## SAVANNAH PETROLEUM

**ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS 2015** 



Savannah Petroleum is a UK oil and gas company focused around the exploration, appraisal and anticipated development of the R1/R2 and R3/R4 Production Sharing Contracts in South East Niger.

Savannah's permits sit within the Agadem Rift Basin, which is part of the Central African Rift System, a series of highly prolific Cretaceous and Tertiary rifts, with over 6 billion barrels of oil discovered to date.



Notes to Financial Statements

**COMPANY INFORMATION AND ADVISERS** 

31

64

## STRATEGIC REPORT CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

I am pleased to report on Savannah Petroleum's first full year of trading on the London Stock Exchange's AIM market. I would like to thank our shareholders for their support over the past year: our existing investors as well as our new holders who we welcomed to the register over the year.

2015 presented an incredibly challenging environment for companies in the oil and gas industry. The oil price fell 35%, compounding an already poor performance in the second half of 2014, which led to severe cuts in capital expenditure across the industry, in an attempt to shore up balance sheets and maintain flexibility in the face of the downturn. In the second half of 2015 alone, Wood Mackenzie estimated that, globally, US\$380bn of capex was cancelled or postponed. Given this backdrop, I am pleased with the progress made by Savannah over the year.

February 2015 saw us complete our first ground operations in Niger, carrying out an airborne Full Tensor Gradiometry ("FTG") survey which acquired 36,949km of data and was completed on time and on budget. The results of this survey were integrated into our subsurface model, complementing our large existing dataset of 2D and 3D seismic, and have been instrumental in enhancing our understanding of the exploration potential on our acreage.

In July, we were extremely pleased to announce the acquisition of the R3/R4 Production Sharing Contract ("PSC"), in addition to the R1/R2 PSC, cementing our position in the Agadem Rift Basin in Niger, a prolific basin where we now hold c.50 per cent. of the acreage. Savannah has been an early mover into this emerging oil and gas province, and we thank the Government of Niger for their continued assistance and cooperation as we have expanded our presence in country. To facilitate this transaction, we successfully raised US\$36m in the same month from existing shareholders as well as from several new, blue chip investors, in an oversubscribed placing. I believe this was a testament to our high quality asset base and associated plans to explore and develop both of our license areas.

The year ahead will see us continue to demonstrate the value of our assets. In 2016, we intend to return to operations on Agadem with the acquisition of 3D seismic over high graded parts of our acreage, in preparation for what we expect to be a significant exploration drilling campaign over the coming years. In the near term, we will also provide the market with an update to our view of the prospectivity of both R1/R2 and R3/R4.

I would like to thank our staff and management team, both in London and Niger, for their continued hard work over the course of the past year. With a lean and focused team which is aligned with shareholders, a superb institutional investor base and potentially world class assets, I believe Savannah is very strongly positioned to deliver future value. I look forward to reporting on our progress.

Stephen Jul

Steve Jenkins Chairman



#### **CEO'S 2015 REVIEW**

#### Dear fellow Shareholders

I am pleased to report that 2015 was a year of significant growth for Savannah: our company materially increased the size of both our asset and resource bases over the course of the year, which led our shares to significantly outperform their peer group. In this letter I have sought to summarise the principal events of 2015 before going on to discuss how we intend to position the company to deliver future growth and share price performance over the course of the coming years.

Savannah's focus in 2015 remained our Agadem Rift Basin ("ARB") project in South East Niger. Our understanding of the project has increased materially over the course of the past year, driven by the growth in data available to us, and the associated volume of technical work we have now conducted over our permit areas. At the time of writing, our technical team has now completed approximately 2,600 man days of analytical work on the project.

In July, Savannah was pleased to announce an increase in our Competent Person's (CGG Robertson or "CGG") best estimate gross mean risked prospective resources for the R1/R2 permit from 573mmbbls to 1,191mmbbls. The estimate was conducted using a statistical "yet-to-find" approach, and the increase primarily related to the inclusion of prospectivity at the Yogou (Upper Cretaceous) formation (where there are now 14 known discoveries in the basin) in addition to the prospectivity previously ascribed by CGG to the shallower Alternances (Eocene) formation (where there are now over 90 existing discoveries). The implications of this upgrade were twofold. Firstly, there are the obvious implications associated with the increased volumetric potential associated with the Yogou play. Secondly, our core assertion since acquiring the license area - that the ARB is relatively lightly explored with the historic focus having been on only one exploration play type, and multiple new plays will emerge over time - has started to be validated.

In the same month, Savannah announced that it had acquired the R3/R4 permit area, thus increasing our land position by 5,249km² to 13,655km². R3/R4 is located on the South West and South East flanks of the ARB (compared to R1/R2 which is located in the North, North West and Central areas of the ARB) and is viewed as highly attractive by Savannah. Exploration prospectivity across R3/R4 is evident from the existing seismic data set and it is the R3 area on which we expect to focus the next phase of operations in 2016, with the acquisition of 3D seismic data.

Following these developments, I believe it is important to summarise the highly advantageous position that Savannah now finds itself in. We have a significant land position in the largely undrilled portion of a world class petroleum basin. We have an extensive and highly valuable technical dataset, which would likely cost in excess of excess of US\$1.5bn to recreate today. This dataset enables us to: (1) understand the core aspects of the basin, and that these are highly conducive to petroleum exploration (i.e. that the ARB has a demonstrable abundance of good quality source and reservoir rocks, two proven and prolific exploration play types and multiple other emerging play types); (2) understand that the principal exploration risk associated with the ARB, especially the proven play types, is trap seal and that the principal way to mitigate this is the acquisition of 3D seismic data over potential exploration prospects so as to better image potential traps<sup>1</sup>; and (3) identify a host of exploration leads and prospects which over time will mature to drill-ready targets. Further, the ARB benefits from a highly developed and sophisticated oil service industry, an associated low cost structure and a highly supportive and pro-FDI regulatory regime. We therefore believe that Savannah is in a highly unique position: few oil and gas exploration assets offer more than one of these characteristics, far less all of them.

<sup>1</sup> Empirical statistics clearly support this conclusion. In the 2D seismic era, the demonstrated exploration success rate was 1-in-5. In the 3D seismic era, this increased to 3-in-4.

From an operational perspective we completed our FTG survey in the first quarter of 2015 (on time and on budget) and are now looking forward to entering the next phase of operational activity in 2H16, which is anticipated to include the commencement of 3D seismic acquisition. We expect that drilling activity will commence in 1H17, and will be in the form of a significant campaign targeting 10+ exploration targets on a back-to-back basis. With the commencement of this activity we are clearly anticipating a step change in the value of our company and the entire Savannah team is greatly excited about this.

Throughout the year, we remained strongly focused on maintaining financial discipline. Cash operating costs came in at an estimated US\$6m, which given the scale of technical work that was conducted and the size of our operated asset base, reflects best in class performance.

On the financing front, Savannah issued US\$36m in new equity over the summer, to fund the acquisition of R3/R4 and incremental working capital. We were supported in this raise by our existing and new institutional shareholders. The company remained debt free during the year.

During the year, Savannah's shares were a top quartile performer within the AIM Oil & Gas Index, and outperformed both the overall index (by 16%) and the oil price (by 9%).

Our core focus going forward is expected to remain the exploitation of our ARB asset base. I expect the company to be in a positon to report on both our resource base and our view of the emerging play types in the ARB around mid-year, and also expect us to recommence operational activity in the second half. Outside of the ARB I am cogniscent of the wider opportunity presented by the current oil price environment. There is an abundance of robust and high quality assets available for acquisition, often at prices substantially lower than our view of their intrinsic value. We are therefore considering new venture opportunities, but will only do so to the extent they do not compromise the value creation potential of our ARB asset base.

The core message I would therefore like to convey to Shareholders is that I believe that Savannah is well positioned to deliver material shareholder value from its ARB asset base. As I said in last year's shareholder letter, we think that the ARB represents the strongest regional opportunity to discover and commercialise hundreds of millions of barrels of oil at relatively low risk and cost. I believe we have now put in place the firm foundations to enable this to happen. I am therefore excited about the future for Savannah and look forward to sharing updates on our progress.

Lastly, I would like to echo our Chairman's sentiment, and thank the government of Niger for their support and trust, as well as our staff, advisers and Shareholders.

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Andrew Knott
Chief Executive Officer



## AN INTERVIEW WITH SAVANNAH'S SEISMIC ACQUISITION CONTRACTOR, BGP INTERNATIONAL

## Liu Mingzhong

Niger Country Manager

#### Who are BGP?

BGP is one of the world's largest oil service companies, and has been involved in providing petroleum exploration services for the last 50 years. We deliver a wide range of technologies, services and equipment to the oil and gas industry worldwide, including seismic data acquisition, processing and interpretation, equipment manufacturing and gravity, magnetic, electromagnetic and geochemical services. We are also one of the most technologically advanced geophysical companies in the world and make significant investments in research and development each year: globally BGP has 26 R&D offices managed by our Geophysical Research Institute. We currently have 115 land seismic crews, nine shallow water and transition zone seismic crews, eight vertical seismic profile crews and 21 non-seismic crews (e.g. gravity, magnetic, electromagnetic, vertical seismic profile etc.) and operate in 45 countries across four continents. Our operations are conducted over a wide variety of terrain conditions, and we have extensive experience acquiring seismic data in onshore desert environments such as the Agadem area in Niger.

## What have your historic activities on Agadem and Niger been?

Having operated in Niger for over a decade, BGP has accumulated vast experience in seismic, gravity and electromagnetic data acquisition, processing and interpretation. We have an unrivalled understanding of the data acquisition issues associated with the Agadem area. To date, over 10,000km² 3D and over 13,000km 2D seismic data has been acquired by our crews, while the BGP Geophysical Research Institute in Niamey has processed and interpreted over 50,000km of 2D seismic data and around 15,000km² 3D seismic data.

After many years of operating in Niger, we have built up large equipment stores and logistics networks in country, and we have operated up to 3 seismic crews and one electromagnetic crew simultaneously, with 119 vehicles – using our main operations centre at Agadem as our support base which includes spare vehicles, a warehouse and a transfer point for personnel and materials. Any seismic equipment, if it is not already in the country, is straightforward to bring into Niger and we thank the Government of Niger for facilitating this process. For desert logistics supplies, BGP Niger uses several local contractors, and we generally transport our own diesel, food and other materials from Zinder to our base camp.





Our HSE record in Niger has been excellent. Up until December 31, 2015, we have operated for a total of 15,388,452 man-hours without lost time incident.

# What is the operational environment in the Agadem area like? Do you foresee any major challenges or difficulties with Savannah's proposed seismic surveys?

Savannah's licenses are located in a largely flat desert environment, with limited sand dunes and in relatively population remote areas. The topography does not differ materially from other areas where we have previously successfully operated. In such areas we are able to carry out night operations and to work all year round. We therefore do not expect Savannah's work programme to present any major operational challenges and are looking forward to commencing this work.

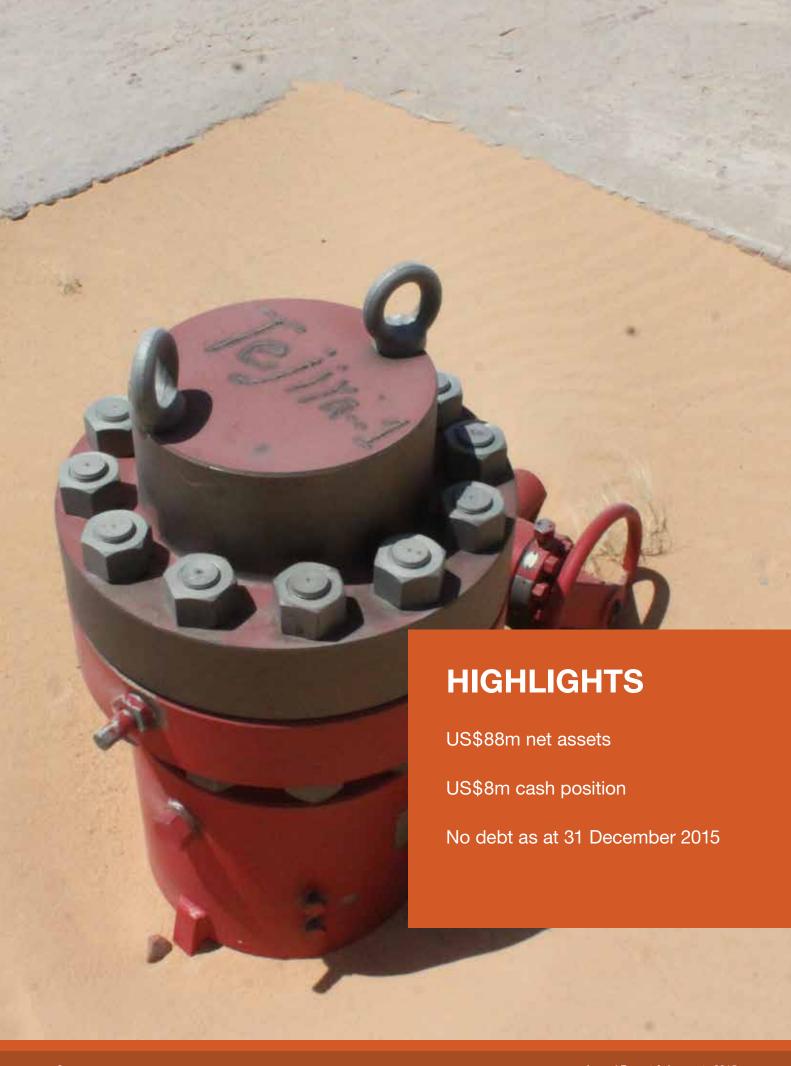
## How do you engage with local communities while operating in the Agadem area?

BGP Niger takes a proactive approach to engaging and interacting with communities in the regions where we operate, and with our many years of experience we believe

we have developed strong working practices to ensure minimal impact on the ground. Since coming to Agadem, we have made every effort to recruit residents of local communities, and have employed around 3,500 local people to date. BGP Niger has also put in place a comprehensive social programme in the Agadem area, which has included donating hand pump water wells, donating school supplies and providing medical assistance.

Before field operations commence, our crew management and security teams visit any communities which may be living in our areas of operation. Our teams discuss the project and seismic operations with them, enabling them to understand the work that we are carrying out. During any of our operations, crew management regularly visits and liaises with these communities, which ensures good relations are built between the parties and that any problems or issues are addressed as quickly as possible.





