

**Company Registration No. 05113733**

**First Greater Western Limited**

**Report and Financial Statements**

**31 March 2012**



# **First Greater Western Limited**

## **Report and financial statements 2012**

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# First Greater Western Limited

## Directors' report

The directors have pleasure in submitting their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2012

### Principal activities

The company operates passenger railway services between London Paddington and South Wales, Bristol, the West of England and the Cotswolds, commuter services to Paddington from the Thames Valley and regional services in the West of England

### Business review and future outlook

We continue to drive further improvements in performance across our network. Punctuality during the year has been improving, with our PPM MAA at 90.6%, (2011 90.3%) and we continue to challenge Network Rail to reduce infrastructure failures

We are committed to delivering further improvements for passengers and in December 2011 we agreed a major £28.9m deal with the DfT for 48 new carriages to be added to our High Speed Train fleet, providing an extra 4,500 seats for customers on peak services into and out of London. As part of this agreement we leased five Class 180 trains to replace Turbo services on the Cotswold line between London Paddington and Hereford providing a more comfortable journey on this long-distance route

We continue to introduce further capacity across our network. In the West of England we worked with the DfT to secure extra trains and carriages which will provide an additional 924 seats on Bristol peak services, while customers in Torbay and between Truro and Falmouth will see almost 650 additional seats on peak weekday services and 1,275 at weekends

There have also been major improvements to stations along the route. The £10m redevelopment of Bath Spa station has continued and Exeter Central station has received a refresh, bringing the original ticket hall back into use and improving the station as a focal point. Slough station has had a complete overhaul costing £1m, as a result of a joint project with Network Rail and the local council ahead of this summer when the station will also serve the Olympic rowing venue

The company made an operating loss of £8.8m (2011 £52.3m loss) after utilisation of £2.9m of the £59.9m onerous contract provision recognised in the prior year on turnover of £1,018.9m (2011 £902.8m). It is anticipated the remaining onerous contract provision of £56.9m will be utilised by the current franchise end date of 31 March 2013. Passenger receipts showed reported growth of 8.0% over the year (2012 £749.1m versus 2011 £693.8m). The company will continue to focus on its addressable cost base in the year ahead

# **First Greater Western Limited**

## **Directors' report (continued)**

### **Principal risks and uncertainties**

#### **Rail franchise agreements**

The company is required to comply with certain conditions as part of its rail franchise agreement. If it fails to comply with these conditions, it may be liable to penalties including the potential termination of the rail franchise agreement. This would result in the company losing the right to continue operating the affected operations and consequently, the related revenues or cash flows. The company may also lose some or all of the amounts set aside as security for its performance bond and the season ticket bond. Compliance with franchise conditions are closely managed and monitored on a monthly basis by senior management and procedures are in place to minimise the risk of non-compliance.

#### **Legislation and regulation**

Our business is subject to numerous laws regulating safety procedures, equipment specifications, employment requirements, environmental procedures, insurance coverage and other operating issues and considerations. These laws and regulations are constantly subject to change. The costs associated with complying with the adoption of new legislation, regulations or other laws could adversely impact the results of our operations. To help mitigate the risk of legislative or regulatory changes the company and FirstGroup plc regularly lobbies both government and transport bodies.

#### **Labour costs**

Labour costs represent a significant component of the company's operating costs. Labour shortages, or low unemployment rates, could hinder the company's ability to recruit and retain qualified employees leading to a higher than expected increase in the cost of recruitment, training and other staff costs. To mitigate this risk, the company seeks to structure its recruitment and retain the right people.

#### **Fuel costs**

Fuel prices and supply levels can be influenced significantly by international, political and economic circumstances. If fuel supply shortages were to arise because of national strikes, world supply difficulties, disruption of refining capacity or oil imports the resultant higher fuel prices and disruption to services could adversely impact the company's operating results. To mitigate the risks of rising fuel costs the company works with FirstGroup plc who regularly enters into forward contracts to buy fuel at fixed prices. In addition the company seeks to limit the impact of unexpected fuel price rises through efficiency and pricing measures.

#### **Terrorism**

Terrorist acts and the public's concerns about potential attacks could adversely affect demand for our services. More particularly if we were to be perceived as not taking all reasonable precautions to guard against potential terrorist acts this could adversely affect our reputation with the public. The company has a Head of Security who is responsible for improved security awareness, the application of good practice in the implementation of security measures, and the development and training of our employees so that they can respond effectively to any perceived threat or incident.

#### **Economy**

The level of economic activity affects the number of train journeys taken by passengers in the UK. Any changes in economic activity may impact upon the passenger numbers and hence our operations. The potential impact on the company is reduced due to the existence of a revenue support arrangement.

# First Greater Western Limited

## Directors' report (continued)

### Financial matters

The results for the year are given in the profit and loss account on page 9

The directors have not recommended the payment of a final dividend (2011 £nil), no interim dividend was paid during the year (2011 £nil)

### Supplier payment policy

It is the company's policy to abide by the payment terms agreed with suppliers whenever it is satisfied that the supplier has provided the goods and services in accordance with agreed terms and conditions. A number of significant purchases, such as fuel and commitments under operating leases, are paid by direct debit. At 31 March 2012 the company had 34 days' purchases outstanding (2011 25 days)

### Financial risk management objectives and policies

The company's principal financial assets are bank balances and trade debtors. The company'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 company has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of customers. The credit risk on liquid funds is limited because the counterparties are banks. Although certain risks, for example, fuel price, are hedged on a group basis, the company does not enter directly into any derivative financial instruments.

