

Report on Corporate Governance

Introduction

The Company is committed to the principles of corporate governance contained in the UK Corporate Governance Code that was issued in 2010 by the Financial Reporting Council ('the Code') for which the Board is accountable to shareholders. The Board also takes account of the corporate governance guidelines of institutional shareholders and their representative bodies.

Statement of compliance with the Code

Throughout the year ended 31 March 2012, the Company has been in compliance with the Code provisions set out in section 1 of the 2010 UK Corporate Governance Code.

Statement about applying the principles of the Code

The Company has applied the principles set out in the Code, including both the main principles and the supporting principles, by complying with the Code as reported above. Further explanation of how the principles and supporting principles have been applied is set out below and in the Directors' Remuneration Report and Audit Committee Report.

The Board of Directors

The Directors believe it is essential for the Group to be led and controlled by an effective Board that provides entrepreneurial leadership within a framework of sound controls which enables risk to be assessed and managed. The Board is responsible for setting the Group's strategic aims, its values and standards and ensuring the necessary financial and human resources are in place to achieve its goals. The Board ensures that its obligations to shareholders and other stakeholders are understood and met. The Board also regularly reviews the performance of management.

The Board currently consists of nine Directors: four Executives and five Non-Executives. The Board considers Tim Clark, Mark Richardson, Steve Johnson and Jonathan Short to be wholly independent and free from any business or other relationship which could materially interfere with the exercise of their judgement throughout the year.

Jonathan Short is considered an independent Non-Executive, even though he has served on the Board for twelve years, exceeding the Code recommended limit. This was concluded after considering his integrity and the effectiveness with which he carries out his responsibilities to the Company. Jonathan Short is retiring as a Director at the Company's AGM in July.

The Board does not consider that Philip Burks is an independent Non-Executive, given that he is a co-founder of the Group and was an Executive Director from September 1998 until March 2007.

Tim Clark is the Senior Independent Non-Executive Director.

All of the Non-Executive Directors bring considerable knowledge, judgement and experience to Board deliberations. Non-Executive Directors do not participate in any of the Company's share option or bonus schemes and their service is non-pensionable. Philip Burks has legacy LTIPs from his time as an Executive Director. The Non-Executive Directors are encouraged to communicate directly with Executive Directors between formal Board meetings. The Non-Executive Directors meet at least once a year without the Executive Directors being present.

Details of the Board and its principal committees are set out below. All of the Committees are authorised to obtain legal or other professional advice as necessary, to secure where appropriate the attendance of external advisers at its meetings and to seek information required from any employee of the Company in order to perform its duties.

Attendance at meetings of the individual Directors at the Board and for the members of the Committees that they were eligible to attend is shown in the table below:

Director	Position	Board	Audit	Remuneration	Nominations
Philip Burks	Non-Executive Director	6/6	–	–	–
Tim Clark	Non-Executive Director	6/6	3/3	4/4	1/1
James Gibson	Chief Executive Officer	6/6	–	–	–
Steve Johnson	Non-Executive Director	6/6	3/3	4/4	1/1
Adrian Lee	Operations Director	6/6	–	–	–
Mark Richardson	Non-Executive Director	6/6	3/3	4/4	1/1
Jonathan Short	Non-Executive Director	6/6	3/3	4/4	1/1
John Trotman	Chief Financial Officer	6/6	–	–	–
Nicholas Vetch	Executive Chairman	6/6	–	–	–

The Board meets approximately once every two months to discuss a whole range of significant matters including strategic decisions, major asset acquisitions and performance. A procedure to enable Directors to take independent professional advice if required has been agreed by the Board and formally confirmed by all Directors.

There is a formal schedule of matters reserved for the Board's attention including the approval of Group strategy and policies, major acquisitions and disposals, major capital projects and financing, Group budgets and material contracts entered into other than in the normal course of business. The Board also considers matters of non-financial risk as part of its review of the Group's risk register.

At each Board meeting the latest available financial information is produced which consists of detailed management accounts with the relevant comparisons to budget. A current trading appraisal is given by the Executive Directors.

Re-election of Directors

In accordance with the UK Corporate Governance Code, all Directors are submitting themselves for re-election at the 2012 Annual General Meeting, with the exception of Jonathan Short who is retiring at the Annual General Meeting. The biographical details of the Directors of the Group are set out on page 57. In the event of a proposal to appoint a new Director, this would be discussed at a full Board meeting, with each member being given the opportunity to meet the individual concerned prior to any formal decision being taken.

Chairman and Chief Executive

The division of responsibilities between the Chairman and the Chief Executive has been agreed by the Board and encompasses the following parameters:

- > the Chairman's role is to provide continuity, experience, governance and strategic advice, while the Chief Executive provides leadership, drives the day-to-day operations of the business, and works with the Chairman on overall strategy;
- > the Chairman, working with the Senior Independent Non-Executive Director, is viewed by investors as the ultimate steward of the business and the guardian of the interests of all the shareholders;
- > the Board believes that the Chairman and the Chief Executive work together to provide effective and complementary stewardship;
- > the Chairman must:
 - > take overall responsibility for the composition and capability of the Board; and
 - > consult regularly with the Chief Executive and be available on a flexible basis for providing advice, counsel and support to the Chief Executive.
- > the Chief Executive must:
 - > manage the Executive Directors and the Group's day-to-day activities;
 - > prepare and present to the Board strategic options for growth in shareholder value;
 - > set the operating plans and budgets required to deliver agreed strategy; and
 - > ensure that the Group has in place appropriate risk management and control mechanisms.

Non-Executive Directors

The Non-Executive Directors scrutinise the performance of management in meeting agreed goals and objectives and monitor the reporting of performance. They are required to satisfy themselves on the integrity of the financial information and that financial controls and systems of risk management are robust and defensible. They are responsible for determining appropriate levels of remuneration for Executive Directors and have a prime role in appointing and, where necessary, removing Executive Directors, and in succession planning.

Performance evaluation

Each year the Board undertakes a formal evaluation of its own performance and that of its Committee and its individual members. During the year, the Chairman evaluated the performance of the Executive Directors, and the performance of the Chairman was evaluated by the Senior Independent Non-Executive Director. It was considered that the individuals, the Committees and the Board as a whole were operating effectively, with appropriate procedures put in place for minor areas identified for improvement.

The Board has noted the recommendations of the new Code, and intends to appoint a facilitator during the year ending 31 March 2013 to perform an external evaluation of the Board's effectiveness and procedures, and those of its Committees. Given Jonathan Short is retiring from the Board in July 2012, and will be replaced by Richard Cotton as an independent Non-Executive Director, the Board decided to delay the external evaluation until these changes had occurred.

With the exception of Jonathan Short, all of the Non-Executive Directors are being proposed for election at the Annual General Meeting. Following the performance evaluation above, the Committee has determined that their performance is effective, and that they demonstrated commitment to the role.

Information and professional development

All Directors are provided with detailed financial information throughout the year. On a weekly basis they receive a detailed occupancy report showing the performance of each of the Group's open stores. Management accounts are circulated to the Board monthly, and a detailed Board pack is distributed a week prior to each Board meeting.

All Directors are kept informed of changes in relevant legislation and changing commercial risks with the assistance of the Company's legal advisers and auditors where appropriate. During the year under review, this has included consideration of Directors' responsibilities and an update on developments in the Code. The professional development requirements of Executive Directors are identified and progressed as part of each individual's annual appraisal. All new Directors are provided with a full induction programme on joining the Board.

Non-Executive Directors are encouraged to attend seminars and undertake external training at the Company's expense in areas they consider to be appropriate for their own professional development. Each year, the programme of senior management meetings is tailored to enable meetings to be held at the Company's properties. During the year, the senior management team made visits to all of the Group's open stores.

Standing committees of the Board

The Board has Audit, Remuneration and Nomination Committees, each of which has written terms of reference. They deal clearly with the authorities and duties of each Committee and are formally reviewed annually. Copies of these terms of reference are available on the Company's website. Each of these Committees is comprised of Independent Non-Executive Directors of the Company who are appointed by the Board on the recommendation of the Nominations Committee.

The Chairman of each Committee reports the outcome of the meetings to the Board. The Company Secretary is secretary to each Committee.

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Remuneration Committee

Tim Clark (Chairman)
Steve Johnson
Mark Richardson
Jonathan Short

Richard Cotton will join the Committee upon his appointment to the Board, replacing Jonathan Short.

The Committee is responsible for determining broad policy for the remuneration of the Executive Directors and the Company Secretary. Within the terms of the agreed policy the Committee will determine the total individual remuneration package of each Executive Director, including, where appropriate, bonuses, incentive payments, pension arrangements and share options. The Committee will select, appoint and set the terms of reference for any remuneration consultants who advise the Committee. The Committee will ensure that the contractual terms on termination, and any payments made, are fair to the individual and the Company, that failure is not rewarded and that the duty to mitigate loss is, where appropriate, fully recognised.

The fees of the Non-Executive Directors are reviewed by the Board at regular intervals. The statement of remuneration policy and details of each Director's remuneration is set out in the Directors' Remuneration Report.

Nominations Committee

Tim Clark (Chairman)
Steve Johnson
Mark Richardson
Jonathan Short

Richard Cotton will join the Committee upon his appointment to the Board, replacing Jonathan Short.

The Nominations Committee is responsible for regularly reviewing the structure, size and composition required of the Board and giving consideration to succession planning for Directors and other senior Executives. Where changes are required, it is also responsible for the identification, selection and proposal to the Board for approval of persons suitable for appointment or reappointment to the Board, whether as Executive or Non-Executive Directors and to seek approval from the Remuneration Committee to the remuneration and terms and conditions of service of any proposed Executive Director appointment. The Chairman of the Committee presents reports to the Board as appropriate to enable the Board as a whole to agree the appointments of new Directors. The Committee meets at least once a year and otherwise as required and as determined by its members.

The terms and conditions of appointment for the Non-Executive Directors is available for inspection at the Company's Head Office during normal working hours. They are also available for inspection at the Company's AGM.

Appointment to the Board

During the year the Nominations Committee considered the skill sets of the existing Non-Executive Directors. The Committee also considered the overall make-up of the Board following Jonathan Short's decision to retire at the forthcoming AGM, and decided that it was appropriate to appoint a new Non-Executive Director to replace Jonathan Short.

The Nominations Committee appointed an external recruitment consultant to provide a shortlist of candidates to the Committee. Following a rigorous interview process, the Committee recommended to the Board that Richard Cotton be appointed to the Board. Richard Cotton will join the Board as an independent Non-Executive Director in July 2012. The Nominations Committee believes the Board benefits from this appointment.

Shareholder relations

The Board aims to achieve clear reporting of financial performance to all shareholders and acknowledges the importance of an open dialogue by both Executive and Non-Executive Directors with its institutional shareholders. The Board believes that the Annual Report and Accounts play an important part in presenting all shareholders with an assessment of the Group's position and prospects.

The Company has an active dialogue with its shareholders through a programme of investor meetings which include formal presentation of the full and half year results. The Executive Directors have participated in investor conferences and meetings during the year, throughout the United Kingdom, and also in the United States and the Netherlands.

The Board also welcomes the interest of private investors and believes that, in addition to the Annual Report and the Company's website, the Annual General Meeting is an ideal forum at which to communicate with investors and the Board encourages their participation. At each Board Meeting, the Board is updated on any shareholding meetings that have taken place, and any views expressed or issues raised by the shareholders in these meetings.

Any queries raised by a shareholder, either verbally or in writing, are answered immediately by whoever is best placed on the Board to do so. Directors are introduced to shareholders at the AGM, including the identification of Non-Executive Directors and Committee Chairmen. The number of proxy votes cast in the resolution is announced at the AGM.

Risk management and internal control

The Group operates a rigorous system of risk management and internal control, which is designed to ensure that the possibility of misstatement or loss is kept to a minimum. There is a comprehensive system in place for financial reporting and the Board receives a number of reports to enable it to carry out these functions in the most efficient manner. These procedures include the preparation of management accounts, forecast variance analysis and other ad hoc reports. There are clearly defined authority limits throughout the Group, including those matters which are reserved specifically for the Board.

The Board has applied principle C.2 of the UK Corporate Governance Code by establishing a continuous process for identifying, evaluating and managing the significant risks the Group faces and for determining the nature and extent of the significant risks it is willing to take in achieving its strategic objectives. The Board regularly reviews the process, which has been in place from the start of the year to the date of approval of this report and which is in accordance with revised guidance on internal control published in October 2005 (the Turnbull Guidance). The Board is also responsible for the Group's system of internal control and for reviewing its effectiveness. Such a system is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives, and can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

In compliance with provision C.2.1 of the Code, the Board regularly reviews the effectiveness of the Group's risk management and internal control systems. The Board's monitoring covers all controls, including financial, operational and compliance controls and risk management. It is based principally on reviewing reports from management to consider whether significant risks are identified, evaluated, managed and controlled and whether any significant weaknesses are promptly remedied and indicate a need for more extensive monitoring. The Board has also performed a specific assessment for the purpose of this annual report. This assessment considers all significant aspects of risk management and internal control arising during the period covered by the report, including the work carried out by the Group's Store Compliance team. The Audit Committee assists the Board in discharging its review responsibilities.

A formal risk identification and assessment exercise has been carried out resulting in a risk framework document summarising the key risks, potential impact and the mitigating factors or controls in place. The Board have a stated policy of reviewing this risk framework at least once a year or in the event of a material change. The risk identification process also considered significant non-financial risks.

During the reviews, the Directors:

- > challenged the framework to ensure that the list of significant risks to business objectives were still valid and complete;
- > considered new and emerging risks to business objectives and included them in the framework if significant;
- > ensured that any changes in the impact or likelihood of the risks were reflected in the risk framework; and
- > ensured that there were appropriate action plans in place to address unacceptable risks.

The results of the exercise have been communicated to the Board and the Audit Committee. This was in the form of a summary report which included:

- > a prioritised summary of the key risks and their significance;
- > any changes in the list of significant risks or their impact and likelihood since the last assessment;
- > new or emerging risks that may become significant objectives in the future;
- > progress on action plans to address significant risks; and
- > any actual or potential control failures or weaknesses during the period (including "near misses").

During the course of its review of the risk management and internal control systems, the Board has not identified, nor been advised of any failings or weaknesses which it has determined to be significant. Therefore, a confirmation in respect of necessary actions has not been considered appropriate.

The principal areas of risk that the Group faces are considered below.

Self storage market risk

The UK economy has continued its slow recovery from the recession. The demand for self storage has slowed since the liquidity crisis began in August 2007, however we believe that the structural need for self storage remains. We saw an increase in demand in the financial year, with move-ins in our wholly owned portfolio up 9% on the prior year.

Self storage is a relatively immature market in the UK compared to other self storage markets such as the United States and Australia, and we believe has further opportunity for growth. Awareness of self storage and how it can be used by domestic and business customers is relatively low throughout the UK, although higher in London. The rate of growth of branded self storage on main roads in good locations has historically been limited by the difficulty of acquiring sites at affordable prices and obtaining planning consent. The lack of availability of credit within the economy has further reduced this rate of growth since the start of the downturn, and over the last couple of years new store openings within the sector have slowed to a trickle.

Our performance during the downturn has been relatively resilient, although not immune. We believe that the resilience of our performance is due to a combination of factors including:

- > a prime portfolio of freehold self storage properties;
- > a focus on London and the South East, which has proved more resilient during the downturn and where the drivers in the self storage market are at their strongest and the barriers to competition are at their highest;
- > the strength of operational and sales management;
- > continuing innovation to deliver the highest levels of customer service;
- > the UK's leading self storage brand, with high public awareness and online strength; and
- > strong cash flow generation and high operating margins.

Report on Corporate Governance (continued)

We have a large current storage customer base of over 36,000 spread across the portfolio of open stores and many thousands more who have used Big Yellow over the years. In any month, customers move in and out at the margin resulting in changes in occupancy. Despite the current economic environment, this has remained a seasonal business and typically we see growth over the spring and the summer months, with the seasonally weaker periods being the winter months.

The performance in terms of occupancy, revenue and EBITDA of our stores can be seen from the Portfolio Summary on page 22.

Property risk

Our management has significant experience in the property industry generated over many years and in particular in acquiring property on main roads in high profile locations and obtaining planning consents. We do take planning risk where necessary, although the current property market will in our view provide more opportunities to buy sites on a conditional basis. The planning process remains difficult with some planning consents taking in excess of twelve months to achieve, although given we have planning consent on all but one site, the risk to the Group has reduced significantly from prior years.

We manage the construction of our properties very tightly. The building of each site is handled through a design and build contract, with the fit out project managed in-house using an established professional team of external advisors and sub-contractors who have worked with us for many years to our Big Yellow specification.

Treasury risk

Our financing policy is to fund our current needs through a mix of debt, equity and cash flow to allow us to selectively build out the remaining development pipeline and achieve our strategic growth objectives, which we believe improve returns for shareholders.

We aim to ensure that there are sufficient medium term facilities in place to finance our committed development programme, secured against the freehold portfolio, with debt serviced by our strong operational cash flows.

We have a 15 year fixed rate loan in place from Aviva Commercial Finance Limited. For our bank debt, we borrow at floating rates of interest and use swaps to hedge our interest rate exposure. Our policy is to have at least 60% of our total borrowings fixed, with the balance floating paying margin over LIBOR. At the date of this report we have fixed rate swaps in place over 47% of our outstanding bank borrowings, coupled with the £100 million fixed rate loan from Aviva, resulting in 66% of the Group's total borrowings being fixed.

The Group does not hedge account its interest rate derivatives, all movements in fair value are taken through the statement of comprehensive income. The Group regularly monitors its counterparty risk. The Group monitors compliance with its banking covenants closely. During the year it complied with all its covenants, and is forecast to do so for the foreseeable future.

Interest cover and balance sheet risk

The Group reviews its current and forecast projections of cash flow, borrowing and interest cover as part of its monthly management accounts. In addition, an analysis of the impact of significant transactions is carried out regularly, as well as a sensitivity analysis assuming movements in interest rates and occupancy in the stores on gearing and interest cover.

Credit risk

Our customers are required to pay a deposit when they start to rent a self storage room and are also required to pay in advance for their four-weekly storage charges. The Group is therefore not exposed to a significant credit risk. 79% of our current customers pay by direct debit; however of new customers moving into the business in the last year 85% have paid by direct debit. Businesses often prefer to pay by cheque or BACS. Since the start of the downturn in economic activity, we have not seen an increase in the level of bad debts and arrears. Indeed, we have seen an improvement in the current year, with our bad debt expense representing 0.06% of revenue in the year (2011: 0.12%).

Taxation risk

The Group is exposed to changes in the tax regime affecting the cost of corporation tax, VAT and Stamp Duty Land Tax ("SDLT"). We regularly monitor proposed and actual changes in legislation with the help of our professional advisors, through direct liaison with HMRC, and through trade bodies to understand and, if possible, mitigate or benefit from their impact. We are currently in consultation with HMRC over the proposed change to the VAT status of self storage.

