

PEOPLES LIMITED

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 July 2023



PEOPLES LIMITED

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PEOPLES LIMITED

OFFICERS AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

DIRECTORS

Brian P Gilda (Chairman and Managing Director)
Stewart M Ramsay

COMPANY SECRETARY

Stewart M Ramsay

REGISTERED OFFICE

Callendar Road
Falkirk
United Kingdom
FK1 1SQ

BANKERS

Bank of Scotland
The Mound
Edinburgh
United Kingdom
EH1 1YZ

SOLICITORS

Dentons UK and Middle East LLP
1 George Square
Glasgow
United Kingdom
G2 1AL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

Deloitte LLP
Statutory Auditor
110 Queen Street
Glasgow
United Kingdom
G1 3BX

PEOPLES LIMITED

STRATEGIC REPORT

The directors, in preparing this strategic report, have complied with s414C of the Companies Act 2006.

This strategic report has been prepared for the group as a whole and therefore gives greater emphasis to those matters which are significant to Peoples Limited and its subsidiary undertakings when viewed as a whole.

REVIEW OF THE BUSINESS AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The group comprises the holding company and its wholly owned subsidiaries as detailed in note 11.

The group's principal activities are the sale and repair of cars and commercial vehicles and all normal activities associated therewith. There have been no significant changes in the group's principal activities in the year under review and the directors are not aware, at the date of this report, of any likely major changes in the group's activities in the next year.

The group continues to invest in dealership facilities in order to meet the standards required by our manufacturing partner and further investment will continue in the forthcoming year.

As shown in the consolidated profit and loss account on page 13 the group turnover increased by 11.3% but the group's profit before taxation and preference share dividends decreased from £8.48M to £7.67M (-9.5%). This is a consequence of the increase in vehicles sold due to the easing of the microchip shortage but at reduced margins consistent with increased industry competition.

The consolidated balance sheet on page 14 of the financial statements shows an increase of 9.4% in the group's financial position in terms of total net assets. This is largely a consequence of the profitable trading performance achieved during the current year. Increased investment in stock was offset by an increase in creditors.

The group controls its operations largely through a careful monitoring of gross profit levels together with particular attention being directed to the use of assets and cash. Increased investment in stock and debtors of over £15M was largely offset by the increase in creditors with cash only decreasing by £1.4M.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The group principally sells new vehicles for Ford, our manufacturing partner and is dependent on this supply chain which is outside the influence of the Directors. Any breakdown in this area would risk the ability to meet customer demands and our financial goals. This risk is managed through close contact with suppliers to ensure customer expectations are met.

The group is also dependent on the public's perception of the quality and suitability of their product range compared to the market as a whole. This risk is managed by keeping the product range in the public's eye through our digital channels and events. We also carefully control our used vehicle inventory and purchasing.

The group is not dependent on any single customer in any area of its business, the loss of which would have a significant impact on its results.

The group purchases and sells entirely within the United Kingdom and accordingly has no foreign exchange exposure.

The group operates in a competitive marketplace but we maintain close contact with our customers.

The group is regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) for consumer credit purposes as well as the Senior Managers and Certification Regime (SMCR). The Directors share these responsibilities and are committed to ensuring compliance with all legislation.

Energy costs saw unprecedented rises although we were initially protected due to fixed price utility supply contracts. The group continually monitors future costs in this area and retains specialist external advisers.

The group is financed by its own cash reserves. All of the group's net debt costs are linked to bank base rates but the interest rate exposure taking account of recent interest rate movements is not significant to the group's results.

PEOPLES LIMITED

STRATEGIC REPORT (CONTINUED)

SECTION 172 STATEMENT

The following disclosure describes how the Directors have had regard to the matters set out in Section 172(1) (a) to (f) required under Section 414CZA of The Companies Act 2006.

Customers

Customers are at the heart of our DNA and thanks to them we are now the largest independent solus Ford dealer in the UK and Europe. We put the customer first and that is what sets us apart from the rest. We aim to ensure that all our customers have a pleasurable experience and we see them coming back time and time again. We have won the Ford Chairman's Award for Outstanding Customer Satisfaction on multiple occasions. Customer satisfaction surveys are regularly conducted throughout our business and acted upon.

We publish our Chairman's Promise on our website

"If you are less than completely satisfied, or if someone from Peoples lets you down, I want to know about it. The buck stops with me. I invite you to contact me at any time on my personal e-mail address – shown on our website – and I promise to be in contact with you within 24 hours."

We are one of the few modern businesses which make the Chairman easily accessible to our customers

Employees

As a business we are only as good as our employees. "Peoples" is the key difference between our business and our competitors. We keep our employees fully informed of matters affecting them through regular Chairman's broadcasts and a very active Workplace site

As a consequence we have a very loyal workforce.

We also anonymously conduct full upward 360 degree employee surveys from which we get invaluable feedback from our employees

Manufacturer

Unusually we only represent one manufacturer – Ford Motor Company. As a consequence we have a very close relationship with the Directors of Ford both in the UK, Europe and worldwide. Our views are respected as it is recognised that we have no conflicts of interest with other manufacturers

Finance

As a business we have no significant borrowings but we still maintain strong relationships with our bankers and consumer finance providers. Indeed we have been with our bankers -Bank of Scotland - since inception. We have regular meetings/discussions with them and satisfy all their requirements usually in advance of being asked. Our finance facilities are renewed with the minimum of fuss. As a business we ensure that we can cover all our current and foreseeable finance requirements.

Provision of finance for our customers is a key part of our business and we do this and have done so for a number of years in a manner that is compliant with the latest FCA review of the motor finance market

Shareholders

The company is effectively controlled by the Directors of the holding company whose interests and rewards are inextricably linked to the well- being of the company. As we have no significant borrowings we ensure that the future finance requirements of the business are met out of retained earnings.