#### FINANCIAL REVIEW

#### Overview

During the period ended 31 December 2015, the Group grew its asset base significantly, with net assets rising from US\$59m to US\$88m. At year end, the Group had cash and cash equivalents of US\$8m (2014: US\$17m) with no debt. The Group recorded an operating loss of US\$7m (2014: US\$7m), as it remained in the pre-revenue exploration and development phase of operations.

#### **Analysis of Key Line items**

#### **Exploration expenditure**

The Group accounts for exploration expenditure under the 'successful efforts' method of accounting per IFRS 6 'Exploration for an Evaluation of Mineral Resources'. Over the course of the year, exploration and evaluation assets grew from US\$43m at year end 2014 to US\$81m at year end 2015. This growth was driven by the acquisition of the R3/R4 PSC area and the completion of multiple technical work programs associated with both the R1/R2 and R3/R4 PSC areas.

#### General and administration expenses

The Group continued to focus on effective cost management in 2015. On a pro-rata basis (i.e. with 2014 grossed up to reflect a full year of operational activity), operating costs remained flat year on year after adjusting for the non-recurring IPO costs incurred in 2014. On a similar pro-rata basis, cash operating costs were US\$6m in 2015 and US\$7m 2014. The principal difference between cash and non-cash operating costs related to share-based payments to employees.

The Group expects to maintain an efficient operating cost base going forward.

#### **Cash and short-term investments**

Cash balance at 31 December 2015 was US\$8m. Cash of US\$36m was raised through the issue of equity shares in the year (2014: US\$71m).

#### **Total comprehensive loss**

Total comprehensive loss was US\$8m (2014: US\$15m). The principal difference was the US\$8m non-recurring costs related to the treatment of a debt to equity conversion exercise conducted around the time of the IPO.

#### Summary statement of financial position

The Group's non-current assets were US\$81m at 31 December 2015, principally representing the exploration and evaluation assets noted above. Current assets were US\$8m at 31 December 2015 (2014: US\$19m) including cash reserves of US\$8m (2014: US\$17m). Current liabilities were US\$1m (2014: US\$2m) of tax payable and trade and other payables. The Group did not have any non-current liabilities (2014: US\$0).

#### Dividend

No dividend has been recommended by the Directors (2014: US\$0).

#### **Accounting policies**

The Group's significant accounting policies are disclosed within the notes to the consolidated financial statements.

#### Liquidity risk management and going concern

The Group manages liquidity by regularly reviewing cash requirements by reference to short term cash flow forecasts and medium term projections prepared by management. At 31 December 2015 the Group had cash reserves of \$8m to meet its working capital commitments.

The Group has reviewed the cash flow forecasts and capital projections for the next twelve months and has a reasonable expectation that it can access adequate resources to continue operating for the foreseeable future. The Group continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its Financial Statements.

Mark lannotti he Audit Committee

Chairman of the Audit Committee 25 May 2016



<sup>1</sup> Includes conversion of Pre-IPO convertible loan notes – see pages 107 and 108 of the Company's AIM admission document for more information.

#### PRINCIPAL RISKS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

The Group is subject to various risks as a result of operating, industrial, financial, political, legal and social conditions at any given point in time. The Group takes a proactive approach to recognising and mitigating risks with the aim of protecting its employees, contractors and other stakeholders and safeguarding the interests of the Group and its Shareholders.

The identification of risks and the development of action plans to manage and mitigate those risks are integral parts of the Group's business process.

Set out below are the risks and uncertainties which the Directors consider particularly relevant to the Group's business activities at the date of this report. These risks are not listed in any order of priority. Not all of these risks are within the Group's control and this list cannot be considered to be exhaustive, as other risks and uncertainties may emerge in a changing business environment.

#### **Exploration and appraisal risks**

The exploration and development of hydrocarbons is speculative and involves a high degree of risk, and there is no assurance that the Group's activities will be successful. These risks include the possibility that the Group will not discover sufficient oil or gas reserves to exploit commercially or that those reserves which it does discover cannot be recovered economically. The Group has rigorous processes and procedures in place to assess the geological and commercial risks associated with its exploration and appraisal activities. To supplement its in house expertise, the Group engages appropriate technical and engineering consultants.

#### Uncertainty of reserve and resource estimates

There are numerous uncertainties inherent in estimating quantities of oil and natural gas reserves and resources, and the potential future cash flows attributable to such reserves and resources. In general, estimates of economically recoverable oil and gas reserves and future net cash flows there from are based upon a number of variable factors and assumptions including reservoir characteristics based upon geological, geophysical and engineering assessments, future oil and natural gas prices and quality differentials, production rates and the timing and amount of capital expenditures. In addition to its own technical evaluation of resource and development scenarios, the Group employs competent external consultants to provide independent evaluations as and when appropriate.

#### Oil price

The Group currently operates in challenging commodity market conditions with lower oil prices, and there remains uncertainty over how long these market conditions will continue. The Group monitors the macro economic environment closely, and maintains a disciplined approach to capital allocation, costs and working capital management. While the oil price is a variable the Group has no control over, the Group is focused around high quality oil and gas projects which it believes have the potential to generate strong returns even in weak oil price environments. With no current production, lower oil prices do not directly impact the Group's operating cash flows.

#### Health, safety, security and environmental risks

The nature and location of the Group's operations expose it to a wide range of health, safety, security and environmental ("HSSE") risks. The Group takes its environmental and safety responsibilities very seriously and has in place a robust HSE management system which aligns with international management system standards and takes a pro-active approach to the identification and management of reasonably foreseeable HSSE risks. The system ensures identification and adherence to applicable international and local legislation as well as the consideration of "best practices" within the industry. Security and crisis management procedures are a key part of the HSE management system, which in the unlikely event of an HSSE risk being realised, will be enacted to minimise the impact to the Group. Contractors with which the Group engages are selected on the basis of having similar high standards of HSE capability and are monitored accordingly.

#### **Financial management**

The Group is currently in the pre-revenue stage of operations. The Group is therefore dependent upon external financing to fund its ongoing activities. To manage this risk, the Group regularly reviews its cash position and budgeted cash flow projections, as well as maintaining a focus on properly identifying and managing forward costs and financial exposure. The Group also benefits from a historically stable and supportive institutional investor base (capable of providing incremental equity finance), as well as a high quality underlying asset base (capable of monetisation through partial or entire divestment). The Group seeks to maintain good relationships with existing and potential financial stakeholders through regular interaction. Since IPO, the Group has not incurred any external debt.

#### **Ethical conduct**

A failure of the Group to adhere to high standards of ethical conduct, particularly in relation to relevant anti-corruption laws, could have a significant impact on the Group, both reputationally and financially. To mitigate this risk, the Group has in place a robust anti-bribery and corruption policy and procedures, consistent with the Group's obligations which arise under the UK Bribery Act 2010, and has established procedures for monitoring compliance including regular training for all staff. For more information, please refer to page 13.

#### Licensing and other regulatory requirements

The Group's future operations may be subject to government approvals and other regulatory requirements. The Group maintains a regular dialogue with relevant government ministries and agencies, and as an operator in country, has a fully staffed administrative presence to ensure the Group remains compliant with relevant local rules, laws and regulations. The Group is also subject to extensive environmental and safety legislation, which may become more stringent.

#### Loss of key employees

The loss of key individuals could cause a delay or have an adverse impact on the Group's plans and operations. Savannah has a competitive compensation package in place which reflects market conditions for these key roles and is reviewed periodically as conditions change. The Group has a strong equity oriented philosophy, and key employees are exposed to equity based incentive schemes designed to aid retention and create alignment between the shareholders and management of the business.

#### **Approval of Strategic Report**

The Strategic Report comprising pages 1 to 9 was approved and signed on behalf of the Board.

Andrew Knott Chief Executive Officer 25 May 2016



#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### **Stephen Jenkins, Non-Executive Chairman**

Member of the Audit Committee and Remuneration and Nomination Committee

Steve joined Savannah Petroleum as Non-Executive Chairman in July 2014. He is widely recognised as one of the most capable oil and gas executives in the UK, having delivered for his investors as CEO of Nautical Petroleum a £414 million sale to Cairn Energy in Q3 2012. Prior to Nautical Petroleum, Steve held a variety of senior roles at Nimir Petroleum, a private Saudi Arabian company with extensive global exploration and production interests. Steve is a geologist by profession and is currently Chairman of the Oil and Gas Independents Association, Circle Oil plc, Franklin Petroleum Limited and Terrain Energy Limited and a Director of Postgate Petroleum Limited

#### **Andrew Knott, Chief Executive Officer**

Andrew was the principal founder of Savannah Petroleum, becoming a Director of the Company in July 2014. He has held leading roles in the European oil and gas sector for the last decade with extensive energy and investment experience across emerging markets. Andrew was previously Head of Global Energy Investments for GLG Partners/MAN Group which, at December 2012, was the largest listed hedge fund in the world by assets. Prior to GLG Partners, he held various roles at Merrill Lynch and Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein.

#### Mark Iannotti, Non-Executive Director

Chairman of the Audit Committee; Member of the Remuneration and Nomination Committee

Mark was appointed to the Board of Savannah Petroleum in July 2014. He is an experienced capital markets professional with over 20 years' experience in EMEA equities, which has been largely focused around the Oil & Gas sector, and currently acts as Managing Director and Head of Securities, UK & Europe of Canaccord Genuity Group Inc. and previously, in a broader managerial capacity as a member of Bank of America Merrill Lynch's EMEA Executive Committee and Head of its EMEA Equity Research Division. Mark began his career at Wood Mackenzie Consultants, focusing on the Asian and Indian sub-Continent energy markets. He has subsequently held senior equity research positions at Cazenove & Co, Credit Suisse, Citigroup and most recently Bank of America Merrill Lynch.

#### **David Jamison, Non-Executive Director**

Chairman of the Remuneration and Nomination Committee; Member of the Audit Committee

David was appointed to the Board of Savannah Petroleum in July 2014. He was one of the founders of the modern day Vitol, having executed a management buyout of the company alongside three partners in 1976. He left Vitol in 1986 to operate as an independent venture capitalist in the upstream oil and gas industry. David's principal investment vehicle today is DLJ Associates Limited which seeks to act as agent and advisor on upstream oil and gas transactions. Previous companies David has held integral roles at include Russian focused oil and gas company Sibir Energy plc (founder director) and independent gasoline company Blue Ocean Associates Limited (founder director).

#### **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

The Corporate Governance Report on pages 11 to 15 forms part of the Directors' Report.

#### Introduction

The Board recognises its responsibility for the proper management of the Company and the importance of sound corporate governance commensurate with the size and nature of the Company and the interests of its shareholders. The Board is therefore committed to maintaining high standards of corporate governance. As an AIM-quoted company, Savannah Petroleum is not required to comply with a particular corporate governance regime. Nevertheless, the Directors recognise the value of the Quoted Companies Alliance Corporate Governance Code for Small and Mid-Size Quoted Companies (the "QCA Code") and the 2014 UK Corporate Governance Code (the "UKCG Code"). The Company has complied with their principles and provisions where relevant and appropriate, having regard to its size, current stage of development, resources and the direct cost of delivering effective corporate governance. This report explains the key features of the Company's governance structure.

#### **How the Board works**

#### The Board

The Board is collectively responsible to the Shareholders for the effective oversight and long-term success of the Company. In addition to those matters required by the Companies Act 2006, the Board is also responsible for strategy, performance, capital structure, approval of major capital investment plans, the framework for risk management and internal controls and governance matters. The Board's full responsibilities are set out in a formal schedule of matters reserved for its decision.

The Board delegates certain responsibilities to its Board Committees, so that it can operate efficiently and give an appropriate level of attention and consideration to relevant matters. The Company has an Audit Committee and a combined Remuneration and Nomination Committee, which operate within a scope and remit defined by specific terms of reference determined by the Board. The composition and role of each committee is summarised on pages 14 to 15. In due course, if further appointments are made to the Board, the Company may choose to establish a separate Nomination Committee in accordance with the QCA and UKCG Codes, however, at present the Board considers that the creation of an additional committee to carry out these functions would be unnecessarily burdensome in the context of the overall size and complexity of the business.

The Board and its Committees are provided with high quality information on a timely basis in order to facilitate the proper assessment of the matters under consideration and the Non-Executive Directors are provided with access to all information they require and to external advice as necessary.

Given the size of the Board, the Company has chosen not to appoint a Senior Independent Director ("SID"). Both Independent Non-Executive Directors are willing to fulfil any of the functions normally undertaken by a SID under the UKCG Code, as required.

#### The roles of the Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer

The role of the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer are separate, with a clear division of responsibilities. The separation of authority enhances independent oversight of the executive management by the Board and helps to ensure that no one individual on the Board has unfettered authority.

The Board is chaired by Steve Jenkins, a Non-Executive Director who met the independence criteria in the QCA Code and the UKCG Code on his appointment and continues to do so. The Chairman is responsible for setting the Board's agenda, ensuring that adequate time is available for discussion of all agenda items and encouraging a particular focus on strategic issues. The Chairman promotes a culture of openness and debate within the Board, where the views of all Directors and the actions of the executive management are challenged.

Andrew Knott is the Chief Executive Officer. Through delegation from the Board, he is responsible for managing the day to day operations and the implementation of the strategy of the Company.

## Composition, qualification and independence of the Board

The Board currently comprises one Executive Director and three Non-Executive Directors, including the Chairman, all of whom met the criteria for independence set out in the QCA Code and the UKCG Code on their appointment and continue to do so. The names and responsibilities of the current Directors, together with their biographies, are set out on page 10. The Directors' biographies illustrate the wide range and high calibre of skills and experience brought to bear on matters considered by the Board. These include appropriate industry, regulatory, financial, operational and risk management experience and, in the case of the Non-Executive Directors, the willingness and ability to provide robust and objective challenge to the views and assumptions of senior management and other Directors.



#### **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE (continued)**

Towards the end of 2015, the Board undertook an internal evaluation of its own performance and that of its Committees. The evaluation was conducted based on a tailored, high level questionnaire, structured to provide the Directors with an opportunity to express their views about the performance of the Board, its committees, the balance of skills, experience, independence and knowledge of Directors and the Chairman's performance. The Chairman also used the opportunity to discuss Directors' development and training needs. The results of the evaluation indicated that there were no significant concerns amongst the Directors about the effectiveness of the Board. Certain actions were agreed as a result of the exercise to be progressed during 2016.