Real Estate Investment Trust ("REIT") risk

The Group converted to a REIT in January 2007. The Group is therefore exposed to potential tax penalties or loss of its REIT status by failing to comply with the REIT legislation. The Group has internal monitoring procedures in place to ensure that the appropriate rules and legislation are complied with. To date all REIT regulations have been complied with.

Human resources risk

Our staff are key to our success and we are exposed to a risk of high staff turnover, and a risk of the loss of key personnel. We have developed a professional, lively and enjoyable working environment and believe our success stems from attracting and retaining the right people. We encourage all our staff to build on their skills through appropriate training and regular performance reviews. We believe in an accessible and open culture and everyone at all levels is encouraged to review and challenge accepted norms, so as to contribute to the performance of the Group.

Reputational risk

Big Yellow's reputation with all its stakeholders is something we value highly and will always look to protect and enhance. We aim to communicate clearly with our customers, suppliers, local authorities and communities, employees and shareholders and to listen to and take account of their views. Big Yellow's intranet and website are important avenues of communication for both employees and shareholders.

Security risk

The safety and security of our customers and stores remains a key priority. To achieve this we invest in state of the art access control systems, individual room alarms, digital CCTV systems, intruder and fire alarm systems and the remote monitoring of all our stores out of our trading hours. We are the only major operator in the UK self storage industry that has every room in every store individually alarmed.

We have implemented customer security procedures in line with advice from the Police and continue to work with the regulatory authorities on issues of security, reviewing our operational procedures regularly. The importance of security and the need for vigilance is communicated to all store staff and reinforced through training and routine operational procedures. We have continued to run courses for all our staff to enhance the awareness and effectiveness of our procedures in relation to security.

Internal audit

The Group does not have a formal internal audit function because the Board has concluded that the internal controls systems discussed above are sufficient for the Group at this time. However, the Group employs a Store Compliance Manager responsible for reviewing store operational and financial controls. He reports to the Chief Financial Officer. The Store Compliance Manager visits each operational store twice a year to carry out a detailed store audit. These audits are unannounced and the Store Compliance Manager carries out detailed tests on financial management within the stores, administrative standards, and operational standards. This role is supported by an Assistant Store Compliance Manager, enabling additional work and support to be carried out across the Group's store portfolio. Part of the store staff's bonus is based on the scores they achieve in these audits. The results of each audit are reviewed by the Chief Financial Officer and the Head of Store Operations.

Going concern

A review of the Group's business activities, together with the factors likely to affect its future development, performance and position are set out on pages 9 to 21 of the Business and Financial Reviews. The financial position of the Group, its cash flows, liquidity position and borrowing facilities are shown in the balance sheet, cash flow statement and accompanying notes in the financial statements. Further information concerning the Group's objectives, policies and processes for managing its capital; its financial risk management objectives; details of its financial instruments and hedging activities; and its exposures to credit risk and liquidity risk can be found in this Report and in the Directors' Report.

After reviewing Group and Company cash balances, borrowing facilities, forecast valuation movements and projected cash flows, the Directors believe that the Group and Company have adequate resources to continue operations for the foreseeable future. In reaching this conclusion the Directors have had regard to the Group's operating plan and budget for the year ending 31 March 2013 and projections contained in the longer term business plan which covers the period to March 2016. The Directors have considered carefully the Group's trading performance and cash flows as a result of the uncertain global economic environment and the other principal risks to the Group's performance and are satisfied with the Group's positioning. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Report on Corporate Governance (continued)

Directors' responsibilities

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

Company law requires the Directors to prepare such financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Directors are required to prepare the Group financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union and Article 4 of the IAS Regulation and have also chosen to prepare the parent Company financial statements under IFRSs as adopted by the European Union. Under company law the Directors must not approve the accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the profit or loss of the Company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, International Accounting Standard 1 requires that the Directors:

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

The Directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible 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 United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Directors' responsibility statement

We confirm that to the best of our knowledge:

1. the financial statements, prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the Company and the undertakings included in the consolidation taken as a whole; and
2. the Business Review, which is incorporated into the Directors' report, includes a fair review of the development and performance of the business and the position of the Company and the undertakings included in the consolidation taken as a whole, together with a description of the principal risks and uncertainties that they face.

By order of the Board

Shauna Beavis

Secretary

21 May 2012

Audit Committee Report

Summary of the role of the Audit Committee

The Audit Committee is appointed by the Board from the Non-Executive Directors of the Group. The Audit Committee's terms of reference include all matters indicated by Disclosure and Transparency Rule 7.1 and the UK Corporate Governance Code. The terms of reference are considered annually by the Audit Committee and are then referred to the Board for approval.

The Audit Committee is responsible for:

- > monitoring the integrity of the financial statements of the Group and any formal announcements relating to the Group's financial performance and reviewing significant financial reporting judgements contained therein;
- > reviewing the Group's internal financial controls and the Group's internal control and risk management systems, including consideration of the need for an internal audit function;
- > making recommendations to the Board for a resolution to be put to the shareholders for their approval in general meetings, on the appointment of the external auditor and the approval of the remuneration and terms of engagement of the external auditor;
- > reviewing and monitoring the external auditor's independence and objectivity and the effectiveness of the audit process, taking into consideration relevant UK professional and regulatory requirements; and
- > developing and implementing a policy on the engagement of the external auditor to supply non-audit services, taking into account relevant guidance regarding the provision of non-audit services by the external audit firm.

The Audit Committee is required to report its findings to the Board, identifying any matters on which it considers that action or improvement is needed, and make recommendations on the steps to be taken.

Composition of the Audit Committee

The members of the Audit Committee are:

Mark Richardson (Chairman)
Tim Clark
Steve Johnson
Jonathan Short

Richard Cotton will join the Committee upon his appointment to the Board, replacing Jonathan Short.

Membership of the Committee is reviewed by the Chairman of the Committee and the Executive Chairman, who is not a member of the Audit Committee, at regular intervals and they recommend new appointments to the Nominations Committee for onward recommendation to the Board. Appointments to the Audit Committee are for an initial period of three years, and are extendable by additional three year periods.

The Audit Committee structure requires the inclusion of one financially qualified member (as recognised by the Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies). Currently Mark Richardson, as a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales, fulfils this requirement. All Audit Committee members are expected to be financially literate.

The Committee is comprised of four Non-Executive Directors, a majority of whom have to be deemed independent, with a minimum of three members at any time. Two members constitute a quorum.

The Group provides an induction programme for new Audit Committee members and on-going training to enable all of the Committee members to carry out their duties. The induction programme covers the role of the Audit Committee, its terms of reference and expected time commitment by members and an overview of the Group's business, including the main business and financial dynamics and risks. New Committee members also meet some of the Group's staff. On-going training includes attendance at formal conferences, internal company seminars and briefings by external advisers.

The Board expects the Audit Committee members to have an understanding of:

- > the principles of, contents of, and developments in financial reporting including the applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice;
- > key aspects of the Group's operations including corporate policies, Group financing, products and systems of internal control;
- > matters that influence or distort the presentation of accounts and key figures;
- > the principles of, and developments in, company law, sector-specific laws and other relevant corporate legislation;
- > the role of external auditing and risk management;
- > the regulatory framework for the Group's businesses; and
- > environmental and social responsibility best reporting practices.

The Committee have reviewed the arrangements for "whistleblowing" by employees to ensure that there is a consistent policy in the Group to enable employees to voice concerns particularly in respect of possible financial reporting improprieties. A whistleblowing policy is included in the employee handbook.

Audit Committee Report (continued)

Meetings

The Audit Committee is required to meet three times per year and has an agenda linked to events in the Group's financial calendar. The agenda is predominantly cyclical and is therefore approved by the Audit Committee Chairman on behalf of his fellow members. Each Audit Committee member has the right to require reports on matters of interest in addition to the cyclical items.

The Audit Committee invites the Chief Executive, Chief Financial Officer, Financial Controller, and senior representatives of the external auditors to attend all of its meetings in full, although it reserves the right to request any of these individuals to withdraw. Other senior management are invited to present such reports as are required for the Committee to discharge its duties.

Overview of the actions taken by the Audit Committee to discharge its duties

Since the beginning of the financial year the Audit Committee has:

- > reviewed the March 2011 report and financial statements, the September 2011 half-yearly report and the trading updates issued in July and January. As part of this review the Committee received a report from the external auditors on their audit of the annual report and financial statements and review of the half-yearly report;
- > considered the output from the Group-wide process used to identify, evaluate and mitigate risks;
- > reviewed the effectiveness of the Group's internal controls and disclosures made in the annual report and financial statements on this matter;
- > reviewed and agreed the scope of the audit work to be undertaken by the auditor;
- > agreed the fees to be paid to the external auditors for their audit of the March 2012 financial statements and September half-yearly report;
- > undertaken an assessment of the qualification, expertise and resources, and independence of the external auditors and the effectiveness of the audit process. This included consideration of a report on the audit firm's own quality control procedures and the audit firm's annual transparency report, and the report produced by the Audit Inspection Unit on the audit firm;
- > assessed the risks associated with the possible withdrawal of the external auditor from the market;
- > met the Group's external valuers;
- > undertaken an evaluation of the performance of the external auditors; and
- > reviewed its own effectiveness.

External auditor

The Audit Committee is responsible for the development, implementation and monitoring of the Group's policy on external audit. The policy assigns oversight responsibility for monitoring the independence, objectivity and compliance with ethical and regulatory requirements to the Audit Committee, and day to day responsibility to the Chief Financial Officer. The policy states that the external auditor is jointly responsible to the Board and the Audit Committee and that the Audit Committee is the primary contact.

The Group's policy on external audit sets out the categories of non-audit services which the external auditors will and will not be allowed to provide to the Group, including those that are pre-approved by the Audit Committee and those which require specific approval before they are contracted for, subject to de minimis levels. They may not provide a service which places them in a position where they may be required to audit their own work. Specifically, they are precluded from providing services relating to bookkeeping, financial information system design and implementation, appraisal or evaluation services, actuarial services, any management functions, investment banking services, legal services unrelated to the audit or advocacy services.

To fulfil its responsibility regarding the independence of the external auditor, the Audit Committee reviewed:

- > The external auditor's plan for the current year, noting the role of the senior statutory audit partner, who signs the audit report and who, in accordance with professional rules, has not held office for more than five years, and any changes in the key audit staff;
- > the arrangements for day-to-day management of the audit relationship;
- > a report identifying the number of former external audit staff now employed by the Group and their positions within the Group;
- > a report from the external auditors describing their arrangements to identify, report and manage any conflicts of interest;
- > the overall extent of non-audit services provided by the external auditors, in addition to its case-by-case approval of the position of non-audit services by the external auditors; and
- > the past service of the auditor who was first appointed in 2000.

To assess the effectiveness of the external auditor, the Audit Committee reviewed:

- > the arrangements for ensuring the external auditor's independence and objectivity;
- > the external auditor's fulfilment of the agreed audit plan and variations from the plan;
- > the robustness and perceptiveness of the auditor in his handling of the key accounting and audit judgements; and
- > the content of the external auditor's comments on control improvement recommendations.

Regard is paid to the nature of, and remuneration received, for other services provided by Deloitte LLP to the Group and, inter alia, confirmation is sought from them that the fee payable for the annual audit is adequate to enable them to perform their obligations in accordance with the scope of the audit. Where non-audit services are provided, the fees are based on the work undertaken and are not success related.

In respect of the year ended 31 March 2012, the auditors' remuneration comprised £167,000 for audit work and £152,000 for other work, principally relating to corporation tax work.

As part of this year's decision to recommend the re-appointment of the auditors, the Audit Committee has taken into account the tenure of the auditors and the audit partner and the need to consider at least every five years whether there should be a full tender process. The auditors, Deloitte LLP, have been in tenure since 2000 and the current audit partner has been in place since the audit of the 2009 financial statements. There are no contractual obligations that act to restrict the Audit Committee's choice of external auditors.

As a consequence of its satisfaction with the results of the activities outlined above, the Audit Committee has recommended to the Board that the external auditors are re-appointed.

Overview

As a result of its work during the year, the Audit Committee has concluded that it has acted in accordance with its terms of reference and has ensured the independence and objectivity of the external auditors.

The Chairman of the Audit Committee will be available at the Annual General Meeting to answer any questions about the work of the Committee.

Approved by the Audit Committee and signed on its behalf by:

Mark Richardson

Audit Committee Chairman

21 May 2012

Corporate Social Responsibility Report

1. INTRODUCTION

Our Corporate Social Responsibility (“CSR”) policy documents how we can best manage the impact of our business on society and the environment and control risks and opportunities in our business in a sustainable way. To continue to deliver our CSR policy for our main Stakeholders, the Board has continued to commit significant resources to environmental and social aspects of its operations and new developments. These are consistently measured by key performance indicators (“KPIs”), the most significant of which are highlighted in this report and identified below.

A limited level of assurance of selected CSR data is undertaken by Deloitte in accordance with ISAE 3000. This standard provides evaluation of both quantitative and qualitative aspects of CSR management and reporting

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Highlights

Our CSR programme for the year ended 31 March 2012 committed us to focus on our most significant environmental challenge of energy efficiency and carbon reduction. In order to achieve these twin objectives we:

1. Continued our lighting efficiency programmes to gain an absolute carbon (CO₂) emission reduction of 5.5%;
2. Reduced carbon intensity emissions by 10.1% per store gross internal area and by 18.6% per customer occupied space, with three new stores opening and an increase of 16.1% in occupied space;
3. Increased our annual solar electricity generation by 15.3% to 123,489 kWh and saved carbon emissions equivalent to 64.4 tCO₂ in the year ended 31 March 2012;
4. Generated cumulative solar PV electricity of 374 MWh since the first installation in March 2008, an increase of 49.4% on last year’s solar cumulative total; and
5. Generated total Feed in Tariff income, displaced electricity costs and carbon tax reductions of £90,000 since 1 April 2010.

Our carbon footprint is the carbon dioxide emissions resulting from store electricity use (97.5%); flexi-office gas use (1.4%) and Construction Fit-out diesel and electricity use (1.1%). This can be summarised as follows:

Total carbon footprint emissions			
Year	2011	2012	Change
Store electricity emissions (tCO ₂)	7,542	7,127	(5.5%)
Construction ‘fit-out’ gas oil & electricity emissions (tCO ₂)	74	82	10.8%
Flexi-office gas emissions (tCO ₂)	121	102	(15.7%)
Absolute carbon dioxide emissions (tCO ₂)	7,737	7,311	(5.5%)

Store electricity use and CO₂ emissions			
Year	2011	2012	Change
Electricity use (kWh)	13,925,217	13,674,944	(1.8%)
Absolute carbon emissions (tCO ₂)	7,542	7,127	(5.5%)
Carbon intensity (kgCO ₂ /m ² gross internal area)	13.8	12.4	(10.1%)
Carbon intensity (kg CO ₂ /m ² occupied space)	38.1	31.0	(18.6%)

Solar electricity generation and carbon savings			
Year	2011	2012	Change
Cumulative solar PV generation kWh (since 2008)	249,991	373,479	49.4%
Annual solar PV generation (kWh)	107,071	123,489	15.3%
Carbon dioxide saved by solar electricity (tCO ₂)	58.0	64.4	11.0%
Solar electricity (%) of stores with solar PV	4.8	5.4	12.5%
Solar electricity (%) of whole portfolio electricity use	0.8	0.9	12.5%

Store non-hazardous bulk waste tonnage			
Year	2011	2012	Change
Tonnage of store waste (t)	266	263	(1.1%)
Percentage further sorting and landfill (%)	28%	28%	–
Percentage for direct recycling (%)	72%	72%	–
Number of stores	62	65	4.8%
Tonnage of waste per store	4.3	4.1	(4.7%)

3. STAKEHOLDERS

Big Yellow engages with its main stakeholders to provide information and gain useful feedback from a variety of groups, as described below.

3.1 The media, staff and customers

Industry awards:

The Sunday Times Best Green Companies Survey

We achieved a 65% response rate from our staff for this survey. The aim was to gather staff opinions on our green policies and to help us recognise where we need to improve. Big Yellow was listed in the Top 60 Best Green Companies, on our first attempt at the benchmark. In the staff survey we scored highest in the areas of our staff awareness of our CSR policy, our carbon reduction achievements and our waste recycling policies.

Built Environment Best Practice Award

Big Yellow was selected for this Award by a South East Counties Business Network Enterprise. Companies are judged in a unique way for this award, as no company can put themselves forward or be nominated. The sponsors track some 5,000 companies in the south of England and liaise with twelve representative organisations and academics to identify pro-active, environmental leaders. They researched Big Yellow's background and talked to people who know us, to get personal as well as business validation. The environmental attributes of Big Yellow were featured in a report in Decision Magazine.

Government awards & standards:

The Queen's Award for Enterprise in 'Sustainable Development'

This award was presented to Big Yellow for recognising our outstanding achievement in Innovation and Sustainable Development. The Award is only presented to a limited number of companies each year, and in 2012 we were very proud to have been one of them. To achieve this recognition, we described our approach to how we managed customer relationships over a five year period. We explained how we contributed to the environmental dimension of sustainable development through operational energy efficiency, increased waste recycling and enhanced biodiversity.

The Government's Carbon Reduction Commitment ("CRC")

Big Yellow achieved a position in the top 3.7% of over 2,000 UK companies that participated in the Government's CRC and Energy Efficiency Scheme League table. The league table details the relative performance of all participants against their absolute carbon emissions, their early action on the Carbon Trust Standard (see below) and their use of smart meters.

The Carbon Trust Standard ("CTS")

During the year Big Yellow was able to extend its participating in the CTS to 31 March 2013 and to strengthen our position in the CRC League table. The aim is to reduce CO₂ emissions over the longer term. Big Yellow is now able to consistently demonstrate carbon reductions over a five year period (2007 to 2011). For the financial years 2007 to 2009, we achieved an absolute carbon emission reduction of 4.8% and a turnover reduction of 7.8%. From 2009 to 2011, we can report a relative benchmark, 'improvement of 7.5% per square metre of occupied space in carbon efficiency' as follows:

Carbon reduction efficiency increases (customer occupied space)

Year	2009	2010	2011
tCO ₂ / Customer Occupied Space (m ²)	0.043	0.040	0.039

The Investment Community Recognition:

Global Real Estate Sustainability Benchmark ("GRESB")

During the past year Big Yellow entered the second GRESB survey, managed by Maastricht University, on behalf of pension fund investors. Over 340 real estate funds and companies participated, representing a total property value of \$928 billion and 21,000 assets globally. The results are published on the GRESB website and they announced that we demonstrated "leadership in sustainability performance" and were ranked within the top 10% globally, and within the top 5% in Europe.