Wider community

We actively engage with the wider community through our social channels – you can read about "Tristan and the Transit" or follow Chris, Rona, Sarah and Hayley as they travel the country test driving product.

We support local charities and sports clubs.

We are open and transparent in our dealings with regulators be it HMRC, the FCA, Trading Standards or the energy authorities. We fully and timeously comply with all reporting requirements.

STRATEGIC REPORT (CONTINUED)

SECTION 172 STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

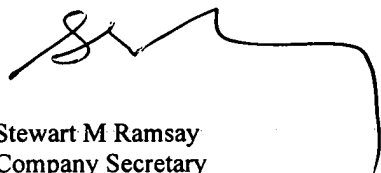
Principal decisions

We define principal decisions as both those that are material to the company, but also those that are significant to any of our key stakeholder groups.

All principal decisions are made at Board level and significant risk factors and long-term implications are fully considered prior to decisions being made. We delegate a lot of day-to-day decisions by empowering key managers but at the same time closely monitor these decisions through regular management meetings. We always take specialist external advice with respect to principal decisions.

The Board always considers the outcomes from its stakeholder engagement processes and ensures that decisions made continue to enhance our reputation for high standards of business conduct and the need to act fairly between members of the group.

Approved by the Board of Directors and signed by order of the Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Stewart M Ramsay', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Stewart M Ramsay
Company Secretary
27 September 2023

PEOPLES LIMITED

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors present their annual report on the affairs of the group and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2023.

FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

The group's principal financial assets are bank balances and trade debtors. The group's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade debtors. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of provisions for doubtful debts. The group has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a number of customers. The group's principal financial liabilities comprise a bank overdraft and trade creditors, both of which are paid on standard terms of payment. The group does not enter into any derivative transactions.

Any interest rate movement would not be significant to the group's results.

GOING CONCERN

In their consideration of going concern the directors have reviewed the group's future cash flow forecasts (which extend for a period beyond one year from the date of approval of these financial statements) and the current facility which has been renewed until 31 July 2024.

The directors are of the opinion that the group's cash flow forecasts, taking account of reasonably possible changes in trading performance given current market and economic conditions, show that the group will be able to operate within its current facilities and comply with its banking covenants.

After making due enquiries, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the group and the company have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for a period of at least 12 months from the date of this report. Given this the financial statements of the group and company have been prepared on a going concern basis.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS AND EVENTS AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE

Details of future developments can be found in the Strategic Report on page 2 and form part of this report by cross reference. No events have occurred after the balance sheet date that require disclosure.

ENVIRONMENT

The group recognises the importance of its environmental responsibilities and designs and implements policies to reduce any damage that might be caused by its activities. Initiatives designed to minimise the group's impact on the environment include the safe disposal of waste, recycling and investing money in energy efficiency equipment.

Energy & Emissions Reporting

This section includes our mandatory reporting of energy and greenhouse gas emissions for the period 1 August 2022 to 31 July 2023, pursuant to the Companies (Directors' Report) and Limited Liability Partnerships (Energy and Carbon Report) Regulations 2018, implementing the government's Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR) policy.

Our methodology to calculate our greenhouse gas emissions is based on the 'Environmental Reporting Guidelines: Including streamlined energy and carbon reporting guidance (March 2019)' issued by DEFRA, using DEFRA's 2022 and 2023 conversion factors as applicable. In some cases, consumption has been extrapolated from available data or direct comparison made to a comparable period.

We report using a financial control approach to define our organisational boundary. We have reported all material emission sources required by the regulations for which we deem ourselves to be responsible and have maintained records of all source data and calculations.

During the reporting period, £31k has been invested in voltage optimisation at two locations.

The table below includes total energy consumption (reported as kWh) and greenhouse gas emissions for the sources required by the regulations, along with our intensity ratio.

PEOPLES LIMITED

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

ENVIRONMENT (CONTINUED)

	01/08/2022 – 31/07/2023	01/08/2021 – 31/07/2022
Total Energy Consumption – Used for Emissions Calculation (kWh)	5,837,347	6,386,763
Gas Combustion Emissions, Scope 1 (tCO ₂ e)	562	637
Purchased Electricity Emissions, Scope 2 (tCO ₂ e)	370	359
Vehicle Fuel Combustion Emissions, Scope 1 (tCO ₂ e)	231	249
Vehicle Fuel Combustion Emissions, Scope 3 (tCO ₂ e)	0	0
Total Gross Reported Emissions (tCO ₂ e)	1,162	1,245
Turnover (£m)	306.8	275.7
Intensity Ratio: Turnover (tCO ₂ e / £m)	3.8	4.5

Please note, due to rounding, individual figures may not sum to the totals provided

ENGAGEMENT WITH SUPPLIERS AND CUSTOMERS

A summary of how the Directors have engaged with suppliers, customers and others is included in the Strategic Report.

EMPLOYEES

The group has a policy of equal opportunities which applies in relation to recruitment of all new employees and to the management of existing personnel. The group offers all of its staff training relevant to their roles and believes this has contributed positively to the group's results.

Details of the number of employees and related costs can be found in note 6 to the financial statements.

DISABLED EMPLOYEES

Applications for employment by disabled persons are always fully considered bearing in mind the aptitude of the applicant concerned. In the event of members of staff becoming disabled every effort is made to ensure that their employment with the group continues and that appropriate training is arranged. It is the policy of the group that the training, career development and promotion of disabled persons should, as far as possible, be identical to that of other employees.