### Directors

The directors who held office throughout the year (except as noted) and subsequently appointed are as follows

Directors who held office throughout the year,

Dr Benjamin Caswell

Kevin Gale

David Gausby

Andrew Mellors

Clive Burrows

Mark Hopwood

Martin Stoolman

Susan Evans

Matthew Golton

Hugh Clancy

Directors who were appointed during the year

Vernon Barker (appointed 5<sup>th</sup> October 2011)

# **First Greater Western Limited**

## **Directors' report (continued)**

### **Employee involvement**

Communication with employees is effected mainly through regular briefing and negotiating meetings between the directors, the senior management and employee representatives on the central and depot negotiating committees. The briefing meetings enable senior management to consult employees and to ascertain their views on matters likely to affect their interests.

### **Disabled persons**

The company recognises its obligations to give disabled people full and fair consideration for all vacancies within the statutory medical requirement, which have to be met for certain grades of staff. Wherever reasonable and practicable, the company will retain newly disabled employees and at the same time provide full and fair opportunities for the career development of disabled people.

### **Basis other than Going concern**

The directors have considered the current DfT notified franchise end date of 31 March, 2013, which points that the company will cease to trade. Whilst there is a provision in the franchise agreement for the DfT to extend the franchise expiry date by up to seven rail reporting periods to October 2013, notice of this extension has not been given to date and must be given by 31 December 2012.

Accordingly, in the absence of this notification, the financial statements have been prepared on a basis other than going concern as required by FRS 18 Accounting Policies. No material adjustment arose as a result of ceasing to apply the going concern basis.

# First Greater Western Limited

## Directors' report (continued)

### Auditor information

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

- as far as the director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditor is unaware, and
- the director has taken all the steps that he/she ought to have taken as a director in order to make himself/herself 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 provision of s418(2) of the Companies Act 2006

### Auditor

The company has passed an elective resolution dispensing with the requirement to appoint an auditor annually. Deloitte LLP have indicated their willingness to continue as auditors of the company and are therefore deemed to be reappointed for a further term.

Approved by the Board of Directors  
And signed by order of the board



Dr Benjamin Caswell  
Director

Date 22/6/12

Milford House  
1 Milford Street  
Swindon  
SN1 1HL

# **First Greater Western Limited**

## **Statement of directors' responsibilities**

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 year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accountancy standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to

- (a) select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- (b) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- (c) state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, and,
- (d) 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 to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.



## **Independent auditor's report to the members of First Greater Western Limited**

We have audited the financial statements of First Greater Western Limited for the year ended 31 March 2012 which comprise the profit and loss account, the balance sheet, the reconciliation of movements in shareholder's deficit, the statement of total recognised gains and losses and the related notes 1 to 24. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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.

### **Respective responsibilities of directors and auditor**

As more fully explained in the Directors' Responsibilities Statements, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practice Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

### **Scope of the audit of financial statements**

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed, the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors, and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the directors' report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

### **Opinion**

In our opinion the financial statements

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 March 2012 and of its profit for the year then ended,
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### **Emphasis of matter – Financial statements prepared other than on a going concern basis**

In forming our opinion on the financial statements, which is not modified, we have considered the adequacy of the disclosure made in note 1 to the financial statements, which explains that the financial statements have been prepared on a basis other than that of a going concern.

### **Opinion on matters prescribed in the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion the information in the Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

## **Independent auditor's report to the members of First Greater Western Limited (continued)**

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

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us, or
- the 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



Mark Tolley (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
for and on behalf of Deloitte LLP  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor  
London, United Kingdom  
22 June 2012

## First Greater Western Limited

### Profit and loss account Year ended 31 March 2012

	Notes	2012 £'000	2011 £'000
Turnover	2	<u>1,018,928</u>	<u>902,842</u>
Operating costs			
- General		(1,027,696)	(884,115)
- Restructuring and other exceptional costs	4	-	(59,857)
- Intangible asset amortisation		-	(11,143)
Total operating costs	3	<u>(1,027,696)</u>	<u>(955,115)</u>
Operating loss		(8,768)	(52,273)
Net interest receivable / (payable)	8	<u>8,836</u>	<u>(2,057)</u>
Profit / (loss) on ordinary activities before taxation	9	68	(54,330)
Tax credit on profit / (loss) on ordinary activities	10	<u>390</u>	<u>12,409</u>
Retained profit / (loss) for the year, transferred to reserves	20	<u>458</u>	<u>(41,921)</u>

All activities relate to discontinued operations


# First Greater Western Limited

## Balance sheet At 31 March 2012

	Notes	£'000	2012 £'000	£'000	2011 £'000
<b>Assets employed:</b>					
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Intangible assets	11		-		-
Tangible assets	12		82,948		83,219
			<u>82,948</u>		<u>83,219</u>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stocks	13	11,109		14,800	
Debtors					
- due within one year	14	97,601		73,888	
- due after one year	14	-		15,447	
Cash at bank and in hand	15	72,762		75,793	
			<u>181,472</u>	<u>179,928</u>	
<b>Creditors</b> amounts falling due within one year	16	<u>(283,415)</u>		<u>(197,194)</u>	
<b>Net current liabilities</b>			<u>(101,943)</u>		<u>(17,266)</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>(18,995)</u>		<u>65,953</u>
<b>Creditors:</b> amounts falling due after more than one year	17		-		(35,429)
<b>Provisions for liabilities and charges</b>	18		(3,442)		(50,998)
<b>Net liabilities excluding pension liability</b>			<u>(22,437)</u>		<u>(20,474)</u>
Pension liability	22		(9,166)		(13,380)
<b>Net liabilities</b>			<u>(31,603)</u>		<u>(33,854)</u>
<b>Financed by:</b>					
<b>Capital and reserves</b>					
Called up share capital	19		-		-
Profit and loss account	20		(31,603)		(33,854)
<b>Shareholder's deficit</b>			<u>(31,603)</u>		<u>(33,854)</u>