During the next year we will continue to participate in Government programmes and industry awards to measure our CSR performance against our peer group and to provide our Stakeholders with an "independent measurement" of our activities.

4. KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Big Yellow's most significant environmental impact is its carbon emissions from electric lighting use in operational stores. Approximately 97% of the store area does not require either heating or cooling due to adequate insulation, air tightness and top floor ventilation. Only the public reception area requires heating and cooling for staff and customer comfort levels. We have calculated carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions using the latest Department of Energy and Climate Change ("DECC") conversion factors: 2011 DEFRA / DECC's GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting Version 1.2, 19/08/2011. We have also included total electricity cost including VAT and the Climate Change Levy ("CCL"), where appropriate, to assess the reduction of kWh consumption in terms of total savings from energy use.

Corporate Social Responsibility Report (continued)

4. KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (continued)

4.1 Store energy use – carbon dioxide emissions

Independent energy statements estimate that about 60% of our store electricity is consumed by lighting. Approximately 30% of our total electricity use is by lifts. Approximately 3% of our store electricity is used in external signage, security and parking. The remainder is used for reception area heating and cooling. Carbon emissions from these power station sources are known as ‘Scope 2, indirect offsite emissions.’ The table below summarises the Group’s store electricity usage, costs and emissions over the last three years:

Store electricity use & CO ₂ emissions					
Year	2010	2011	2012	Change	2013 target
Electricity use (kWh)	12,730,855	13,925,217	13,674,944	(1.8%)	(1.5%)
Total electricity cost (£)	1,567,270	1,476,755	1,277,131	(13.5%)	–
Pence per kWh	13.57	10.28	10.16	(1.2%)	–
Carbon emissions (kgCO ₂)	6,913,236	7,541,898	7,126,560	(5.5%)	–
Store occupied space (m ²)	177,904	198,063	229,869	16.1%	–
KgCO ₂ /m ² occupied space	38.9	38.1	31.0	(18.6%)	(10.0%)
GIA (m ²)	528,604	545,884	573,857	5.1%	–
Kg CO ₂ /m ² GIA	13.1	13.8	12.42	(10.1%)	–

We are reporting an absolute electricity reduction (1.8%), carbon emission reduction (5.5%) and a carbon intensity reduction for self storage customer occupied space (18.6%). Electricity consumption reduced by 250,273 kWh, due to the continued effects of our investment in more energy efficient management, lighting systems and increased generation of ‘carbon free’ solar electricity. Electricity cost savings at an average cost of 10.16p per kWh amounted to £25,000, against rising customer occupied space and three new store openings in the year.

CRC tax savings of £1,000 (£12/tCO₂) will be achieved from this electricity reduction. The reporting of electricity use estimates has now been reduced to a minimum by the use of automatic meter reading (“AMR”) devices. ‘DEFRA Conversion Factors for Company Reporting 2011’ states that ‘the increased import of overseas electricity included more renewable and nuclear energy’. This has contributed to our lower carbon emissions, through the use of the lower electricity to carbon conversion factor compared to last financial year.

Carbon intensity emissions for self storage occupied space reduced significantly (18.6%), against increasing customer numbers. The carbon intensity measure for gross internal area (“GIA”) takes into account our new store portfolio growth (we opened three new stores at Eltham, Stockport and New Cross). In the new financial year our targets will be to continue absolute carbon reduction and carbon intensity reduction through our continued energy efficient re-lamping programmes and our increasing investments in solar electricity generation.

4.2 Store lighting – energy efficiency programmes

Our three new stores at Eltham, Stockport and New Cross have energy saving motion sensor lighting, T5 energy efficient lamps and external LED lighting, installed by Big Yellow Construction. Facilities Management installed zoning of the existing motion-sensor lighting (“MSL”) at eight stores: Cheltenham, Croydon; Leeds; New Malden; Portsmouth; Slough; Staples Corner; and Twickenham, to increase the efficient use of electricity and reduce carbon emissions. We now have nine stores upgraded to MSL, including Bow. A further four stores were re-lamped by Facilities Management with ‘Power Saver’ lamps at Beckenham, Byleet, Milton Keynes and Staples Corner. This brings the total number of stores with energy efficient T5 or Power Saver Lamps, in the whole portfolio to 30 stores. Our strategy for the store portfolio has been progressed by Facilities Management who are currently trialling LED lighting for internal storage and reception use at our Slough store. Initial performance monitoring shows energy savings of around 60% efficiency compared to conventional T8 switched-start fittings. With the possible installation of LEDs during 2012, the Power Saver re-lamping programme will potentially be replaced with the more efficient LED investment.

4.3 Stores gas use – carbon dioxide emissions

Flexi-office services are provided alongside self storage in twelve of our sixty five stores. Gas heating, which involves direct ‘on-site’ combustion and on-site carbon emissions, are known as ‘Scope 1’ type emissions.

Stores flexi-offices gas use & CO ₂ emissions				
Year	2010	2011	2012	Change
Total gas use (kWh/year)	482,229	656,017	553,922	(15.6%)
Total gas cost (£ incl VAT & CCL)	17,228	20,134	18,014	(10.5%)
Carbon dioxide emissions (tCO ₂)	88.5	121.3	101.5	(16.3%)
Flexi-office occupied space (m ²)	2,264	2,310	2,407	4.2%
Carbon intensity (kg CO ₂ /m ² occupied space)	31.2	41.6	42.6	2.4%
Final office area (m ²)	2,811	2,811	2,806	(0.2%)
Carbon intensity (Kg CO ₂ /m ² final area)	41.3	53.2	42.6	(19.9%)

4. KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (continued)

4.3 Stores gas use – carbon dioxide emissions (continued)

Flexi-offices using electricity (four) and ground source heat pumps (two at Kennington and Bromley) have been excluded from the data above.

The table includes flexi-offices using gas heating only. Gas use decreased by 15.6% due to a milder winter and more frequent meter readings from stores, which in turn has reduced over-estimations resulting in more accurate data, and cost savings against a 4.2% increase in flexi-office customer occupancy. Gas costs including VAT and the Climate Change levy (“CCL”) reduced by 10.5%. Automatic meter reading (AMR) installations are planned for July 2012 to reduce further over estimations in gas use and payments.

4.4 Construction ‘fit-out’ carbon dioxide emissions

Store ‘fit-out’ is the final stage of the development of a store that Big Yellow Construction manages. This stage uses gas oil for on-site electricity generation before grid electricity is supplied. Stockport, New Cross and Chiswick account for these energy uses and carbon emissions in the year ended 31 March 2012. Gas oil use reduced due to a reduced new store development programme and an early availability of on-site electricity supply at Chiswick.

Construction ‘fit-out’ energy use & CO₂ emissions

Year	2010	2011	2012	Change
Total gas oil use (litres)	50,571	13,481	8,033	(40.4%)
Gas oil generator (tCO ₂)	133.5	35.6	22.2	(37.6%)
Total electricity supplied (kWh)	127,643	69,933	114,395	63.6%
Electricity emissions (tCO ₂)	69.3	37.9	59.6	57.3%
Number of stores fit-outs	6	3	3	–
Total metric tons (tCO ₂)	203	74	82	10.8%

As Chiswick is a larger than average store, electricity use was higher than average, and so total carbon emissions increased by 10.8%. However, construction gas oil and grid electricity use amounted to a residual 1.1% of our total carbon emissions.

4.5 Big Yellow's carbon footprint

In summary, Big Yellow's carbon footprint is set out in the table below:

Big Yellow – absolute carbon footprint

Year	2010	2011	2012	Change	2013 target
Store electricity (tCO ₂) emissions	6,913	7,542	7,127	(5.5%)	(2.0%)
‘Fit-out’ diesel & electricity (tCO ₂) emissions	203	74	82	10.8%	(5.5%)
Flexi-office (tCO ₂) emissions	89	121	102	(15.7%)	(2.0%)
Total (tCO ₂) emissions (metric tonnes)	7,205	7,737	7,311	(5.5%)	(6.0%)

The total carbon dioxide footprint for operational stores, flexi-offices and new store construction fit-out emissions has been reduced in absolute terms by 5.5%, exceeding our 5% target and was delivered against increased customer occupancy. This achievement continues the longer term trend, only reversed in 2011, from 2008, for year on year absolute carbon reductions. Operational store energy use accounts for 97.5% of our carbon emission footprint with flexi-office gas accounting for 1.4% and fit-out construction 1.1%. In the year ending 31 March 2013, Big Yellow will continue its energy efficiency and carbon reduction commitment programmes for store lighting and increased capacity for solar PV installations on new stores. We also aim to reduce absolute carbon emissions and carbon intensity emissions per square metre of occupied space.

4.6 Renewable energy generation

In the year ended 31 March 2012, Big Yellow added one large (50 kWp) solar photo-voltaic installation at our new store in New Cross. Our renewable energy assets now consist of twelve solar installations, five ground source heat pumps and two wind turbines. Renewable energy generation data has been restated this year to focus on the higher performance of solar generation based on more accurate quarterly meter readings, for claiming solar Feed in Tariff (“FIT”) payments and off Grid savings. Micro-wind turbine generation in the urban environment has not proved to be viable and ground source heat pumps have under-performed and proved difficult to monitor.

Solar PV electricity generation

Year	2010	2011	2012	Change	2013 target
Annual cumulative solar electricity (kWh)	142,917	249,991	373,479	49.4%	40.0%
Annual solar electricity generation (kWh)	95,517	107,071	123,489	15.3%	15.0%
Big Yellow average electricity cost (p/kWh)	13.57	10.28	10.16	(1.2%)	–
National Grid displaced kWh savings (£)	12,962	11,007	12,547	14.0%	–
Carbon emission reduction (tCO ₂)	51.9	58.0	64.4	11.0%	10.0%
CRC carbon tax savings (£12 / tonne)	622.8	696.0	772.8	11.0%	–
Solar kWh FIT & ROC payments (£)	1,683	33,751	15,837	–	–
Total solar electricity income and savings (£)	15,268	45,454	29,157	–	–
Solar electricity % of solar store use	5%	4.8%	5.4%	12.5%	6.0%
Solar electricity % of whole portfolio use	0.7%	0.8%	0.9%	12.5%	1.0%

Corporate Social Responsibility Report (continued)

4. KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (continued)

4.6 Renewable energy generation (continued)

The cumulative solar PV electricity generated since our first installation at Balham in March 2008 is now 374 MWh, increasing by 49.4% from the prior year. Annual solar electricity generation increased by 15.3% to 123,489 kWh and a carbon reduction of 11.0% will help reduce carbon tax emissions in the year ended 31 March 2013. The first Feed in Tariff revenues for solar electricity generation were backdated to the start of the scheme on 1 April 2010 and up to 30 June 2011 (15 months) and amounted to £34,000. Payments in the year ended 31 March 2012 were £16,000 for 9 months, as the first three months were included in the first payment for FY 2011. Total solar store income and savings over the last three years amount to £90,000 for displaced grid electricity, carbon tax savings and Feed in Tariff revenues. Currently our 12 solar stores are generating 5.4% of their electricity use and nearly 1% of the total store portfolio electricity use.

4.7 Store waste management

In May 2011 we changed our waste contractor to one that recycles and manufactures cardboard in addition to providing standard waste collection services. In the year ended 31 March 2010, the waste volume was estimated from the number of bin lifts and volume of bins. The volume in 2010 was 4,380 m³.

Store non-hazardous bulk waste tonnage

Year	2010	2011	2012	Change
Tonnage of store waste (t)	–	266	263	(1.1%)
Percentage further sorting and landfill (%)	–	28%	28%	–
Percentage for direct recycling (%)	–	72%	72%	–
Number of stores	60	62	65	4.8%
Tonnage of waste per store	–	4.3	4.1	(4.7%)

From May 2010, store waste sorting on site was introduced with mixed dry recyclables, 'mixed papers' and 'general waste'. During the last 12 months the total tonnage of waste has reduced by 1.1% and by 4.7% per store, against an increase of 3 store openings. 72% of the total tonnage was sent directly for recycling including mixed papers. A further 28% was sent for further sorting and / or landfill. The change in store waste policy and procedure has resulted in a raised awareness of waste recycling and performance improvement.

4.8 Store water use

In preparation for future commercial building Water Performance Certificates we aim to improve our metering and monitoring of water use. New stores have low flow aerated taps and dual flush WCs. Six stores have rainwater harvesting systems (Sutton, Barking, Merton, Liverpool, Sheffield and Chiswick) and these supply rainwater for WC flushing and irrigation for enhanced landscape or green walls.

5. STORE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

Our Eltham store opened at the start of the financial year and has a Green Travel Plan for our store staff, to encourage more active modes of transport other than the car. It also has an enhanced landscape, including trees, shrubs and a 'Green' wall to encourage wildlife habitat and local biodiversity. Our Stockport store also has an enhanced landscape with hundreds of new plant species. Our New Cross store has our largest solar PV roof panel capable of generating about 17% of the store's annual energy use. All new stores since December 2009 have about 60% more energy efficient external signage LED lighting. The tables below summarise the eco-efficient specifications, installations and environmental improvement features of our most recent store developments:

Improvements in sustainable development & eco-efficient store designs 2007 – 2012

Store	Motion sensor lighting	Energy efficient lighting	LED external signage	Solar GHSP energy	Green travel plans	Rain water harvest	Green roofs/walls	Improved ecology
1. Sutton ⁽¹⁾	✓	–	–	–	–	✓	✓	✓
2. Barking ⁽²⁾	✓	–	–	✓	–	✓	✓	✓
3. Ealing	✓	–	–	–	–	–	–	✓
4. Balham ⁽³⁾	✓	–	–	✓	✓	–	–	✓
5. Fulham ⁽³⁾	✓	–	–	✓	✓	–	✓	✓
6. Merton ⁽⁴⁾	✓	–	–	✓	–	✓	–	✓
7. Kennington ⁽³⁾	✓	✓	–	✓	–	–	–	✓
8. Sheffield (H)	✓	✓	–	–	–	–	✓	✓
9. Sheen ⁽⁵⁾	✓	✓	–	✓	✓	–	–	✓
10. Bromley ⁽³⁾	✓	✓	–	✓	–	–	–	✓
11. Birmingham	✓	✓	–	–	✓	–	–	✓
12. Liverpool	✓	✓	–	–	–	✓	–	✓
13. Twickenham ^(6,7)	✓	✓	–	✓	–	–	–	✓
14. Edinburgh ⁽⁶⁾	✓	✓	–	✓	–	–	–	✓
15. Nottingham ⁽⁶⁾	✓	✓	–	✓	–	–	–	✓
16. Poole	✓	✓	–	–	–	–	–	✓
17. Sheffield (BL)	✓	✓	–	–	–	✓	–	✓
18. Reading ^(6,6)	✓	✓	✓	✓	–	–	–	✓
19. High Wycombe	✓	✓	✓	–	–	–	✓	✓
20. Camberley ⁽⁶⁾	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	–	–	✓
21. Eltham ⁽¹⁾	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	–	✓	✓
22. Stockport	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	–	–	✓
23. New Cross	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	–	–	✓

(1) Green wall

(2) Wind turbine

(3) Solar panels and Ground Source Heat Pumps

(4) Solar panels and wind turbine

(5) 'Excellent' Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Methodology (BREEAM) Rating

(6) Solar panels only

(7) Net zero carbon Energy Performance Certificate

5.1 Energy Performance Certificates ("EPCs")

Since October 2008, EPCs are required for all commercial buildings in England and Scotland, whether newly built, rented or sold. They are an asset rating of seven levels of how energy efficient the property design is in terms of reducing kgCO₂/m² emissions from levels A to G. This rating allows investors, property buyers and customers to assess their predicted portfolio carbon emissions (kg CO₂/m²) so they can consider future energy bills and recommended energy efficiency improvements. All of our new stores from October 2008 have been certified at or above the energy efficiency benchmarks for new buildings, and all exceed the expected 'D' rating for Government renewable energy Feed in Tariff or future Green Deal cash back.

New store – EPC ratings

EPC rating	31 March 2009 openings	KgCO ₂ /m ²	31 March 2010 openings	kgCO ₂ /m ²	31 March 2011 openings	kgCO ₂ /m ²	31 March 2012 openings	kgCO ₂ /m ²
A+	–	–	Twickenham	-5	–	–	–	–
A	–	–	Reading	17	Camberley	20	–	–
B	Sheen	47	Edinburgh	49	H. Wycombe	50	New Cross	40
B	Sheffield H	48	Sheffield BL	49	–	–	Stockport	45
C	Birmingham	61	Nottingham	66	–	–	Eltham	52
C	Liverpool	75	Poole	71	–	–	–	–
D	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
E	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
F	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
G	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

Corporate Social Responsibility Report (continued)

5. STORE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION (continued)

5.1 Energy Performance Certificates (“EPCs”) (continued)

In the case of our Twickenham store it achieved a net zero carbon emission rating. This means that the predicted electricity use, carbon emissions, bills and carbon tax would be low due to the energy saved by increased building energy efficiency in design and the supply of on-site solar energy in the building specification.

5.2 The Considerate Constructors Scheme (“CCS”)

Our CCS performance continued to improve in the areas of construction site environmental protection, workforce safety and our responsibility to local communities, beyond regulatory requirements. We improved in areas such as: being considerate; site appearance; and accountability. CCS auditors visited our construction sites and assessed performances out of a maximum score of 40 points. Site reports were sent to the Construction Director and CSR Manager for review and actions, if required.

Considerate Constructors Scheme performance

Year	2010	2011	2012	2013 target
Number of construction projects on site	7	6	3	–
Percentage of registered sites > UK average	81.8%	88.8 %	100%	100%
Average points score for all sites / phases	32.1	31.3	33.9	32.0

All of our sites under construction (Stockport, New Cross and Chiswick) exceeded compliance with the schemes code by achieving over 24 points on each monitoring visit. Our average score of 33.9 exceeded the CCS UK average score of 31 and so all sites were awarded at least one Certificates of Performance ‘Beyond Compliance’ and ranked within the top 10% of the schemes sites to be reviewed for CCS National Awards. Our target set for 2011 (31.5 points) was exceeded by 7.6%.

5.3 Construction waste management

This financial year Big Yellow Construction continued to use the Building Research Establishment’s Environmental Assessment Methodology (“BREEAM”) for assessing its fit-out waste tonnage (excluding demolition and shell), recycling percentages and SMART Waste Benchmarks for resource efficiency.

Big Yellow Construction ‘fit-out’ waste management performance

Year	2010	2011	2012	2013 Target
Total tonnage (t)	175.4	147.5	152.3	–
Percentage of waste recycled (%)	82	93.2	96%	95%
BRE resource efficiency (t/100 m ² GIA)	3.0	2.9	3.3	<9.2
BREEAM SMART waste benchmark	3	3	3	3
Plaster board 100% recycled volume (m ³)	216	104	34	100%

Big Yellow Construction achieved high percentages of waste recycling for new store construction with minimal waste taken to landfill. Timber, top soil, cardboard, plasterboard, plastics and smaller amounts of metals (<1%) are in demand for recycling or supplier ‘take back’. Big Yellow Construction has also sourced a specialised recycling contractor with a large scale recycling plant for earlier demolition stages of construction which was introduced at our Chiswick site.