EMPLOYEE CONSULTATION

The group places considerable value on the involvement of its employees and has continued its previous practice of keeping them informed on matters affecting them as employees and on the various factors affecting the performance of the group. This is achieved through formal and informal meetings. Employee representatives are consulted regularly on a wide range of matters affecting their current and future interests.

PEOPLES LIMITED

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

DIVIDENDS

Dividends paid and proposed are as follows:

	Fourth preference shares £	Ordinary Shares £
Paid – 16 November 2022	-	1,972,767
Paid – 31 January 2023	179,459	-
Paid – 31 July 2023	239,295	-
	<u>418,754</u>	<u>1,972,767</u>
2023 – Dividend per share	<u>5.98p</u>	<u>1042.60p</u>
2022 – Dividend per share	<u>2.99p</u>	<u>1042.60p</u>

DIRECTORS AND THEIR INTERESTS

	Number of 10 pence deferred shares at		Number of 10 pence ordinary shares at	
	31 July 2023	31 July 2022	31 July 2023	31 July 2022
Brian P Gilda	89,398	89,398	160,512	160,512
Stewart M Ramsay	21,387	21,387	28,703	28,703

No director has any beneficial interest in the preference shares. Both directors served throughout the year and up to the date of signing.

DIRECTORS' INDEMNITIES

The company has made qualifying third party indemnity provisions for the benefit of its directors which were made during the year and remain in force at the date of this report.

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual 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 FRS 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 company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then 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 company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible

PEOPLES LIMITED

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

AUDIT INFORMATION

Each of the persons who is a director at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

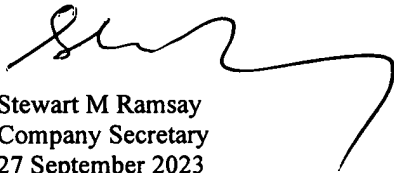
- (1) so far as the director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditor is unaware; and
- (2) the director has taken all the steps that he ought to have taken as a director in order to make himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

This confirmation is given and should be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of s418 of the Companies Act 2006.

AUDITOR

A resolution to re-appoint Deloitte LLP as the company's auditor will be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by the Board of Directors
and signed by order of the Board



Stewart M Ramsay
Company Secretary
27 September 2023

PEOPLES LIMITED

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

With a profit before taxation and preference share dividends of £7.67M and Turnover increased to £306.76M, you can be assured I am delighted with these results. A return on sales of over 2.5% also reflects an excellent performance set against our competitors who operate with the same franchise partner we represent. My delight is as a consequence of coming through a period of CV product supply constraints which adversely affected our vehicle volumes in that sector. However New & Used PV sales increased which positively affected our turnover. The real story is therefore to be in the determination of my Directors, Management and Staff to once more deliver up these results in the face of fierce competition and diminishing volumes in certain sections of the market. That, coupled with the outstanding loyalty of our customers is what makes these results special.

It does not however mean that we can declare all is well with the world and we can allow ourselves the luxury of taking our foot off the gas. For my team and I, this is just not possible in the arena in which we operate.

Throughout the year the Group has bettered all the operational benchmarks and financial milestones continuously identified by the Directors to our Shareholders, Bankers and Trading Partners. For a greater understanding of our results, and enhanced business review summary can be found on pages 2-4 of our Strategic Report.

CURRENT TRADING OUTLOOK

In the retail Car and Commercial vehicle world we are principally dependant on the desirability of the product of our manufacturer partner and the feel good factor of consumers. Ford leading edge product like the Mustang MachE, Puma, Focus and the fantastic Commercial Vehicle range led by Transit Electric and Ranger Raptor are a benefit to have and a joy to sell along with the other market leading products we have in virtually every other sector that we compete in. All needed of course as we are dependent on that and consumer confidence to allow us to continue to perform to the financial results we have become accustomed.

Over the last 12 months we also paid close attention to the changing attitudes and behaviours of consumers in our marketplace. Offering a full Omni channel approach for car and commercial vehicle purchasing was part of our strategic plans and I am delighted to say a lot of these channels have now been successfully rolled out.

We will of course, continue to review all revenue and cost items to ensure that we are as fit as we can be to best tackle the marketplace. As a consequence, we are confident that with the hard work of all Directors, Management and Staff, we will continue to deliver the best possible results.

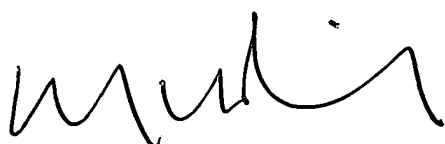
OUR PEOPLE

The new seven person Operational Board is now fully functioning and defining and implementing the strategies needed going forward as we consider the potential changes to the franchise system and how it will affect us.

As always, I would like to thank all those members of staff who worked tirelessly during the year to improve their contribution to the wellbeing of the Group and ask them to rededicate themselves to the year ahead. The Group has consistently sought to recruit and retain the best employees in the marketplace and this has undoubtedly contributed to our success and is a course of action which will remain at the forefront of my thinking.

SUPPORT

I would like to record my gratitude to my Shareholders, Bankers and Trading Partners who as always, have been supportive of both myself and the Group.