These financial statements of First Greater Western Limited registered number 5113733 were approved by the Board of Directors on 22/6/12 2012 and were signed on its behalf by

Dr Benjamin Caswell  
Director

B J 

## First Greater Western Limited

### Reconciliation of movements in shareholder's deficit Year ended 31 March 2012

	2012 £'000	2011 £'000
Profit / (loss) for the financial year	458	(41,921)
Other recognised gains / (losses) relating to the year (net)	1,481	(5,844)
	<u>1,939</u>	<u>(47,765)</u>
Share based payments	312	334
Net addition / (reduction) to shareholder's (deficit) / funds	2,251	(47,431)
Opening shareholder's (deficit) / funds	(33,854)	13,577
Closing shareholder's deficit	<u>(31,603)</u>	<u>(33,854)</u>

### Statement of total recognised gains and losses Year ended 31 March 2012

	£'000	2012 £'000	£'000	2011 £'000
Profit / (loss) for the financial year		458		(41,921)
Actuarial gain / (loss) relating to the pension scheme	1,853		(8,218)	
UK deferred taxation attributable to actuarial gain / (loss)	(372)		2,374	
		<u>1,481</u>		<u>(5,844)</u>
Total recognised gains / (losses) for the year		<u>1,939</u>		<u>(47,765)</u>

# First Greater Western Limited

## Notes to the financial statements

### Year ended 31 March 2012

#### 1. Principal accounting policies

The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the current and preceding year

##### (a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards on the historical cost basis and on a basis other than that of a going concern basis as described in the going concern statement in the Directors' Report on page 4

##### (b) Cash flow statement

The company is a wholly owned subsidiary of FirstGroup plc, a company registered in Scotland. Accordingly, the company has taken advantage of the exemption offered by Financial Reporting Standard 1, enabling it not to produce a cash flow statement as the parent company has included a consolidated cash flow statement within its group financial statements

##### (c) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment

Depreciation is provided to write off the cost less residual value of tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful economic lives or the duration of the franchise as follows

Other plant and equipment	-	3 to 10 years straight line
Passenger carrying vehicles	-	2 to 10 years straight line

##### (d) Intangible fixed assets and depreciation

The rail franchise agreement intangible asset represents the part of the economic benefit derived from the rail franchise agreement that is realised as a result of recognising our share of the rail pension deficit

Intangible fixed assets are stated at cost, net of amortisation and any provision for impairment.

Amortisation is provided to write off the cost less residual value of intangible fixed assets over their estimated useful economic lives as follows

Intangible pension asset	-	7 years straight line
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##### (e) Leases and hire purchase

All leases are operating leases and the rental charges are taken to the profit and loss account on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease

##### (f) Government grants and subsidies

Amounts receivable for tendered services and concessionary fare schemes are included in turnover. Government grants relating to property, plant and equipment are treated as deferred income and released to the income statement over the expected useful lives of the assets concerned

##### (g) Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Provision is made for obsolete and slow moving or defective items where appropriate

**First Greater Western Limited**  
**Notes to the financial statements**  
**Year ended 31 March 2012**

**1. Principal accounting policies (continued)**

**(h) Taxation**

UK corporation tax is provided at amounts expected to be paid (or recovered) using tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date

The taxation liability is reduced wholly or in part by the surrender of losses by group undertakings. The tax benefits arising from group relief are recognised in the financial statements of the surrendering undertaking

The charge for taxation is based on the profit for the year and takes into account taxation deferred because of timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes. Deferred taxation is not provided on timing differences arising from the revaluation of fixed assets where there is no commitment to sell the asset. 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

**(i) Pension costs**

**Company specific schemes**

The company operates a defined benefit scheme, which is held in separately administered funds

The amounts charged to operating profit regarding the defined benefit scheme are the current service costs and gains and losses on settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs. Past service costs are recognised immediately in the profit and loss account if the benefits have vested. If the benefits have not vested immediately, the costs are recognised over the period until vesting occurs. The interest costs and the expected return on the assets are shown as a net amount of other financial costs or credits adjacent to interest. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in the statement of total recognised gains and losses

Pension scheme assets are measured at fair values and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent currency and term to the scheme liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The resulting defined benefit asset or liability, net of related deferred tax, is presented separately after other assets on the face of the balance sheet

**(j) Turnover**

Turnover in UK Rail includes franchise agreement receipts from the Department for Transport ("DfT"). Payments to the DfT for amounts due under the terms of a franchise are included in operating costs. Turnover also includes amounts attributable to the train operating companies ("TOCs"), predominantly based on models of route usage, by the Railway Settlement Plan in respect of passenger receipts. Where season tickets are issued in excess of one week's duration, the attributable share of income is deferred within creditors and is recognised in the profit and loss account over the period covered by the season ticket

**(k) Provisions**

Provisions are recognised when the company has a present obligation as a result of a past event and it is probable that the company will be required to settle the obligation at the balance sheet date and are discounted to present value where the effect is material. Amounts due within 12 months of the balance sheet date are considered to be reliably measured and are therefore included within creditors falling due within one year

**First Greater Western Limited**  
**Notes to the financial statements**  
**Year ended 31 March 2012**

**1. Principal accounting policies (continued)**

**(i) Share based payments**

The company's parent issues equity-settled share-based payments to certain employees. Equity-settled share-based payments are measured at fair value at the date of grant. The fair value determined at the grant date of the equity-settled share-based payments is expensed on a straight line basis over the vesting period, based on the Group's estimate of share that will eventually vest and is adjusted for the effects of non-market based vesting conditions.