6.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY

Our Health and Safety Policy covers all of our stores, our head office, distribution warehouse and all our construction sites. Incidents are recorded on staff, customers, contractors and visitors. A Health and Safety Committee meets on a quarterly basis and consists of Directors and Managers from Operations, Facilities Management and Construction. The Board receives bi-monthly reports which monitor health and safety performance. Annual store health & safety meetings take place for all stores and Maidenhead, our distribution warehouse. Agendas are provided for these meetings via the Intranet from Facilities Management files and the minutes are reviewed by Area Managers to raise any issues with Facilities Management or Human Resources where necessary. Health and safety performance and incidents are reported as recorded in the table below.

6.1 Big Yellow Self Storage customers, contractors and visitors

Store customer, contractor and visitor health and safety

Year	2010	2011	2012
Total number of customers (move-ins during the year)	41,781	51,049	57,604
Minor injuries	53	41	43
Reportable injuries	1	–	–
RIDDOR* per 100,000 customers	2.39	–	–

* RIDDOR = Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulation 1995

6.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY (continued)

6.1 Big Yellow Self Storage customers, contractors and visitors (continued)

There were no 'fatal injuries', 'notices' or 'prosecutions' and no 'reportable injuries'. Minor injuries increased by two, following a reduction of 12 in the previous financial year. Minor injuries were set against a 12.8% increase in the total number of customer by move-ins. Minor injuries were predominantly related to the handling of personal or business possessions by customers. An improved induction manual raised awareness for our staff of safely handling packaging materials, room clearances and in assisting customers.

6.2 Big Yellow Self Storage staff

Store and head office staff health and safety			
Year	2010	2011	2012
Average number of staff	252	273	279
Minor injuries	16	19	12
Reportable injuries ("RIDDOR")	1	1	–
Annual injury incidence rate ("AIIR") per 100,000 staff	397	366	–

There were no 'fatal injuries', 'notices' or 'prosecutions' and no 'reportable injuries' for Big Yellow staff. Minor injuries reduced by 7 against an increase in staff numbers of 2.2%. Our staff were given additional 'Manual Handling' training in the year.

6.3 Big Yellow Construction Company Limited

Construction fit-out contractors and visitor health and safety			
Year	2010	2011	2012
Total man days	12,071	6,431	6,511
Minor injuries	2	1	1
Reportable injuries ("RIDDOR")	–	1	–

No 'fatal injuries', 'notices', 'reportable injuries' or 'prosecutions' occurred indicating a well controlled environment for staff, contractors and visitors on site. Only one 'minor injury' occurred to a contractor. Health and safety performance continues to be raised by induction training, weekly reporting and the Considerate Constructors Scheme where near maximum points (4 or 4.5 out of 5) were scored on all sites for safety.

CSR PROGRAMME FOR 2012/13

The CSR programme will continue to focus on energy efficiency, carbon reduction, renewable energy generation and waste reduction. Last year we completed registration to the Carbon Reduction Commitment, installed 22 Smart Meters to monitor real time energy use on non half hourly meters and started the process of renewing our Carbon Trust Standard certification. This year our strategy, programmes, objectives and targets are highlighted in the table below:

Strategy	Programmes	Objectives / targets
The Carbon Reduction Commitment ("CRC")	Submit the CRC Annual report to the Environment Agency by July 2012.	To achieve a position in the upper 5% of the UK CRC league table.
The Carbon Trust Standard ("CTS")	Maintain CTS certification to measure and improve energy efficiency initiatives and performance over the longer term.	Absolute carbon and carbon intensity reduction targets of 5% and 10% respectively and certification by September 2013.
Energy efficiency	To continue store energy efficient motion sensor improvements and internal LED re-lamping.	Progress to more energy efficient LED internal lighting increasing efficiency by 60%.
Increase solar energy generation and revenues	Increase solar PV electricity generation percentages of the whole store portfolio.	Increase solar PV percentage to >1% for the portfolio and > 6% for the solar stores. Increase Feed in Tariff revenues by 10%.
Store waste recycling	Improve on waste tonnage reduction and maintain recycling rates.	A reduction in waste tonnage and increases in recycling of 1.5 %.
Store water use	Acquire more accurate water volume monitoring and measurement from our suppliers.	Establish the significance of our water use on the environment.

More details of CSR policies, previous reports and awards can be found on our investor relations web site at <http://bigyellow.hemscottir.com/csr>.

Independent assurance statement by Deloitte LLP ('Deloitte') to Big Yellow Group PLC ('Big Yellow') on their Corporate Social Responsibility Report 2012 ("Report")

What we looked at: scope of our work

Big Yellow engaged us to perform limited assurance procedures for the year ended 31 March 2012 on the following subject matters:

Carbon footprint indicators:

- > Absolute carbon dioxide emissions (tCO₂)
- > Store electricity emissions (tCO₂)
- > 'Fit out' diesel and electricity emissions (tCO₂)
- > Store flexi-office gas emissions (tCO₂)
- > Carbon intensity (Kg CO₂ /m² gross internal area)
- > Carbon intensity (Kg CO₂ /m² occupied space)
- > Carbon dioxide saved by renewable energy (tCO₂)

Electricity use and renewable energy generation

- > Electricity use (kWh)
- > Total renewable energy (kWh)
- > Renewable energy percentage of total energy use

Considerate Constructors Scheme:

- > Number of construction projects
- > Percentage of registered sites > UK average
- > Average points score for all sites

Staff health and safety:

- > Average number of staff
- > Minor Injuries
- > Reportable injuries (RIDDOR)
- > Annual Injury Incidence rate (AIIR) per 100,000 staff
- > Notices

What we found: our assurance opinion

Based on the assurance work we performed, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the selected corporate social responsibility (CSR) performance indicators are materially misstated.

What standards we used: basis of our work and level of assurance

We carried out limited assurance in accordance with the International Standards on Assurance Engagements 3000 (ISAE 3000). To achieve limited assurance ISAE 3000 requires that we review the processes and systems used to compile the areas on which we provide assurance. It does not include detailed testing of source data or the operating effectiveness of processes and internal controls. This is designed to give a similar level of assurance to that obtained in the review of interim financial information.

The evaluation criteria used for our assurance are the Big Yellow Group definitions and basis of reporting as described at: bigyellow.hemscottir.com/csr

What we did: our key assurance procedures

Considering the risk of material error, our multi-disciplinary team of CSR assurance specialists planned and performed our work to obtain all the information and explanations we considered necessary to provide sufficient evidence to support our assurance conclusion. Our work was planned to mirror Big Yellow's own group level compilation processes, tracing how data for each indicator within our assurance scope was collected, collated and validated by corporate head office and included in the Report.

Key procedures we carried out included:

- > Gaining an understanding of Big Yellow's systems through interview with management responsible for CSR management and reporting systems at corporate head office
- > Reviewing the systems and procedures to capture, collate, aggregate, validate and process source data for the assured performance data included in the Report

Big Yellow's responsibilities

The Directors are responsible for the preparation of the Report and for the information and statements contained within it. They are responsible for determining the CSR goals, performance and for establishing and maintaining appropriate performance management and internal control systems from which the reported information is derived.

Deloitte's responsibilities, independence and team competencies

Our responsibility is to independently express a conclusion on the performance data for the year ended 31 March 2012. We performed the engagement in accordance with Deloitte's independence policies, which cover all of the requirements of the International Federation of Accountants Code of Ethics and in some cases are more restrictive. We confirm to Big Yellow that we have maintained our independence and objectivity throughout the year, including the fact that there were no events or prohibited services provided which could impair that independence and objectivity in the provision of this engagement.

This report is made solely to Big Yellow in accordance with our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company those matters we are required to state to them in an assurance report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Big Yellow for our work, for this report, or for the conclusions we have formed.

Deloitte LLP

London, United Kingdom

16 May 2012

Directors' Report

The Directors present their annual report on the affairs of the Group, together with the audited financial statements and auditors' report for the year ended 31 March 2012. The Report on Corporate Governance on pages 24 to 29 forms part of this report.

Principal activity

The principal activity of the Company and its subsidiaries is the provision of self storage and related services.

The subsidiary and associated undertakings principally affecting the profit and net assets of the Group in the year are listed in note 29 of the financial statements.

Review of business

A detailed account of the Group's progress during the year and its future prospects is set out in the Chairman's statement on pages 6 to 8. A detailed Business Review and Financial Review have been prepared and are set out on pages 9 and 16, and more specifically as follows:

- > the business objectives and strategy are set out in the Chairman's Statement on pages 6 to 8;
- > the financing objectives are set out on page 28;
- > the Group's going concern review as set out on page 29;
- > the principal risks and uncertainties within the business are set out in the Risk Management section from page 27; and
- > the key quantitative and qualitative performance indicators are included within the Highlights (see page 4), Portfolio Summary (see page 22) and Financial Review (see page 16).

The Chairman's statement, the Business Review, the Financial Review, the Report on Corporate Governance and the Corporate Social Responsibility Report are incorporated by reference into the Directors' Report.

Financial instruments

The financial risk management objectives and policies of the Group, along with any details of exposure to any liquidity and cash flow risk are set out in the Business Review on page 9, and notes 2 and 18 to the financial statements.

Results and dividends

The consolidated statement of comprehensive income is set out on page 59 of the financial statements.

The Directors are recommending the payment of a final dividend of 5.5 pence per share for the year (2011: 5 per ordinary share). An interim dividend of 4.5 pence per share was paid in the year (2011: 4 per share). A property income dividend of 9 pence is payable for the year, of which 4.5 pence per share was paid with the interim dividend, and 4.5 pence per share was proposed for the final dividend.

Subject to approval by shareholders at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 10 July 2012, the final dividend will be paid on 20 July 2012 to shareholders on the Register on 8 June 2012.

Share capital

Details of the authorised and issued share capital, together with details of the movements in the Company's issued share capital during the year are shown in note 22. The Company has one class of ordinary shares which carry no right to fixed income. Each share carries the right to one vote at general meetings of the Company.

There are no specific restrictions on the size of a holding nor on the transfer of shares, which are both governed by the general provisions of the Articles of Association and prevailing legislation. The Directors are not aware of any agreements between holders of the Company's shares that may result in restrictions on the transfer of securities or on voting rights.

Details of employee share schemes are set out in note 23, and details of shares held in treasury and by the Company's Employee Benefit Trust are set out in note 22.

No person has any special rights of control over the Company's share capital and all issued shares are fully paid.

With regard to the appointment and replacement of Directors, the Company is governed by its Articles of Association, the Code, the Companies Acts and related legislation. The Articles themselves may be amended by special resolution of the shareholders. The powers of Directors are described in the Report on Corporate Governance on page 24.

There are a number of agreements that take effect, alter or terminate upon a change of control of the Company such as commercial contracts, bank loan agreements, property lease arrangements and employees' share plans. None of these are considered to be significant in terms of their likely impact on the business of the Group as a whole. Furthermore, the Directors are not aware of any agreements between the Company and its Directors or employees that provide for compensation for loss of office or employment that occurs because of a takeover bid.

During the year the Company issued 332,519 shares to satisfy the exercise of share options (2011: 69,685).

Directors and their interests

The Directors of the Company who served throughout the year and to the date of approval of the financial statements were as follows:

Philip Burks
Tim Clark
James Gibson
Steve Johnson
Adrian Lee
Mark Richardson
Jonathan Short
John Trotman
Nicholas Vetch

Details of the interests of the Directors in the shares of the Company (including share options) are set out in the Report on Directors' Remuneration on pages 47 to 55. No changes took place in the interests of the Directors between 31 March 2012 and 23 May 2012.

Biographical details of the Executive and Non-Executive Directors are set out on page 57.

Reappointment of Directors

The Directors listed above constituted the Board during the year.

Following a performance appraisal process, the Board has concluded that the Directors retiring by rotation are effective, committed to their roles and should continue in office.

All of the Directors will retire in accordance with the UK Corporate Governance Code and with the exception of Jonathan Short, will offer themselves for re-election at the Annual General Meeting.

The biographies of all Directors standing for re-election are included on page 57.

Directors' and officers' liability insurance

The Company purchases liability insurance covering the Directors and officers of the Company and its subsidiaries.

Payment of suppliers

The policy of the Group is to settle supplier invoices within the terms of trade agreed with individual suppliers. Trade creditor days of the Group for the year ended 31 March 2012 were 21 days (2011: 24 days). This represents the ratio, expressed in days, between the amounts invoiced to the Group by its suppliers in the year and the amounts due, at the year end to trade creditors within one year.

Properties

The changes in investment and development property during the year and details of property valuations at 31 March 2012 are shown in notes 13a and 14 to the financial statements. Further commentary on our investment property portfolio is contained in the Business Review and Financial Review.

Donations

Charitable donations totalling £20,000 (2011: £25,000) were made to UK resident charities in the year. The Group also provided free storage to charities during the year worth £526,000 (2011: £400,000).

No political donations were made in either year.

The Group encourages employee involvement in charitable giving and frequently matches any amounts raised by individuals. Key management have been allocated budgets to support local charitable causes and the community.

Substantial shareholdings

On 21 May 2012, the Company had been notified, in accordance with Chapter 5 of the Disclosure and Transparency rules, of the following voting rights as a shareholder of the Company.

	No. of ordinary shares	Percentage of voting rights and issued share capital
Directors	18,475,775	14.2%
FMR LLC	15,231,095	11.7%
Axa SA	6,578,222	5.1%
Blackrock Inc	6,466,171	4.9%
Morgan Stanley Invs Mgmt Ltd	6,248,875	4.8%

Directors' Report (continued)

Employees

Adrian Lee, Operations Director, has responsibility to the Board for all employee matters.

The Group seeks to ensure employee commitment to its objectives in a number of ways. Strategic changes are communicated directly to all staff who are encouraged to address queries to the Executive Directors. The Directors' Executive meetings are frequently held in stores and in addition Directors and senior management visit the stores on a regular basis. Furthermore, there are regular team briefings at store level to provide employees with information about the performance of and initiatives in their store. A wide range of information is also communicated across the Group's Intranet, including the e-publication of the Group's financial results and all press releases, the publication of a quarterly newsletter, and the publication of a weekly operations bulletin. The Group carries out annual surveys of employee satisfaction.

Employees are encouraged to participate in the Group's performance through Employee Share Schemes and performance related bonuses.

Customer service is a key priority of the Group and this is achieved through recruiting good people and investing in training and development leading to high levels of retention. The Group's recruitment policy is committed to promote equality, judging neither by race, nationality, religion, age, gender, disability, sexual orientation, nor political opinion and to treat all stakeholders fairly.

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

Health and safety

The Board recognises the importance of maintaining high standards of health and safety for everyone who may be affected by our business.

The Group's Health and Safety policy is reviewed on an ongoing basis. It is applied in two distinct areas – construction and operations. The policy states that all employees have a responsibility for health and safety but that managers have special responsibilities. Additional duties are placed on Adrian Lee, Operations Director, to keep the Board advised on health and safety issues, compliance with the policy in respect of construction activity and store operations respectively.

The Group has a Health and Safety Committee, which meets quarterly and comprises Adrian Lee and appointed managers. They meet to discuss any issues that have been reported from meetings held at head office and the stores, and any construction sites.

In addition, the Group has appointed an external consultant to review policy and perform audits of stores on a rolling programme to ensure the implementation of the Group's Health and Safety policies. Health and Safety audits are also carried out by external consultants on each construction site prior to the opening of a store.

A review of health and safety for the year is included within the Corporate Social Responsibility Report on pages 34 to 41.

Annual General Meeting

The notice for the 2012 Annual General Meeting is distributed as a separate document. The meeting will be held at Holborn Bars, 138-142 Holborn, EC1N 2NQ on 10 July 2012.

Auditors and disclosure of information to auditors

In respect of each Director of the Company, at the date when this report was approved, to the best of their knowledge and belief:

- > so far as each Director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditors are unaware; and
- > each Director has taken all the steps that he might have reasonably been expected to take as a Director in order to make himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditors are aware of that information.

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

Auditors

The auditors, Deloitte LLP have expressed their willingness to continue in office as auditors and a resolution to reappoint them will be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by the Board of Directors

and signed on behalf of the Board

Shauna Beavis

Secretary

21 May 2012

Remuneration Report

Introduction

This report has been prepared in accordance with Schedule 8 to the Accounting Regulations under the Companies Act 2006. The report also meets the relevant requirements of the Listing Rules of the Financial Services Authority and describes how the Board has applied the principles relating to Directors' remuneration in the UK Corporate Governance Code. As required by the Act, a resolution to approve the report will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting of the Company at which the financial statements will be approved.

The Act requires the auditors to report to the Company's members on certain parts of the Directors' Remuneration Report and to state whether in their opinion those parts of the report have been properly prepared in accordance with the Accounting Regulations. The report has therefore been divided into separate sections for audited and unaudited information.

Unaudited information

Remuneration Committee

The Company has established a Remuneration Committee which is constituted in accordance with the recommendations of the Code. The members of the Committee at the year end were Tim Clark, Steve Johnson, Mark Richardson and Jonathan Short, who are all independent Non-Executive Directors. The Committee is chaired by Tim Clark.

None of the Committee members have any personal financial interest (other than as shareholders), conflicts of interests arising from cross-directorships or day-to-day involvement in running the business. The Committee makes recommendations to the Board. In making these recommendations, the Committee consults with the Executive Chairman, Nicholas Vetch, about his proposals, on a range of matters relating to the remuneration of the Executive Directors including the levels of overall remuneration, salary and bonus, and awards and distributions under the share incentive and bonus plans.

Remuneration policy

Executive remuneration packages are designed to attract, motivate and retain Directors of the high calibre required and to reward them for enhancing value to shareholders. Individual remuneration packages are structured to align rewards with the performance of the Company and the interests of the shareholders. The main principles are to:

- > ensure that salaries are set at a market competitive level by benchmarking against appropriate external comparators;
- > support a high performance culture by rewarding upper quartile performance with upper quartile reward;
- > maintain a balance of fixed and performance related pay which delivers appropriate rewards over the short, medium and longer term, with an increasing emphasis on longer term rewards based on shares;
- > align long term rewards with shareholder returns by expecting Directors to hold at least 50% of the shares vesting under these plans until a minimum shareholding has been achieved. The shareholding is expected to be at least 1 times salary for Executive Directors; and
- > ensure that the overall package reflects relevant market practice and takes account of levels of remuneration elsewhere in the Group.