The Board has considered and reviewed the independence and effectiveness of each Non-Executive Director, taking into account the factors set out in the UKCG Code that might, or could appear to affect, a director's judgement and therefore their independence. The UKCG Code suggests that Directors' participation in their company's share option or performance related scheme could, or could be seen to, compromise their independence. The Board considers that the performance-related shares and options awarded to the Non-Executive Directors encourage the alignment of their interests with those of the Company's shareholders and are not material enough to compromise their independence of character and judgement. The Board is therefore of the view that all the Non-Executive Directors were, and continue to be, independent within the meaning of the UKCG Code. The Board considers that all Directors continue to be effective and committed to their roles and have sufficient time available to perform their duties.

#### **Appointment and Tenure**

The Board may appoint a Director as it thinks fit. However, any Director appointed by the Board must offer himself or herself for election at the first AGM following appointment and for re-election thereafter at intervals of three years.

All Non-Executive Directors, including the Chairman, serve on the basis of letters of appointment which are available for inspection at the Company's registered office. The letters of appointment set out the time commitment expected from Non-Executive Directors who, on appointment, undertake that they will have sufficient time to fulfil their duties. Subject to continued satisfactory performance, the Board does not think it appropriate at this time to limit the term of appointment of the Non-Executive Directors.

The Executive Director's service contract is also available for inspection at the Company's registered office.

#### **Board Meetings**

The Board has established a schedule of quarterly meetings, with additional meetings convened as required from to time by the business of the Company. The Board addresses several recurring items at each board meeting. These include updates from the Board Committees following any Committee meetings, technical updates, operational, financial and strategy reports, HSE updates, investor relations and corporate communications reports, and a corporate governance report. In addition, more in-depth reports on particular aspects of the business are also presented. The Board Chairman and Committee Chairmen are supported by the Company Secretary in organising and circulating the papers for these meetings. The Directors also have an ongoing dialogue between Board meetings on a variety of issues

The table below sets out the attendance record of individual Directors at the scheduled and unscheduled Board meetings held during 2015.

	Meetings eligible to attend	Number of meetings attended
Steve Jenkins	9	9
Andrew Knott	9	9
Mark lannotti	9	9
David Jamison	9	9

#### **Directors' Conflicts of Interest**

Directors have a statutory duty to avoid situations in which they have, or may have, interests that conflict with those of the Company, unless that conflict is first authorised by the Board. This includes potential conflicts that may arise when a Director takes up a position with another company. The Company's Articles allow the Board to authorise any potential or actual conflict of interest that a Director may have. A process has been implemented to identify and deal with any such conflicts. Should a Director become aware that they, or their connected parties, have a new potential or actual conflict of interest, they should notify the Board. The Board will deal with each conflict on its merits, taking into consideration all the relevant circumstances. All potential and actual conflicts approved by the Board are recorded in an Interests Register, which is reviewed by the Board at each Board meeting, to ensure the procedure is working effectively.

#### Reporting and accountability

#### **Internal Controls and Risk Management**

The Board has overall responsibility for establishing and maintaining the Group's system of internal controls and risk management and reviewing its effectiveness. As with any successful company, delivering the Company's business objectives will involve taking considered risks. The Group's internal controls and risk management framework has been designed to assist the Board in making better, more informed decisions with a view to creating and protecting shareholder value.

The Board recognises that such a system has its limitations. Internal controls can only provide reasonable, not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss. The purpose of risk management is to manage rather than eliminate risk entirely and involves Directors and senior management exercising judgement.

The internal control framework within which the Group operates includes the following key elements:

- Organisational structures, delegations of authority and reporting lines;
- Group accounting and control procedures to manage the Group consolidation and reporting requirements;
- Budgetary process and monthly monitoring of annual budget, business performance and deviations from budget; and
- Operational and strategic review processes for all aspects of the Group's business.

The key risks faced by the business and how they are mitigated are described in the Principal Risks section, on pages 8 to 9.

During the year, there has been continued progress made in the area of risk management and internal control through the introduction of various policies and procedures. These policies and procedures include the implementation of the Group Compliance policy, the Delegation of Authority system, Travel and Entertainment and Petty Cash policies, reflecting the development of the Group's operations in Niger and consideration of potential new ventures.

The Board has undertaken a review of the effectiveness of the Group's risk management and internal control systems, which covered all material controls, including financial, operational and compliance controls.

#### Whistleblowing and anti-bribery and corruption controls

Savannah is committed to achieving the high standards of conduct and accountability and a structure which allow employees to openly report legitimate concerns regarding improprieties in financial reporting by non-compliance with applicable laws, regulations or Group policies, danger to health and safety, damage to the environment or other matters that may harm the reputation of the Group. Any of these can be reported without fear or penalty or punishment.

In February 2016, the Board reviewed and updated the Group's Anti-Corruption and Money Laundering Policy. The full policy was circulated to all Company employees and will be provided to any new joiners, to ensure it is embedded across the organisation. All Company employees are required to confirm receipt of the policy and undergo anti-corruption and money laundering training on an annual basis.

#### **Relations with Shareholders**

The Board is committed to ensuring there is open and effective communication with its Shareholders on matters such as governance and strategy, and that the Directors understand the views of major Shareholders on such matters. The Company communicates with Shareholders and potential investors through a variety of channels, including the Annual Report, regulatory announcements and operational updates and a pro-active and comprehensive investor relations programme which is managed in line with operational developments, corporate news flow and the Company's financial calendar.

The CEO and the Corporate Communications Officer maintain a regular dialogue with major institutional investors and analysts, and provide the Board with regular reports on investor and analyst feedback. The Company holds investor roadshows throughout the year as appropriate. The Company's representatives also attend a number of investor events. Presentations to investors are posted on the Company's website at www.savannah-petroleum.com/investors.html. The CEO is available to meet with institutional investors to explain the Group's strategy and performance and listen to investors' views. The Chairman and Non-Executive Directors are also available to meet with Shareholders on request. The AGM provides another opportunity for Shareholders to meet and speak to members of the Board directly.



#### **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE (continued)**

The Company maintains a database of meetings held by the Directors with Shareholders, potential investors and analysts. Reports on meetings held with existing and potential investors and briefings from the Company's corporate broker are provided to the Directors and discussed at Board meetings. Analysts' reports received on the Company are reviewed and monitored by the senior management team and circulated to the Board as appropriate. Investor relations support is provided to analysts covering and initiating coverage of the Company.

#### **Audit Committee Report**

The Audit Committee is chaired by Mark lannotti and its other members are David Jamison and Steve Jenkins. The members are all Independent Non-Executive Directors of the Company. Mark lannotti is considered by the Board to have recent and relevant financial experience, as required by the UKCG Code. If required, at the request of the Chairman of the Committee, the Chief Executive Officer and members of the senior management team are also invited to attend meetings.

The terms of reference of the Committee reflect the current statutory requirements and best practice appropriate to a company of its size, nature and stage of development. Under these terms of reference, the role of the Committee is to assist the Board in discharging its responsibilities with regard to monitoring the integrity of the Group's financial reporting. It reviews reports from the external auditor relating to the accounts, oversees the relationship with the external auditor, and makes recommendations to the Board regarding their appointment. The Committee is also responsible for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of the Group's internal controls and risk management systems and reporting its findings to the Board. The ultimate responsibility for reviewing and approving the Annual and half-yearly report and accounts remains with the Board. The Committee is required to meet not less than three times a year at appropriate times in the financial reporting and audit cycle and whenever is necessary to fulfil its responsibilities. The terms of reference for the Committee are available on the Company's website at www.savannah-petroleum.com.

The Committee Members' attendance at meetings during 2015 is set out below.

	Meetings eligible to attend	Number of meetings attended
Mark lannotti	4	4
Steve Jenkins	4	4
David Jamison	4	4

#### Principal activities during the year

During the financial year, the Committee:

- reviewed the full year and half-year results, including the underlying accounting issues and judgements, the processes underpinning the preparation of those documents and the information supporting the statements in relation to going concern and disclosure of information to the external auditor;
- considered the external auditor's annual work plan and reports on the full and half-year results;
- reviewed and recommended the re-appointment of Grant Thornton as the external auditor for the Group;
- reviewed the need to establish an internal audit function, concluding that this remained unnecessary given the existing size and development of the Company; and
- assessed progress made in relation to enhancing the internal controls and risk management systems and procedures within the Group.

#### **External Auditor**

Grant Thornton has been the external auditor for the Group as a whole since 9 October 2014. The continued appointment of Grant Thornton is reviewed by the Audit Committee each year, taking into account the relevant legislation, guidance and best practice appropriate for a company of its size, nature and stage of development.

In May 2016, the Audit Committee considered the performance of the external auditor and the effectiveness of the audit process by:

- reviewing their proposed plan for the 2016 audit;
- discussing the results of the 2015 external audit, including their views on material accounting issues and key judgements and estimates;
- considering the robustness of the audit process;
- reviewing the quality of the people and service provided by Grant Thornton; and
- assessing their independence and objectivity.

The Committee received confirmation from Grant Thornton that the firm was independent of the Group and had complied with the relevant accounting and ethical standards.

The breakdown of fees between audit and non-audit services paid to Grant Thornton during the financial year is set out in Note 6 to the Group's consolidated Financial Statements. The non-audit fees relate to tax and Group structuring advice. The Audit Committee is satisfied that it was appropriate for the external auditor to carry out this work, and that it did not impair their independence or objectivity.

Mark lannotti Chairman, Audit Committee 25 May 2016

#### **Remuneration and Nomination Committee Report**

The Remuneration and Nomination Committee is chaired by David Jamison and its other members are Steve Jenkins and Mark Iannotti. If required, at the request of the Chairman of the Committee, the Chief Executive Officer and members of the senior management team are also invited to attend meetings.

The terms of reference of the Committee reflect the current statutory requirements and best practice appropriate to the Company's size, nature and stage of development. Under these terms of reference, the Committee is responsible for determining and reviewing the terms and conditions of service (including remuneration) and termination of employment of executive Directors and senior employees and the grant of options implemented from time to time. The Committee is required to meet at least twice a year. The terms of reference for the Committee are available on the Company's website at www.savannah-petroleum.com.

The Committee Members' attendance at meetings enduring 2015 is set out below.

	Meetings eligible to attend	Number of meetings attended
David Jamison	2	2
Mark lannotti	2	2
Steve Jenkins	2	2

During the financial year, the Committee:

- considered the impact of corporate governance updates in determining executive remuneration;
- reviewed and made recommendations to the Board on executive remuneration for the financial year;
- approved outcomes for short-term and long-term incentives in line with the remuneration policy and incentive plans; and
- approved the granting of awards under the Company's long-term incentive plans.

The Company has not adopted a formal policy on diversity and therefore has no measurable objectives to disclose. Appointments, including appointments to the Board and senior management positions are made on merit, taking account of the balance of skills and experience required.

The Directors' Remuneration Report is set out on pages 16 to 19.

David Jamison Chairman 25 May 2016



#### **DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION REPORT**

As an AIM-quoted company, Savannah Petroleum is not required to disclose all of the information set out below, but has chosen to do so in the interests of transparency.

#### **Remuneration and Nomination Committee**

The members of the Remuneration and Nomination Committee and its role are set out on page 15.

#### **Remuneration policy**

The Board aims to provide remuneration packages that are competitive in the market and will attract, retain and motivate high quality individuals capable of delivering the Group's objectives and promote the long-term success of the Company. The Board considers that Directors' remuneration should be structured so as to contain a significant performance-related element, designed to align their interests with those of Shareholders.

## Components of the Executive Directors' remuneration

Andrew Knott, the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO"), is currently the only Executive Director of the Company. The main elements of his remuneration package are:

- Basic salary;
- Employers' pension contribution;
- Performance-related bonus: and
- Awards under the Management Long Term Incentive Plan and the Supplementary Plan, both described below.

The overall package is weighted towards performance-related pay, with an appropriate focus on the Company's long-term performance through the award of long-term incentives.

#### Basic salary

The CEO's basic salary was set having regard for the competitive recruitment market within the oil and gas industry and the size and proposed operations of the Group. Going forward, the Remuneration and Nomination Committee will review these arrangements at least annually, making comparisons with companies of a similar size and complexity in the independent oil and gas exploration industry.

#### **Employer's pension contribution**

The Company does not operate a Company pension scheme for Executive Directors. Instead, the CEO receives an employer's pension contribution equivalent to 10 per cent. of his annual salary.

#### Performance-related bonus scheme

The Company operates a discretionary performance-related bonus scheme for senior management including the CEO.

The performance-related bonus is capped at a maximum percentage of annual salary.

Performance-related bonus payments are made at the sole discretion of the Remuneration Committee. The performance related bonus applicable to these accounts related to the period 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2014. While bonuses were paid by the Company in relation to members of the senior management team in relation to this period, no bonus was paid to the CEO in respect of performance during this period, which reflects the Remuneration Committee's prudent view of prevailing oil and gas market conditions at the time of the decision being made. The Remuneration Committee therefore reserves the right in future periods, at its sole discretion, to review the CEO's remuneration.

#### **Long Term Incentive Plans**

The Management Long Term Incentive Plan ('LTIP') is designed to incentivise and retain key personnel within the Company. The LTIP was established on 28 November 2014 along the terms envisaged in paragraph 19 of Part 1 of the Company's Admission Document. Participants in the LTIP are entitled to receive ordinary shares in the Company for nil consideration subject to certain conditions, described further on page 17. The LTIP has now been closed and is not expected to be reopened.

The Supplementary Plan was established on 30 July 2015 to mechanically adjust for the dilutive impact of the placing announced on 10 July 2015 and to further incentivise certain Directors and employees of the Group. The Supplementary Plan is structured principally on the same terms as the LTIP, with participants being entitled to receive ordinary shares in the Company for nil consideration subject to certain conditions. The Supplementary Plan is described further on page 18.

#### **Contract Terms**

The CEO entered into a service agreement with the Company effective from its admission to trading on AIM (1 August 2014). The service agreement shall continue until terminated by the Company on 12 months' written notice, with an initial fixed term of two years.

#### **Directors' Remuneration**

The remuneration of the Directors who served the Company during the year was as follows:

	Salary US\$	Performance- related bonus US\$	Employer's Pension Contribution US\$	Fees US\$	Total US\$
<b>Executive Directors</b>	,				
Andrew Knott <sup>1</sup>	610,642	_	61,064	_	671,706
Non-Executive Directors					
Steve Jenkins	-	_	_	228,991	228,991
Mark lannotti	-	_	_	73,246	73,246
David Jamison	-	_	_	38,165	38,165
Total	610,642		61,064	340,402	1,012,108

#### 1. Highest paid director

#### **Long-Term Incentive Plan**

Under the terms of the LTIP, 15,737,896 new shares in Savannah Petroleum 1 Limited ('SP1L'), a direct wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, were issued to and subscribed for by the participants in the LTIP, who comprise each of the Directors of the Company and certain employees of the Group (the "SP1L Shares"). The LTIP is now closed and is not expected to be reopened.

