judgement around determining which costs are directly attributable to the origination of a financial asset, in particular the amount of internal staff costs that are directly attributable to the origination of assets. The Group currently capitalises a significant element of staff costs within its Leasing business as they believe these represent costs that are incremental and directly attributable to the negotiating and arranging of leases. At the balance sheet date, the other debtors balance includes internal costs of £1.8m (2023: £2.1m) which are deferred for amortisation over the term of the leases, which typically extend up to five years. During the year £1.3m (2023: £1.4m) of costs were capitalised. If the group had reduced the amount of internal staff costs capitalised by 10% this would decrease the cumulative asset recognised by £0.1m (2023: £0.2m).

#### Cash suspense income (judgement)

The Group has established processes and controls for allocating cash receipts. On a relatively small number of occasions cash is received and cannot be allocated to specific client accounts. There is particular judgement required to be exercised in determining an appropriate time period after which this unallocated cash can be released to income profit and loss, which reflects the Group's contractual terms in terms of entitlement, and the timing of any related unpaid client or debtor balances being written off under our well-established collection processes. Management's judgement is that releasing to profit and loss after six months is appropriate. If the judgement was amended to twelve months the impact would be a £0.3m (2023: £0.3m) reduction in turnover. In the current year, £0.5m (2023: £0.6m) of cash suspense income was recognised in turnover.

#### 3 Turnover

The analysis of the group's turnover for the year by geographical market is as follows:

	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000
United Kingdom	130,925	122,785
Rest of Europe	54,574	53,273
Asia Pacific	3,078	2,696
	188,577	178,754

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### 4 Operating profit

Arrived at after charging to Cost of Sales within the Consolidated Profit and Loss Account:

	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	844	1,802
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,091	1,932
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	3	195
Restructuring costs	898	412
Impairment of financial assets - bad debt charge	7,937	4,002
Operating lease payments recognised as an expense	3,471	3,570

#### 5 Auditors' remuneration

	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000
Audit of these financial statements Audit of the financial statements of subsidiaries of the company pursuant	324	324
to legislation	499	487
	823	811

#### 6 Directors' remuneration

The directors' remuneration for the year was as follows:

	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000
Remuneration	1,847	1,499
Contributions paid to defined contribution pension schemes	<u> </u>	13
	1,847	1,512
In respect of the highest paid director:		

	2024	2023
	£ 000	£ 000
Remuneration	848	679

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### 7 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs (including directors' remuneration) were as follows:

	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000
Wages and salaries	57,100	56,751
Social security costs	8,141	8,224
Pension costs	2,232	2,229
	67,473	67,204

The average number of persons employed by the group (including directors) during the year, analysed by region was as follows:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
United Kingdom	597	601
Rest of Europe	348	367
Asia Pacific	15	15
	960	983

#### 8 Other interest receivable and similar income

	2024	2023
	£ 000	£ 000
Bank interest receivable	97	167
Interest receivable from parent company	1,259	1,190
	1,356	1,357

#### 9 Interest payable and similar charges

	2024	2023
	£ 000	£ 000
Interest on bank overdrafts and borrowings	56,303	52,083
Interest on obligations under finance leases and hire purchase contracts	21	49
	56,324	52,132

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### **10 Taxation**

Tax charged:

	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000
Foreign tax	1,412	1,594
Foreign tax adjustment to prior periods	(586)	(206)
	826	1,388
Deferred taxation		
Arising from origination and reversal of timing differences*	570	(1,094)
Adjustments to prior period	(311)	1,576
Arising from change in tax rate		71
Total deferred taxation	259	553
Tax charge for the year	1,085	1,941

\*includes amounts relating to changes in tax rates, see table below.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

The tax on profit before tax for the year is lower than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK (2023 - lower than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK) of 25% (2023 - 23.5%). The differences are reconciled below:

	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000
Profit before tax	11,153	12,107
Corporation tax at standard rate	2,788	2,845
Effect of expense not deductible in determining taxable profit	245	1,324
Deferred tax (credit) / expense relating to changes in tax rates	-	71
Trading losses utilised and other timing differences	(1,052)	(3,337)
Tax increase arising from higher rates of tax suffered on foreign territory earnings	33	47
Other tax effects for reconciliation between accounting profit and taxable profit	(32)	(380)
Decrease in tax from net adjustments for prior periods	(897)	1,371
Tax charge for the year	1,085	1,941

#### Factors that may affect future tax charges:

The Group, in the United Kingdom, may utilise losses controlled by its ultimate parent undertaking to reduce its taxable income when profit making, as well as optimising tax depreciation strategy to absorb these losses.

Deferred taxes at the balance sheet date have been measured using these enacted tax rates and reflected in these financial statements.

As at 31 December 2024 the Group has unused tax losses amounting to £7.2m (2023: £16.4m) for which no deferred tax asset has been recognised. These tax losses are not expected to expire.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### **Deferred** tax

Group
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2024	Asset £ 000
Differences between capital allowances and depreciation Trading losses Other timing differences	15,168 6,571 
	21,979
2023	Asset £ 000
Differences between capital allowances and depreciation Trading losses Other timing differences	16,176 5,511 562 22,249
Company	
2024	Asset £ 000
Differences between capital allowances and depreciation Trading losses Other timing differences	14,203 4,011 67 18,281
2023	Asset £ 000
Differences between capital allowances and depreciation Trading losses Other timing differences	15,481 4,011 341
-	19,833

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### **11 Investments**

#### Company

	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000
Investments in subsidiaries	77,850	77,850

A full list of subsidiary undertakings and companies included in the consolidation are reported in Note 24 to the Financial Statements.

#### **12 Intangible fixed assets**

#### Group

Group	Software andGoodwilldevelopment£ 000£ 000		Total £ 000	
Cost				
At 1 January 2024	16,053	40,144	56,197	
Additions	-	600	600	
Disposals	-	(11)	(11)	
Exchange differences		(128)	(128)	
At 31 December 2024	16,053	40,605	56,658	
Amortisation and impairment				
At 1 January 2024	15,331	37,544	52,875	
Amortisation charge for the year	161	683	844	
Amortisation eliminated on disposals	-	(11)	(11)	
Exchange differences		(59)	(59)	
At 31 December 2024	15,492	38,157	53,649	
Carrying amount				
At 31 December 2024	561	2,448	3,009	
At 31 December 2023	722	2,600	3,322	

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

Company

	Software and development £ 000
Cost	
At 1 January 2024	36,914
Additions	126
At 31 December 2024	37,040
Amortisation	
At 1 January 2024	36,479
Amortisation charge	172
At 31 December 2024	36,651
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2024	389
At 31 December 2023	435

#### 13 Tangible fixed assets

Group

£ 000 £ 000 £ 0	
Cost	
At 1 January 2024 12,229 7,524	19,753
Additions 50 5	55
Disposals (61) -	(61)
Foreign exchange movements(49)(44)	(93)
At 31 December 2024 12,169 7,485	19,654
Depreciation	
At 1 January 2024 11,250 4,804	16,054
Charge for the year358733	1,091
Eliminated on disposal (58) -	(58)
Foreign exchange movements(44)(20)	(64)
At 31 December 2024 11,506 5,517	17,023
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2024 663 1,968	2,631
At 31 December 2023 979 2,720	3,699

A reclassification adjustment was processed through the opening balances to correct the classification between Office equipment and Leasehold improvements, with no impact on the net book value.

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

Company			
	Office equipment £ 000	Leasehold improvements £ 000	Total £ 000
Cost			
At 1 January 2024	8,415	5,854	14,269
At 31 December 2024	8,415	5,854	14,269
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2024	8,340	3,869	12,209
Charge for the year	67	559	626
At 31 December 2024	8,407	4,428	12,835
Carrying amount			
At 31 December 2024	8	1,426	1,434
At 31 December 2023	75	1,985	2,060

Included within office equipment in both the individual and Consolidated Balance sheet are assets with a net book value of  $\pounds 8,000$  (2023:  $\pounds 75,000$ ) that are held on finance leases.