Brian P Gilda
CHAIRMAN
27 September 2023

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF PEOPLES LIMITED

REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements of Peoples Limited (the 'parent company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group'):

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent company's affairs as at 31 July 2023 and of the group's profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements which comprise:

- the consolidated profit and loss account ;
- the consolidated and company balance sheets;
- the consolidated and company statements of changes in equity;
- the consolidated cash flow statement; and
- the related notes 1 to 22.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 (the 'FRC's') Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the 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 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

Other information

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF PEOPLES LIMITED (CONTINUED)

Responsibilities of directors

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

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

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

We considered the nature of the group's industry and its control environment, and reviewed the group's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to fraud and compliance with laws and regulations. We also enquired of management and the directors about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities including those that are specific to the group's business sector.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the group operates in, and identified the key laws and regulations that:

- had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. These included UK Companies Act, pensions legislation, tax legislation; and
- do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the group's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty

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

As a result of performing the above, we identified the greatest potential for fraud in the following areas, and our specific procedures performed to address it are described below:

- Cut off of revenue recognition as revenue recorded around the year end may not have met the contractual obligations. We have performed the following procedures to address this fraud risk:
 - For a sample of revenue recorded at year end, inspected the corresponding invoice and customer order form to ensure revenue is recognised in the correct period

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF PEOPLES LIMITED (CONTINUED)

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud (continued)

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

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

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the strategic report and the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and of the parent company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the strategic report or the directors' report.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report in respect of the following matters 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.

We have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

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.



Paul Hazelton CA (Senior statutory auditor)
For and on behalf of Deloitte LLP
Statutory Auditor
Glasgow, United Kingdom
28 September 2023

PEOPLES LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT Year ended 31 July 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
TURNOVER	3	306,766,137	275,662,245
Cost of sales		(293,454,512)	(262,150,352)
GROSS PROFIT		13,311,625	13,511,893
Administrative expenses		(6,298,763)	(5,024,258)
OPERATING PROFIT		7,012,862	8,487,635
Finance income (expense)	4	661,254	(5,846)
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION AND PREFERENCE SHARE DIVIDENDS		7,674,116	8,481,789
Preference share dividends	8	(418,754)	(209,327)
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION	5	7,255,362	8,272,462
Tax on profit	7	(1,496,698)	(1,619,729)
PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ATTRIBUTABLE TO EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS OF THE COMPANY		5,758,664	6,652,733

In the current and prior year, all activity has arisen from continuing operations.

There are no items of Other Comprehensive Income in the current year, therefore no Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income is prepared.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this consolidated profit and loss account.

PEOPLES LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET As at 31 July 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	10	13,735,221	14,087,130
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks	12	91,641,106	76,870,751
Debtors	13	7,865,160	7,473,137
Cash and cash equivalents		20,818,836	22,250,800
		120,325,102	106,594,688
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	14	(89,524,905)	(79,231,949)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		30,800,197	27,362,739
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		44,535,418	41,449,869
CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year	15	(12,017)	(12,017)
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES	16	(279,238)	(979,586)
NET ASSETS		44,244,163	40,458,266
Capital and Reserves			
Called up share capital	17	30,000	30,000
Capital redemption reserve	17	1,171,040	1,171,040
Special reserve	17	576,439	576,439
Revaluation reserve	17	1,763,741	1,763,741
Profit and loss account	17	37,070,771	33,284,874
Other reserve	17	3,632,172	3,632,172
Total shareholders' funds		44,244,163	40,458,266

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated balance sheet.

These financial statements of Peoples Limited, registered number SC080359, were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 27 September 2023.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors



Brian P Gilda
Director

PEOPLES LIMITED

COMPANY BALANCE SHEET As at 31 July 2023

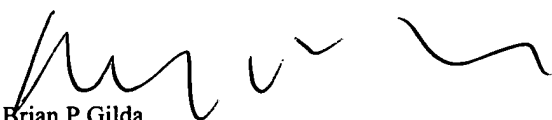
	Note	2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Investments	11	<u>5,353,300</u>	<u>5,353,300</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	13	317,475	329,370
Cash and cash equivalents		<u>27,734,791</u>	<u>24,869,850</u>
		28,052,266	25,199,220
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(3,005,772)</u>	<u>(2,679,531)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>25,046,494</u>	<u>22,519,689</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>30,399,794</u>	<u>27,872,989</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year	15	(12,017)	(12,017)
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES	16	686,412	-
NET ASSETS		<u><u>31,074,189</u></u>	<u><u>27,860,972</u></u>
Capital and Reserves			
Called up share capital	17	30,000	30,000
Capital redemption reserve	17	1,171,040	1,171,040
Special reserve	17	576,439	576,439
Profit and loss account	17	25,664,538	22,451,321
Other reserve	17	<u>3,632,172</u>	<u>3,632,172</u>
Total shareholders' funds		<u><u>31,074,189</u></u>	<u><u>27,860,972</u></u>

As permitted by s408 of the Companies Act 2006, no separate profit and loss account or statement of comprehensive income is presented in respect of the parent Company. The company only profit for the year ended 31 July 2023 is £5,185,984 (2022: £6,366,476).

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the company balance sheet.

These financial statements of Peoples Limited, registered number SC080359, were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 27 September 2023.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors


Brian P Gilda
Director

PEOPLES LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY For the year ended 31 July 2023

	Called-up share capital £	Capital redemption reserve £	Special reserve £	Revaluation reserve £	Profit & loss account £	Other reserve £	Total £
At 1 August 2021	30,000	1,171,040	576,439	1,763,741	28,604,908	3,632,172	35,778,300
Profit for the financial year	-	-	-	-	6,652,733	-	6,652,733
Total comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	6,652,733	-	6,652,733
Dividend paid on ordinary Shares	-	-	-	-	(1,972,767)	-	(1,972,767)
At 31 July 2022	30,000	1,171,040	576,439	1,763,741	33,284,874	3,632,172	40,458,266
Profit for the financial year	-	-	-	-	5,758,664	-	5,758,664
Total comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	5,758,664	-	5,758,664
Dividend paid on ordinary Shares	-	-	-	-	(1,972,767)	-	(1,972,767)
At 31 July 2023	30,000	1,171,040	576,439	1,763,741	37,070,771	3,632,172	44,244,163