In accordance with the SP1L articles of association, after the appropriate vesting date, participants in the LTIP are entitled to exchange their SP1L Shares for new ordinary shares in the Company, but only once the closing middle market quotation of the ordinary shares of the Company on AIM on any day has equalled or exceeded a set threshold (the 'Hurdle Price'). The Hurdle Price represents a three times multiple of the price at which the ordinary shares of the Company were admitted to dealing on AIM on 1 August 2014 (56 pence).

The number of new ordinary shares in the Company that can be acquired by the participants in the LTIP after the vesting and performance conditions have been met will be determined on the date of the share exchange in accordance with the following formula:

$$X = A - \frac{(A \times B)}{C}$$

#### Where:

X is the number of new ordinary shares in the Company to be issued on exchange (rounded to the nearest whole number);

A is the number of shares in SP1L being exchanged;

B is  ${\mathfrak L}0.56$  (being the price at which the ordinary shares in the Company were admitted to dealing on AIM at the time of the Company's IPO); and

C is the closing middle market quotation of the ordinary shares on the date of the share exchange.

The awards issued pursuant to the LTIP are subject to a vesting date determined for each award. If the Hurdle Price is met after the vesting date, the award will vest when the Hurdle Price is met and the relevant participant in the LTIP can then elect to exchange his or her shares in SP1L for the relevant number of new ordinary shares in the Company at any time thereafter. If the Hurdle Price is met prior to the vesting date, the award will not vest until the vesting date and the participants in the LTIP will not be able to exchange their shares in SP1L for ordinary shares in the Company until after the vesting date unless there is a change of control of the Company (or the individual ceases to be an employee or Director of a member of the Group). Further details of the LTIP and share-based payments are set out in Note 18 on pages 52-54.



#### **DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION REPORT (continued)**

The number of awards held by Directors under the LTIP is set out in the table below.

	Number of SP1L Shares at 31 December 2015	Hurdle Price	Vesting Date
Executive Directors			
Andrew Knott	11,588,574	168p	1 August 2015
Non-Executive Directors			
Steve Jenkins	1,785,714	168p	1 August 2019
Mark lannotti	547,765	168p	1 August 2019
David Jamison	273,883	168p	1 August 2019
Total	14,195,936		

#### **Supplementary Plan**

The Supplementary Plan was implemented on 30 July 2015 to mechanically adjust for the dilutive impact of the placing announced on 10 July 2015 (the "Placing") and to further incentivise certain Directors and employees of the Group. The amendments follow the broad intentions regarding performance related payments outlined in the Company's AIM admission document published on 29 July 2014, which underpinned the LTIP described above.

Accordingly, the Supplementary Plan has been implemented and structured principally on the same terms as the LTIP. The terms allow for share options over up to 15 per cent. of the Company's fully diluted share capital, from time to time, when aggregated with those share options potentially issuable under the LTIP, to be issued to Directors and employees of the Group. The principal founder and Chief Executive Officer, Andrew Knott, is entitled to receive 50 per cent. of the total number of share options issuable under the LTIP and the Supplementary Plan.

The Supplementary Plan rules are substantially the same as for the LTIP, accordingly no further Shareholder authority for the adoption of the Supplementary Plan was sought prior to its implementation.

In line with the pricing structure of the LTIP, the terms of the Supplementary Plan provide for an exercise price set equal to that at which capital has been most recently raised, which is 38 pence per share (as per the Placing) and has a hurdle rate of 114 pence which is three times the option exercise price.

The new share options shall vest and become exercisable on the earliest to occur of: (i) the Savannah share price on any day equalling or exceeding 114 pence per share; (ii) any person or group of persons acting in concert obtaining control of 30 per cent. or more of the Company's ordinary share capital from time to time (other than the existing concert party); (iii) the sale of a substantial proportion of the Group's assets (as shall be determined by the Company's Remuneration Committee in its sole discretion) to a single buyer or one or more buyers as part of a single transaction or a series of connected transactions; and (iv) the passing of a resolution for a voluntary winding-up of the Company.

To simplify the structure of the Company's incentivisation plans, under the Supplementary Plan, share options will be granted over unissued Ordinary Shares in the Company rather than through the issue of shares in SP1L.

The "leaver" terms applicable to the share options granted under the Supplementary Plan, which provide for full or partial forfeiture of unvested options, differ from those applicable to the LTIP in that they apply in the event of an option holder ceasing to hold office with, or be employed by, the Group prior to 28 November 2017, as opposed to 28 November 2019 in the case of the existing awards made under the LTIP.

The number of awards held by Directors under the Supplementary Plan is set out in the table below.

	Number of Ordinary Shares at 31 December 2015	Hurdle Price	Vesting Date
Executive Directors			<u> </u>
Andrew Knott	5,446,630	114p	1 August 2015
Non-Executive Directors			
Steve Jenkins	1,019,501	114p	1 August 2019
Mark lannotti	2,257,450	114p	1 August 2019
David Jamison	128,725	114p	1 August 2019
Total	8,852,306		

Further details of the Supplementary Plan and share-based payments are set out in Note 18 on pages 52-54.

The closing share price of one Savannah Petroleum share on 31 December 2015 was 25.9 pence and the highest and lowest prices during the year were 42.8 pence and 21.5 pence respectively.

David Jamison Chairman, Remuneration and Nomination Committee 25 May 2016



#### **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

The Directors' Report, prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, comprises pages 20 to 21. The Corporate Governance Statement on pages 11 to 15 forms part of the Directors' Report.

#### Corporate structure

Savannah Petroleum PLC (Registered No. 09115262) is a public company limited by shares, incorporated in England and Wales. Its shares are traded on the Alternative Investment Market of the London Stock Exchange ('AlM').

## Principal activity, review of the business and future developments

The principal business and activities of the Group during the financial year, together with the factors likely to affect its future developments are set out in the Strategic Report on pages 1 to 9, which are deemed to form part of this Directors' Report by reference.

#### Research and development

The Company does not undertake any material research and development activities.

#### Existence of branches outside the UK

The Group's activities in overseas jurisdictions are carried out through subsidiary companies. The Company does not have any branches outside the UK. Details of the Company's overseas subsidiaries are set out in Note 14 to the Group's consolidated Financial Statements.

#### The Board

The Directors in office at the date of this Annual Report are shown on page 10. All served throughout the year under review.

#### **Directors' Indemnity**

As permitted by its Articles of Association (Articles), the Company has granted a third-party indemnity to each Director against any liability that attaches to them in defending proceedings brought against them, to the extent permitted by English law. This indemnity was in force during the financial year and up to the date of signing of this report. In addition, Directors and officers of the Company and its subsidiaries are covered by Directors' and Officers' liability insurance.

#### Purchase of own shares

The Company has not acquired any of its own shares in the period to 31 December 2015, nor in the period up to the date of approval of this Annual Report.

#### **Dividends**

The directors have not recommended payment of a dividend.

#### **Political donations**

No political donations were made in 2015.

#### Post-balance sheet events

The Company's shares were suspended from trading on AIM with effect from 11 January 2016. The Company entered into non-binding heads of terms regarding a potential transaction which, if completed as proposed, would be classified as a reverse takeover under the AIM Rules for Companies. The Company's ordinary shares will remain suspended until either an admission document setting out details of the proposed transaction is published, or confirmation is given that the transaction will not proceed.

Further details of post-balance sheet events can be found in Note 28 to the Group's consolidated Financial Statements. There were no other events after the balance sheet date which require adjustment to or disclosure in the Financial Statements.

#### Financial risk management objectives and policies

The Group's financial risk management objectives and policies, including its policy for managing the exposure of the Company to price risk, credit risk, liquidity risk and cash flow risk, are set out in part b of Note 22 to the Group's consolidated Financial Statements.

#### Going concern

The Group's business activities, together with the factors likely to affect its future development, performance and position are set out in the Strategic Report on pages 1 to 9 and the financial position of the Group at the period end and its cash flows and liquidity position are set out in the Group's consolidated Financial Statements. Furthermore, the Group's financial risk management objectives and policies, are set out in part b of Note 22 to the Group's consolidated Financial Statements on page 57.

The Directors have reviewed the budgets and forecast as well as the funding requirements of the business for the next 12 months, which will require the group to access additional funds over the period. The Directors have a reasonable and strong expectation that the Group will be able to access such financial resources through either the proceeds of a partial asset sale and/or the issuance of equity or debt instruments. On this basis the Directors continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the consolidated financial statements.

#### **Auditor**

Each person who is a Director at the date of approval of this Annual Report confirms that:

- So 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 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.
- Grant Thornton UK LLP have expressed their willingness to continue in office as auditor. Following the Audit Committee's review of the independence and performance of the auditor in respect of the financial year ended 31 December 2015, a resolution to reappoint them will be proposed at the forthcoming AGM.

#### **AGM**

The Company's AGM will be held on 28 June at 10am at the offices of Mirabaud Securities LLP, 33 Grosvenor Place, London SW1X 7HY. The notice of meeting which sets out the resolutions to be proposed at the forthcoming AGM will be published shortly.

#### **Approval of Directors' Report**

This Directors' Report was approved for and on behalf of the Board.

Andrew Knott
Chief Executive Officer

25 May 2016



#### STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report including the Strategic Report, the Remuneration Report, the Directors' Report, the consolidated financial statements and the Company 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 Group and Company financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ('IFRS') as adopted by the European Union. 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 profit or loss of the Company and Group for that period.

In preparing those financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable IFRS 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 the Group and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Company's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The Directors consider that the Annual Report and Accounts, taken as a whole, is fair, balanced and understandable and provides the information necessary for shareholders to assess the Company's performance, business model and strategy.

Each of the Directors, whose names and functions are disclosed on page 10, confirms that, to the best of their knowledge:

The Group financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with IFRS, as adopted by the European Union, give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit of the Group;

The Strategic Report includes a fair review of the development and performance of the business and the position of the Group, together with a description of the principal risks and uncertainties that it faces;

There is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditor is unaware; and

He has taken all reasonable 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.

By order of the Board

Andrew Knott Chief Executive Officer 25 May 2016

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SAVANNAH PETROLEUM PLC

We have audited the financial statements of Savannah Petroleum PLC for the year ended 31 December 2015 which comprise the group and parent company statements of financial position, the group statement of comprehensive income, the group and parent company statements of cash flow, the group and parent company statements of changes in equity and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union and, as regards the parent company financial statements, as applied in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006.

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 explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities (set out on page 22), 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 Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

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

A description of the scope of an audit of financial statements is provided on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditscopeukprivate.

#### **Opinion on financial statements**

In our opinion:

 the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent company's affairs as at 31 December 2015 and of the group's loss for the year then ended;

- the group financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with IFRSs as adopted by the European Union;
- the parent company financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with IFRSs as adopted by the European Union and as applied in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006; and
- the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

## Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

## 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 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.

**Christopher Smith** 

Court Warfer Mr 16

Senior Statutory Auditor for and on behalf of Grant Thornton UK LLP Statutory Auditor, Chartered Accountants London 25 May 2016



#### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

as at 31 December 2015

		Year ended 31 December 2015	Period ended 31 December 2014
	Note	US\$'000	US\$'000
Operating expenses		(7,044)	(6,831)
Operating loss	6	(7,044)	(6,831)
Finance income	8	_	1
Finance costs	9	(250)	(7,862)
Loss before tax		(7,294)	(14,692)
Income tax	10	(565)	_
Net loss and total comprehensive loss		(7,859)	(14,692)
Total comprehensive loss attributable to:			
Owners of the group		(7,582)	(14,619)
Non-controlling interests		(277)	(73)
		(7,859)	(14,692)
Loss per share			
Basic (US\$)	11	(0.05)	(0.13)
Diluted (US\$)	11	(0.05)	(0.13)

All results in the current financial period derive from continuing operations and are attributable to the equity holders of the parent company.

The Company has elected to take the exemption under section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 to not present the parent Company income statement. The loss of the legal parent company for the year to 31 December 2015 was US\$3,930,000 (2014: US\$10,712,000).

### **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

as at 31 December 2015

	Note	2015 US\$'000	2014 US\$'000
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	12	734	503
Exploration and evaluation assets	13	80,529	42,539
Total non-current assets		81,263	43,042
Current assets			
Other receivables and prepayments	15	410	1,475
Cash and cash equivalents	16	7,849	17,221
Total current assets		8,259	18,696
Total assets		89,522	61,738
Equity and liabilities			
Capital and reserves			
Share capital	17	321	224
Share premium	17	108,576	73,668
Capital contribution	17	458	458
Other reserve	17	_	(375)
Share based payment reserve	18	1,223	61
Accumulated deficit		(22,149)	(14,619)
Equity attributable to owners of the Group		88,429	59,417
Non-controlling interests	21	(350)	(73)
Total equity		88,079	59,344
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	19	878	1,977
Corporation tax liability		565	_
Provisions	20	_	417
Total current liabilities		1,443	2,394
Total equity and liabilities		89,522	61,738

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 25 May 2016 and are signed on its behalf by:

Andrew Knott Chief Executive Officer



### **COMPANY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

as at 31 December 2015

	Note	2015 US\$'000	2014 US\$'000
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	12	281	174
Investment in subsidiaries	14	45,262	61
Total non-current assets		45,543	235
Current assets			
Other receivables and prepayments	15	43,524	46,946
Cash and cash equivalents	16	7,640	17,070
Total current assets		51,164	64,016
Total assets		96,707	64,251
Capital and reserves Share capital Share premium Capital contribution Other reserve Share based payment reserve Accumulated deficit	17 17 17 17 18	321 108,576 458 - 1,223 (14,591)	224 73,668 458 (375) 61 (10,712)
Total equity		95,987	63,324
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	19	196	510
Corporation tax liability		524	_
Provisions	20	_	417
Total current liabilities		720	927
Total equity and liabilities		96,707	64,251

Company number: 09115262

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 25 May 2016 and are signed on its behalf by:

Andrew Knott
Chief Executive Officer

## **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

		Year ended 31 December	Period ended 31 December 2014
	31 December 2015 Note US\$'000  24 (7,853)  (7,853)  12 (344) 11 13 (37,990) (38,323)  (84) 36,888 36,804  (9,372)	US\$'000	
Cash flows from operating activities:	'		
Net cash used in operating activities	24	(7,853)	(11,349)
Net cash used in operating activities		(7,853)	(11,349)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, plant and equipment	12	(344)	(509)
Proceed from disposal of property, plant and equipment		11	_
Exploration and evaluation costs paid	13	(37,990)	(42,539)
Net cash used in investing activities		(38,323)	(43,048)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Finance charges		(84)	_
Proceeds from issues of equity shares, net of issue costs		36,888	71,618
Net cash provided by financing activities		36,804	71,618
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		(9,372)	17,221
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period		17,221	_
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period		7,849	17,221



## **COMPANY STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

		Year ended 31 December 2015	Period ended 31 December 2014
	Note	US\$'000	US\$'000
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash used in operating activities	25	(3,567)	(8,403)
Net cash used in operating activities		(3,567)	(8,403)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Parent company funding of subsidiaries		(42,524)	(45,971)
Payments for property, plant and equipment	12	(148)	(174)
Net cash used in investing activities		(42,672)	(46,145)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Finance costs		(78)	_
Proceeds from issues of equity shares, net of issue costs		36,888	71,618
Net cash provided by financing activities		36,810	71,618
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		(9,429)	17,070
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period		17,070	_
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period		7,640	17,070

## **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**

	Share capital US\$'000	Share premium US\$'000	Capital contribution US\$'000	Other reserve US\$'000	Share based payment reserve US\$'000	Accumulated deficit US\$'000	Total US\$'000	Non- controlling interest US\$'000	Total US\$'000
Balance at incorporation	_	_	_	-	_	-	-	-	_
Loss for the period and total comprehensive loss	-	-	-	-	-	(14,619)	(14,619)	(73)	(14,692)
Issue of ordinary shares to shareholders, net of issue costs	224	73,668	458	(375)	61	-	74,036	-	74,036
Balance at 31 December 2014	224	73,668	458	(375)	61	(14,619)	59,417	(73)	59,344
Loss for the year and total comprehensive loss	-	-	-	_	_	(7,582)	(7,582)	(277)	(7,859)
Equity settled share based payments	_	_	_	-	1,162	-	1,162	_	1,162
Issue of ordinary shares to shareholders, net of issue costs	97	35,158	_	-	-	-	35,255	_	35,255
Reversal of provision	_	_	_	375	_	52	427	_	427
Uncollected issued share capital and share premium	-	(250)	-	_	_	-	(250)	-	(250)
Balance at 31 December 2015	321	108,576	458	-	1,223	(22,149)	88,429	(350)	88,079



## **COMPANY STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**

	Share capital US\$'000	Share premium US\$'000	Capital contribution US\$'000	Other reserve US\$'000	Share based payment reserve US\$'000	Accumulated deficit US\$'000	Total US\$'000
Balance at incorporation	-	-	-	-	-	_	_
Loss for the period and total comprehensive loss	-	-	-	_	-	(10,712)	(10,712)
Issue of ordinary shares to shareholders, net of issue costs	224	73,668	458	(375)	61	-	74,036
Balance at 31 December 2014	224	73,668	458	(375)	61	(10,712)	63,324
Equity settled share based payments	-	-	-	_	1,162	-	1,162
Loss for the year and total comprehensive loss	_	-	_	-	-	(3,930)	(3,930)
Issue of ordinary shares to shareholders, net of issue costs	97	35,158	-	-	-	_	35,255
Reversal of provision	_	_	_	375	_	52	427
Uncollected issued share capital and share premium	_	(250)	-	-	-	_	(250)
Balance at 31 December 2015	321	108,576	458	_	1,223	(14,591)	95,988

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

period ended 31 December 2015

#### Corporate information

The consolidated financial statements of Savannah Petroleum Plc ("Savannah" or the "Company") and its subsidiaries (together the "Group") for the year to 31 December 2015 were authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors on 25 May 2016.

Savannah was incorporated in the United Kingdom on 3 July 2014. Savannah's principal activity is the management of its investment in Savannah Petroleum 1 Limited ("SP1"). SP1 was incorporated in Scotland on 3 July 2013. SP1's principal activity is the management of its investment in Savannah Petroleum 2 Limited ("SP2"), and the provision of services to other companies within the Group. SP2 has a 95% interest in Savannah Petroleum Niger R1/R2 S.A. ("Savannah Niger") whose principal activity is the exploration of hydrocarbons in the Republic of Niger.

The Company is domiciled in the UK for tax purposes and its shares were listed on the Alternative Investments Market ("AIM") of the London Stock Exchange on 1 August 2014.

The Company's registered address is 40 Bank Street, London, E14 5NR.

The Group's functional currency is US dollars ("US\$").

No dividends have been declared or paid since incorporation.

#### Basis of preparation

The consolidated financial statements of the Group have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union ("IFRSs as adopted by the EU"), IFRIC interpretations and those parts of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies reporting under IFRS. The consolidated financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The consolidated financial statements of the Group incorporate the results for the year to 31 December 2015.

#### Going concern

The Directors have reviewed the budgets and forecast as well as the funding requirements of the business for the next 12 months, which will require the group to access additional funds over the period. The Directors have a reasonable and strong expectation that the Group will be able to access such financial resources through either the proceeds of a partial asset sale and/or the issuance of equity or debt instruments. On this basis the Directors continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the consolidated financial statements.

The Group is in a positive net asset position at 31 December 2015, and had at that date US\$7,849,000 (2014: US\$17,221,000) of cash and cash equivalents to meet its working capital requirements.

In July 2015 the Company raised US\$36 million (gross) from issuing new ordinary shares. The use of proceeds of this placing was to fund the acquisition and associated PSC commitments of the R3/R4 PSC as well as for ongoing corporate purposes.



#### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

period ended 31 December 2015

## Basis of preparation (continued)

#### **Basis of consolidation**

Subsidiaries

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries.

Control is achieved when the Group is exposed, or has rights, to variable returns from its involvement with the investee and has the ability to affect those returns through its power over the investee. Specifically, the Group controls an investee if, and only if, the Group has:

- Power over the investee (i.e. existing rights that give it the current ability to direct the relevant activities
  of the investee);
- Exposure, or rights, to variable returns from its involvement with the investee; and
- The ability to use its power over the investee to affect its returns.

Generally, there is a presumption that a majority of voting rights result in control. To support this presumption and when the Group has less than a majority of the voting or similar rights of an investee, the Group considers all relevant facts and circumstances in assessing whether it has power over an investee, including:

- The contractual arrangement with the other vote holders of the investee;
- · Rights arising from other contractual arrangements; and
- The Group's voting rights and potential voting rights.

The Group re-assesses whether or not it controls an investee if facts and circumstances indicate that there are changes to one or more of the three elements of control. Consolidation of a subsidiary begins when the Group obtains control over the subsidiary and ceases when the Group loses control of the subsidiary. Assets, liabilities, income and expenses of a subsidiary acquired or disposed of during the period are included in the consolidated financial statements from the date the Group gains control until the date the Group ceases to control the subsidiary.

Profit or loss and each component of other comprehensive income are attributed to the equity holders of the parent of the Group and to the non-controlling interests, even if this results in the non-controlling interests having a deficit balance.

See note 14 for the companies that have been consolidated within the Group financial statements.

#### Transactions eliminated upon consolidation

Where necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring their accounting policies into line with those used by other members of the Group. All intra-group transactions, balances, income and expenses are eliminated in full on consolidation.

#### Significant accounting policies

#### New and amended IFRS standards

The following relevant new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations are mandatory for the first time for the financial year beginning 1 January 2015, but had no significant impact on the Group:

Торіс	Key requirements	Effective date
Amendment to IAS 19, 'Employee benefits'	The amendments address updates on employee contributions.	1 February 2015
IFRIC Interpretation 21	The interpretation clarifies recognition a liability for a levy.	17 June 2014

#### Standards issued but not yet effective

The following relevant new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations have been issued, but are not effective for the financial year beginning on 1 January 2015, as adopted by the European Union, and have not been early adopted:

Standard	Key requirements	Effective date as adopted by the EU	
Amendment to IFRS 11, 'Accounting for Acquisitions of Interests	Amends IFRS 11 Joint Arrangements to require an acquirer of an interest in a joint operation in which the activity constitutes a business (as defined in IFRS 3 Business Combinations) to:	1 January 2016	
in Joint Operations'	<ul> <li>apply all of the business combinations accounting principles in IFRS 3 and other IFRSs, except for those principles that conflict with the guidance in IFRS 11</li> </ul>		
	• disclose the information required by IFRS 3 and other IFRSs for business combinations.		
	The amendments apply both to the initial acquisition of an interest in joint operation, and the acquisition of an additional interest in a joint operation (in the latter case, previously held interests are not remeasured).		
Amendments to IAS 16 and IAS 38	nendments to IAS 16 Clarifies of acceptable methods of depreciation and amortisation d IAS 38		
Amendments to IAS 16 and IAS 41	Update on Agriculture: Bearer Plants.	1 January 2016	
Amendments to IAS 27	Amends IAS 27 Separate Financial Statements to permit investments in subsidiaries, joint ventures and associates to be optionally accounted for using the equity method in separate financial statements.	1 January 2016	
Amendments to IAS 1	Disclosure amendments	1 January 2016	



#### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

period ended 31 December 2015

#### Significant accounting policies (continued)

#### New and amended IFRS standards (continued)

The Directors anticipate that the adoption of these Standards and Interpretations in future periods will have no material impact on the financial statements of the Company when the relevant standards and interpretations come into effect.

#### Foreign currency translation

Transactions and balances

Transactions entered into in a currency other than the functional currency are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. At each Balance Sheet date, the monetary assets and liabilities of the Group's entities that are not in the functional currency of that entity are translated into the functional currency at exchange rates prevailing at the Balance Sheet date. The resulting exchange differences are recognised in the Income Statement.

#### Functional and presentation currency

Management has concluded that the US dollar is the functional currency of each entity of the Group due to it being the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Group operates, based on the following facts:

- · Most of the expenses of the entities of the Group are denominated in US dollars; and
- The majority of funds raised from financing activities (debt or equity instruments) are either generated in US dollars or are raised in GBP and immediately converted to US dollars.

The consolidated financial statements are presented in US dollars.

#### Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment is stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write each asset down to its estimated residual value evenly over its expected useful life as follows:

	(Years)
Computers	3
Equipment	5-10
Furniture and fixtures	5-10

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

#### Investments in subsidiaries

Investments in subsidiaries are stated in the parent company's balance sheet at cost less any provisions for impairment. If a distribution is received from a subsidiary, then the investment in that subsidiary is assessed for an indication of impairment.

## Significant accounting policies (continued)

### Loan note conversion

Loan notes converted to equity are recognised in equity at the settlement amount of the loan note, on the settlement date, being the legal amount of the debt that is released for the issue of shares.

Where a premium that would be due to a loan note holder under the terms of the loan note agreement is waived on conversion, a capital contribution is recognised in equity in respect of the value of the waived premium.

The difference between the settlement amount under the conversion, and the historic carrying value of the loan notes, is recognised as a finance cost within profit or loss.

### Segmental analysis

In the opinion of the Directors, the Group is primarily organised into a single operating segment. This is consistent with the Group's internal reporting to the chief operating decision maker. Separate segmental disclosures have therefore not been included.

### **Exploration and evaluation assets**

Intangible assets relate to exploration, evaluation and development expenditure and are accounted for under the 'successful efforts' method of accounting per IFRS 6 'Exploration for an Evaluation of Mineral Resources'. The successful efforts method means that only costs which relate directly to the discovery and development of specific oil and gas reserves are capitalised. Exploration and evaluation costs are valued at costs less accumulated impairment losses and capitalised within intangible assets. Development expenditure on producing assets is accounted for in accordance with IAS 16, 'Property, plant and equipment'. Costs incurred prior to obtaining legal rights to explore are expensed immediately to the income statement.

### Impairment

Property, plant and equipment and intangible assets excluding exploration and evaluation assets At each balance sheet date, the Group reviews the carrying amounts of its property, plant and equipment and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

The recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash flows. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset for which the estimates of future cash flows have not been adjusted. If the recoverable amount of an asset (or cash-generating unit) is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset (cash-generating unit) is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

Non-financial assets which have suffered an impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date. Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset (cash-generating unit) is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but so that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset (cash-generating unit) in prior periods. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss.



period ended 31 December 2015

## Significant accounting policies (continued)

### Exploration and evaluation assets

Impairment tests are performed when the Group identifies facts or circumstances implying a possible impairment in accordance with IFRS 6. Where the Group identifies that an asset may be impaired the Group performs an assessment of the recoverable value in accordance with the requirements of IFRS 6. Any impairment identified is immediately charged to the statement of comprehensive income.

#### **Financial assets**

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand and demand deposits.

#### Amounts due from Group and other receivables

Other receivables are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method less any impairment.

#### Impairment of financial assets

Financial assets are assessed for indicators of impairment at each balance sheet date. Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset, the estimated future cash flows of the investment have been impacted.

The carrying amount of the financial asset is reduced by the impairment loss directly for all financial assets.

If, in a subsequent period, the amount of the impairment loss decreases and the decrease can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the previously recognised impairment loss is reversed through profit or loss to the extent that the carrying amount of the asset at the date the impairment is reversed does not exceed what the amortised cost would have been had the impairment not been recognised.

#### Financial liabilities and equity

Debt and equity instruments are classified as either financial liabilities or as equity in accordance with the substance of the contractual arrangement.

### Equity instruments

Equity instruments issued by the Company are recorded at the proceeds received, net of direct issue costs, which are charged to share premium.

## Trade payables

Trade payables are initially measured at fair value and subsequently held at amortised cost.

#### **Provisions**

Provisions are recognised when the Group has a present obligation as a result of a past event which it is probable will result in an outflow of economic benefits that can be reliably estimated.

### Stamp tax provision

The provision in respect of stamp tax that was recognised in 2014, is reversed in 2015 in line with HMRC confirmation that it is no longer due.

## Significant accounting policies (continued)

#### **Taxation**

The tax expense represents the sum of the tax currently payable.

#### Current tax

The tax currently payable is based on taxable profit for the period. Taxable profit differs from profit as reported in the statement of comprehensive income because it excludes items of income or expense that are taxable or deductible in other periods and it further excludes items that are never taxable or deductible. The Group's liability for current tax is calculated using tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

#### Deferred tax

Deferred tax is recognised on differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities in the financial statements and the corresponding tax basis used in the computation of taxable profit and is accounted for using the statement of financial position liability method.

Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognised for all taxable temporary differences, and deferred tax assets are generally recognised for all deductible temporary differences to the extent that it is probable that taxable profits will be available against which those deductible temporary differences can be utilised. Such assets and liabilities are not recognised if the temporary difference arises from goodwill or from the initial recognition (other than in a business combination) of other assets and liabilities in a transaction that affects neither the taxable profit nor the accounting profit.

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

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at each balance sheet date and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available to allow all or part of the asset to be recovered. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the period in which the liability is settled or the asset realised, based on tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the statement of financial position date. The measurement of deferred tax liabilities and assets reflects the tax consequences that would follow from the manner in which the Group expects, at the reporting date, to recover or to settle the carrying amount of its assets and liabilities.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to set off current tax assets against current tax liabilities and when they relate to income taxes levied by the same taxation authority and the Group intends to settle its current tax assets and liabilities on a net basis.

### Current and deferred tax for the period

Current and deferred tax are recognised as an expense or income in profit or loss, except when they relate to items credited or debited directly to equity or other comprehensive income, in which case the tax is also recognised directly in equity or other comprehensive income, as appropriate.



period ended 31 December 2015

## Significant accounting policies (continued)

### **Taxation (continued)**

Value Added Tax

When VAT is expected to be recoverable through the existence of future sales, the Group's policy is to record this recoverable VAT as a non-current tax asset. In instances where the future recoverability of VAT cannot be assessed with sufficient confidence, the Group's policy is to add the potentially irrecoverable VAT to the cost of the underlying transaction and capitalise or expense the amount according to the treatment of the underlying transaction.

#### **Share-based payments**

The Group issues equity-settled share-based payments to some of its employees and Directors through stock options plans, restricted shares or warrants. In accordance with IFRS 2, these plans are measured at fair value on the grant date and are accounted for as an employee expense on a straight-line or graduated vesting for each tranche basis over the vesting period of the plans.

The equity settled transaction reserve accounts for the expense associated with options that have been granted but not yet vested. The cost of the share options is recognised as an increase in the equity settled transaction reserve at the time of the award and this reserve is transferred to the accumulated deficit account over time when such shares become vested.

The proceeds received net of any directly attributable costs are credited to share capital (nominal value) and share premium in the Company.

The Company has the obligation to deliver the shares, and it is a Group subsidiary company that employs the individuals. In the Company's separate financial statements, there is no share-based payment charge, as no employees are providing services to the Company. The Company recognises an increase in the investment in the employing subsidiary as a capital contribution from the parent and a corresponding increase in equity.

#### Capital

The capital structure of the Group consists of equity attributable to the owners of the Company, comprising issued capital, the capital contribution reserve, the other reserve in respect of stamp tax arising on the issue of equity, the share based payment reserve and the accumulated deficit.

#### Share capital

Share capital comprises issued capital in respect of issued and paid up shares, at their par value.

## Share premium

Share premium comprises the difference between the proceeds received and the par value of the issued and paid up shares.

### Capital contribution

The capital contribution reserve comprises the capital contribution that was made by shareholders of the Company as part of the debt to equity conversion.

## Share based payment reserve

The share-based payment reserve relates to equity-settled share-based payments provided to employees, including key management personnel, as part of their remuneration.

## Significant accounting policies (continued)

Accumulated deficit

Accumulated deficit comprises the accumulated deficit retained by the Company.

The Group's objective when managing capital is to maintain adequate financial flexibility to preserve its ability to meet financial obligations, both current and long term and to maintain an optimal capital structure to reduce the cost of capital.

The capital structure of the Group is managed and adjusted to reflect changes in economic conditions.

The Group funds its expenditures on commitments from existing cash and cash equivalent balances, received from the issue of shares. There are no externally imposed capital requirements. Financing decisions are made by the Directors based on forecasts of the expected timing and level of capital and operating expenditure required to meet the Group's commitments and development plans.

#### Leasing

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term, except where another systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which economic benefits from the leased asset are consumed.

#### Earnings per share

#### (i) Basic earnings per share

Basic earnings per share is determined by dividing net profit after income tax attributable to members of the Company, excluding any costs of servicing equity other than ordinary shares, by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the financial year, adjusted for bonus elements in ordinary shares issued during the year.

## (ii) Diluted earnings per share

Diluted earnings per share adjusts the figures used in the determination of basic earnings per share to take into account the after income tax effect of interest and other financing costs associated with dilutive potential ordinary shares and the weighted average number of shares assumed to have been issued for no consideration in relation to dilutive potential ordinary shares.



period ended 31 December 2015

## 04

### Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the Group's accounting policies, which are described above, 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.

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 revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

### Critical accounting judgements

## Recoverability of exploration and evaluation costs

The outcome of ongoing exploration, and therefore the recoverability of the carrying value of intangible exploration and evaluation assets, is inherently uncertain. Management makes the judgements necessary to implement the Group's policy with respect to exploration and evaluation assets and considers these assets for impairment at least annually with reference to indicators in IFRS 6. Further details are provided in note 13.

### Share based payments

The share-based payment charge is determined based on a number of judgements, including the selection of an appropriate valuation model, and is based on the estimation of the number of awards that will ultimately vest, and vesting periods. Further details are provided in note 18.

## 05

## Segmental reporting

The Group complies with IFRS 8 Operating Segments, which requires operating segments to be identified on the basis of internal reports about components of the Group that are regularly reviewed by the Chief Executive to allocate resources to the segments and to assess their performance.

In the opinion of the Directors, the operations of the Group comprise one class of business, being oil and gas exploration and related activities in only one geographical area, Niger.

## Operating Loss

Operating loss has been arrived at after charging:

	2015 US\$'000	2014 US\$'000
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	97	6
Staff costs (note 7)	3,552	916

During the period the Group (including its overseas subsidiaries) obtained the following services from the Company's auditor:

	2015 US\$'000	2014 US\$'000
Fees payable to Grant Thornton UK LLP for the audit of the Company's annual accounts	78	53
Total audit fees payable to Grant Thornton UK LLP and their associates	78	53
Fees payable to Grant Thornton UK LLP and their associates for other services to the group		
Audit-related assurance services	11	8
Other taxation advisory services	138	168
Services related to corporate finance transactions	_	130
Total non-audit fees payable to Grant Thornton UK LLP and their associates	149	306



## 07

## Staff costs

The average monthly number of employees, (including Executive Directors) during the year was:

	2015 No	2014 No
Employees	12	4
Employee benefits recognised as an expense during the period comprised:		
	2015 US\$'000	2014 US\$'000
Wages and salaries	2,041	723
Share based payments	1,162	61
Pension costs	61	28
Social security costs & benefits	288	104
	3,552	916
Director's remuneration during the period comprised:		
	2015 US\$'000	2014 US\$'000
Wages and salaries	954	485
Share based payments	898	55
Pension costs	61	28
Social security costs & benefits	133	64
	2,046	632

Further details of Director's remuneration are provided in the Directors' Remuneration Report on pages 16-19.

## **O8** Finance income

	2015 US\$'000	2014 US\$'000
Interest income on short-term bank deposits	_	1

## **O9** Finance costs

	2015 US\$'000	2014 US\$'000
Loan note conversion <sup>1</sup>	-	7,459
Foreign exchange losses <sup>2</sup>	166	290
Share based payment charge	_	61
Bank interest and charges	13	10
Other finance costs	71	42
	250	7,862

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In the accounting period ended 31 December 2014, loan notes issued by the Company were redeemed or converted into ordinary share capital immediately upon the Company being listed on the Alternative Investment Market (AIM). The amount of US\$7,459,000 represents non-recurring costs and includes non-cash costs related to the treatment of the debt to equity conversion conducted around the time of IPO.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The net foreign exchange loss booked is US\$166,000 (2014: US\$290,000) and is mainly the result of the movements of GBP and XOF against the US dollar during the period.

period ended 31 December 2015

## 10 Income Tax

The tax expense for the Group is:

	2015 US\$'000	2014 US\$'000
Group Corporation tax	565	_
	•	
	2015 US\$'000	2014 US\$'000
The charge for the period can be reconciled per the statement of comprehensive	ve income as follo	ws:
Loss on ordinary activities before taxes	7,294	14,692
Loss before taxation multiplied by the UK corporation tax rate	1,477	3,232
Effects of:		
Expenses disallowed for tax	(378)	(878)
Tax losses carried forward	(1,120)	(2,354)
Controlled foreign entity charge	(524)	_
Tax charge for the period	(565)	_

With effect from 1 April 2015 the UK corporation tax rate reduced from 21% to 20%.

At 31 December 2015, tax losses were US\$16,300,000 (2014: US\$10,702,000). Tax losses will be carried forward and are potentially available for utilisation against taxable profits in future years. The potential tax benefit of the tax losses carried forward at 20% is US\$3,260,000 (2014: US\$2,140,000).

At 31 December 2015, a temporary difference for corporation tax purposes in respect of share-based payments of US\$1,223,000 (2014:US\$61,000) existed, which is potentially available for utilisation against taxable profits in future years.

The Group has not recognised a deferred tax asset in respect of tax losses and temporary differences as it does not currently meet the recognition criteria of IAS 12 'Income Taxes'. The asset will be recognised in future periods when its recovery (against appropriate taxable profits) is considered probable.

## Earnings per share

Basic loss per share amounts are calculated by dividing the loss for the period attributable to owners of the parent by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the period.

Diluted loss per share amounts are calculated by dividing the loss for the periods attributable to owners of the parent by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the period, plus the weighted average number of shares that would be issued on the conversion of dilutive potential ordinary shares into ordinary shares. The effect of share options is anti-dilutive, and is therefore excluded from the calculation of diluted loss per share.

	2015 US\$'000	2014 US\$'000
Earnings		
Net loss attributable to owners of the parent	(7,582)	(14,619)
	Number of shares	Number of shares
Basic and diluted weighted average number of shares	160,878,154	113,056,632
Loss per share	US\$	US\$
Basic and diluted	(0.05)	(0.13)

In July 2015 the Company issued 61,690,000 new ordinary shares as part of an equity fund raising to the value of US\$36 million (gross) and issued 314,275 ordinary shares as a share based payment.

## Property, plant and equipment

### Group

	Computer		Furniture &	
Cost	equipment	Equipment	fixtures	Total
Cost	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000
At incorporation	_	_	_	_
Additions	2	396	111	509
Balance at 31 December 2014	2	396	111	509
Additions	_	235	109	344
Disposals	_	(17)	_	(17)
Balance at 31 December 2015	2	614	220	836



# **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)** period ended 31 December 2015

## **12** Property, plant and equipment (continued)

Cost	Computer equipment US\$'000	Equipment US\$'000	Furniture & fixtures US\$'000	Total US\$'000
Accumulated depreciation				
At incorporation	_	-	_	_
Depreciation charge		_	(6)	(6)
Balance at 31 December 2014	_		(6)	(6)
Depreciation charge	(1)	(56)	(40)	(97)
Disposals	(')	1	(10)	1
Balance at 31 December 2015	(1)	(55)	(46)	102
Net book value				
Delever at 04 December 20044	0	000	105	500
Balance at 31 December 2014	2	396	105	503
Balance at 31 December 2015	1	559	174	734
Company				
Cost		Equipment US\$'000	Furniture & fixtures US\$'000	Total US\$'000
At incorporation				_
Additions		149	25	174
Balance at 31 December 2014		149	25	174
Additions		45	103	148
Balance at 31 December 2015		194	128	322
Accumulated depreciation				
At incorporation		_	_	_
Depreciation charge		_	_	_
Balance at 31 December 2014		_	_	_
Depresiation charge		(10)	(00)	(41)
Depreciation charge  Balance at 31 December 2015		(18)	(23)	(41)
Balance at 31 December 2015		(18)	(23)	(41)
Net book value				
Balance at 31 December 2014		149	25	174
Balance at 31 December 2015		176	105	281
Data loc at 01 Decelline 2013		170	105	201

## **Exploration and evaluation assets**

### Group

Exploration and evaluation assets consist of acquisition costs relating to the acquisition of exploration licenses and other costs associated directly with the discovery and development of specific oil and gas reserves in the R1/R2 and R3/R4 licence area in the Republic of Niger.

Balance at 31 December 2015	80,529
Additions	37,990
Balance at 31 December 2014	42,539
Additions	42,539
At incorporation	-
	Total US\$'000

The amount for intangible exploration and evaluation assets represents active exploration projects. These will ultimately be written off to the statement of comprehensive income as exploration costs if commercial reserves are not established but are carried forward in the statement of financial position whilst the determination process is not yet completed and there are no indications of impairment having regard to the indicators in IFRS 6.

Given the fall in global oil prices, management believed this to be an impairment trigger and the intangible asset was tested for impairment at the balance sheet date. Following this test, the asset was not impaired.

### Company

No exploration and evaluation assets were capitalised by the Company as at the balance sheet date.



period ended 31 December 2015

## 14 Investment in subsidiaries

	Group 2015 US\$'000	Company 2015 US\$'000	Group 2014 US\$'000	Company 2014 US\$'000
Savannah Petroleum 1 Limited	-	1,223	-	61
SPN Limited	-	44,039	_	-
	_	45,262	_	61

The principal Group subsidiaries are disclosed below. Transactions between subsidiaries and parent company are eliminated on consolidation.

Name	Nature of business	Country of incorporation	Type of share	Group shareholding
Savannah Petroleum 1 Limited	Investment company	United Kingdom	Ordinary	100%
Savannah Petroleum 2 Limited	Investment company	United Kingdom	Ordinary	95%
SPN Limited	Holding	Jersey	Ordinary	100%
Savannah Petroleum SAS	Service	France	Ordinary	100%
Savannah Niger R1/R2 SA	Oil exploration company	Niger	Ordinary	95%

The table below shows details of non-wholly owned subsidiaries of the Group that have material non-controlling interests:

Name	Proportion of ownership interests and voting rights held by non-controlling interests	Loss allocated to non- controlling interests in period ended 31 December 2015 US\$'000	Accumulated non-controlling interests US\$'000
Savannah Petroleum 2 Limited	5%	_	_
Savannah Niger R1/R2 SA	5%	(277)	(350)
Total		(277)	(350)
Name	Proportion of ownership interests and voting rights held by non-controlling interests	Loss allocated to non- controlling interests in period ended 31 December 2014 US\$'000	Accumulated non-controlling interests US\$'000
Savannah Petroleum 2 Limited	5%	_	-
Savannah Niger R1/R2 SA	5%	(73)	(73)
Total		(73)	(73)

## 15 Other receivables and prepayments

	Group 2015 US\$'000	Company 2015 US\$'000	Group 2014 US\$'000	Company 2014 US\$'000
Prepayments	242	78	186	
VAT receivables	71	57	1,039	725
Amounts owed from other group companies	-	43,295	-	45,971
Other receivables	97	94	250	250
	410	43,524	1,475	46,946

Group receivables of US\$43,295,000 (2014: US\$45,971,000) and other receivables of US\$94,000 (2014: US\$250,000) are receivable within one year and are not interest bearing.