Included within leasehold improvements in both the individual and Consolidated Balance sheet are assets with a net book value of £nil (2023: £123,000) that are held on finance leases.

#### 14 Cash and cash equivalents

	Grou	р	Comp	any
	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000	2024 € 000	2023 £ 000
Cash at bank	37,804	46,405		
Bank balances	37,804	46,405	-	-
Bank overdrafts recorded within creditors	(14,774)	(14,153)	(130)	(61)
Cash and cash equivalents in statement of cash flows	23,030	32,252	(130)	(61)

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### **15 Debtors**

		Group		Compa	any
		2024	2023	2024	2023
	Note	£ 000	£ 000	£ 000	£ 000
Trade debtors		911,072	910,662	-	-
Finance lease receivables		73,771	67,158	-	-
Derivative financial instruments held	L				
at fair value	21	1,678	806	-	-
Amounts owed by ultimate parent					
undertaking		16,740	16,698	16,749	16,698
Corporation tax		448	-	-	-
Other debtors		21,650	16,432	-	-
Prepayments		10,686	8,997	3,787	769
Deferred tax assets	10	21,979	22,249	18,281	19,833
Total current trade and other debtors		1,058,024	1,043,002	38,817	37,300

		Group		
	Note	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000	
Assigned debts receivable		1,378,809	1,373,146	
Impairment provision	21	(18,139)	(16,573)	
Less deferred assignment consideration owed to factoring clients where there is a full right of recourse		(449,598)	(445,911)	
Total trade debtors		911,072	910,662	

		Group		
	Note	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000	
Gross finance receivables		74,261	67,357	
Impairment provision	21	(490)	(199)	
Total finance lease receivables	-	73,771	67,158	

Included within finance leases receivables is £37,512,000 (2023: £43,811,000) which falls due after more than one year.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### **16 Creditors**

		Group		Compa	npany	
	Note	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000	
Due within one year						
Loans and borrowings	21	490,068	33,763	294	481	
Derivative financial instruments held						
at fair value	21	1,374	701	-	-	
Amounts due to group undertakings		-	-	91,087	95,754	
Trade creditors		199,003	203,680	806	1,012	
Social security and other taxes		4,752	4,421	975	642	
Other payables		4,658	7,713	-	-	
Corporation tax		-	221	-	-	
Accrued expenses		14,158	13,246	4,728	4,822	
		714,013	263,745	97,890	102,711	
Due after one year						
Loans and borrowings	21	252,474	695,686		164	

#### 17 Share capital

Allotted, called up and fully paid shares			
	2024		2023
	No. 000	£ 000	No. 000
Ordinary shares of £1 each	5,000	5,000	5,000

On 15 March 2023, shareholders agreed, by special resolution, that the issued share capital of the Company be reduced from  $\pounds 62,600,000$  to  $\pounds 5,000,000$  by cancelling and extinguishing 57,600,000 of the issued ordinary shares of  $\pounds 1.00$  in the Company, each of which was fully paid up and the amount by which the share capital is reduced is credited to the profit and loss reserve.

£ 000

5,000

#### 18 Obligations under operating leases

#### Group

**Operating leases** 

The total of future minimum lease payments is as follows:

	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000
Not later than one year	2,997	2,999
Later than one year and not later than five years	5,763	6,283
Later than five years	336	730
	9,096	10,012

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### Company

#### **Operating leases**

The total of future minimum lease payments is as follows:

	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000
Not later than one year	537	548
Later than one year and not later than five years	1,400	1,935
	1,937	2,483

#### 19 Pension and other schemes

#### Defined benefit pension schemes Bibby Line Group Limited Defined Benefit Pension Scheme

The Group and Company is a member of the Bibby Line Group Limited Defined Benefit Pension Scheme. The principal employer of the Scheme, has recognised the full surplus / deficit in the Scheme and makes contributions in line with a schedule of contributions agreed with the Trustees of the pension scheme.