Fair value is measured by use of a Black-Scholes model. The expected life used in the model has been adjusted based on management's best estimate, for the effects of non-transferability, exercise restrictions and behavioural considerations.

**2. Turnover and profit / (loss) on ordinary activities before taxation**

Turnover represents the amounts receivable for services supplied to customers during the year and includes rail support grants and amounts receivable for tendered services and concessionary fare schemes.

The whole of the turnover and profit / (loss) on ordinary activities before taxation derives from the company's principal activities within the United Kingdom. The company has one principal class of business, namely, the provision of passenger transport services.

	2012 £'000	2011 £'000
Passenger receipts	749,076	693,767
Support grants	205,399	141,281
Other revenue	64,453	67,794
	<u>1,018,928</u>	<u>902,842</u>

**3. Operating costs**

	Notes	2012 £'000	2011 £'000
Raw materials and consumables		81,358	74,891
Staff costs	5	223,410	204,264
Other external charges		355,651	325,247
Franchise payments		331,691	249,883
Restructuring and other exceptional costs	4	-	59,857
Profit on disposal of tangible fixed assets		-	(491)
Depreciation and other amounts written off tangible fixed assets and intangible fixed assets		38,551	41,464
Utilisation of contract provision		(2,965)	-
		<u>1,027,696</u>	<u>955,115</u>



**First Greater Western Limited**  
**Notes to the financial statements**  
**Year ended 31 March 2012**

**4 Contract provision charge**

There are no new restructuring or other exceptional costs during the year. In the prior year exceptional contract provision costs of £59.9m were charged to the profit and loss account. £2.9m of this provision has been utilised in the current year. In addition, £2.9m has been utilised from the accelerated interest provision in the current year. See note 18 for more details. The exceptional costs included a contract provision principally relating to accelerated depreciation following our commercial decision not to take up an option to extend the franchise for a further three years. At that time, provisions were also raised to account for intangible and interest charges for the remaining two years of the franchise to 31 March 2013. The provision continues to reflect our best estimate of the likely losses on the franchise over the two years to 31 March 2013.

	Notes	2012 £'000	2011 £'000
Contract provision		-	59,857
Accelerated intangible asset charge	11	-	7,429
Accelerated interest charge	8	-	5,335
		<u>-</u>	<u>72,621</u>

**5. Employee numbers and costs**

The average number of persons employed by the company (including directors) during the year was as follows

	2012 No.	2011 No.
Traincrew including traincrew management	2,354	2,349
Maintenance	1,086	1,079
Customer service	1,206	1,172
Administration	202	184
	<u>4,848</u>	<u>4,784</u>

The aggregate payroll costs of these persons were as follows

	2012 £'000	2011 £'000
Wages and salaries	188,768	172,060
Social security costs	15,011	12,814
Other pension costs	19,631	19,390
	<u>223,410</u>	<u>204,264</u>

**First Greater Western Limited**  
**Notes to the financial statements**  
**Year ended 31 March 2012**

**6. Directors' remuneration**

Certain directors (David Gausby, Vernon Barker, Clive Burrows and Hugh Clancy) received remuneration from FirstGroup plc, the ultimate parent company, and First Rail Holdings Limited, the immediate parent company, in the current and prior years, details of which are disclosed in their report and accounts. The directors have not performed any qualifying services on behalf of First Greater Western Limited during the current and prior year. Details of retirement benefits accruing to the directors under the group defined benefit schemes are detailed in the financial statements of FirstGroup plc.

The remuneration of the directors during the year paid by First Greater Western Limited was as follows

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Aggregate emoluments (excluding pension contributions)	1,318	1,253
Compensation for loss of office	-	88
	<u>1,318</u>	<u>1,341</u>

Directors' emoluments include salary, fees, bonuses, sums paid by way of expense allowances subject to UK income tax and the money value of other non-cash benefits and exclude share options, company pension contributions and payments made under long-term incentive schemes.

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
<b>The number of directors who:</b>		
Are members of a defined benefit pension scheme	11	10
	<u>11</u>	<u>10</u>

The emoluments of the highest paid director amounted to

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
<b>Aggregate emoluments</b>		
Basic	194	184
Bonus	111	113
Allowances	10	10
Benefits	1	1
	<u>316</u>	<u>308</u>

*Defined benefit scheme*

Accrued pension at end of year	7	9
Accrued lump sum at end of year	12	5
	<u>12</u>	<u>5</u>

The highest paid director is entitled to receive shares under the FirstGroup long-term incentive plan

**First Greater Western Limited**  
**Notes to the financial statements**  
**Year ended 31 March 2012**

**7. Share based payments**

**Save as you earn (SAYE)**

The company's ultimate parent company operates an Inland Revenue approved savings related share option scheme. Grants were made in December 2002, December 2003, December 2004, April 2006, December 2006, December 2007, December 2008, December 2009, December 2010 and December 2011. The scheme is based on eligible employees being granted options and their agreement to opening a share save account with a nominated savings carrier and to save weekly or monthly over a specified period. Share save accounts are held with Yorkshire Building Society. The right to exercise the option is at the employee's discretion at the end of the period previously chosen for a period of six months.