The Directors consider that the carrying amount of other receivables and prepayments approximates to their fair value and no amounts are provided against them. The Directors consider any change in the credit quality of the receivable from the date credit was granted to the reporting date.

## 16 Cash and cash equivalents

	Group 2015 US\$'000	Company 2015 US\$'000	Group 2014 US\$'000	Company 2014 US\$'000
Cash and cash equivalents	7,849	7,640	17,221	17,070
	7,849	7,640	17,221	17,070

The Directors consider that the carrying amount of cash and cash equivalents approximates their fair value.

The amount of cash and cash equivalents denominated in currencies other than US\$ is shown in note 22 to these financial statements.



period ended 31 December 2015

## **17** Capital and reserves

As at 31 December			2015	2014
Fully paid ordinary shares in issue (number)		10	93,341,447	131,337,172
Tully paid ordinary shares in issue (number)			93,341,447	101,007,172
Par value per share in GBP			0.001	0.001
	Number of Shares	Share Capital US\$'000	Share Premium US\$'000	Total US\$'000
At Incorporation	10	-	_	_
Shares issued	131,337,162	224	73,668	73,892
At 31 December 2014	131,337,172	224	73,668	73,892
Shares issued	62,004,275	97	35,158	35,255
Uncollected share capital	_	_	(250)	(250)
At 31 December 2015	193,341,447	321	108,576	108,897

On 3 July 2014, 10 ordinary shares of £0.01 were issued.

On 22 July 2014, 49,999,991 ordinary shares of £0.001 were issued as part of a share for share exchange.

On 1 August 2014, 25,497,236 ordinary shares of £0.001 were issued as part of the loan note conversion.

On 1 August 2014, 55,839,935 ordinary shares of £0.001 were issued as part of the AIM listing.

In July 2015, 61,690,000 ordinary shares of £0.001 were issued as part of an equity fund raising.

In July 2015, 314,275 ordinary shares of £0.001 were issued as part of an employee remuneration award.

The total aggregate increase in the share premium reserve regarding the share issues was US\$35,158,000 (2014: US\$73,668,000) after deducting US\$1,634,000 (2014: US\$3,770,000) in expenses.

	Capital contribution US\$'000	Other reserve US\$'000	Share based payment reserve US\$'000	Total US\$'000
At Incorporation	_	_	_	_
Loan note conversion	458	_	_	458
Group structuring	_	(375)	_	(375)
Share based payments expense during the year	_	_	61	61
At 31 December 2014	458	(375)	61	144
Share based payments expense during the year	_	_	1,162	1,162
Reversal of provision	-	375	_	375
At 31 December 2015	458	-	1,223	1,681

## **4 7** Capital and reserves (continued)

### Nature and purpose of reserves

### **Capital contribution reserve**

On 1 August 2014 a capital contribution of US\$458,000 was made by Shareholders of the Company as part of the loan note conversion.

### Other reserve

The other reserve related to stamp tax in relation to the issuing of equity as part of a share for share exchange. The provision is reversed in 2015 in line with HMRC confirmation that it is no longer due. Further details are at note 20.

### Share based payment reserve

The share-based payment reserve is used to recognise the value of equity-settled share-based payments provided to employees, including key management personnel, as part of their remuneration. Further details of share based payments are at note 18.

#### Capital risk management

The Group manages its capital to ensure that entities in the Group will be able to continue as a going concern while seeking to maximise the return to Shareholders through the optimisation of the debt and equity balance.

Details of the Group's capital structure can be found in the capital accounting policy.

The Group finances its business through external share capital. In August 2014 the Group raised US\$73,892,000 through the issue of additional ordinary shares. In July 2015 the Group raised US\$35,254,000 through the issue of additional ordinary shares. The proceeds are used to finance the Group's ongoing development and appraisal of the exploration and evaluation assets.



period ended 31 December 2015

## 18 Share-based payments

The Group operates a share option plan as part of the remuneration of employees.

### **Long-Term Incentive Plan**

	For the year ended	For the period ended
	31 December	31 December
	2015	2014
	US\$'000	US\$'000
Share-based payments	1,162	61

The Board has established a share option plan, in which share options will be granted and vest on successful completion of certain milestones (described below). The Group signed agreements with the key management personnel setting out the terms of the options in 2014. Under IFRS 2 the options were therefore deemed to have been granted in 2014. Once the Remuneration Committee has confirmed the successful completion of the milestone, a certain number of share options will be granted and vest for each participant.

Milestone	Number of options	Assumed Exercise price (US\$)	Market vesting condition	Assumed Vesting period
1	15,737,896	0.02	PLC share price to equal or exceed £1.68	10 years

Given that milestone is a market vesting condition, the likelihood of it occurring will be re-assessed at each year end and the charge amended annually.

The options were valued on the grant date using a Monte-Carlo option pricing model which calculates the fair value of an option by using the vesting period, the expected volatility of the share price, the current share price, the assumed exercise price and the risk free interest rate. The fair value of the option is amortised over the anticipated vesting period. There is no requirement to revalue the option at any subsequent date.

For valuation purposes an exercise price of  $\mathfrak{L}0.01$  was used however shares in the Company will be issued at an effective exercise price of  $\mathfrak{L}0.56$ .

## ◆ Share-based payments (continued)

Movements in the number of share options outstanding and their related weighted average assumed exercise prices are as follows:

	31 December 201		
	Charge during the period US\$'000	Number of options	Assumed exercise price in US\$ per share
Outstanding at the beginning of the period	<del>-</del>	_	_
Granted during the period	_	15,737,896	0.02
Charge during the period	61	_	_
Lapsed or exercised during the period	_	_	
Outstanding at 31 December 2014		15,737,896	
Charge during the period	659	_	_
Granted, lapsed, exercised during the period	_	_	_
Outstanding at 31 December 2015		15,737,896	·

The calculation of the share option charge per share using the Monte-Carlo Pricing model has been calculated to be US\$0.37. Based on the scheme vesting conditions, a charge of US\$659,000 for the year to 31 December 2015 (2014: \$61,000) has been recognised.

The following table lists the inputs to the model used to determine the fair value of options granted:

Pricing model used	Monte-Carlo
Grant date	28 November 2014
Weighted average share price at grant date (US\$)	0.56
Weighted average exercise price (US\$)	0.02
Weighted average contractual life (years)	10
Share price volatility (%)	89.69
Dividend yield	_
Risk-free interest rate (%)	1.924

The expected share price volatility of 89.69% has been determined by reference to historical prices of shares in the following comparator group companies: Tullow Oil Plc, Bowleven Plc, President Energy Plc, Sound Energy PLC and Ascent Resources Plc.

In the year to 31 December 2015 a supplementary share option plan was established.

#### **Supplementary Plan**

The Board has established a share option plan, in which share options will be granted and vest on successful completion of certain milestones (described below). The Group signed agreements with the key management personnel setting out the terms of the options in 2015. Under IFRS 2 the options were therefore deemed to have been granted in 2015. Once the Remuneration Committee has confirmed the successful completion of the milestone, a certain number of share options will be granted and vest for each participant.



period ended 31 December 2015

## 18 Share-based payments (continued)

			Assumed		
	Milestone	Number of options	Exercise price (US\$)	Market vesting condition	Assumed Vesting period
-		<del></del>			
	1	10,128,599	0.38	PLC share price to equal or exceed £1.14	10 years

Given that milestone is a market vesting condition, the likelihood of it occurring will be re-assessed at each year end and the charge amended annually.

The options were valued on the grant date using a Monte-Carlo option pricing model which calculates the fair value of an option by using the vesting period, the expected volatility of the share price, the current share price, the assumed exercise price and the risk free interest rate. The fair value of the option is amortised over the anticipated vesting period. There is no requirement to revalue the option at any subsequent date.

Movements in the number of share options outstanding and their related weighted average assumed exercise prices are as follows:

	31 Decen		
	Charge during the period US\$'000	Number of options	Assumed exercise price in US\$ per share
Outstanding at the beginning of the period	_	_	_
Granted during the period	_	10,128,599	0.39
Charge during the period	503	_	_
Lapsed or exercised during the period	_	_	
Outstanding at 31 December 2015		10,128,599	

The calculation of the share option charge per share using the Monte-Carlo Pricing model has been calculated to be US\$0.39. Based on the scheme vesting conditions, a charge of US\$503,000 for the year to 31 December 2015 (2014: \$nil) has been recognised.

The following table lists the inputs to the model used to determine the fair value of options granted:

Pricing model used	Monte-Carlo
Grant date	30 July 2015
Weighted average share price at grant date (US\$)	0.62
Weighted average exercise price (US\$)	0.59
Weighted average contractual life (years)	10
Share price volatility (%)	82.34
Dividend yield	_
Risk-free interest rate (%)	1.519

The expected share price volatility of 82.34% has been determined by reference to historical prices of shares in the following comparator group companies: Tullow Oil Plc, Bowleven Plc, President Energy Plc, Sound Energy Plc and Ascent Resources Plc.

31 December 2015

## 19 Trade and other payables

	Group 2015 US\$'000	Company 2015 US\$'000	Group 2014 US\$'000	Company 2014 US\$'000
Trade payables	804	132	486	334
Accruals	74	64	1,491	176
	878	196	1,977	510

The Directors consider that the carrying amount of trade and other payables approximates to their fair value. All amounts are payable within one year.

## 20 Provision

	Group	Company	Group	Company
	2015	2015	2014	2014
	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000
Stamp duty provision	_	_	417	417

The provision relating to stamp tax and related interest costs in relation to a share for share exchange were reversed during 2015 in line with HMRC confirmation that it is no longer due.



period ended 31 December 2015

## 21 Non-controlling interests

Summarised financial information in respect of each of the Group's subsidiaries that has material non-controlling interests is set out below. The summarised financial information below represents amounts before intragroup eliminations.

## Savannah Niger

Current assets         85         236           Non-current assets         79,958         42,816           Current liabilities         (91,016)         (44,509)           Non-current liabilities         -         -           Current liabilities         (10,473)         (1,457)           Non-current liabilities         (10,623)         (1,384)           Non-current liabilities         (10,457)         (1,457)           Non-current liabilities         5,531         1,457           Attributable to owners of the Group         5,254         1,384           Attributable to owners of the Group         5,254         1,457           Net cash outflow from operating activities         (9,129)         (1,457) <th>Cavallian Higel</th> <th></th> <th></th>	Cavallian Higel		
Non-current liabilities         79,958 (91,016) (44,509)         42,816 (2011)         Current liabilities         (91,016) (44,509)         44,509)         Non-current liabilities         - <th></th> <th></th> <th></th>			
Current liabilities         (91,016)         (44,509)           Non-current liabilities         -         -           (10,973)         (1,457)           Equity attributable to owners of the Group         (10,623)         (1,384)           Non-controlling interests         (350)         (73)           (10,973)         (1,457)         (1,457)           Leading interests         (10,973)         (1,457)           Net loss and total comprehensive loss         5,531         1,457           Attributable to owners of the Group         5,254         1,384           Attributable to the non-controlling interest         277         73           Net cash outflow from operating activities         (9,129)         (1,457)           Net cash (outflow)/inflow         (105)         151           Further information about non-controlling interests is given in note 14.         2015 US\$100         2014 US\$100           Balance at 1 January and incorporation         73         -           Share of loss for the year         277         73	Current assets	85	236
Non-current liabilities         -	Non-current assets	79,958	42,816
Comparison of the Group   Comparison of th	Current liabilities	(91,016)	(44,509)
Equity attributable to owners of the Group         (10,623)         (1,384)           Non-controlling interests         (350)         (73)           (10,973)         (1,457)           Loss ond         (10,973)         (1,457)           Net loss and total comprehensive loss         5,531         1,457           Attributable to owners of the Group         5,254         1,384           Attributable to the non-controlling interest         277         73           Net cash outflow from operating activities         (9,129)         (1,457)           Net cash inflow from financing activities         9,024         1,608           Net cash (outflow)/inflow         (105)         151           Further information about non-controlling interests is given in note 14.         2015 Us\$'000         2014 Us\$'000           Balance at 1 January and incorporation         73         -           Share of loss for the year         277         73	Non-current liabilities	-	_
Non-controlling interests         (73)         (73)           (10,973)         (1,457)         (1,457)           2015         2014         2015         2014           US\$*000         Net loss and total comprehensive loss         5,531         1,457           Attributable to owners of the Group         5,254         1,384           Attributable to the non-controlling interest         277         73           Net cash outflow from operating activities         (9,129)         (1,457)           Net cash inflow from financing activities         9,024         1,608           Net cash (outflow)/inflow         (105)         151           Further information about non-controlling interests is given in note 14.         2015         2014           Uss*000         2014         2		(10,973)	(1,457)
(10,973)         (1,457)           2015         2014           US\$*000         2015           Net loss and total comprehensive loss         5,531         1,457           Attributable to owners of the Group         5,254         1,384           Attributable to the non-controlling interest         277         73           Net cash outflow from operating activities         (9,129)         (1,457)           Net cash inflow from financing activities         9,024         1,608           Net cash (outflow)/inflow         (105)         151           Further information about non-controlling interests is given in note 14.         2015         2014           Uss*000         Uss*000           Balance at 1 January and incorporation         73         -           Share of loss for the year         277         73	Equity attributable to owners of the Group	(10,623)	(1,384)
Net loss and total comprehensive loss         5,531         1,457           Attributable to owners of the Group         5,254         1,384           Attributable to the non-controlling interest         277         73           Net cash outflow from operating activities         (9,129)         (1,457)           Net cash inflow from financing activities         9,024         1,608           Net cash (outflow)/inflow         (105)         151           Further information about non-controlling interests is given in note 14.         2015         2014           Uss*000         Uss*000           Balance at 1 January and incorporation         73         -           Share of loss for the year         277         73	Non-controlling interests	(350)	(73)
Net loss and total comprehensive loss         5,531         1,457           Attributable to owners of the Group         5,254         1,384           Attributable to the non-controlling interest         277         73           Net cash outflow from operating activities         (9,129)         (1,457)           Net cash inflow from financing activities         9,024         1,608           Net cash (outflow)/inflow         (105)         151           Further information about non-controlling interests is given in note 14.         2015         2014           Uss*000         Uss*000           Balance at 1 January and incorporation         73         -           Share of loss for the year         277         73		(10,973)	(1,457)
Net loss and total comprehensive loss       5,531       1,457         Attributable to owners of the Group       5,254       1,384         Attributable to the non-controlling interest       277       73         5,531       1,457         Net cash outflow from operating activities       (9,129)       (1,457)         Net cash inflow from financing activities       9,024       1,608         Net cash (outflow)/inflow       (105)       151         Further information about non-controlling interests is given in note 14.       2015       2014         Us\$*000       Us\$*000         Balance at 1 January and incorporation       73       -         Share of loss for the year       277       73			
Attributable to the non-controlling interest         277         73           5,531         1,457           Net cash outflow from operating activities         (9,129)         (1,457)           Net cash inflow from financing activities         9,024         1,608           Net cash (outflow)/inflow         (105)         151           Further information about non-controlling interests is given in note 14.         2015         2014           Us\$*000         Us\$*000         Us\$*000           Balance at 1 January and incorporation         73         -           Share of loss for the year         277         73	Net loss and total comprehensive loss	5,531	
Net cash outflow from operating activities       (9,129)       (1,457)         Net cash inflow from financing activities       9,024       1,608         Net cash (outflow)/inflow       (105)       151         Further information about non-controlling interests is given in note 14.       2015 US\$*000       2014 US\$*000         Balance at 1 January and incorporation       73 -       -         Share of loss for the year       277 73	Attributable to owners of the Group	5,254	1,384
Net cash outflow from operating activities (9,129) (1,457)  Net cash inflow from financing activities 9,024 1,608  Net cash (outflow)/inflow (105) 151  Further information about non-controlling interests is given in note 14.  Balance at 1 January and incorporation 73 - Share of loss for the year 277 73	Attributable to the non-controlling interest	277	73
Net cash inflow from financing activities 9,024 1,608  Net cash (outflow)/inflow (105) 151  Further information about non-controlling interests is given in note 14.  2015 2014 US\$'000  Balance at 1 January and incorporation 73 - Share of loss for the year 277 73		5,531	1,457
Net cash (outflow)/inflow (105) 151  Further information about non-controlling interests is given in note 14.  2015 2014 US\$*000  Balance at 1 January and incorporation 73 - Share of loss for the year 277 73	Net cash outflow from operating activities	(9,129)	(1,457)
Further information about non-controlling interests is given in note 14.  2015 US\$'000 US\$'000  Balance at 1 January and incorporation 73 Share of loss for the year 73	Net cash inflow from financing activities	9,024	1,608
2015 US\$'000         2014 US\$'000           Balance at 1 January and incorporation         73         -           Share of loss for the year         277         73	Net cash (outflow)/inflow	(105)	151
Balance at 1 January and incorporation 73 - Share of loss for the year 277 73	Further information about non-controlling interests is given in note 14.		
Share of loss for the year 277 73			
Share of loss for the year 277 73	Balance at 1 January and incorporation	73	_
<del></del>			73