A Scheme surplus of £2,629,000 (2023: £854,000) is noted in the financial statements of the principal employer, Bibby Line Group Limited. Bibby Line Group is legally responsible for the plan. The scheme was closed to new entrants in April 2000 and closed to future accrual for existing members in September 2011.

#### Defined contribution pension scheme

The pension charge for the year represents contributions payable to defined contribution pension plans and amounts  $\pounds 2,232,000$  (2023:  $\pounds 2,229,000$ ).

#### 20 Financial guarantee contracts

#### Company

The Company guarantees all of the financing facilities of its subsidiaries as listed in Note 24 to the financial statements, apart from UK Securitisation where alternatively the performance of its subsidiaries, which are sellers and servicers within the UK Securitisation is guaranteed.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### **21** Financial instruments

#### Group

Financial instrument policies are reported in Accounting Policies specifically on pages 36 and 37. The following table summarises the financial instruments of the Group included in the Consolidated Balance Sheet:

#### **Categorisation of financial instruments**

	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000
Financial assets that are basic debt instruments, including trade debtors and finance lease receivables that are measured at amortised cost or net		
investment, less any impairment provision	984,843	977,820
Other financial assets including other debtors and cash and cash		<b>52</b> 102
equivalents, that are measured at amortised cost	54,544	63,103
Financial assets that are derivative instruments used within foreign exchange trading businesses and not for direct Group hedging purposes,		
measured at fair value through turnover of that business	1,678	806
	1,041,065	1,041,729
Financial liabilities that are basic financial instruments and external financial debt liabilities including overdrafts, funding notes and loans		
and borrowings, measured on an amortised cost basis	742,378	728,869
Financial liabilities that are external finance lease and hire purchase agreements, secured on underlying plant, equipment and intangible		
assets recorded in fixed assets	164	580
Other financial liabilities, including trade and other payables that are measured on an amortised cost basis	203,661	211,393
Financial liabilities that are derivative instruments used within foreign exchange trading businesses and not for direct Group hedging purposes		,
measured at fair value through turnover of that business	1,374	701
	947,577	941,543

#### Credit quality of financial assets that are basic financial instruments

The objective of credit risk management is to enable the Group to achieve appropriate risk versus reward performance whilst maintaining credit risk exposure in line with approved appetite for the risk that customers will be unable to meet their obligations to the Group.

For assets that are basic financial instruments and are debt receivables for invoice financing, the Group lends to clients against approved invoices that are legally assigned to it and that therefore act as security for lending. For leasing operations security is held over the assets financed by the lease.

The following tables provides an analysis of the credit quality of third party financial assets based on the performing/impaired status of the asset, and an analysis of the movements in the financial asset impairment provision:

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

	Group	
	2024	2023
	£ 000	£ 000
Performing	977,201	969,161
Non-performing	26,271	25,431
Impairment provision	(18,629)	(16,772)
Total financial assets that are trade debtors and finance lease receivables		
and measured at amortised cost	984,843	977,820

	Group	
	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000
Provision for impairment of financial assets, being trade debtors and	2 000	2000
finance lease receivables, at 1 January	16,772	20,730
New provisions charged to profit and loss	7,937	4,002
Financial assets written off	(5,239)	(6,426)
Recoveries on previous financial assets written off	(515)	(1,470)
Exchange differences	(326)	(64)
Provision for impairment of financial assets, being trade debtors and finance lease receivables, at 31 December	18,629	16,772
mance lease receivables, at 51 December	10,029	10,772
Credit quality of derivative financial instruments		
	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000
Derivative contracts with a positive fair value recorded within debtors		
Derivatives bought from BBB rated financial currency vendors	1,519	381
Derivatives sold to counterparties without published external credit	,	
rating	159	425
	1,678	806
Derivative contracts with a negative fair value recorded within creditors due within 1 year		
Derivatives bought from BBB rated financial currency vendors	(398)	(542)
Derivatives sold to counterparties without published external credit rating	(976)	(159)
	(1,374)	<u>`</u>
	(1,374)	(701)