Details of the share options outstanding during the year are as follows

	<b>SAYE</b>	<b>SAYE</b>	<b>SAYE</b>	<b>SAYE</b>	<b>SAYE</b>
	<b>Dec 2007</b>	<b>Dec 2008</b>	<b>Dec 2009</b>	<b>Dec 2010</b>	<b>Dec 2011</b>
	<b>Options</b>	<b>Options</b>	<b>Options</b>	<b>Options</b>	<b>Options</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
Outstanding at the beginning of the year	123,300	1,948,802	2,626,093	2,965,613	-
Awarded during the year	-	-	-	-	2,947,057
Exercised during the year	(559)	(1,726)	(4,327)	(846)	-
Lapsed during the year	(122,741)	(141,266)	(285,598)	(295,487)	(39,293)
Outstanding at the end of the year	-	1,805,810	2,336,168	2,669,280	2,907,764
Exercisable at the end of the year	-	1,805,810	-	-	-
Weighted average exercise price (pence)	583.0	371.0	310.0	319.0	271.5
Weighted average share price at date of exercise (pence)	347.6	319.5	325.5	316.2	N/A

The inputs into the Black-Scholes model are as follows

	<b>SAYE 2012</b>	<b>SAYE 2011</b>
	<b>Dec 2011</b>	<b>Dec 2010</b>
Weighted average share price (pence)	319.2	387.0
Weighted average exercise price (pence)	271.5	319.0
Expected volatility	35%	35%
Expected life	3 Years	3 Years
Risk-free rate	0.6%	1.4%
Expected dividend yield	7.0%	4.8%

Expected volatility was determined by calculating the historical volatility of the group's share price over the previous five years. The expected life used in the model has been adjusted based on management's best estimate, for the effects of non-transferability, exercise restrictions, and behavioural considerations.

**First Greater Western Limited**  
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**7. Share based payments (continued)**

Allowances have been made for the SAYE schemes for the fact that, amongst a group of recipients some are expected to leave before an entitlement vests. The accounting charge is then adjusted over the vesting period to take account of actual forfeitures, so although the total charge is unaffected by the pre-vesting forfeiture assumption, the timing of the recognition of the expense will be sensitive to it. Fair values for the SAYE include a 10% p.a. pre-vesting leaver assumption whereas the Executive, LTIP and deferred share plans exclude any allowance for the pre-vesting forfeitures.

The group used the inputs noted above to measure the fair value of the new share options.

The group has allocated the expense amongst its trading subsidiary undertakings based on the number of employees participating in the scheme. The company has recognised a total expense of £312,000 (2011 £334,000) relating to equity-settled share-based payment transactions.

**8. Net interest receivable / (payable)**

	Notes	2012 £'000	2011 £'000
<i>Interest payable and similar charges</i>			
Amounts payable to other group undertakings		(2,873)	(4,232)
Other interest payable		(1)	(4)
Interest on pension scheme liabilities		(15,899)	(14,864)
Utilisation of interest provision (2011 Accelerated charge for future years)	4	2,873	(5,335)
		<u>(15,900)</u>	<u>(24,435)</u>
<i>Interest receivable and similar income</i>			
Bank interest		380	507
Other interest receivable		1	1
Return on pension scheme assets		24,355	21,870
		<u>24,736</u>	<u>22,378</u>
Net interest receivable / (payable)		<u>8,836</u>	<u>(2,057)</u>

**9. Profit / (loss) on ordinary activities before taxation**

	2012 £'000	2011 £'000
Profit / (loss) on ordinary activities before taxation is stated after charging / (crediting)		
<i>Auditors' remuneration</i>		
- Deloitte LLP audit fee for the audit of the annual accounts	98	95
- Deloitte LLP non-audit fee for other services	-	4
<i>Depreciation and other amounts written off tangible fixed assets</i>		
- owned assets	38,551	30,321
Amortisation of intangible assets	-	11,143
<i>Rentals payable under operating leases</i>		
- plant and machinery	65,130	51,142
- other operating leases	135,893	132,317
Net rents receivable from property	<u>(5,853)</u>	<u>(6,009)</u>

**First Greater Western Limited**  
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**10. Tax (credit) on profit / (loss) on ordinary activities**

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Current taxation		
- UK corporation tax charge for the year	-	5,195
- Group relief	(2,667)	-
- Adjustment in respect of prior years	(18,046)	2,974
	<u>(20,713)</u>	<u>8,169</u>
Total current taxation		
Deferred taxation		
- Origination and reversal of timing differences	1,549	(16,655)
- Effect of decrease in tax rate on opening deferred tax balance	(158)	(93)
- Adjustment in respect of prior years	17,498	(1,782)
	<u>18,889</u>	<u>(18,530)</u>
Deferred taxation on pension schemes		
- Origination and reversal of timing differences	1,000	(2,304)
- Effect of decrease in tax rate on opening deferred tax balance	434	256
	<u>1,434</u>	<u>(2,048)</u>
Total deferred taxation	<u>20,323</u>	<u>(20,578)</u>
Total tax (credit) on profit / (loss) on ordinary activities	<u>(390)</u>	<u>(12,409)</u>

The standard rate of taxation for the year, based on the UK standard rate of corporation tax, is 26% (2011 28%) The actual current tax charge for the current and previous year differed from the standard rate for the reasons set out in the following reconciliation

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
Standard rate of taxation	26.0	28.0
Factors affecting charge		
- Capital allowances less than / (in excess) of depreciation	(2,585.1)	0.2
- Other timing differences	(1,363.0)	(37.8)
- Adjustment in respect of prior years	(26,538.2)	(5.4)
	<u>(30,460.3)</u>	<u>(15.0)</u>
Current taxation rate for the year		

**First Greater Western Limited**  
**Notes to the financial statements**  
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**10. Tax (credit) on profit / (loss) on ordinary activities (continued)**

A resolution passed by Parliament on 26 March 2012 has reduced the main rate of UK corporation tax to 24% from 1 April 2012. The impact of this rate reduction has reduced the deferred tax liability on UK timing differences.