The performance measurement of the Executive Directors and the determination of their annual remuneration package is undertaken by the Committee in consultation with the Executive Chairman, save for discussions on his remuneration package. The Committee also considers pay and conditions elsewhere in the Group, environmental, social and governance issues and risk when reviewing executive pay quantum and structure. No Director is involved in setting his own remuneration. The remuneration of the Non-Executive Directors is determined by the full Board.

The 2012 remuneration package is not considered to be above market levels for comparable companies.

There are currently five main elements of the remuneration package for Executive Directors and senior management:

Element	Purpose	Operation
Salary	To provide competitive fixed remuneration that will attract and retain key employees and reflect their experience and position in the Company.	Reviewed every twelve months and benchmarked against appropriate market comparators. Linked to individual performance and contribution.
Annual head office bonus	To incentivise achievement of annual objectives which support the short to medium term strategy of the Company and applies across the head office team.	The bonus is based on the Company's key performance indicators.
Long term incentive plan	To incentivise Executives to achieve superior returns to shareholders over a three year period. To retain key individuals in the medium term and align rewards with shareholder returns.	Share awards are made annually to senior executives and other senior management and are based on a combination of TSR and EPS targets over a three year period.
Long term bonus performance plan	To ensure that the total remuneration package is more competitive and supports the Company's strategy and its ability to react to changing economic circumstances. To retain key individuals in the medium term and align rewards with shareholder returns.	Three year award, based on a series of financial and non-financial targets aligned with the annual business plan to bring salaries more in line with market levels.
Pension	Provide competitive post-retirement benefits.	All executives receive a fixed contribution to their personal pension plans.

Remuneration Report (continued)

Executive Directors' contracts of service which include details of remuneration will be available for inspection at the Annual General Meeting. Each component of Executive remuneration is explained below.

1. Basic salary

Basic salary is determined by the Remuneration Committee at the beginning of each financial year and when an individual changes position or responsibility. Appropriate salary levels are set by reference to the performance, experience and responsibilities of each individual concerned and having regard to the prevailing market conditions. Salaries are reviewed annually with changes taking effect on 1 April each year, taking into account individual performance, market data and levels of increases applicable to other employees in the Company.

The salaries for the Executive Directors for the financial years beginning on 1 April 2011 and 2012 were as follows:

Director	1 April 2012	1 April 2011	% increase
James Gibson	£273,300	£267,900	2%
Nicholas Vetch	£249,200	£244,300	2%
Adrian Lee	£202,300	£198,300	2%
John Trotman	£165,000	£150,000	10%

The average salary increase across the Group in the year was 2%. The salary increase for John Trotman reflects his progress in his role, although it should be noted that his salary is still, in the view of the Committee, below market levels.

2. Annual head office bonuses

Executive Directors participate in the Company's annual head office bonus arrangements which were originally established in 2000. There is no separate annual bonus plan for Executive Directors. Bonuses are discretionary and are performance related. They are assessed annually and, determined by the Remuneration Committee and based on corporate performance during the year. The bonus arrangements are structured so as not to encourage inappropriate risk taking. The bonuses are directly linked to the Group's profit and operating cash flow performance. There is no deferrable element of the bonus, and it is non-pensionable. The maximum bonus potential is 25% of annual basic salary.

The Committee approved the payment of a head office bonus of 10% of basic salary for the head office staff, including the Executive Directors, for the year ended 31 March 2012. The bonus paid to the Executive Directors for the last 5 financial years are shown in the table below:

Year ended	Bonus payment
31 March 2012	10%
31 March 2011	10%
31 March 2010	10%
31 March 2009	Bonus waived by the Directors
31 March 2008	10%

3. Pension arrangements

Pension contributions of 10% of basic salary are paid into a personal pension plan for each Director.

4. Share incentives

Long Term Incentive Plan (the "LTIP")

Approval was granted by shareholders at the 2004 Annual General Meeting for a Long Term Incentive Plan.

The Remuneration Committee has determined that an incentive plan using an award of nil-priced options is the most appropriate way to provide a competitive and market-related long term equity opportunity.

The principal reasons for the Remuneration Committee favouring the use of nil-priced options are:

- > the greater alignment of Executive reward with shareholder interests; and
- > the reduced volatility of nil-priced options to general share price movements.

Awards are made under the LTIP on an annual basis. Individual grants of options to Executive Directors since the inception of the LTIP scheme have been determined by the Committee. All awards to date have been approved by shareholders, through approval of the Company's Remuneration Report.

In respect of the current year and in all future grants to Executive Directors, it is intended that the maximum annual grant of awards will not exceed 100% of a participant's annual base salary, except where the Committee considers there to be exceptional circumstances which justify an award above this limit.

For 2012, it is proposed that the awards made to Nicholas Vetch and James Gibson will be equal to 100% of their individual salaries. The awards for Adrian Lee and John Trotman will be apportioned equally between them to an aggregate value of 100% of their combined salaries. This remains at the lower end of the market, particularly in light of salary levels for the Executive Directors.

4. Share incentives (continued)

The most recent awards are shown in the table below:

Director	2011 grant	2010 grant	2009 grant	2008 grant	2007 grant
James Gibson	87,807	86,419	76,200	60,000	166,666
Nicholas Vetch	80,072	78,801	69,500	55,000	133,333
Adrian Lee	57,080	63,975	42,300	45,000	50,000
John Trotman	57,080	44,427	27,800	29,000	21,750

The number of ordinary shares issuable pursuant to awards granted under this LTIP and all other employee share schemes adopted by the Company may not be more than 10% of the ordinary share capital in any ten year period.

Any award under the LTIP that does not vest at the end of the specified performance period will lapse.

The extent to which awards granted under the LTIP vest and become exercisable is determined by reference to the Company's total shareholder return ("TSR") relative to a comparator group. The level of vesting is set out below:

Total shareholder return performance level	Amount of award vesting %
Upper Quartile	Full vesting (100%)
Lower Quartile to Upper Quartile	Pro rata vesting on a straight line basis (0 to 100%)
Lower Quartile and below	Nil

In previous years, median performance was the starting point for zero vesting. However the Committee has been advised that this is below the market average for comparable companies and has therefore amended the zero vesting point to lower quartile performance.

The LTIP vesting is also subject to the adjusted earnings per share ("EPS") growth over three years exceeding inflation. This EPS underpin target must be satisfied before any part of the LTIP award can vest.

The Committee uses the performance of companies in the FTSE Real Estate Index as the relevant benchmark of the Company's performance. The Committee employs a third party to report to it on whether the performance targets in respect of TSR have been met.

The Committee has considered the report on the performance of the 2008 LTIP awards. This report showed that the awards had partially vested to 85% of their value.

The Committee reserves the right to vary the Performance Condition for future grants provided that, in its reasonable judgement, the new targets are no less challenging in the light of the Company's business circumstances and its internal forecasts.

Sharesave scheme

The Group's Sharesave Scheme is open to all employees (including Directors) with a minimum of six months' service and meets HMRC approval requirements, thus enabling all eligible employees the opportunity to acquire shares in the Company in a tax efficient manner.

The Long Term Bonus Performance Plan

Background

The Committee believes a key strength of the Executive team has been its ability to react quickly to changing market conditions, revising business strategy and direction as needed. This can be illustrated by the Pramerica joint venture at the end of 2007, the successful early refinancing in 2008 of facilities due to expire in 2010, and securing in April 2012, through the new loan from Aviva, the first ever long-term loan by an insurance company to self storage in Europe.

The Committee received external benchmarking advice from Pricewaterhouse Coopers in 2009. The benchmarking advice led the Committee to be concerned that the overall remuneration of the Executive Directors was ceasing to be competitive and, in particular, that salaries were at the lower end of a range of comparable companies. Therefore, rather than increase base salaries and annual bonus potential, the Committee agreed that the most appropriate way to reflect the Group strategy in Executive incentives, was to introduce a new performance based plan, the Long Term Bonus Performance Plan "the LTBPP". The LTBPP was subsequently approved by shareholders at the Company's AGM in July 2009 and Initial Awards were made to the four Executive Directors in August 2009. The structure of the LTBPP is set out below. Only limited changes have been made to base salaries since 2009 and annual bonus potential/payments remain well below the market median.

The plan involved the making of one award covering a three year period. The first award is therefore due to vest in August 2012.

Mechanics

1) Summary

The Plan is structured as a share plan and operates in a similar way to a deferred bonus. Awards are subject to performance over a three year period during which the value accruing to participants can be clawed back. Participants will be partly or wholly rewarded in shares with any shortfall delivered in cash. Cash shortfall payments under the Plan cannot exceed 50% of any total payout due. At least 50% of any payout will be in shares and will be subject to a further lock in.

Remuneration Report (continued)

2) Nature of interests and performance conditions

Under the Plan, the Executive Directors have been awarded restricted interests in ordinary shares in the Company. The interest entitles a participant to benefit from the growth in the value (if any) of a number of ordinary shares in the Company over which the interest is acquired. The participant's interest is capped at growth in value of £2.00 per share measured from the share price at the date of award. Vesting of interests is subject to performance conditions. The Committee sets a range of performance conditions each year, both financial and non-financial, which are based on the business plan. Total shareholder return is not used; this remains the measure for LTIP awards. The Committee annually identifies suitable indicators of future performance against which Executive Directors should be measured. The Committee then sets the performance targets for the Plan, on the basis of business needs and priorities it has identified. At the end of each year, the Committee indicates the extent to which interests have provisionally vested under the Plan on the basis of the performance targets which have been set. The Committee has the right to adjust targets and, where appropriate, introduce new targets if the business plan is changed.

Where appropriate, the Committee may claw-back any awards that have already provisionally vested if subsequent performance during the three year period is below the targets. Interests under the Plan will not actually vest until the end of the three year performance period and nothing will be paid out within this three year period other than in exceptional circumstances (eg a good leaver).

The Committee feels the flexibility in the Plan allows it to adapt to a rapidly changing environment. It will also ensure that any gain made by the Executive Directors is commensurate with their performance over the period and the financial and other performance of the Company. The Plan should avoid the disadvantage inherent in many longer term incentive arrangements, namely being constrained by performance measures set at the outset which subsequently can prove to be out of step with the objectives of the business.

3) Vesting

If the performance conditions are satisfied and the awards vest, shares will be transferred to the Executive Directors equal to the growth in value of the shares under award (subject to the £2.00 cap on growth in value). If there is insufficient value in these share interests to deliver the required payout, the Executive Directors will first be entitled to exercise an option to acquire further shares to make up the shortfall, and if this is still insufficient to deliver the required payout, a top-up cash payment will be made. However, any cash payment cannot exceed 50% of the overall payment due to the Executive Directors.

The maximum payout in shares and cash to the Executive Directors as a whole at the end of the three year period will be up to a total of £3 million. Based on current salary levels, this represents a maximum potential reward for each Executive Director of circa 110% of current salary for each performance year.

The awards that were approved at the Annual General Meeting in July 2009 were as follows:

Director	Number of shares in which Director has an interest	Maximum value of award after three years
James Gibson	500,000	£1,000,000
Nicholas Vetch	500,000	£1,000,000
Adrian Lee	250,000	£500,000
John Trotman	250,000	£500,000

As noted above, any payout will be delivered in shares as far as possible. Shares equal to 50% of the value of any payout (after permitted sales to meet tax liabilities) will be subject to further restrictions. The Executive Directors will be required to hold half of these shares for a further year following vesting and the other half for a further two years, less those sold to pay tax. During this holding period, the Executive Directors will not be entitled to sell their shares. This ensures that the interests of the Executive Directors and shareholders remain aligned for up to five years.

The performance targets for the LTBPP are not disclosed for the year ahead, given the commercially sensitive nature of a number of the targets. Each year, the Committee reports on their assessment of the key prior year targets, excluding any that are still commercially sensitive, and whether or not management has been able to meet these targets. The report on the targets for the year ended 31 March 2011 was included in the annual report for that year. The report on the targets for the year ended 31 March 2012, which were not amended during the financial year, is summarised in the table overleaf:

Objective	Committee Comment
Grow the Group's annualised free cash flow from £25 million at 31 March 2011 to £29 million at 31 March 2012.	The Group's annualised cash flow at 31 March 2012 is £29.2 million.
Explore options for refinancing the Group's core debt, including private placement, debt from the UK insurance market and senior debt. The intention is to execute the refinancing in 2012/13.	The Group completed on £100 million loan from Aviva in April 2012. This was the first-ever loan from an insurance company to a self storage company in Europe. The Group's banks continue to be supportive and the Board intends to refinance the remaining debt in the current year.
Grow established store occupancy over the summer to 75% and recover it to ahead of this level at March following the normal winter slowdown.	Same store occupancy peaked at 75.8% during the summer. It finished March at 74.3%, compared to 71.1% at this time last year.
Grow the occupancy of all wholly-owned stores from 59.3% at 31 March 2011 to 64% by 31 March 2012.	The occupancy of the wholly owned stores (excluding Eltham and New Cross which opened in the year) at March was 64.9%.
Grow the average net rent per square foot across the wholly owned stores from £26.82 per square foot to in excess of £27.35 per square foot over the course of the financial year.	The average net rent per sq ft for the year to date is £26.81. Over 2011/12, aggressive offers and promotions were used to support occupancy growth.
Meet budgeted revenue and profit targets.	Profit for the year ended 31 March 2012 was £23.6 million, slightly behind the budget of £24.0 million; revenue was £65.7 million, slightly behind the budget of £66.8 million.
Meet or exceed the adjusted profit before tax targets of the average consensus of the analyst community.	The average consensus of the analyst community was £23.5 million. Adjusted profit for the year is £23.6 million.
Comply with all banking covenants and maintain income cover in excess of two and a half, and maintain a net worth in excess of £540 million.	All covenants have been met throughout the year. Group income cover at 31 March 2012 was 3.1 times. Net worth is £494.5 million, following the impact of VAT on the valuations.
Secure planning consent at Blackheath.	Planning consent was issued in January 2012. The Group also completed the sale of the site in March 2012 for £4.5 million, ahead of book value.
Secure a sale for the hotel in Richmond and construct the hotel within budget.	A sale has been agreed with Total Pension Trustees Limited for £8.4 million. £1.0 million of the consideration has been received to date, with the balance due on completion in Summer 2012. The construction of the hotel is currently within budget.
Obtain a place in the Sunday Times Top 60 Green Companies to Work for and a top 50 place in the Sunday Times Best 100 Companies to Work for.	The Group was ranked 60th in the Sunday Times Top 60 Green Companies to Work for. The Group was also awarded a Queens Award for Sustainable Development in April 2012. The Group was placed 67th in the Best 100 Companies to Work for, with over 1,000 companies having applied to enter.

The other targets were met in all material respects.

The assessments made at 31 March 2011 and 31 March 2010 were that the award for each of those years had vested to 85% of its potential amount. The Committee considered the performance of the Group and the Executive Directors against the current year targets, and also given this is the final performance year of the plan, the overall performance between 2009 and 2012. The Committee considers that the targets set in each of the three years have very largely been met and, most importantly, that all of the key targets critical to the performance of the Group have either been met in full or within a reasonable margin. These key targets include the placing in May 2009, the Group's growth in occupancy, cash flow and earnings over the past three years, and the recent 15 year loan with Aviva. Looking at the overall performance of the Group and the Executive Directors over the three year period as a whole, the Committee concluded that the objectives of the Group as set out in its business plans had substantially been met.

Following this careful consideration of the performance targets and actual performance of the Group and the Executive Directors, the Committee concluded that the award in respect of the three year period ended 31 March 2012 has therefore vested as to 90% of its total potential amount representing £2.7 million out of a maximum amount of £3 million (subject to the restrictions in place).

Remuneration Report (continued)

2012-15 plans

The Committee received external benchmarking advice from Pricewaterhouse Coopers in the year, which indicated total Executive remuneration was still significantly below market levels. The Committee therefore proposes that new awards covering the three year period to 2015 are made to the Executive Directors in 2012 after the Company's AGM to be held in July.

The Committee has given careful consideration to the operation of the LTBP and its support for the Company's strategy through its focus on achieving a range of KPIs. The Committee remains of the view that the most appropriate way to ensure that Executive remuneration remains competitive, provides incentive and lock-in and minimises cost to the Company is to make a further round of awards under the LTBP. The new awards will be over the same total number of shares as in 2009 (1,500,000 shares) and again will cover a three year period with vesting in 2015. The 2009 LTBP awards involved a loan from the Company's employee benefit trust to fund the acquisition price. Due to legislative changes, these loans will now be provided by the Company requiring shareholder approval, which is being sought at the AGM. The loans will be repaid to the Company at vesting.

The proposed awards for 2012 to 2015 are as follows:

Executive Director	Number of shares in which Director has an interest	Maximum value of award after three years
James Gibson	487,500	£975,000
Nicholas Vetch	337,500	£675,000
Adrian Lee	337,500	£675,000
John Trotman	337,500	£675,000
	1,500,000	£3,000,000

Directors' contracts

It is the Company's policy that Executive Directors should have contracts with an indefinite term, providing for one year's notice. All Executive Directors have contracts which reflect this policy. If a contract is terminated at short notice, the Company has not waived any right which it may have at law to require the Executive Director to mitigate his loss although the Company is entitled (at its discretion) to pay the salary to which the Executive Director would otherwise be entitled, in lieu of notice. The Directors' contracts were amended in the year to bring them up to date with latest changes in practice and legislation.

The dates of the Executive Directors' agreements are as follows:

Nicholas Vetch	31 May 2011
James Gibson	31 May 2011
Adrian Lee	31 May 2011
John Trotman	31 May 2011

Non-Executive Directors

The Non-Executive Directors do not have service contracts with the Company. Their appointments are governed by letters of appointment which are available for inspection on request at the Company's registered office and which will be available for inspection at the Company's AGM. Each appointment is for a period of up to three years, usually to the date of the AGM at which a resolution to re-appoint the Director would next be put to shareholders, although the continued appointment of all Directors is considered on an annual basis. In addition, the appointment is terminable by either party giving notice of three months.

The dates of appointment of the Non-Executive Directors are as follows:

Philip Burks	30 March 2007 (previously an Executive Director)
Tim Clark	1 August 2008
Mark Richardson	1 July 2008
Jonathan Short	16 February 2000
Steve Johnson	24 September 2010

External appointments

The Executive Directors' contracts do not allow them to engage in any other business outside the Group except where prior written consent from the Remuneration Committee is received. The Company recognises that Executive Directors may be invited to become Non-Executive Directors of other companies and that this can help broaden the skills and experience of a Director. Executive Directors are normally permitted to accept external appointments with the approval of the Board and may retain the fees for this appointment.

Nicholas Vetch is a Non-Executive Director of Blue Self Storage S.L, a Spanish self storage business, and The Local Shopping REIT plc, a UK listed property business. He receives a Non-Executive fee of €38,000 per annum from Blue Self Storage S.L and £30,000 per annum from The Local Shopping REIT plc. James Gibson is a Non-Executive Director of AnyJunk Limited; he does not receive any fees for his services.