COMPANY STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY For the year ended 31 July 2023

	Called-up share capital £	Capital redemption reserve £	Special reserve £	Profit and loss account £	Other reserve £	Total £
At 1 August 2021	30,000	1,171,040	576,439	18,057,612	3,632,172	23,467,263
Profit for the financial year	-	-	-	6,366,476	-	6,366,476
Total comprehensive income	-	-	-	6,366,476	-	6,366,476
Dividend paid on ordinary Shares	-	-	-	(1,972,767)	-	(1,972,767)
At 31 July 2022	30,000	1,171,040	576,439	22,451,321	3,632,172	27,860,972
Profit for the financial year	-	-	-	5,185,984	-	5,185,984
Total comprehensive income	-	-	-	5,185,984	-	5,185,984
Dividend paid on ordinary Shares	-	-	-	(1,972,767)	-	(1,972,767)
At 31 July 2023	30,000	1,171,040	576,439	25,664,538	3,632,172	31,074,189

PEOPLES LIMITED

CONSOLIDATED CASHFLOW STATEMENT
For the year ended 31 July 2023

	Note	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
Net cash inflow from operating activities before taxation	19		3,067,323		9,062,733
Corporation tax paid			<u>(2,334,666)</u>		<u>(1,545,009)</u>
Net cash inflow (outflow) from operating activities			732,657		7,517,724
Cash (outflows) inflows from investing activities					
Interest received (paid)	4	661,254		(5,846)	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		<u>(670,842)</u>		<u>(537,151)</u>	
Sale of tangible fixed assets		236,488		82,712	
Cash inflows (outflows) from investing activities			226,900		(460,285)
Cash flows from financing activities					
Preference share dividends paid	8	(418,754)		(209,327)	
Equity dividends paid	9	<u>(1,972,767)</u>		<u>(1,972,767)</u>	
Net cash (outflows) from financing activities			<u>(2,391,521)</u>		<u>(2,182,094)</u>
(Decrease) Increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year	20		<u><u>(1,431,964)</u></u>		<u><u>4,875,345</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated cash flow statement.

PEOPLES LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31 July 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at deemed cost, and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102) issued by the Financial Reporting Council.

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. They have all been applied consistently throughout the current and preceding year.

General information and basis of accounting

Peoples Limited ('the Company') is a private company limited by shares. It is incorporated in the United Kingdom under the Companies Act 2006 and is registered in Scotland. The address of the registered office is given on page 1. The nature of the group's operations and its principal activities are set out in the strategic report on page 2.

The functional currency of the Company and Group is considered to be pounds sterling because that is the currency of the primary economic environment in which they operate.

The Company meets the definition of a qualifying entity under FRS 102 and has therefore taken advantage of the disclosure exemptions available to it in respect of its separate financial statements, which are presented alongside the consolidated financial statements. Exemptions have been taken in these separate Company financial statements in relation to financial instruments, presentation of a cash flow statement, remuneration of key management personnel and transactions with fellow group undertakings.

Going concern

In their consideration of going concern the directors have reviewed the group's future cash flow forecasts (which extend for a period beyond one year from the date of approval of these financial statements) and the current facility which has been renewed until 31 July 2024.

The directors are of the opinion that the group's cash flow forecasts, taking account of reasonably possible changes in trading performance given current market and economic conditions, show that the group will be able to operate within its current facilities and comply with its banking covenants.

After making due enquiries, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the group and the company have adequate cash resources to continue in operational existence for a period of at least 12 months from the date of this report. Given this the financial statements of the group and company have been prepared on a going concern basis. Further details are provided in the Director's Report on page 5.

Basis of consolidation

The group financial statements consolidate the financial statements of Peoples Limited and its subsidiary undertakings for the year ended 31 July 2023.

Business combinations are accounted for under the purchase method. Where necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring the accounting policies into line with those used by the Group. All intra-group transactions, balances, income and expenses are eliminated on consolidation. In accordance with Section 35 of FRS 102, Section 19 of FRS 102 has not been applied in these financial statements in respect of business combinations effected prior to the date of transition.

In the company's financial statements, investments in subsidiary undertakings are stated at cost, less provision for any impairment.

No profit and loss account is presented for Peoples Limited, as permitted by s408 of the Companies Act 2006.

PEOPLES LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) Year ended 31 July 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are shown at cost or deemed cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Depreciation is provided by the straight line method calculated to write-off the cost or valuation of the fixed assets over their estimated useful lives at the following annual rates:

Freehold and long leasehold buildings	2%
Plant and equipment	10% and 33%
Computer equipment	25%
Motor vehicles	25% and 30%
Other leased assets	10%

Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the period of the lease. Land is not depreciated.

Revaluation of properties

The group has a policy of recording certain classes of tangible fixed assets at deemed cost.

The group previously adopted a policy of revaluing freehold land and buildings and long leasehold properties and they were stated at their revalued amount less depreciation and any provision for impairment.

The group has adopted the transition exemption under FRS 102 and has elected to use the previous revaluation as a deemed cost at the transition date.

On the disposal of, or recognition of a provision for impairment of, a revalued fixed asset any related balance remaining in the revaluation reserve is also transferred to the profit and loss account as a movement in reserves.

Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is based on estimated selling price, less further costs expected to be incurred to completion and disposal. Provision is made for obsolete, slow moving or defective items where appropriate.

Taxation

UK corporation tax is provided at amounts expected to be paid (or recovered) using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date. The taxation liabilities of certain group companies are reduced wholly or in part by the surrender of losses by fellow group companies. The tax benefits arising from group relief are recognised in the financial statements of the surrendering and recipient companies.