Legislation to reduce the main rate of UK corporation tax from 24% to 23% from 1 April 2013 is expected to be included in the Finance Bill 2012. Further reductions to the main rate of UK corporation tax are proposed to reduce the rate to 22% from 1 April 2014. None of these expected future rate reductions had been substantively enacted at the balance sheet date and, therefore, are not included in these financial statements.

The effective tax rate for the period to 31 March 2013 is expected to reduce accordingly.

**11. Intangible fixed assets**

	Notes	Pension Asset £000
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2011 and 31 March 2012		26,000
		<hr/>
<b>Amortisation</b>		
At 1 April 2011 and 31 March 2012		26,000
		<hr/>
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 March 2011 and 31 March 2012		-
		<hr/>

First Greater Western Limited set up an intangible pension asset to the value of £26.0m. This was equivalent to the value of the deficit under FRS 17 on commencement of the franchise, in order to offset the liability arising prior to the franchise term. This asset was capitalised and was being written off on a straight-line basis over the initial franchise term of seven years prior to the accelerated amortisation fully writing down the asset in the prior year.

**First Greater Western Limited**  
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**12 Tangible fixed assets**

	<b>Passenger carrying vehicle fleet £'000</b>	<b>Other plant and equipment £'000</b>	<b>Total £'000</b>
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 April 2011	151,468	31,022	182,490
Additions	31,962	14,713	46,675
Disposals	-	(8,395)	(8,395)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 March 2012	183,430	37,340	220,770
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 April 2011	86,840	12,431	99,271
Charge for year	30,776	7,775	38,551
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 March 2012	117,616	20,206	137,822
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net book value</b>			
At 31 March 2012	<u>65,814</u>	<u>17,134</u>	<u>82,948</u>
At 31 March 2011	<u>64,628</u>	<u>18,591</u>	<u>83,219</u>

Included in Other plant and equipment is £7.7m (2011: £6.0m) of construction in progress assets, which are not depreciated until they are brought into use.

**13. Stocks**

	<b>2012 £'000</b>	<b>2011 £'000</b>
Spare parts and consumables	<u>11,109</u>	<u>14,800</u>

There is no material difference between the balance sheet value of the stocks and their replacement cost.

**First Greater Western Limited**  
**Notes to the financial statements**  
**Year ended 31 March 2012**

**14. Debtors**

	Notes	2012 £'000	2011 £'000
Amounts falling due within one year			
Trade debtors		43,056	39,296
Amounts owed by group undertakings		23,103	2,175
VAT		3,185	3,452
Other debtors		1,245	129
Other prepayments and accrued income		27,012	28,836
		<u>97,601</u>	<u>73,888</u>
Amounts falling due after more than one year			
Deferred tax		-	15,447

**Deferred tax (liability) / asset**

	Notes	£'000
At 1 April 2011		15,447
Debit to the profit and loss account	10	(18,889)
At 31 March 2012	18	<u>(3,442)</u>

The deferred tax (liability) / asset consists of the following amounts

	2012 £'000	2011 £'000
Capital allowances in excess of depreciation	(4,125)	(2,235)
Other timing differences	683	17,682
Deferred tax (liability) / asset	<u>(3,442)</u>	<u>15,447</u>



**First Greater Western Limited**  
**Notes to the financial statements**  
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**15. Cash at bank and in hand**

	2012 £'000	2011 £'000
Bank deposits	<u>72,762</u>	<u>75,793</u>

Cash and cash equivalents includes ring-fenced cash of £72.8m (2011 £75.8m). Under the terms of the franchise agreement, the company can only distribute cash either up to the amount of retained profits or the amount determined by prescribed liquidity ratios. The ring-fenced cash represents that which is not available for distribution or the amount required to satisfy the liquidity ratios at the balance sheet date.

**16. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	Notes	2012 £'000	2011 £'000
Trade creditors		66,060	42,404
Amounts owed to group undertakings		41,487	13,294
Group tax relief		-	2,651
Corporation tax		-	5,196
Other tax and social security		4,597	4,071
Other creditors		21,784	19,272
Contract provision	4	56,892	11,239
Accruals and deferred income (including £2.5m (2011 £3.0m) interest provision)		92,595	99,067
		<u>283,415</u>	<u>197,194</u>

Amounts owed to group undertakings include £35.4m (2011 £8.9m) of the £35.4m (2011 £44.3m) loan from FirstGroup plc (note 17). Prior year amounts owed to group undertakings included a loan of £41.0m from FirstGroup plc. The £41.0m loan was repayable on demand to the extent that the company was not in breach of its financial ratios defined in its franchise agreement. This loan was not drawn at 31 March 2012.

**17. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year**

	2012 £'000	2011 £'000
Amounts owed to group undertakings	<u>-</u>	<u>35,429</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>35,429</u>

Amounts owed to group undertakings included a loan of £35.429m (2011 £44.286m) from FirstGroup plc. This loan is repayable over seven years and was taken out to fund the high-speed train rolling stock refurbishment programme. The interest rate on the loan is fixed at 7%. This loan will be repaid on or before 31 March 2013 and accordingly is presented within Creditors' amounts falling due within one year in 2012.