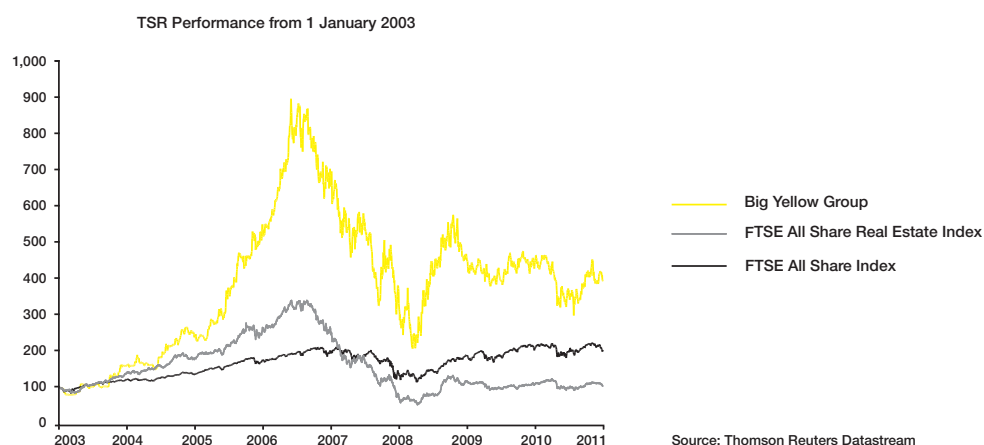
Non-Executive Directors' remuneration

The remuneration of the Non-Executive Directors is determined by the Board taking into account independent surveys of fees paid to Non-Executive Directors of other similar companies. No further fees for work performed for the Group in respect of membership of the Remuneration, Nomination and Audit Committees are paid. Non-Executive Directors cannot participate in any of the Group's share option schemes or Long Term Incentive Plan and are not eligible to join the Group's pension arrangements. Philip Burks has legacy LTIPs from his time as an Executive Director.

Performance graph

The Total Shareholder Return ("TSR") performance graph below sets out the comparison of the Company's TSR against the FTSE All Share Index and FTSE Real Estate Index.

TSR measures share price growth, with dividends deemed to be reinvested gross on the ex-dividend date, and the TSR is shown as the one month average on each day.



Audited information

Aggregate Directors' remuneration

The total amounts for Directors' remuneration were as follows:

	2012 £	2011 £
Emoluments	1,154,944	1,102,561
Gains on exercise of share options	464,049	–
Money purchase pension contributions	86,050	83,145
	1,705,043	1,185,706

Directors' remuneration

	Salary/ fees £	Annual Bonus £	2012 Taxable benefits £	Sub total £	Pension £	2012 Total £	2011 Total £
Executive							
Nicholas Vetch	244,300	24,430	10,229	278,959	24,430	303,389	297,667
James Gibson	267,900	26,790	10,874	305,564	26,790	332,354	325,968
Adrian Lee	198,300	19,830	7,596	225,726	19,830	245,556	239,991
John Trotman	150,000	15,000	5,420	170,420	15,000	185,420	167,167
Non-Executive							
Tim Clark	39,015	–	–	39,015	–	39,015	38,250
Philip Burks	33,815	–	–	33,815	–	33,815	33,150
Mark Richardson	33,815	–	–	33,815	–	33,815	33,150
Jonathan Short	33,815	–	–	33,815	–	33,815	33,150
Steve Johnson	33,815	–	–	33,815	–	33,815	17,213
Aggregate emoluments	1,034,775	86,050	34,119	1,154,944	86,050	1,240,994	1,185,706

Remuneration Report (continued)

Directors' remuneration (continued)

The interests of the current Directors in the ordinary share capital of the Company are shown below:

Ordinary shares of 10p each	At 31 March 2012 No.	At 31 March 2011 No.
Nicholas Vetch (including trusts)	8,817,920	8,767,524
Philip Burks (including trusts)	6,120,849	6,120,849
James Gibson (including trusts)	2,469,719	2,418,119
Adrian Lee (including trusts)	905,092	889,267
Jonathan Short	100,471	100,471
Mark Richardson	19,263	15,263
John Trotman	17,461	7,263
Tim Clark	15,000	15,000
Steve Johnson	10,000	–

None of the Directors had any direct interests in the share capital of any of the subsidiary undertakings of the Company in the year. The interests shown above exclude those shares over which the Directors have a partial interest in as part of the Group's Long Term Bonus Performance Plan as follows:

Ordinary shares of 10p each	At 31 March 2012 No.	At 31 March 2011 No.
Nicholas Vetch	500,000	500,000
James Gibson	500,000	500,000
Adrian Lee	250,000	250,000
John Trotman	250,000	250,000
Total	1,500,000	1,500,000

Directors' share options

Aggregate emoluments disclosed above do not include any amounts for the value of options to acquire ordinary shares in the Company granted to or held by the Directors. During the year there were gains of £0.5 million made on the exercise of share options by the Company's Directors. There were no share option exercises by Directors during the course of the prior year.

Options in respect of ordinary shares for Directors who served during the year are as follows:

Name	Date option granted	No. of shares under option at 31 March 2011	Granted during the year	Exercised during the year	Lapsed during the year	No. of shares under option at 31 March 2012	Exercise price	Market price at date of exercise	Date from which first exercisable	Expiry date
Nicholas Vetch	9 July 2008	55,000	–	(47,300)	(7,700)	–	nil p	247.0p	9 July 2011	9 July 2018
	3 August 2009	69,500	–	–	–	69,500	nil p	–	3 August 2012	3 August 2019
	12 July 2010	78,801	–	–	–	78,801	nil p	–	12 July 2013	12 July 2020
	19 July 2011	–	80,072	–	–	80,072	nil p	–	19 July 2014	18 July 2021
Philip Burks	6 June 2005	66,667	–	–	–	66,667	nil p	–	6 June 2008	6 June 2015
	9 June 2006	66,667	–	–	–	66,667	nil p	–	9 June 2009	9 June 2016
James Gibson	9 July 2008	60,000	–	(51,600)	(8,400)	–	nil p	301.3p	9 July 2011	9 July 2018
	3 August 2009	76,200	–	–	–	76,200	nil p	–	3 August 2012	3 August 2019
	12 July 2010	86,419	–	–	–	86,419	nil p	–	12 July 2013	12 July 2020
	19 July 2011	–	87,807	–	–	87,807	nil p	–	19 July 2014	18 July 2021
Adrian Lee	9 July 2008	45,000	–	(38,700)	(6,300)	–	nil p	301.3p	9 July 2011	9 July 2018
	3 August 2009	42,300	–	–	–	42,300	nil p	–	3 August 2012	3 August 2019
	12 July 2010	63,975	–	–	–	63,975	nil p	–	12 July 2013	12 July 2020
	19 July 2011	–	57,080	–	–	57,080	nil p	–	19 July 2014	18 July 2021
John Trotman	9 July 2008	29,000	–	(24,940)	(4,060)	–	nil p	301.3p	9 July 2011	9 July 2018
	3 August 2009	27,800	–	–	–	27,800	nil p	–	3 August 2012	3 August 2019
	12 July 2010	44,427	–	–	–	44,427	nil p	–	12 July 2013	12 July 2020
	19 July 2011	–	57,080	–	–	57,080	nil p	–	19 July 2014	18 July 2021

The Committee has considered the performance of the 2008 LTIP options grants and determined that the criteria have been partially met, therefore 86% of the award vested during the year, with 14% lapsing.

The market price of the Company's shares at 31 March 2012 was 284p. The highest market price during the year was 344.4p per share, the lowest market price during the year was 218.0p, and the average price during the year was 284.9p. Pursuant to the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2001, it should be noted that past performance of the Company's share price cannot be relied on as a guide to future performance.

Approval

This report was approved by the Board of Directors on 21 May 2012 and signed on its behalf by:

Tim Clark

Committee Chairman

Officers and Professional Advisers

Directors

Philip Burks
Tim Clark
James Gibson
Steve Johnson
Adrian Lee
Mark Richardson
Jonathan Short
John Trotman
Nicholas Vetch

Secretary

Shauna Beavis

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HSH Nordbank AG
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EC2M 6UJ

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London
NW1 3AN

Aviva Commercial Finance Limited
Sentinel House
37 Surrey Street
Norwich
NR1 3UY

HSBC Bank plc
8 Canada Square
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E14 5HQ

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc
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Solicitors

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EC1A 4DD

Financial advisors and stockbrokers

J P Morgan Cazenove
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EC2R 6DA

Peel Hunt LLP
Moor House
120 London Wall
London
EC2Y 5ET

Auditors

Deloitte LLP
Chartered Accountants
2 New Street Square
London
EC4A 3BZ

Biographies of Directors and Senior Management

Non-Executive Directors

Tim Clark, aged 61, Non-Executive Director. He was a partner in Slaughter and May, one of the leading international law firms in the world, for 25 years; initially working as a corporate and M&A adviser to a range of companies and institutions and then for the last seven years as senior partner (before retiring in April 2008). He is also Deputy Chairman of G3, and a Director/trustee of the COIF charitable funds. He is also a Senior Adviser to Chatham House and a member of the International Chamber of Commerce UK Governing Body, the Advisory Board of Uria Menendez, the Board of the Royal National Theatre and the Development Committee of the National Gallery. He is Chairman of the trustees of the Economist Trust and a member of the Audit Committee of the Wellcome Trust. He was appointed to the Board in August 2008.

Jonathan Short, aged 50, Non-Executive Director, Founding Partner and Executive Chairman of Internos Real Investors LLP, a pan European real estate investment management business. Non-Executive Director of Great Portland Estates plc, Independent Director to the Grosvenor Shopping Centre Fund and Trustee and UK Chairman of the Urban Land Institute. He was appointed to the Board in February 2000.

Philip Burks, aged 53, Non-Executive Director, is a co-founder of Big Yellow in September 1998. Prior to that he was joint Chief Executive of Edge Properties plc which he co-founded in 1989 which was subsequently listed on the Official List of the London Stock Exchange in 1996 and then taken over by Grantchester Properties plc in 1998. Philip was the Group's Property Director until 30 March 2007, at which date he stepped down to become a Non-Executive Director. He was appointed a Non-Executive Director of Goals Soccer Centres plc in December 2010.

Mark Richardson, aged 55, Non-Executive Director, retired from Deloitte in 2008 after a career there of 29 years, the last 19 as an audit partner specialising in clients in the Real Estate and Construction sectors. Mark is a co-opted member of the Audit and Risk Committee of the Natural History Museum and he is also a trustee of the children's communication charity ICAN. He was appointed to the Board in July 2008 and is chairman of the Audit Committee.

Steve Johnson, aged 48, Non-Executive Director, started his career at Bain in the 1980s before joining Asda in 1993, where he carried out a number of roles, culminating in Marketing Director. He left Asda in 2000, to join GUS as a Sales & Marketing Director, departing in 2002 to take up his first CEO role at Focus DIY, where he remained until 2007. He joined Woolworths as part of the final turnaround team in late 2008. He has most recently been working as an operating executive for Texas Pacific Group, and was appointed as the Executive Chairman of Dreams in July 2011. He joined the Board in September 2010.

Executive Directors

Nicholas Vetch, aged 51, Executive Chairman, is a co-founder of Big Yellow in September 1998. Prior to that he was joint Chief Executive of Edge Properties plc, which he co-founded in 1989 which was subsequently listed on the Official List of the London Stock Exchange in 1996 and then taken over by Grantchester Properties plc in 1998. He is also a Non-Executive Director of Blue Self Storage S.L – a self storage operation in Spain, and a Non-Executive Director of Local Shopping REIT plc.

James Gibson, aged 51, Chief Executive Officer, is a co-founder of Big Yellow in September 1998. He is a Chartered Accountant having trained with Arthur Andersen & Co. where he specialised in the property and construction sectors, before leaving in 1989. He was Finance Director of Heron Property Corporation Limited and then Edge Properties plc which he joined in 1994. Edge Properties was listed on the Official List of the London Stock Exchange in 1996 and then taken over by Grantchester Properties plc in 1998. He is also a Non-Executive Director and shareholder of AnyJunk Limited.

Adrian Lee, aged 46, Operations Director, was previously a senior Executive at Edge Properties plc, which he joined in 1996. Prior to that he was a corporate financier at Lazard for five years, having previously qualified as a surveyor at Knight Frank. He was appointed to the Board in May 2000.

John Trotman, aged 34, Chief Financial Officer, is a Chartered Accountant having trained with Deloitte LLP, where he specialised in the real estate sector and self storage. On leaving Deloitte in 2005, John worked for a subsidiary of the Kajima Corporation. He joined Big Yellow in June 2007, and was appointed to the Board in September 2007.

Senior Management Biographies

Shauna Beavis, aged 37, Financial Controller and Company Secretary, joined Big Yellow in March 2000, qualifying with CIMA in 2003. Prior to that she was a Project Manager within the IT industry.

Anthony Chenery, aged 40, Head of Marketing and E-Commerce, joined Big Yellow in February 2011, having previously been employed as Head of Online Marketing with Teletext Holidays for seven years. Prior to this, he has held marketing roles within the gaming and publishing industries and with the marketing agency Proximity London (previously BHWG Proximity).

Paul Donnelly, aged 58, Corporate Social Responsibility Manager joined Big Yellow in August 2007 and is an Associate Member of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment. Paul was previously the Sustainable Development Manager at Crest Nicholson PLC. Prior to that he was also Environmental Manager at John Laing PLC.

Stuart Grinnall, aged 37, IT Manager, joined Big Yellow in July 2000. He is a systems engineer with several years' experience developing IT solutions for growth companies and NHS Hospital Trusts.

Nigel Hartley, aged 48, Construction Director, joined Big Yellow in January 2000. He is a chartered surveyor with over 20 years' experience in the construction industry, both overseas and in the UK, principally in the retail and industrial sectors.

Cheryl Hathaway, aged 46, Head of Human Resources, joined Big Yellow in March 2000, having previously been employed as a Human Resources Manager within the Harrods Group. Prior to this she worked for Debenhams in a variety of human resources roles, both within head offices and in stores.

Chris Herbert, aged 57, Construction Manager, joined Big Yellow in September 1999, having previously worked for Leslie Clark, a Construction Consultancy, for 10 years. Prior to that, he spent 10 years as a contracts/project manager with John Lelliot Building Contractors.

Nicola Jordan, aged 45, Head of Store Operations, joined Big Yellow in March 2003, having previously been employed as an Area Manager with Superdrug for 5 years. Prior to this she has held operational roles with Little Chef, Travelodge and Victoria Wine.

David Knight, aged 48, Head of Facilities, joined Big Yellow in June 2000. He was previously an Estates Manager at Whitbread which he joined in 1997. Prior to this he was Group Facilities Manager at Central Transport Rental Group Plc (formerly Tiphook Plc) having previously qualified as a surveyor at Edwin Hill.

Andrew Watson, aged 43 Property Director, joined Big Yellow in October 2000 having previously worked as a property acquisition surveyor for McDonald's Restaurants. Prior to that, he was an acquisitions surveyor for Victoria Wine, having previously qualified as a chartered surveyor at Herring Baker Harris.

Tom Wilcockson, aged 55, Head of New Business Development, joined Big Yellow in July 2007. He has significant experience of developing new business channels including international franchising, BTB and direct selling through key roles at Bhs and Early Learning Centre.

Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of Big Yellow Group PLC

We have audited the financial statements of Big Yellow Group PLC for the year ended 31 March 2012 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Consolidated and Company Balance Sheets, the Consolidated and Company Statement of Changes in Equity, the Consolidated and Company Cash Flow Statements, the Reconciliation of Net Cash Flow to Movement in Net Debt and the related notes 1 to 34. 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 auditors

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

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

Opinion 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 March 2012 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 and, as regards the Group financial statements, Article 4 of the IAS Regulation.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion:

- > the part of the Directors' Remuneration Report to be audited has been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006; and
- > the information given in the 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:

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required 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 and the part of the Directors' Remuneration Report to be audited 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.

Under the Listing Rules we are required to review:

- > the Directors' statement contained within the business review in relation to going concern;
- > the part of the Corporate Governance Statement relating to the Company's compliance with the nine provisions of the UK Corporate Governance Code specified for our review; and
- > certain elements of the report to shareholders by the Board on Directors' remuneration.

Jason Davies ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Deloitte LLP

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor

Reading, United Kingdom

21 May 2012

Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income

Year ended 31 March 2012

	Note	2012 £000	2011 £000
Revenue	3	65,663	61,885
Cost of sales		(23,436)	(22,669)
Gross profit		42,227	39,216
Administrative expenses		(7,148)	(7,158)
Operating profit before gains and losses on property assets		35,079	32,058
Loss on the revaluation of investment properties	13a, 14	(51,381)	(16,039)
Gains on surplus land	15	497	71
Operating (loss)/profit		(15,805)	16,090
Share of (loss)/profit of associate	13d	(602)	1,826
Investment income – interest receivable	7	20	114
– fair value movement of derivatives	7, 18	–	197
Finance costs – interest payable	8	(11,199)	(11,326)
– fair value movement of derivatives	8, 18	(7,965)	–
(Loss)/profit before taxation		(35,551)	6,901
Taxation	9	–	–
(Loss)/profit for the year (attributable to equity shareholders)	5	(35,551)	6,901
Total comprehensive (loss)/income for the year attributable to equity shareholders		(35,551)	6,901
Basic (loss)/earnings per share	12	(27.68)p	5.34p
Diluted (loss)/earnings per share	12	(27.40)p	5.29p

EPRA earnings per share are shown in Note 12.

All items in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income relate to continuing operations.