Deferred tax is provided in full on timing differences which result in an obligation at the balance sheet date to pay more tax, or a right to pay less tax, at a future date, at rates expected to apply when they crystallise based on current tax rates and law. Timing differences arise from the inclusion of items of income and expenditure in taxation computations in periods different from those in which they are included in financial statements.

Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is regarded as more likely than not that they will be recovered. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are not discounted.

Turnover

Turnover comprises the invoiced value of sales less value added tax and net of all credits and allowances. Revenue is recognised on the sale of vehicles when the risks and rewards of ownership are transferred. All other revenues are recognised as they are earned according to the relevant performance conditions.

PEOPLES LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) Year ended 31 July 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Leases

The group enters into operating and finance leases.

Assets held under finance leases are initially reported at the fair value of the asset with an equivalent liability categorised as appropriate under creditors due within or after one year. The asset is depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and its useful economic life. Finance charges are allocated to accounting periods over the period of the lease to produce a constant rate of charge on the outstanding balance. Rentals are apportioned between finance charges and reduction of the liability, and allocated to cost of sales and other operating expenses as appropriate. Hire purchase transactions are dealt with similarly, except that assets are depreciated over their useful lives.

Rentals under operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the lease term, even if the payments are not made on such a basis. Further information on charges in the year and future commitments is given in notes 5 and 18.

Retirement plan

The group operates pension schemes on behalf of its employees. These are defined contribution schemes and no assets are held by the group. Contributions are charged to the profit and loss account as incurred. Differences between contributions payable in the year and contributions actually paid are shown as either accruals or prepayments in the balance sheet.

Financial liabilities and equity

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

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

Critical judgements in applying the Group's accounting policies

There are no critical judgements made in the process of applying the Group's accounting policies.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the Group's accounting policies, which are described in note 1, the directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

As with the previous year, the following is the key source of estimation uncertainty that the directors have made in the process of applying the Group's accounting policies and that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

PEOPLES LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Year ended 31 July 2023

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY (CONTINUED)

Stock provisioning

The Group maintains a stock of new and used vehicles for resale which comprise a substantial component of the overall assets of the Group. As a result it is necessary to consider the recoverability of the cost of the vehicles and the associated provisioning required. When calculating the level of provision the directors consider the estimated realisable value taking account of the age and condition of the vehicles and utilising available published industry data. The level of provision required is reviewed on an ongoing basis.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing 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.

There have been no changes in estimates or underlying assumptions in the year.

3. TURNOVER

An analysis of the Group's turnover by class of business is set out below.

	2023 £	2022 £
Turnover:		
Vehicles	291,623,523	262,349,101
Workshops	7,184,167	6,128,405
Parts	7,958,447	7,184,739
	<u>306,766,137</u>	<u>275,662,245</u>

All of the group's turnover and profit before taxation were derived from its activities in the United Kingdom.

4. FINANCE INCOME (EXPENSE)

	2023 £	2022 £
Interest income (expense)	<u>661,254</u>	<u>(5,846)</u>

PEOPLES LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) Year ended 31 July 2023

5. PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION

Profit before taxation is stated after charging:

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets (note 10)		
Owned assets	786,263	798,048
Staff costs (note 6)	15,006,814	14,071,552
Stocks recognised as an expense	292,889,862	261,880,007
Other Operating lease rentals	645,000	620,000

The auditor's remuneration is as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Audit services		
Fees payable to the company's auditor for the audit of the company's annual financial statements	15,000	14,500
The audit of the company's subsidiaries	73,000	63,000
Total audit fees	88,000	77,500
Further non-audit services		
Taxation compliance services	10,000	10,000
Total non-audit fees	10,000	10,000
Total	98,000	87,500

PEOPLES LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Year ended 31 July 2023

6. STAFF COSTS

Employee costs during the year, including those for executive directors, amounted to:

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	13,296,829	12,466,225
Social security costs	1,404,633	1,323,061
Other pension costs	305,352	282,266
	<u>15,006,814</u>	<u>14,071,552</u>

The average monthly number of employees in the group during the year was 356 (2022 - 363), categorised below. The average monthly number of employees in the company during the year was 15 (2022 - 16).

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Sales	105	105
Administration	116	120
Other	135	138
	<u>356</u>	<u>363</u>

Directors' remuneration:

The employee costs shown above include the following remuneration in respect of directors of the company:

	2023 £	2022 £
Remuneration:		
Emoluments	490,836	470,825
Company contributions to money purchase pension schemes	74,318	70,910
	<u>565,154</u>	<u>541,735</u>

Pensions:

The number of directors who were members of pension schemes was as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Money purchase schemes	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

PEOPLES LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Year ended 31 July 2023

6. STAFF COSTS (CONTINUED)

Highest paid director:

The directors' remuneration shown above includes the following in respect of the highest paid director:

	2023 £	2022 £
Emoluments	296,960	286,608
Company contributions to money purchase pension schemes	44,617	42,552
	<u>341,577</u>	<u>329,160</u>

7. TAXATION

	2023 £	2022 £
Current tax on profit		
UK corporation tax	1,767,269	1,626,632
Total current tax	<u>1,767,269</u>	<u>1,626,632</u>
Deferred tax		
Origination and reversal of timing differences	(270,571)	(6,903)
Total deferred tax (see note 16)	<u>(270,571)</u>	<u>(6,903)</u>
Total tax on profit	<u>1,496,698</u>	<u>1,619,729</u>

The Finance Act 2021 increased the main rate of corporation tax from 19% to 25% with effect from 1 April 2023. The deferred tax liability has been calculated at 25% being the rate expected to apply when the timing differences crystallise based on current tax rates and law.