**First Greater Western Limited**  
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**18. Provisions for liabilities and charges**

	Note	Deferred tax £'000	Contract provision £'000	Accelerated interest provision £'000	Total £'000
At 1 April 2011		-	48,618	2,380	50,998
Provided in the year	14	(3,442)	-	-	(3,442)
Transferred to due in less than one year	16	-	(48,618)	(2,380)	(50,998)
At 31 March 2012		<u>(3,442)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,442)</u>

As detailed in note 4, a contract provision of £59 857m was recorded in 2011. Of the £59 857m, £11 239m was due within one year (note 16) and £48 618m was due after more than one year. Of the £5 335m accelerated interest provision, £2 955m was due within one year (note 16) and £2 380m was due after more than one year. In the current year, £2 965m of the contract provision and £2 873m of the accelerated interest provision have been utilised.

**19. Called up share capital**

	2012 £	2011 £
<b>Authorised</b>		
1,000 ordinary shares of £1 each	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>
<b>Allotted, called up and fully paid</b>		
1 ordinary share of £1 each	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

**20. Profit and loss account**

	£'000
At 1 April 2011	(33,854)
Share based payments	312
Retained profit for the year	<u>458</u>
Profit and loss account excluding pension asset for the year	(33,084)
Actuarial gain / (loss) relating to the pension scheme	1,853
UK deferred taxation attributable to actuarial gain	<u>(372)</u>
At 31 March 2012	<u>(31,603)</u>

**21. Commitments**

Capital commitments at the end of the year for which no provision has been made are as follows

	2012 £'000	2011 £'000
Contracted for but not provided	<u>57,457</u>	<u>64,699</u>

**First Greater Western Limited**  
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**21. Commitments (continued)**

**Operating leases**

Commitments for payments in the next year under operating leases are as follows

	2012		2011	
	Land and buildings £'000	Other £'000	Land and buildings £'000	Other £'000
Operating leases which expire				
Within one year	758	192,523	252	242
Between two and five years	-	-	273	185,596
	<u>758</u>	<u>192,523</u>	<u>525</u>	<u>185,838</u>

**22. Pension liability**

**Railways Pension Scheme – First Greater Western Section**

The company is a member of a defined benefit pension scheme, which is funded. All eligible employees are offered membership of the Railways Pension Scheme. The valuation of the scheme was carried out by independent actuaries as at 31 December 2010 in respect of the costs used in these financial statements. The actuarial valuation was updated for 31 March 2012, at this date the market value of the scheme's assets totalled £481.3m. The actuarial value of these assets was sufficient to cover 77% (2011: 81%) of the benefits, which had accrued to the scheme's members.

Contributions are paid to the scheme at rates recommended by the actuaries and the assets of the scheme are held in a separately administered trust. The scheme's assets are held and managed independently of the company's finances by independent investment managers appointed by the trustees of the scheme. The current contribution rate is 10.2% (2011: 10.2%) for employees and 15.3% (2011: 15.3%) for the employer.

The actuarial assumptions used in determining the last full actuarial valuation were that the rate of return on investments will be 7.59% per annum, the rate of earnings increase will be 4.23% per annum and the rate of inflation will be (RPI/CPI) 3.2%/2.4% per annum. The valuation was made using the projected unit method.

Under the terms of the Railways Pension Scheme (RPS) the employer (60%) and the employees (40%) share any fund deficit.

The current service pension cost relating to this scheme in the year was £19.6m.

The main financial assumptions used in this update were as follows:

	2012	2011	2010
Rate of increase in salaries	3.75%	4.20%	4.40%
Rate of increase of pensions in payment	1.75%	2.40%	3.40%
Rate of increase of pensions in deferment	1.75%	2.40%	3.40%
Discount rate	4.65%	5.50%	5.60%
Inflation assumption - RPI	2.75%	3.20%	3.40%
Inflation assumption - CPI	1.75%	2.40%	-

**First Greater Western Limited**  
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**22. Pension liability (continued)**

The expected assets in the scheme and the expected rate of return were

	2012	2011	2010	2012	2011	2010
	Expected	Expected	Expected	Value	Value	Value
	rate of	rate of	rate of	£'000	£'000	£'000
	return	return	return			
Equities	8.40%	8.85%	9.05%	-	-	279,457
Bonds	4.25%	5.20%	5.30%	24,749	22,756	43,387
Property	6.40%	6.85%	7.60%	-	-	37,181
Cash Plus	8.40%	8.85%	9.05%	372,207	360,374	38,557
Other	8.37%	7.50%	8.53%	84,362	78,332	23,316
				<u>481,318</u>	<u>461,462</u>	<u>421,898</u>

The Railways Pension Scheme changed the asset allocation during July 2010 with equities held as part of the growth fund called "Cash Plus", which invests in different return seeking assets

Amounts recognised in income in respect of these defined benefit schemes are as follows

	Notes	2012	2011
		£'000	£'000
Current service costs	5	19,631	19,390
Interest cost		18,451	17,987
Expected return on scheme assets		(24,355)	(21,870)
Interest (credit) / charge on franchise adjustment		(2,552)	(3,123)
	8	<u>(8,456)</u>	<u>(7,006)</u>
		<u>11,175</u>	<u>12,384</u>

Actuarial gains and losses have been reported in the statement of recognised income and expense. The actual loss on scheme assets was £18.2m (2011 loss £4.4m)

The amount included in the balance sheet arising from the company's obligations in respect of its defined benefit pension schemes is as follows