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### Loans and borrowings analysis

The following table provides details of financial liabilities that are basic financial instruments and originate from loan and borrowing facilities:

	Group	
	2024 £ 000	2023 £ 000
UK securitised senior variable fund notes, secured by primary charge on trade receivables and floating charges over assets of certain subsidiaries. Facility carries variable interest above various interest rate benchmarks	270 500	255 502
UK junior notes, secured by secondary charge on trade receivables and floating charges over assets of certain subsidiaries. Facility carries variable	370,708	355,782
interest above various interest rate benchmarks Other UK overdraft, block discounting and revolving credit facilities, secured against book debts and fixed and floating charges over assets of certain subsidiaries. Facilities carry variable interest above various interest rate	80,000	105,000
benchmarks Various European overdraft and back-to-back credit facilities, secured against book debts, pledges and fixed and floating charges over assets of certain subsidiaries. Facilities carry variable interest above various interest rate	60,705	52,093
benchmarks	219,657	206,506
Various Asia Pacific credit facilities, secured against book debts and floating charges over assets of certain subsidiaries. Facilities carry variable interest above various interest rate benchmarks	11,308	9,482
Various asset amortising loans of the Group, secured on equipment recorded within tangible fixed assets and software recorded in intangible fixed assets	-	4
Finance leases of the Group, secured on equipment recorded within tangible fixed assets and software recorded in intangible fixed assets	164	581
	742,542	729,448

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### Maturity of financial liabilities

The following table analyses financial liabilities into relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining period at the date of the Consolidated Balance Sheet, on an undiscounted basis:

2024	Within 1 to 12 months £ 000	Within 1 to 5 years £ 000	Greater than 5 years £ 000	Total £ 000
Senior and junior funding notes	450,708	-	-	450,708
Bank loans	24,422	252,474	-	276,896
Bank overdrafts	14,774	-	-	14,774
Finance leases	164	-	-	164
Derivative financial instruments	1,374	-	-	1,374
Trading and other payables	222,571			222,571
	714,013	252,474		966,487

2023	Within 1 to 12 months £ 000	Within 1 to 5 years £ 000	Greater than 5 years £ 000	Total £ 000
Senior and junior funding notes	-	460,782	-	460,782
Bank loans	19,194	234,739	-	253,933
Bank overdrafts	14,153	-	-	14,153
Finance leases	416	165	-	581
Derivative financial instruments	701	-	-	701
Trading and other payables	229,281			229,281
Total equity	263,745	695,686		959,431

#### Exchange rate sensitivity on the translation of accounting records of overseas subsidiaries

The Group is exposed to translation risk on its overseas subsidiaries. No specific financial instruments are used to protect against the risk. At the 31 December, if sterling weakened 10% against the world's major currencies, shareholders' funds would be £4,769,000 (2023: £5,005,000) higher. Conversely, if Sterling strengthened 10% against the world's major currencies, shareholders' funds would be £4,769,000 (2023: £5,005,000) higher.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### 22 Parent and ultimate parent undertaking

The Company's immediate and ultimate Parent is Bibby Line Group Limited, incorporated in United Kingdom.

These financial statements are available upon request from 3rd Floor, Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom

#### 23 Non adjusting events after the financial period

Dividend:

In January 2025, the Directors recommended and paid a dividend of  $\pounds 10,000,000$ . This dividend has not been recognised as a liability in the financial statements.

UK Securitisation renewal:

In April 2025, BFS agreed an extension to its UK Securitisation facility for three years ending in May 2028.

#### 24 List of subsidiary undertakings

Group

#### **Details of undertakings**

Details of the investments in which the group holds are listed below.