PEOPLES LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Year ended 31 July 2023

7. TAXATION (CONTINUED)

The difference between the total tax charge shown above and the amount calculated by applying the effective rate of UK corporation tax to the profit before tax is as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Profit before tax	7,255,362	8,272,462
Tax on profit at effective UK corporation tax rate of 21% (2022 – 19%)	1,523,626	1,571,768
Effects of:		
Permanent differences	(5,040)	8,189
Difference in tax rates	(109,826)	-
Preference share dividends	87,938	39,772
Total tax charge for year	1,496,698	1,619,729

8. PREFERENCE SHARE DIVIDENDS

	2023 £	2022 £
Fourth preference shares		
Interim of 2.56p (2022 – 1.32p) per share paid	179,459	92,341
Final of 3.42p (2022 – 1.67p) per share paid	239,295	116,986
	418,754	209,327

9. ORDINARY DIVIDENDS

	2023 £	2022 £
Paid 1042.60p per share (2022 – 1042.60p)	1,972,767	1,972,767

PEOPLES LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Year ended 31 July 2023

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Group	Freehold and long leasehold land and buildings £	Leasehold improvements £	Computers, plant and equipment £	Leased assets £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation						
At 1 August 2022	13,644,350	1,086,095	7,009,360	28,430	561,931	22,330,166
Additions	-	-	216,035	-	454,807	670,842
Disposals	-	-	(594,058)	-	(396,764)	(990,822)
At 31 July 2023	13,644,350	1,086,095	6,631,337	28,430	619,974	22,010,186
Depreciation						
At 1 August 2022	1,305,509	941,167	5,770,350	28,430	197,580	8,243,036
Charge for the year	214,621	54,305	379,796	-	137,541	786,263
Disposals	-	-	(594,058)	-	(160,276)	(754,334)
At 31 July 2023	1,520,130	995,472	5,556,088	28,430	174,845	8,274,965
Net book value						
At 31 July 2023	12,124,220	90,623	1,075,249	-	445,129	13,735,221
At 31 July 2022	12,338,841	144,928	1,239,010	-	364,351	14,087,130

Freehold land amounting to £4,084,800 (2022 - £4,084,800) has not been depreciated.

11. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

Company	Ordinary shares £	Preference shares £	Long term loan stock £	Total £
At 31 July 2023 and 2022	4,300	1,000,000	4,349,000	5,353,300

Fixed asset investments at 31 July 2023 relate to interests in subsidiary undertakings held directly by the company.

There were no additions or disposals of fixed asset investments in the year.

Loan stock due from subsidiary undertakings is repayable in 12 six monthly instalments from 1 July 2025.

The holders of the preference shares have confirmed that they will not seek any redemption of the preference shares prior to 1 July 2025.

PEOPLES LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Year ended 31 July 2023

11. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

All of the company's subsidiary undertakings are wholly owned and are registered in Scotland at Callendar Road, Falkirk, United Kingdom, FK1 1SQ. The subsidiary undertakings comprise:

Company	Principal activity
Peoples Ecosse Limited	Sale and repair of motor vehicles
Peoples Liverpool Limited	Sale and repair of motor vehicles
Total Vehicle Solutions Limited	Sale of motor vehicles
Peoples Bathgate & Livingston Limited	Dormant
Liverpool Daily Centre Limited	Dormant
Peoples Detroit Limited	Dormant
Peoples Falkirk Limited	Dormant
Peoples Glasgow Limited	Dormant

12. STOCKS

	Group		Company	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Vehicles	90,769,498	76,203,061	-	-
Spare parts	746,057	526,754	-	-
Other stocks	125,551	140,936	-	-
	<u>91,641,106</u>	<u>76,870,751</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

The directors consider that there is no material difference between the balance sheet value and replacement cost of each of the above stock categories.

13. DEBTORS

	Group		Company	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:				
Trade debtors	5,771,496	5,093,043	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	2,093,664	2,380,094	300,130	221,287
Amounts due from fellow group undertakings	-	-	-	95,663
Value Added Tax	-	-	17,345	12,420
	<u>7,865,160</u>	<u>7,473,137</u>	<u>317,475</u>	<u>329,370</u>

The only financial assets held by the Group are those which are held at undiscounted amounts receivable.

No interest is charged on amounts due from fellow group undertakings and the balances are repayable on demand

PEOPLES LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Year ended 31 July 2023

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Group		Company	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	81,885,613	73,591,736	-	-
Amounts due to fellow group undertakings	-	-	2,141,904	2,041,896
Corporation tax	1,072,387	1,210,007	-	-
Other taxes and social security costs	419,732	378,050	-	-
Other creditors and accruals	3,757,482	3,411,199	863,868	637,635
Value Added Tax	2,389,691	640,957	-	-
	<u>89,524,905</u>	<u>79,231,949</u>	<u>3,005,772</u>	<u>2,679,531</u>

Further details of secured liabilities are contained in note 18.

No interest is charged on amounts due to fellow group undertakings and the balances are repayable on demand

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	No	£	2023	2022
			£	£
Allotted, called-up and fully paid				
Fourth preference shares of 1p each	7,000,000	0.01	70,000	70,000
Issue costs of preference share capital			(57,983)	(57,983)
Total preference share capital			<u>12,017</u>	<u>12,017</u>

The rights attaching to preference shares are set out below:

The holders of the redeemed first preference shares still have an option to acquire 2.5% of the enlarged ordinary share capital at par.

The fourth preference shares carry a right to a variable cumulative dividend, 7.5% per annum as at 31 July 2023.

The fourth preference shares carry no voting right as long as the dividend payment terms detailed in the Articles of Association are satisfied.