	2012	2011
	£'000	£'000
Fair value of schemes' assets	481,318	461,462
Present value of defined benefit obligations	<u>(622,686)</u>	<u>(566,894)</u>
Deficit in the scheme	(141,368)	(105,432)
Rail franchise adjustment (60%)	74,340	46,353
Adjustment from employee share of RPS deficits (40%)	54,967	40,998
Liability recognised in balance sheet	<u>(12,061)</u>	<u>(18,081)</u>
Related deferred tax asset	2,895	4,701
Net pension liability	<u>(9,166)</u>	<u>(13,380)</u>

**First Greater Western Limited**  
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**22. Pension liability (continued)**

Movements in the present value of defined benefit obligations (DBO) were as follows

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
At start of the year	566,894	583,945
Current service cost	19,631	19,390
Brass contribution adjustment	(500)	(600)
Interest cost	18,451	17,987
Employee share of change in DBO (not attributable to franchise adjustment)	28,737	(1,257)
Actuarial loss / (gain)	5,023	(39,161)
Benefit payments	<u>(15,550)</u>	<u>(13,410)</u>
At end of the year	<u><u>622,686</u></u>	<u><u>566,894</u></u>

Movements in the fair value of scheme assets were as follows

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
At start of the year	461,462	421,898
Expected return on assets	24,355	21,870
Company contributions	15,293	14,667
Brass contributions	(500)	(600)
Employee contributions	10,316	9,802
Employee share of return on assets	4,119	11,642
Loss on assets	(18,177)	(4,407)
Benefits paid from schemes	<u>(15,550)</u>	<u>(13,410)</u>
At end of the year	<u><u>481,318</u></u>	<u><u>461,462</u></u>

Movements in the franchise adjustment were as follows

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
At start of the year	(77,260)	(143,677)
Interest on franchise adjustment	(2,552)	(3,123)
Employee share of change in DBO	(18,626)	26,567
Actuarial (gain) / loss on franchise adjustment	<u>(25,388)</u>	<u>42,973</u>
At end of the year	<u><u>(123,826)</u></u>	<u><u>(77,260)</u></u>

**First Greater Western Limited**  
**Notes to the financial statements**  
**Year ended 31 March 2012**

**22. Pension liability (continued)**

History of experience adjustments is as follows,

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>£'000</b>
Fair value of scheme assets	481,318	461,462	421,898	309,165	407,728
Present value of defined benefit obligations	(622,686)	(566,894)	(583,945)	(407,765)	(425,573)
Rail franchise adjustment (60%)	74,340	46,353	86,203	45,153	(7,481)
Adjustment for employee share of RPS deficit (40%)	54,967	40,998	63,698	38,683	6,977
	<u>(12,061)</u>	<u>(18,081)</u>	<u>(12,146)</u>	<u>(14,764)</u>	<u>(18,349)</u>
<b>Deficit in the schemes</b>					
Experience gain or (loss) on scheme assets					
Amount (£000)	(18,177)	(4,407)	47,866	(88,583)	(30,668)
Percentage of scheme assets (%)	(6.3%)	(1.6%)	18.9%	(47.5%)	(7.5%)
Experience gain or (loss) on scheme liabilities					
Amount (£000)	2,563	(4,128)	11,301	31,787	37,445
Percentage of the present value of scheme liabilities (%)	0.7%	(1.2%)	3.2%	13.0%	8.8%
Experience gain or (loss) on scheme liabilities after franchise adjustment					
Amount (£000)	27,950	(47,101)	49,306	84,932	2,734
Percentage of the present value of scheme liabilities (%)	7.5%	(13.8%)	14.1%	34.7%	0.6%

**First Greater Western Limited**  
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**Year ended 31 March 2012**

**22. Pension liability (continued)**

The company recognises its share of deficit that it expects to fund over the term of its franchise. This is accounted for by way of a franchise adjustment. Had the company accounted for pensions as if the respective franchise had an indefinite duration, the impact on the financial statements would have been as follows:

	2012 £'000	2011 £'000	2010 £'000
<b>Balance sheet</b>			
Pension deficit	(74,340)	(46,353)	(86,203)
Intangible assets	-	-	(11,143)
Deferred taxation	17,842	12,052	27,257
<b>Impact on net assets</b>	<u>(56,498)</u>	<u>(34,301)</u>	<u>(70,089)</u>
<b>Income statement</b>			
Unwinding of discount on franchise adjustment	(2,552)	(3,123)	(3,048)
Intangible asset amortisation	612	11,143	3,714
Deferred taxation	(314)	(4,032)	(186)
<b>Impact on profit for the period from continuing operations</b>	<u>(2,254)</u>	<u>3,988</u>	<u>480</u>
<b>Statement of recognised income and expense</b>			
Actuarial (gains) / losses on franchise adjustment	(25,388)	42,973	(38,005)
Deferred tax on actuarial (gains) / losses	6,093	(11,173)	10,641
	<u>(19,295)</u>	<u>31,800</u>	<u>(27,364)</u>

**23. Related party transactions**

As a wholly owned member of the FirstGroup plc group, the company is taking advantage of the exemption under FRS8 not to disclose transactions with group companies that are related parties.

**24. Ultimate parent company**

The directors regard FirstGroup plc, a company incorporated in Great Britain and registered in Scotland, as the ultimate parent and controlling company, which is the smallest and largest group that includes the company's results and for which group financial statements are prepared.

The company's immediate controlling party is First Rail Holdings Limited.

Copies of the accounts of FirstGroup plc can be obtained on request from 50 Eastbourne Terrace, Paddington, London, W2 6LG.