\* indicates direct investment of the company.

\*\* indicates UK subsidiary taking exemption from audit under section 479A of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ending 31 December 2024.

Undertaking	Country of incorporation	Holding	0		
Subsidiary undertakings					
Bibby FS (Holdings) Limited*	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%	
Bibby Financial Services (UK) Limited	England	Ordinary	100%	100%	
Bibby Asset Finance Limited	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%	
Bibby Leasing Limited	England	Ordinary	100%	100%	
Bibby Corporate Financial Solutions Limited	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%	
Bibby Trade Services Limited	England	Ordinary	100%	100%	

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

Bibby Financial Services (FX) Limited	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Foreign Exchange Limited	England	Ordinary	100%	100%
Coverly Limited*	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Invoice Finance UK Limited	England	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Factors Bristol Limited	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Factors Leicester Limited	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Factors Limited	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Commercial Finance Limited	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Factors Northeast Limited	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Factors Northwest Limited	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Factors Scotland Limited	Scotland**	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Factors Slough Limited	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Factors Sussex Limited	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%
BFS Marine Finance (Holdings) Limited	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%
BFS Marine Finance (UK) Limited	England	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Factors Wessex Limited	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Factors Yorkshire Limited	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Factors International Limited	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Trade Factors Limited	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Invoice Discounting Limited	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Revolving Finance Limited	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Management Services Limited	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%
Cashflow UK Limited	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%
Factoring UK Group Limited	England**	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Financial Services (Europe) Limited	England	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Financial Services (Ireland) Limited	Ireland	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Financial Services GmbH	Germany	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Factors France S.A.	France	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Financial Services B.V.	Netherlands	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Financial Services Sp. z.o.o.	Poland	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Financial Services, a.s.	Czech Republic	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Factoring Slovakia, a.s.	Slovakia	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Financial Services (Singapore) Pte Limited	Singapore	Ordinary	100%	100%
Bibby Financial Services (India) Pvt Limited	India	Ordinary	75%	75%
Bibby Financial Services (Asia) Limited	Hong Kong	Ordinary	100%	100%

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### Principal activities and details of registered offices

The principal activity of Bibby FS (Holdings) Limited is investment holding and management services. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 03143108.

The principal activity of Bibby Financial Services (UK) Limited is investment holding and management services. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 09341390.

The principal activity of Bibby Asset Finance Limited is investment holding and management services. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 04044911.

The principal activity of Bibby Leasing Limited is asset financing. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 00588708.

The principal activity of Bibby Corporate Financial Solutions Limited is inventory finance and debt factoring. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 10530810.

The principal activity of Bibby Trade Services Limited is trade financing. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 03530463.

The principal activity of Bibby Financial Services (FX) Limited is investment holding and management services. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 09343375.

The principal activity of Bibby Foreign Exchange Limited is foreign exchange services. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 09353026.

The principal activity of Coverly Limited is insurance agency and brokering. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 11283983.

The principal activity of Bibby Invoice Finance UK Limited is investment holding, management and financing services. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 09351311.

The principal activity of Bibby Factors Bristol Limited is debt factoring. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 03171249.

The principal activity of Bibby Factors Leicester Limited is debt factoring. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 02989348.

The principal activity of Bibby Factors Limited is debt factoring. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 00584342.

The principal activity of Bibby Commercial Finance Limited is debt factoring. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 04296744.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

The principal activity of Bibby Factors Northeast Limited is debt factoring. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 03653980.

The principal activity of Bibby Factors Northwest Limited is debt factoring. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 00557149.

The principal activity of Bibby Factors Scotland Limited is debt factoring. The address of its registered office is 9 George Square, Glasgow, G2 1QQ, Scotland. The company registration number is SC199049.

The principal activity of Bibby Factors Slough Limited is debt factoring. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 02617760.

The principal activity of Bibby Factors Sussex Limited is debt factoring. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 03847904.