## **22**

#### **Financial instruments**

### (a) Financial instruments by category

At the end of the period, the Group held the following financial instruments:

	Group 2015 US\$'000	Company 2015 US\$'000	Group 2014 US\$'000	Company 2014 US\$'000
Financial assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	7,849	7,640	17,221	17,070
Amounts due from group companies	-	43,295	_	45,971
Other receivables	98	_	250	250
	7,947	50,935	17,471	63,291
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost				
Trade payables	(812)	(132)	(486)	(334)
	(812)	(132)	(486)	(334)
	7,135	50,803	16,985	62,957

### (b) Risk management policy

In the context of its business activity, the Group operates in an international environment in which it is confronted with market risks, specifically foreign currency risk and interest rate risk. It does not use derivatives to manage and reduce its exposure to changes in foreign exchange rates and interest rates.

Cash and cash equivalents are generally kept in the Company's functional currency except for an amount corresponding to the needs of the local subsidiaries and such funds required for the parent company to pay its Directors, employees and vendors who are paid in Sterling. The policy of the Group is to have a balance in the currency of the local subsidiaries not higher than the expected needs in local currency for one month.

In addition to market risks, the Group is also exposed to liquidity and credit risk.

#### Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the Group if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations, and arises principally from the Group's receivables and deposits with financial institutions. The Group's exposure to credit risk is influenced mainly by the individual characteristics of each counterparty. The Group has an established credit policy under which each new counterparty is analysed for creditworthiness before the Group's standard terms and conditions are offered. The Group's review includes external ratings.

The maximum exposure the Group will bear with a single customer is dependent upon that counterparty's credit rating, the level of anticipated trading and the time period over which this is likely to run. The Group gives careful consideration to which organisations it uses for its banking services in order to minimise credit risk. Further details of Credit risk are included in note 15.



period ended 31 December 2015

## Financial instruments (continued)

### Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Group will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The Group's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure that it will always have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when due, without incurring unacceptable losses or damage to the Group's reputation.

The Group manages liquidity risk by regularly reviewing cash requirements by reference to short term cash flow forecasts and medium term working capital projections prepared by management.

All surplus cash is aggregated to maximise the returns on deposits through economies of scale.

The Group maintains good relationships with its banks. At 31 December 2015, the Group had US\$7,849,000 (2014: US\$17,221,000) of cash reserves (Company: US\$7,640,000 2014: US\$17,070,000).

Ultimate responsibility for liquidity risk management rests with the Board of Directors. The Group manages liquidity risk by maintaining adequate cash reserves and continuously monitoring forecast and actual cash flows. The Group aims to maximise operating cash flows in order to be in a position to finance the investments required for its development.

The Group's liquidity position and its impact on the going concern assumption are discussed further in the Financial Review and Directors' Report.

All the Group's financial liabilities are due within one year at December 2014 and 2015.

#### Foreign currency risk

Foreign currency risk arises because the Group operates in various parts of the world whose currencies are not the same as the functional currency in which the Group is operating. The net assets from such overseas operations are exposed to currency risk giving rise to gains or losses on retranslation into the presentational currency.

Foreign currency risk also arises when the Group enters into transactions denominated in a currency other than its functional currency. The main foreign currency risk in the period ended 31 December 2014 relates to transactions denominated in Sterling. The Group keeps foreign currency bank accounts in the United Kingdom.

The primary exchange rate movements that the Group is exposed to are \$US:XOF and \$US:GBP. Foreign exchange risk arises from recognised assets and liabilities.

#### Group

The carrying amounts of the Group's foreign currency denominated monetary assets and liabilities were as follows:

As at 31 December 2015	GBP US\$'000	XOF US\$'000	EUR US\$'000
Cash and cash equivalents	890	48	10
Exposure (assets)	890	48	10
Trade payables	(631)	(127)	(67)
Exposure (liabilities)	(631)	(127)	(67)
Net exposure	259	(79)	(57)

## **22**

## Financial instruments (continued)

As at 31 December 2014	GBP US\$'000	XOF US\$'000	EUR US\$'000
Cash and cash equivalents	3,013	151	_
Exposure assets	3,013	151	_
Trade payables	(388)	(69)	(9)
Exposure liabilities	(388)	(69)	(9)
Net exposure	2,625	82	(9)

### Company

The carrying amounts of the Company's foreign currency denominated monetary assets and liabilities were as follows:

As at 31 December 2015	GBP US\$'000	XOF US\$'000	EUR US\$'000
Cash and cash equivalents	878	_	10
Exposure (assets)	878	_	10
Trade payables	(71)	_	_
Exposure (liabilities)	(71)	_	_
Net exposure	807	-	10
As at 31 December 2014	GBP US\$'000	XOF US\$'000	EUR US\$'000
As at 31 December 2014  Cash and cash equivalents			
	US\$'000		
Cash and cash equivalents	US\$'000 3,013		
Cash and cash equivalents  Exposure assets	US\$'000 3,013 3,013		

The following table shows the effect of the US\$ strengthening by 10% against the foreign currencies, with all other variables held constant, on the Group's result for the period. 10% is the rate used internally when reporting to key management personnel and represents management's assessment of the reasonably possible change in exchange rates.

As at 31 December 2015	GBP US\$'000	XOF US\$'000	EUR US\$'000	Total US\$'000
Impact on loss for the period - Group	(24)	7	5	(11)
Impact on loss for the period - Company	(73)		(1)	(74)
As at 31 December 2014	GBP US\$'000	XOF US\$'000	EUR US\$'000	Total US\$'000
Impact on loss for the period - Group	(239)	(7)	1	(245)
Impact on loss for the period - Company	(244)			(244)



period ended 31 December 2015

## Financial instruments (continued)

The following table shows the effect of the US\$ weakening by 10% against the foreign currencies, with all other variables held constant, on the Group's result for the period. 10% is the rate used internally when reporting to key management personnel and represents management's assessment of the reasonably possible change in exchange rates.

As at 31 December 2015	GBP US\$'000	XOF US\$'000	EUR US\$'000	Total US\$'000
Impact on loss for the period - Group	24	(7)	(5)	11
Impact on loss for the period - Company	73		11	74
As at 31 December 2014	GBP US\$'000	XOF US\$'000	EUR US\$'000	Total US\$'000
Impact on loss for the period - Group	292	9	(1)	300
Impact on loss for the period - Company	298	_	_	298

#### Interest rate risk

The Group had significant cash balances during the period. Changes in interest rates could have either a negative or positive impact on the Group's interest income. Whenever possible, cash balances are put on term deposits to maximize interest income.

The interest rate profile of the Group's financial assets and liabilities was as follows:

As at 31 December	2015 US\$'000	2014 US\$'000
Cash at bank at floating interest rate – Group	7,849	17,221
Cash at bank at floating interest rate – Company	7,640	17,070

All other financial instruments were non-interest bearing. The cash at bank at floating interest rates consist of deposits which earn interest at variable rates depending on length of term and amount on deposit.

At 31 December 2015, a 1% increase in short-term interest rates would have a positive US\$78,000 (2014: US\$172,000) impact on Group loss before tax and equity and a positive US\$78,000 (2014: US\$171,000) impact on Company loss before tax and equity. A 1% decrease in short-term interest rates would have a negative US\$78,000 (2014: US\$172,000) impact on Group loss before tax and equity and a negative US\$78,000 (2014: US\$171,000) impact on Company loss before tax and equity. A 1% movement represents management's assessment of the reasonable possible change in interest rates.

## **Page 1** Related party transactions

Transactions between the Company and its subsidiaries which are related parties of the Company have been eliminated on consolidation and are not disclosed in this note. Details of transactions between the Company and other related parties are disclosed below.

### Compensation of key management personnel

Key management are the Directors (Executive and Non-Executive). Further information about the remuneration of individual Directors is provided in the Directors' Remuneration Report.

### Trading transactions

During the period, Group companies entered into the following transactions with related parties who are not members of the Group.

As at 31 December	Outstanding	Management	Outstanding	Management
	2015	services 2015	2014	services 2014
	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000
Lothian Oil & Gas Partners LLP	_	441	_	692

Andrew Knott is a member of Lothian Oil & Gas Partners LLP ("LOGP") and the Chief Executive Officer of Savannah Petroleum PLC. As discussed on Page 57 of the Company's AIM Admission Document of 1 August 2014, LOGP incurred costs of US\$2,002,000 relating to the Group's activities prior to Admission to AIM. US\$500,000 of these costs was recharged to the Company on Admission. In addition, post-Admission, LOGP has continued to provide services to Savannah pursuant to a contract entered into on 28 July 2014, to enable Savannah to continue to benefit from the professional services of individuals affiliated to LOGP on an as required basis. Since the Company entered into this agreement with LOGP, Andrew Knott has not received remuneration from LOGP and is not expected to going forward.



period ended 31 December 2015

## 24

## Notes to the consolidated statement of cash flows

	Year ended 31 December	Period ended 31 December
Group	2015 US\$'000	2014 US\$'000
Loss for the period before tax	(7,294)	(14,692)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation and amortisation	97	6
Finance costs	84	6,601
Issue costs	(1,634)	(3,868)
Share option charge	1,162	61
Profit/loss on disposal	6	_
Non-cash movement in provision	10	41
Operating cash flows before movements in working capital	(7,569)	(11,851)
Decrease/(Increase) in other receivables and prepayments	815	(1,475)
(Decrease)/Increase in trade and other payables	(1,100)	1,977
Income tax paid	-	_
Net cash outflow from operations	(7,854)	(11,349)

## 25

## Notes to the company statement of cash flows

	Year ended 31 December	Period ended 31 December
Company	2015 US\$'000	2014 US\$'000
Loss for the period before tax	(3,406)	(10,712)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation and amortisation	40	_
Finance costs	79	6,601
Issue costs	(1,634)	(3,868)
Share option charge	1,162	_
Non-cash movement in provision	10	41
Operating cash flows before movements in working capital	(3,749)	(7,938)
Decrease/(Increase) in other receivables and prepayments	496	(975)
(Decrease)/Increase in trade and other payables	(314)	510
Income tax paid	-	_
Net cash outflow from operations	(3,567)	(8,403)

## 26 Commitments

At the reporting date, the Group had commitments of US\$nil (2014: US\$3,196,000) and the Company had commitments of US\$nil (2014: US\$2,843,000).

## 27 Operating lease arrangements

	Group	Company	Group	Company
	2015	2015	2014	2014
Period ended 31 December	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000
Lease payments under operating leases				
recognised as an expense during the period	63	_	16	_

At the balance sheet date, the group had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

As at 31 December	Group 2015 US\$'000	Company 2015 US\$'000	Group 2014 US\$'000	Company 2014 US\$'000
Within one year	288	225	73	_
In the second to fifth years inclusive	1,133	1,125	57	
	1,421	1,350	130	_
Total prepaid as at 31 December	59	_	80	_
Total outstanding commitment as at	2,598	2,549	50	_
31 December				
	2,657	2,549	130	_

Operating lease payments represent rentals payable by the Group for certain of its office properties. Leases are negotiated with a minimum period of 2 years, and for an average term of 4 years, and rentals are fixed over the lease period.

### Post balance sheet events

The Group has evaluated subsequent events through 25 May 2016, which represents the date the consolidated financial statements were available to be issued.

On 11 January 2016, The Company entered into non-binding heads of terms regarding a potential transaction which, if completed on the currently proposed terms, would be classified as a reverse takeover under the AIM Rules for Companies.

The Company's ordinary shares will remain suspended from trading on AIM until such time as either an admission document setting out details of the proposed transaction is published, or confirmation is given that the transaction is not proceeding.



## **COMPANY INFORMATION AND ADVISERS**

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