The fourth preference shares are redeemable between 2024 and 2029 in equal annual amounts.

The holders of the fourth preference shares have an option to acquire 22.5% of the enlarged ordinary share capital at par. In the opinion of the Directors, the fair value of the options cannot be reliably estimated. Accordingly, under of FRS 102.11.31, they are measured at initial proceeds, which is nil.

There are no financial liabilities measured at fair value and designated in an effective hedging relationship. The fourth preference shares are measured at amortised cost. The interest expense associated with these instruments is disclosed in note 8.

PEOPLES LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) Year ended 31 July 2023

16. PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES

Group	Deferred tax £
At 1 August 2022	979,586
Charged to profit and loss account (note 7)	(270,571)
Change to loss relief surrenders	(429,777)
At 31 July 2023	<u>279,238</u>

Analysis of the deferred tax balance is as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed asset timing differences	965,650	979,586
Losses carried forward	(686,412)	-
	<u>279,238</u>	<u>979,586</u>

Company

The company has a deferred tax asset of £686,412 (2022 - £Nil) arising from losses available to carry forward.

17. CALLED UP SHARE CAPITAL AND RESERVES

Share capital

The issued share capital of the company at 31 July 2023 comprised:

	No	£	2023 £	2022 £
Allotted, called-up and fully paid				
Ordinary shares	189,215	0.10	18,922	18,922
Deferred shares	110,785	0.10	11,078	11,078
Total share capital			<u>30,000</u>	<u>30,000</u>

The deferred shares carry no voting rights, dividend rights, priority in winding-up or other beneficial rights.

The holders of ordinary shares have full voting and dividend rights but no priority on winding-up or similar rights.

The Company's other reserves are as follows:

The capital redemption reserve arose on redemption of preference shares in previous years.

The 'Special reserve' is non-distributable as long as any debt of the company existing as at 5 July 1989 remains outstanding. The capital redemption reserve and the other reserve are non-distributable.

The revaluation reserve represents the cumulative effect of revaluations of freehold land and buildings still owned which are revalued to deemed cost at 1 August 2014.

The profit and loss reserve represents cumulative profits or losses, including unrealised profit on the remeasurement of investment properties, net of dividends paid and other adjustments.

The other reserve represents premiums received upon issue of preference shares in previous years.

The cumulative amount of goodwill resulting from acquisitions in the previous years which has been written off to reserves is £2,387,680 (2022 - £2,387,680).

PEOPLES LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) Year ended 31 July 2023

18. GUARANTEES AND OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

a) Capital commitments

At 31 July 2023 the Group had contracted capital commitments of £Nil (2022 - £Nil). The company had no capital commitments at 31 July 2023 (2022 - £Nil).

b) Contingent liabilities

The group has granted cross guarantees, letters of offset, standard securities over freehold property and bond and floating charges in relation to the overdrafts of group companies. In addition, certain new and used vehicle stocks are provided as security against certain trade creditors. The total secured creditors of the group at 31 July 2023 are £57,684,737 (2022 - £47,507,688). The increase in secured creditors is due to an increase in stock allocated to the group by the manufacturer.

The fourth preference shares attract a redemption premium of £0.99 per share, being the difference between the nominal value and amount originally subscribed. This amount is payable following the floatation, disposal or take-over of the company and, as these events are not anticipated by the directors, the liability is not recognised in the financial statements.

c) Lease commitments

The group leases land and buildings on long term leases. The annual rental on these leases is £645,000 (2022 - £620,000). The rent payable under these leases is subject to renegotiation at intervals specified in the leases.

The company's minimum rentals under the aforementioned leases are as follows:

	2023 Property £	2022 Property £
Group		
Within 1 year	645,000	620,000
Within 2-5 years	358,333	942,917
After 5 years	<u>1,225,000</u>	<u>1,250,000</u>

The company has no operating leases.

d) VAT

The company is registered for VAT purposes in a group of undertakings which share a common registration number. As a result, it has jointly guaranteed the VAT liability of certain other group undertakings and failure by these other group undertakings would give rise to additional liabilities of the company. The directors are of the opinion that no liability is likely to arise.

PEOPLES LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Year ended 31 July 2023

19. RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING PROFIT TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2023 £	2022 £
Operating profit	7,012,862	8,487,635
Depreciation charge	786,263	798,048
(Increase) in stocks	(14,770,355)	(33,372,151)
(Increase) Decrease in debtors	(392,023)	932,420
Increase in creditors	10,430,576	32,216,781
Net cash inflow from operating activities	<u>3,067,323</u>	<u>9,062,733</u>

20. RECONCILIATION OF NET CASH FLOW TO MOVEMENT IN NET FUNDS

	2023 £	2022 £
(Decrease) Increase in cash and cash equivalents during the year	<u>(1,431,964)</u>	<u>4,875,345</u>
Change in net debt resulting from cash flows	<u>(1,431,964)</u>	<u>4,875,345</u>
Net funds at beginning of year	<u>22,238,783</u>	<u>17,363,438</u>
Net funds at end of year	<u>20,806,819</u>	<u>22,238,783</u>

21. ANALYSIS OF NET FUNDS

	2022 £	Cash flow £	2023 £
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>22,250,800</u>	<u>(1,431,964)</u>	<u>20,818,836</u>
Preference shares	<u>22,250,800</u> <u>(12,017)</u>	<u>(1,431,964)</u> <u>-</u>	<u>20,818,836</u> <u>(12,017)</u>
	<u>22,238,783</u>	<u>(1,431,964)</u>	<u>20,806,819</u>

22. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The company has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 section 33.1A not to disclose transactions with fellow group undertakings, all of which are wholly owned.