The principal activity of BFS Marine Finance (Holdings) Limited is investment holding and management services. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor, Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 14544495.

The principal activity of BFS Marine Finance (UK) Limited is asset finance. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor, Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 14546321.

The principal activity of Bibby Factors Wessex Limited is debt factoring. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 04918703.

The principal activity of Bibby Factors Yorkshire Limited is debt factoring. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 04918173.

The principal activity of Bibby Factors International Limited is debt factoring. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 04081220.

The principal activity of Bibby Trade Factors Limited is trade financing. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 05303859.

The principal activity of Bibby Invoice Discounting Limited is confidential debt factoring. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 04105467.

The principal activity of Bibby Revolving Finance Limited is trade financing. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 07693461.

The principal activity of Bibby Management Services Limited is management services. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 04917962

The principal activity of Cashflow UK Limited is brokerage. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 04010670

The principal activity of Factoring UK Group Limited is brokerage. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 05245631

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

The principal activity of Bibby Financial Services (Europe) Limited is investment holding and management services. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 09519213.

The principal activity of Bibby Financial Services (Ireland) Limited is debt factoring. The address of its registered office is 4th Floor Heather House, Heather Road, Sandyford, Dublin 18, Ireland.

The principal activity of Bibby Financial Services GmbH is debt factoring. The address of its registered office is Germany Hansaallee 249, 40549 Düsseldorf, Germany.

The principal activity of Bibby Factors France S.A. is debt factoring. The address of its registered office is 160 Avenue Jean Jaures, 69007, Lyon, France.

The principal activity of Bibby Financial Services B.V. is debt factoring. The address of its registered office is Laan Van Diepenvoorde 5, 5582 LA, Waalre, Netherlands.

The principal activity of Bibby Financial Services Sp. z.o.o. is debt factoring. The address of its registered office is Poland Eurocentrum, Al. Jerozolimskie 134, 02-305 Warsaw, Poland.

The principal activity of Bibby Financial Services, a.s. is debt factoring. The address of its registered office is Hlinky 505/118, Brno, 603 00, Czech Republic.

The principal activity of Bibby Factoring Slovakia, a.s. is debt factoring. The address of its registered office is Prievozská 4D, Block E, 13th Floor, Bratislava 821 09, Slovakia.

The principal activity of Bibby Financial Services (Singapore) Pte Limited is debt factoring. The address of its registered office is 6, Shenton Way, #18-08A, Oue Downtown, 068809, Singapore.

The principal activity of Bibby Financial Services (India) Pvt Limited is debt factoring. The address of its registered office is B-583, Sushant Lok Phase 1, Near Park Plaza, Gurugram, Haryana, India.

The principal activity of Bibby Financial Services (Asia) Limited is debt factoring. The address of its registered office is 14th Floor, Golden Centre, 188 Des Voeux Road Central, Hong Kong.

# Details of undertakings where the Company has controlling influence through the power to govern financial and operating policies

The Company has controlling influence over BFS Funding I Limited, a limited company incorporated in Jersey. The address of its registered office is 44 Esplanade, St Helier, Jersey, JE4 9WG. It is a wholly owned subsidiary of Bibby Funding I Charitable Trust (BO), whose trustee is Intertrust Offshore Limited.

BFS Funding I Limited acts as the issuing party within the Company's UK securitisation arrangement, facilitating the financing of certain Group companies in their selling and master selling of invoice receivables. In using those instruments as security, the issuing party borrows funds from third party investors, by issuing variable funding notes to those investors.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### Details of dormant undertakings incorporated in England

Bibby Foreign Exchange (Solutions) Limited. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 09353072.

Global Management Services Limited. The address of its registered office is 3rd Floor Walker House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 3YL, United Kingdom. The company registration number is 04331246.

Bibby Foreign Exchange (Europe) Limited. The address of its registered office is 2nd Floor, Heather House, Heather Road, Sandyford, Dublin, 18, Ireland. The company is registered in the Republic of Ireland with registration number: 636244.