Consolidated Balance Sheet

31 March 2012

	Note	2012 £000	2011 £000
Non-current assets			
Investment property	13a	726,390	745,840
Investment property under construction	13a	33,905	46,310
Interests in leasehold property	13a	22,394	21,244
Plant, equipment and owner-occupied property	13b	2,637	2,674
Goodwill	13c	1,433	1,433
Investment in associate	13d	15,496	14,931
		802,255	832,432
Current assets			
Surplus land	15	18,035	17,633
Inventories		299	319
Trade and other receivables	16	10,943	11,540
Cash and cash equivalents		10,060	8,954
		39,337	38,446
Total assets		841,592	870,878
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	17	(25,675)	(22,718)
Obligations under finance leases	21	(1,946)	(1,947)
		(27,621)	(24,665)
Net current assets		11,716	13,781
Non-current liabilities			
Derivative financial instruments	18	(15,748)	(7,783)
Bank borrowings	19	(282,960)	(273,230)
Obligations under finance leases	21	(20,448)	(19,297)
Other payables	17	(315)	(954)
		(319,471)	(301,264)
Total liabilities		(347,092)	(325,929)
Net assets		494,500	544,949
Equity			
Called up share capital	22	13,139	13,106
Share premium account		43,432	43,404
Reserves		437,929	488,439
Equity shareholders' funds		494,500	544,949

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 21 May 2012. They were signed on its behalf by:

James Gibson **John Trotman**
Director Director

Company Registration No. 03625199

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity

Year ended 31 March 2012

	Share capital £000	Share premium account £000	Capital redemption reserve £000	Retained earnings £000	Own shares £000	Total £000
At 1 April 2011	13,106	43,404	1,653	488,682	(1,896)	544,949
Total comprehensive loss for the year	–	–	–	(35,551)	–	(35,551)
Issue of share capital	33	28	–	–	–	61
Dividend	–	–	–	(12,223)	–	(12,223)
Purchase of own shares	–	–	–	–	(3,727)	(3,727)
Credit to equity for equity-settled share based payments	–	–	–	991	–	991
At 31 March 2012	13,139	43,432	1,653	441,899	(5,623)	494,500

Year ended 31 March 2011

	Share capital £000	Share premium account £000	Capital redemption reserve £000	Retained earnings £000	Own shares £000	Total £000
At 1 April 2010	13,099	43,384	1,653	491,045	(1,896)	547,285
Total comprehensive income for the year	–	–	–	6,901	–	6,901
Issue of share capital	7	20	–	–	–	27
Dividend	–	–	–	(10,328)	–	(10,328)
Credit to equity for equity-settled share based payments	–	–	–	1,064	–	1,064
At 31 March 2011	13,106	43,404	1,653	488,682	(1,896)	544,949

Consolidated Cash Flow Statement

Year ended 31 March 2012

	Note	2012 £000	2011 £000
Operating (loss)/profit		(15,805)	16,090
Loss on the revaluation of investment properties	13a, 14	51,381	16,039
Gains on surplus land	15	(497)	(71)
Depreciation	13b	550	611
Depreciation of finance lease capital obligations	13a	853	910
Employee share options	6	1,532	1,641
Decrease/(increase) in inventories		20	(24)
Decrease/(increase) in receivables		887	(1,945)
(Decrease)/increase in payables		(44)	1,674
Cash generated from operations		38,877	34,925
Interest paid		(11,508)	(11,806)
Interest received		19	415
Cash flows from operating activities		27,388	23,534
Investing activities			
Sale of surplus land		5,404	4,497
Purchase of non-current assets		(18,130)	(11,864)
Additions to surplus land		(4,647)	(621)
Investment in associate	13d	(1,167)	(1,000)
Cash flows from investing activities		(18,540)	(8,988)
Financing activities			
Issue of share capital		61	27
Purchase of own shares		(3,727)	-
Payment of finance lease liabilities	13a	(853)	(910)
Equity dividends paid	11	(12,223)	(10,328)
Increase/(reduction) in borrowings		9,000	(25,000)
Cash flows from financing activities		(7,742)	(36,211)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		1,106	(21,665)
Opening cash and cash equivalents		8,954	30,619
Closing cash and cash equivalents		10,060	8,954

Reconciliation of Net Cash Flow to Movement in Net Debt

Year ended 31 March 2012

	Note	2012 £000	2011 £000
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year		1,106	(21,665)
Cash (inflow)/outflow from (increase)/decrease in debt financing		(9,000)	25,000
Change in net debt resulting from cash flows		(7,894)	3,335
Movement in net debt in the year		(7,894)	3,335
Net debt at the start of the year		(266,046)	(269,381)
Net debt at the end of the year	18	(273,940)	(266,046)

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2012

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Big Yellow Group PLC is a Company incorporated in Great Britain under the Companies Act 2006. The address of the registered office is 2 The Deans, Bridge Road, Bagshot, Surrey, GU19 5AT. The nature of the Group's operations and its principal activities are set out in note 4 and in the Business Review on pages 9 to 13.

These financial statements are presented in pounds sterling because that is the currency of the economic environment in which the Group operates.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Adoption of new and revised standards

In the current year, there were no new or revised Standards or Interpretations that have been adopted that have affected the amounts reported in these financial statements.

Standards not affecting the reported results nor the financial position

The following new and revised Standards and Interpretations have been adopted in the current year:

- > Revised IAS 24 Related party disclosures; effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2011
- > Amendment to IFRIC 14 Prepayments of a Minimum Funding Requirement; effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2011
- > IFRS 2010 Improvements; effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2011
- > Amendments to IFRS 7 Financial Instruments Disclosures; effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2011

Their adoption has not had any significant impact on the amounts reported in these financial statements but may impact the accounting for future transactions and arrangements.

At the date of authorisation of these financial statements, the following Standards and Interpretations which have not been applied in these financial statements were in issue but not yet effective (and in some cases had not yet been adopted by the EU):

- > Amendments to IAS 12 Deferred Tax: Recovery of Underlying Assets; effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2012
- > Amendments to IAS 1 Presentation of items of other comprehensive income; effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2012
- > Amendments to IAS 19 Employee benefits; effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2013
- > IFRS 9 Financial Instruments; effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015
- > IFRS 10 Consolidated financial statements; effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2013
- > IFRS 11 Joint Arrangements; effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2013
- > IFRS 12 Disclosure of interests in other entities; effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2013
- > IFRS 13 Fair value measurement; effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2013
- > IAS 27 Separate financial statements (2011); effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2013
- > IAS 28 Investments in associates and joint ventures (2011); effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2013
- > Improvements 2011 Improvements to IFRSs 2011; effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2013
- > Amendments to IFRS 7 Disclosures – Offsetting financial assets and financial liabilities; effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2013
- > Amendments to IAS 32 Offsetting financial assets and financial liabilities; effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2014
- > Amendments to IFRS 1 Government Loans; effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2013

With the exception of IFRS 9, IFRS 10, IFRS 11, IFRS 12, IFRS 13, IAS 27 and IAS 28 which the Group is currently evaluating, we do not expect there to be a material impact from the adoption of these standards.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs). The financial statements have also been prepared in accordance with IFRSs adopted by the European Union and therefore the Group financial statements comply with Article 4 of the EU IAS Regulation.

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, except for the revaluation of certain properties and financial instruments. Historical cost is generally based on the fair value of the consideration given in exchange for the assets. The principal accounting policies adopted, which have been applied consistently to the results, other gains and losses, assets, liabilities and cash flows of entities included in the consolidated financial statements in the current and preceding year, are set out below:

Going concern

A review of the Group's business activities, together with the factors likely to affect its future development, performance and position are set out on pages 9 to 21 of the Business and Financial Reviews. The financial position of the Group, its cash flows, liquidity position and borrowing facilities are shown in the balance sheet, cash flow statement and accompanying notes to the financial statements. Further information concerning the Group's objectives, policies and processes for managing its capital; its financial risk management objectives; details of its financial instruments and hedging activities; and its exposures to credit risk and liquidity risk can be found in the Business and Financial Reviews, and in the Report on Corporate Governance.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2012

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Going concern (continued)

After reviewing Group and Company cash balances, borrowing facilities and projected cash flows, the Directors believe that the Group and Company have adequate resources to continue operations for the foreseeable future. In reaching this conclusion the Directors have had regard to the Group's operating plan and budget for the year ended 31 March 2013 and projections contained in the longer term business plan which covers the period to March 2016. The Directors have considered carefully the Group's trading performance and cash flows as a result of the uncertain global economic environment and the other principal risks to the Group's performance. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the financial statements of the Company and entities controlled by the Company made up to 31 March each year. Control is achieved where the Company has the power to govern the financial and operating policies of an investee entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

The Group accounts consolidate the accounts of Big Yellow Group PLC and all of its subsidiaries at the year end using acquisition accounting principles. All intra-Group transactions, balances, income and expenses are eliminated on consolidation. Where necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring the accounting policies used into line with those used by the Group. The results of subsidiaries acquired or disposed of during the year are included in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income from the effective date of acquisition or up to the effective date of disposal, as appropriate.

The acquisition of subsidiaries is accounted for using the purchase method. The cost of the acquisition is measured at the aggregate of the fair values, at the date of exchange, of assets given, liabilities incurred or assumed, and equity instruments issued by the Group in exchange for control of the acquiree, plus any costs directly attributable to the business combination. The acquiree's identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities that meet the conditions for recognition under IFRS 3 are recognised at their fair value at the acquisition date, except for non-current assets (or disposal groups) that are classified as held for sale in accordance with IFRS 5 Non-Current Assets Held for Sale and Discontinued Operations, which are recognised and measured at fair value less costs to sell.

Goodwill arising on acquisition is recognised as an asset and initially measured at cost, being the excess of the cost of the business combination over the Group's interest in the net fair value of the identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities recognised. If, after reassessment, the Group's interest in the net fair value of the acquiree's identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities exceeds the cost of the business combination, the excess is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

Investment in subsidiaries

These are recognised at cost less provision for any impairment.

Investment in associates

An associate is an entity over which the Group is in a position to exercise significant influence, but not control or joint control, through participation in the financial and operating policy decisions of the investee. Significant influence is the power to participate in the financial and operating policy decisions of the investee but is not control or joint control over those policies.

The results and assets and liabilities of associates are incorporated in these financial statements using the equity method of accounting except when classified as held for sale. Investments in associates are carried in the balance sheet at cost as adjusted by post-acquisition changes in the Group's share of the net assets of the associate, less any impairment in the value of individual investments. Losses of an associate in excess of the Group's interest in that associate (which includes any long-term interests that, in substance, form part of the Group's net investment in the associate) are recognised only to the extent that the Group has incurred legal or constructive obligations or made payments on behalf of the associate.

Where a Group company transacts with an associate of the Group, profits and losses are eliminated to the extent of the Group's interest in the relevant associate. Losses may provide evidence of an impairment of the asset transferred in which case appropriate provision is made for impairment.

Goodwill

Goodwill arising on consolidation represents the excess of the cost of acquisition over the Group's interest in the fair value of the identifiable assets and liabilities of a subsidiary at the date of acquisition.

Goodwill is recognised as an asset and reviewed for impairment at least annually. Any impairment is recognised immediately in the statement of comprehensive income and is not subsequently reversed.

Revenue recognition

Revenue represents amounts derived from the provision of services which fall within the Group's ordinary activities after deduction of trade discounts and any applicable value added tax. Income is recognised over the period for which the storage room is occupied by the customer. The Group recognises non-storage income over the period in which it is earned.

Interest income is accrued on a time basis, by reference to the principal outstanding and the effective interest rate applicable, which is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset to that asset's net carrying amount.

Management fees earned are recognised over the period for which the services are provided.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the statement of comprehensive income on a straight-line basis over the term of the relevant lease. In the event that lease incentives are received to enter into operating leases, such incentives are recognised as a liability. The aggregate benefit of incentives is recognised as a reduction of rental expense on a straight-line basis, except where another systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which economic benefits from the leased asset are consumed.

Rental income from operating leases is recognised on a straight-line basis over the term of the relevant lease.

Bank borrowings

Interest-bearing bank loans and overdrafts are recorded at the proceeds received, net of direct issue costs. Premiums payable on settlement or redemption and direct issue costs are accounted for on an accruals basis in the statement of comprehensive income using the effective interest rate method and are added to the carrying value amount of the instrument to the extent that they are not settled in the period in which they arise.

Finance costs

All borrowing costs are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income in the period in which they are incurred, unless the costs are incurred as part of the development of a qualifying asset, when they will be capitalised. Commencement of capitalisation is the date when the Group incurs expenditure for the qualifying asset, incurs borrowing costs and undertakes activities that are necessary to prepare the assets for their intended use when it is probable that they will result in future economic benefits to the entity and the costs can be measured reliably. In the case of suspension of activities during extended periods, the Group suspends capitalisation. The Group ceases capitalisation of borrowing costs when substantially all of the activities necessary to prepare the asset for use are complete.

Operating profit

Operating profit is stated after gains and losses on surplus land, movements on the revaluation of investment properties and before the share of results of associates, investment income and finance costs.

Taxation

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

The tax currently payable is based on taxable profit for the year. Taxable profit differs from the net profit as reported in the statement of comprehensive income because it excludes items of income or expense that are taxable or deductible in other years 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 is the tax expected to be payable or recoverable on differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities in the financial statements and the corresponding tax bases used in the computation of taxable profit, and is accounted for using the balance sheet liability method. Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognised for all taxable temporary differences and deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that taxable profits will be available against which deductible temporary differences can be utilised. Such assets and liabilities are not recognised if the temporary differences arise 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 tax profit nor the accounting profit.

Deferred tax liabilities are recognised for taxable temporary differences arising on investments in subsidiaries and associates 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 is calculated at the tax rates substantively enacted at the balance sheet date that are expected to apply in the period when the liability is settled or the asset is realised. Deferred tax is charged or credited in the statement of comprehensive income, except when it relates to items charged or credited directly to equity, in which case the deferred tax is also dealt with in equity.

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.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2012

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Plant, equipment & owner occupied property

All property, plant and equipment, not classified as investment property, are carried at historic cost less depreciation and any recognised impairment loss.

Depreciation is charged so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets, other than land and properties under construction, over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method, on the following bases:

Freehold property	50 years
Freehold improvements	20 years
Leasehold improvements	Over period of the lease
Plant and machinery	10 years
Fixtures and fittings	5 years
Computer equipment	3 years
Motor vehicles	4 years

The gain or loss arising on the disposal or retirement of an asset is determined as the difference between the sales proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and is recognised in income.

Investment property

The criterion used to distinguish investment property from owner-occupied property is to consider whether the property is held for rental income and for capital appreciation. Where this is the case, the Group recognises these owned or leased properties as investment properties. Investment property is initially recognised at cost and revalued at the balance sheet date to fair value as determined by professionally qualified external valuers. In accordance with IAS 40, investment property held leasehold is stated gross of the recognised finance lease liability.

Gains or losses arising from the changes in fair value of investment property are included in the statement of comprehensive income of the period in which they arise. In accordance with IAS40, as the Group uses the fair value model, no depreciation is provided in respect of investment properties including integral plant.

Leasehold properties that are leased under operating leases are classified as investment properties and included in the balance sheet at fair value. The obligation to the lessor for the buildings element of the leasehold is included in the balance sheet at the present value of the minimum lease payments at inception, and is shown within note 13a. Lease payments are apportioned between finance charges and a reduction of the outstanding lease obligation so as to achieve a constant rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability.

Investment property under construction

Investment property under construction is initially recognised at cost and revalued at the balance sheet date to fair value as determined by professionally qualified external valuers.

Gains or losses arising from the changes in fair value of investment property under construction are included in the statement of comprehensive income in the period in which they arise.

Surplus land

Surplus land is recognised at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Any gains and losses on surplus land are recognised through the statement of comprehensive income.

Impairment of assets

At each balance sheet date, the Group reviews the carrying amounts of its 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 an asset's net selling price and its value-in-use (ie the net present value of its future cash flows discounted at the Group's average pre-tax interest rate that reflects the borrowing costs and risk for the asset).

Inventories

Inventories, representing the cost of packing materials, are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Financial instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised on the Group's balance sheet when the Group becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

A – Derivative financial instruments and hedge accounting

The Group's activities expose it primarily to the financial risks of interest rates. The Group uses interest rate swap contracts to hedge these exposures. The Group does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the Group's policies approved by the Board of Directors. The policy in respect of interest rates is to maintain a balance between flexibility and the hedging of interest rate risk.

Derivatives are initially recognised at fair value and are subsequently reviewed at each balance sheet date. The fair value of interest rate derivatives at the reporting date is determined by discounting the future cash flows using the curves at the reporting date and the credit risk inherent in the contract.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

A – Derivative financial instruments and hedge accounting (continued)

Changes in the fair value of derivative financial instruments are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income as they arise. The Group has not adopted hedge accounting. Derivatives embedded in other financial instruments or other host contracts are treated as separate derivatives when their risks and characteristics are not closely related to those of host contracts and the host contracts are not carried at fair value with unrealised gains or losses reported in the statement of comprehensive income.

B – Loans and receivables

Trade receivables, loans, and other receivables that have fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market are classified as loans and receivables. Loans and receivables are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment. Interest income is recognised by applying the effective interest rate, except for short-term receivables when the recognition of interest would be immaterial.

C – 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 with the exception of trade receivables, where the carrying amount is reduced through the use of an allowance account. When a trade receivable is considered uncollectible, it is written off against the allowance account.

Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against the allowance account. Changes in the carrying amount of the allowance account are recognised in profit or loss.

D – Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprises cash on hand and demand deposits, and other short term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value. The carrying amounts of these assets approximates to the fair value.

E – Financial liabilities and equity

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into.

F – Equity instruments

Equity instruments issued by the Company are recorded at the proceeds received, net of direct issue costs.

G – Trade payables

Trade payables are not interest bearing and are stated at their nominal value.

Retirement benefit costs

Pension costs represent contributions payable to defined contribution schemes and are charged as an expense to the statement of comprehensive income as they fall due. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the Group.

Share-based payments

The Group issues equity-settled share-based payments to certain employees. These are measured at fair value at the date of grant. The fair value determined at the grant date of the share-based payment is expensed on a straight-line basis over the vesting period, based on the Group's estimate of shares that will eventually vest.

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

For cash-settled share-based payments, a liability is recognised for the goods or services acquired, measured initially at the fair value of the liability. At each balance sheet date until the liability is settled, and at the date of settlement, the fair value of the liability is remeasured, with any changes in fair value recognised in profit or loss for the year.

Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2012

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Critical accounting estimates and judgements (continued)

a) Estimate of fair value of Investment Properties and Investment Property Under Construction

The Group's self storage centres and stores under development are valued using a discounted cash flow methodology which is based on projections of net operating income. The Group employs expert external valuers, Cushman & Wakefield LLP, who report on the values of the Group's stores on a biannual basis. Principal assumptions underlying management's estimation of the fair value are those related to: stabilised occupancy levels; the absorption period to these stabilised levels; expected future growth in storage rents and operating costs; maintenance requirements; capitalisation rates and discount rates. A more detailed explanation of the background and methodology adopted in the valuation of the Group's investment properties, including the valuer's assessment of the impact of the proposed introduction of VAT self storage, is set out in note 14 to the accounts.

b) Surplus land

The Group's surplus land is held in the balance sheet at cost less provisions for impairment and is not valued externally. The Directors review all surplus land assets for impairment at each balance sheet date, considering all available evidence as to the likely proceeds receivable from the sale of the surplus land.

3. REVENUE

Analysis of the Group's operating revenue can be found below and in the Portfolio Summary on page 22.

	2012 £000	2012 £000	2011 £000	2011 £000
Open stores				
Self storage income	54,734		50,690	
Other storage related income	9,363		8,844	
Ancillary store rental income	176		88	
		64,273		59,622
Stores under development				
Non-storage income	270		937	
		270		937
Fee income				
Fees earned from Big Yellow Limited Partnership	714		920	
Other management fees earned	406		406	
		1,120		1,326
Revenue per statement of comprehensive income		65,663		61,885
Interest receivable on bank deposits (see note 7)		20		114
Total revenue per IAS 18		65,683		61,999

Non-storage income derives principally from rental income earned from tenants of properties awaiting development.

4. SEGMENTAL INFORMATION

IFRS 8 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. Given the nature of the Group's business, there is one segment, which is the provision of self storage and related services.

Revenue represents amounts derived from the provision of self storage and related services which fall within the Group's ordinary activities after deduction of trade discounts and value added tax. The Group's net assets, revenue and profit before tax are attributable to one activity, the provision of self storage and related services. These all arise in the United Kingdom in the current year and prior year.

5. (LOSS)/PROFIT FOR THE YEAR

α) (Loss)/profit for the year has been arrived at after charging/(crediting):

	2012 £000	2011 £000
Depreciation of plant, equipment and owner-occupied property	550	611
Leasehold property depreciation	853	910
Decrease in fair value of investment property	51,381	16,039
Gains on surplus land	(497)	(71)
Cost of inventories recognised as an expense	914	822
Employee costs (see note 6)	10,255	9,867
Operating lease rentals	164	162
Auditors' remuneration for audit services (see below)	167	165

b) Analysis of auditors' remuneration:

	2012 £000	2011 £000
Fees payable to the Company's auditors for the audit of the Company's annual accounts	160	158
Other services – audit of the Company's subsidiaries' annual accounts	7	7
Total audit fees	167	165
Tax services – compliance	30	30
Tax services – advisory	60	62
Other services	50	50
Drivers Jonas Deloitte real estate advice	12	16
Total non-audit fees	152	158

Fees payable to Deloitte LLP and their associates for non-audit services to the Company are not required to be disclosed because the consolidated financial statements are required to disclose such fees on a consolidated basis.

6. EMPLOYEE COSTS

The average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees (including Executive Directors) was:

	2012 Number	2011 Number
Sales	235	229
Administration	44	44
	279	273

At 31 March 2012 the total number of Group employees was 310 (2011: 301).

	2012 £000	2011 £000
Their aggregate remuneration comprised:		
Wages and salaries	7,605	7,133
Social security costs	791	768
Other pension costs	327	325
Share-based payments	1,532	1,641
	10,255	9,867

Details of Directors' Remuneration is given on pages 47 to 55.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2012

7. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2012 £000	2011 £000
Interest receivable on bank deposits	20	114
Change in the fair value of interest rate derivatives	–	197
	20	311

8. FINANCE COSTS

	2012 £000	2011 £000
Interest on bank borrowings	11,097	11,074
Capitalised interest	(1,035)	(878)
Interest on obligations under finance leases	1,130	1,123
Other interest payable	7	7
Total interest payable	11,199	11,326
Change in fair value of interest rate derivatives	7,965	–
Total finance costs	19,164	11,326

9. TAXATION

The Group converted to a REIT in January 2007. As a result the Group does not pay UK corporation tax on the profits and gains from qualifying rental business in the UK provided that it meets certain conditions. Non-qualifying profits and gains of the Group are subject to corporation tax as normal. The Group monitors its compliance with the REIT conditions. There have been no breaches of the conditions to date.

UK tax	2012 £000	2011 £000
Current tax:		
– Current year	–	–
Deferred tax (see note 20):		
– Current year	–	–
	–	–

A reconciliation of the tax charge is shown below:

	2012 £000	2011 £000
(Loss)/profit before tax	(35,551)	6,901
Tax (credit)/charge at 26% (2011 – 28%) thereon	(9,243)	1,932
Effects of:		
Revaluation of investment properties	13,484	4,491
Share of results of associate	–	(48)
Permanent differences	37	(1,511)
Profits from the tax exempt business	(5,759)	(5,294)
Losses not utilised in the year	685	387
Utilisation of brought forward losses	(370)	–
Temporary timing differences	1,166	43
Total tax charge	–	–

10. ADJUSTED PROFIT BEFORE TAX AND ADJUSTED EBITDA

	2012 £000	2011 £000
(Loss)/profit before tax	(35,551)	6,901
Loss/(gain) on revaluation of investment properties – wholly owned	51,381	16,039
– in associate	480	(2,241)
Change in fair value of interest rate derivatives – Group	7,965	(197)
– in associate	(135)	(191)
Gains on surplus land – wholly owned	(497)	(71)
– in associate	–	(33)
Adjusted profit before tax	23,643	20,207
Net bank and other interest	10,049	10,089
Depreciation	550	611
Adjusted EBITDA	34,242	30,907

Adjusted profit before tax which excludes gains and losses on the revaluation of investment properties, changes in fair value of interest rate derivatives, net gains and losses on surplus land, and non-recurring items of income and expenditure have been disclosed to give a clearer understanding of the Group's underlying trading performance. The adjusted profit before tax of £23,643,000 (2011: £20,207,000) equates to EPRA earnings, as there is no tax charge in the year.

11. DIVIDENDS

	2012 £000	2011 £000
Amounts recognised as distributions to equity holders in the year:		
Final dividend for the year ended 31 March 2011 of 5p (2010: 4p) per share.	6,460	5,163
Interim dividend for the year ended 31 March 2012 of 4.5p (2011: 4p) per share.	5,763	5,165
	12,223	10,328
Proposed final dividend for the year ended 31 March 2012 of 5.5p (2011: 5p) per share.	7,057	6,460

Subject to approval by shareholders at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 10 July 2012, the final dividend will be paid on 20 July 2012 to shareholders on the Register on 8 June 2012.

The Property Income Dividend ("PID") payable for the current year is 9 pence per share.

12. (LOSS)/EARNINGS AND NET ASSETS PER SHARE

(Loss)/earnings per ordinary share

	Year ended 31 March 2012			Year ended 31 March 2011		
	Earnings £m	Shares million	Pence per share	Earnings £m	Shares million	Pence per share
Basic	(35.55)	128.44	(27.68)	6.90	129.11	5.34
Dilutive share options	–	1.29	0.28	–	1.38	(0.05)
Diluted	(35.55)	129.73	(27.40)	6.90	130.49	5.29
<i>Adjustments:</i>						
Loss on revaluation of investment properties	51.38	–	39.61	16.04	–	12.29
Change in fair value of interest rate derivatives	7.97	–	6.14	(0.20)	–	(0.15)
Gains on surplus land	(0.50)	–	(0.39)	(0.07)	–	(0.05)
Share of associate non-recurring losses/(gains)	0.34	–	0.26	(2.46)	–	(1.89)
EPRA – diluted	23.64	129.73	18.22	20.21	130.49	15.49
EPRA – basic	23.64	128.44	18.41	20.21	129.11	15.65

The calculation of basic (loss)/earnings is based on (loss)/profit after tax for the year. The weighted average number of shares used to calculate diluted (loss)/earnings per share has been adjusted for the conversion of share options.

EPRA earnings and earnings per ordinary share before non-recurring items, movements on revaluation of investment properties, gains and losses on surplus land, the change in fair value of interest rate swaps, and share of associate non-recurring gains have been disclosed to give a clearer understanding of the Group's underlying trading performance.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2012

12. (LOSS)/EARNINGS AND NET ASSETS PER SHARE (continued)

The European Public Real Estate Association ("EPRA") has issued recommended bases for the calculation of net assets per share information and this is shown in the table below:

	As at 31 March 2012 £000	As at 31 March 2011 £000
Basic net asset value	494,500	544,949
Exercise of share options	746	603
EPRA NNNAV	495,246	545,552
Adjustments:		
Fair value of derivatives	15,748	7,783
Fair value of derivatives – share of associate	443	579
EPRA NAV	511,437	553,914
Basic net assets per share (pence)	386.1	421.9
EPRA NNNAV per share (pence)	378.9	415.0
EPRA NAV per share (pence)	391.3	421.3
EPRA NAV (as above) (£000)	511,437	553,914
Valuation methodology assumption (see note 14) (£000)	35,514	37,483
Capital goods scheme adjustment – group (£000)	12,282	–
Capital goods scheme adjustment – share of associate (£000)	1,765	–
Adjusted net asset value (£000)	560,998	591,397
Adjusted net assets per share (pence)	429.2	449.8
	No. of shares	No. of shares
Shares in issue	131,393,041	131,060,522
Own shares held in treasury	(1,418,750)	–
Own shares held in EBT	(1,885,117)	(1,905,000)
Basic shares in issue used for calculation	128,089,174	129,155,522
Exercise of share options	2,623,172	2,312,475
Diluted shares used for calculation	130,712,346	131,467,997

Net assets per share are shareholders' funds divided by the number of shares at the year end. The shares currently held in the Group's Employee Benefit Trust and in treasury are excluded from both net assets and the number of shares.

Adjusted net assets per share include the effect of those shares issuable under employee share option schemes and the effect of alternative valuation methodology assumptions [see note 14]. It has also been adjusted for the Group's estimate of capital goods scheme repayments due to it following the proposed introduction of VAT on self storage from 1 October 2012. As described in note 14, the investment property valuations have been adjusted to reflect the impact of VAT being introduced, and the Board considers it appropriate to reflect the estimated amounts due back to the Group from HMRC following the introduction of VAT in the calculation of adjusted net assets per share. This amount, which is subject to agreement with HMRC, cannot be recognised as an asset at the balance sheet date as the legislation to introduce VAT had not been substantially enacted at 31 March 2012.

13. NON-CURRENT ASSETS

a) Investment property, development property and interests in leasehold property

	Investment property £000	Investment property under construction £000	Interests in leasehold property £000	Total £000
At 31 March 2010	761,570	33,960	21,998	817,528
Additions	1,617	11,037	–	12,654
Adjustment to present value	–	–	156	156
Reclassification from plant, equipment and freehold property	5	–	–	5
Revaluation (see note 14)	(17,352)	1,313	–	(16,039)
Depreciation	–	–	(910)	(910)
At 31 March 2011	745,840	46,310	21,244	813,394
Additions	2,723	16,803	–	19,526
Reclassification	27,371	(27,371)	–	–
Adjustment to present value	–	–	2,003	2,003
Revaluation (see note 14)	(49,544)	(1,837)	–	(51,381)
Depreciation	–	–	(853)	(853)
At 31 March 2012	726,390	33,905	22,394	782,689

The income from self storage accommodation earned by the Group from its investment property is disclosed in note 3. Direct operating expenses arising on the investment property in the year are disclosed in the Portfolio Summary on page 22.

Included within additions is £1.0 million of capitalised interest, calculated at the Group's average borrowing cost of 3.7%.

b) Plant, equipment and owner occupied property

	Freehold property £000	Leasehold improvements £000	Plant and machinery £000	Motor vehicles £000	Fixtures, fittings & office equipment £000	Total £000
Cost						
At 31 March 2010	1,875	44	683	–	5,457	8,059
Reclassifications	(8)	–	3	–	–	(5)
Additions	–	–	58	25	374	457
At 31 March 2011	1,867	44	744	25	5,831	8,511
Additions	–	–	36	–	477	513
At 31 March 2012	1,867	44	780	25	6,308	9,024
Depreciation						
At 31 March 2010	(159)	(37)	(455)	–	(4,575)	(5,226)
Charge for the year	(32)	(4)	(60)	(3)	(512)	(611)
At 31 March 2011	(191)	(41)	(515)	(3)	(5,087)	(5,837)
Charge for the year	(35)	(3)	(48)	(6)	(458)	(550)
At 31 March 2012	(226)	(44)	(563)	(9)	(5,545)	(6,387)
Net book value						
At 31 March 2012	1,641	–	217	16	763	2,637
At 31 March 2011	1,676	3	229	22	744	2,674

c) Goodwill

Goodwill relates to the purchase of Big Yellow Self Storage Company Limited in 1999. The asset is tested bi-annually for impairment. The carrying value of £1,433,000 remains unchanged from the prior year as there is considered to be no impairment in the value of the asset.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2012

13. NON-CURRENT ASSETS (continued)

d) Investment in associate

The Group has a 33.3% interest in Big Yellow Limited Partnership. This interest is accounted for as an associate, using equity accounting. The Partnership commenced trading on 1 December 2007.

	31 March 2012 £000	31 March 2011 £000
At the beginning of the year	14,931	12,105
Subscription for partnership capital and advances	1,167	1,000
Share of results (see below)	(602)	1,826
	15,496	14,931

The Group has subscribed for cumulative partnership capital and advances of £14,799,000 to 31 March 2012 (2011: £13,632,000).

The figures below show the trading results of Big Yellow Limited Partnership, and the Group's share of the results and the net assets of the Partnership.

	Year ended 31 March 2012 £000	Year ended 31 March 2011 £000
Big Yellow Limited Partnership		
Income statement (100%)		
Revenue	6,539	4,134
Cost of sales	(4,660)	(3,836)
Administrative expenses	(77)	(75)
Operating profit	1,802	223
(Loss)/gain on the revaluation of investment properties	(1,441)	6,725
Gain on the disposal of surplus land	-	99
Net interest payable	(2,572)	(2,141)
Fair value movement of interest rate derivatives	406	574
(Loss)/profit before and after tax	(1,805)	5,480
Balance sheet (100%)		
Investment property	110,460	105,450
Investment property under construction	-	2,730
Other fixed assets	641	725
Current assets	1,548	1,981
Current liabilities	(2,463)	(2,160)
Derivative financial instruments	(1,330)	(1,736)
Non-current liabilities	(62,367)	(62,195)
Net assets (100%)	46,489	44,795
Group share of (33.3%)		
Operating profit	601	74
(Loss)/gain on the revaluation of investment properties	(480)	2,241
Gain on the disposal of surplus land	-	33
Net interest payable	(858)	(713)
Fair value movement of interest rate derivatives	135	191
(Loss)/profit for the year	(602)	1,826
Associate net assets	15,496	14,931

The Partnership has in place a fully drawn loan of £62.7 million, secured from Royal Bank of Scotland plc and HSBC Bank plc.

13. NON-CURRENT ASSETS (continued)

d) Investment in associate (continued)

The loan has a five year term and expires in September 2013. £31.8 million of the £62.7 million drawn down at 31 March 2012 has been fixed to 30 June 2013 at a weighted average interest cost post margin of 5.5%. The balance of the drawn debt is currently paying one month LIBOR plus applicable margin. The weighted average interest cost post margin at 31 March 2012 of the facility was 3.9%. Following the year end the partners reduced the outstanding debt drawn to £60 million, through repaying and cancelling £2.7 million of the facility.

The Partnership loan has a loan to value covenant which requires the gross loan to the value of the Partnership's investment property assets to be no more than 55%. The loan is non-recourse to the Group.

The Group has an option to acquire the assets within the Partnership or the remaining interest in the Partnership not held by the Group, which is first exercisable at 31 March 2013, but can be deferred to March 2014 and March 2015, subject to Internal Rate of Return ("IRR") hurdles. The price payable is based on the market value of the Partnership's assets and liabilities, and is subject to certain promotes, dependent on the IRR achieved.

14. VALUATION OF INVESTMENT PROPERTY

	Deemed cost £000	Revaluation on deemed cost £000	Valuation £000
Freehold stores*			
As at 1 April 2011	325,353	373,177	698,530
Transfer from investment property under construction	30,650	(3,279)	27,371
Movement in year	2,564	(45,575)	(43,011)
As at 31 March 2012	358,567	324,323	682,890
Leasehold stores			
As at 1 April 2011	15,692	31,618	47,310
Movement in year	159	(3,969)	(3,810)
As at 31 March 2012	15,851	27,649	43,500
Total of open stores			
As at 1 April 2011	341,045	404,795	745,840
Transfer from investment property under construction	30,650	(3,279)	27,371
Movement in year	2,723	(49,544)	(46,821)
As at 31 March 2012	374,418	351,972	726,390
Investment property under construction			
As at 1 April 2011	58,260	(11,950)	46,310
Transfer to investment property	(30,650)	3,279	(27,371)
Movement in year	16,803	(1,837)	14,966
As at 31 March 2012	44,413	(10,508)	33,905
Valuation of all investment property			
As at 1 April 2011	399,305	392,845	792,150
Movement in year	19,526	(51,381)	(31,855)
As at 31 March 2012	418,831	341,464	760,295

* Includes one long leasehold property

The freehold and leasehold investment properties have been valued at 31 March 2012 by external valuers, Cushman & Wakefield LLP ["C&W"]. The valuation has been carried out in accordance with the RICS Valuation – Professional Standards, published by The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors ["the Red Book"]. The valuation of each of the investment properties and the investment properties under construction has been prepared on the basis of either Fair Value or Fair Value as a fully equipped operational entity, having regard to trading potential, as appropriate.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2012

14. VALUATION OF INVESTMENT PROPERTY (continued)

The valuation has been provided for accounts purposes and as such, is a Regulated Purpose Valuation as defined in the Red Book. In compliance with the disclosure requirements of the Red Book, C&W have confirmed that:

- > The members of the RICS who have been the signatories to the valuations provided to the Group for the same purposes as this valuation have done so since September 2004.
- > C&W have been carrying out this bi-annual valuation for the same purposes as this valuation on behalf of the Group since September 2004.
- > C&W do not provide other significant professional or agency services to the Group.
- > In relation to the preceding financial year of C&W, the proportion of the total fees payable by the Group to the total fee income of the firm is less than 5%.
- > The fee payable to C&W is a fixed amount per store, and is not contingent on the appraised value.

Market uncertainty

C&W's valuation report comments on valuation uncertainty resulting from the recent global banking crisis coupled with the economic downturn, which have caused a low number of transactions in the market for self storage property. C&W note that, although there were a number of self storage transactions in 2007, the only significant transactions since 2007 are:

1. The sale of a 51% share in Shurgard Europe which was announced in January 2008 and completed on 31 March 2008.
2. The sale of the former Keepsafe portfolio by Macquarie to Alligator Self Storage which was completed in January 2010; and
3. The purchase by Shurgard Europe of the 80% interests held by its joint venture partner (Arcapita) in its two European joint venture vehicles, First Shurgard and Second Shurgard. The price paid was 172 million Euros and the transaction was announced in March 2011. The two joint ventures owned 72 self storage properties.

Four further smaller transactions took place in 2011 at West Molesey, Cambridge, Dartford and St Albans.

C&W state that due to the lack of comparable market information in the self storage sector, there is greater uncertainty attached to their opinion of value than would be anticipated during more active market conditions.

Valuation methodology

C&W have adopted different approaches for the valuation of the leasehold and freehold assets as follows:

Freehold and long leasehold

The valuation is based on a discounted cash flow of the net operating income over a ten year period and notional sale of the asset at the end of the tenth year.

Assumptions

- A. Net operating income is based on projected revenue received less projected operating costs together with a central administration charge of 6% of the estimated annual revenue subject to a cap and a collar. The initial net operating income is calculated by estimating the net operating income in the first 12 months following the valuation date.
- B. The net operating income in future years is calculated assuming straight-line absorption from day one actual occupancy to an estimated stabilised/mature occupancy level. In the valuation the assumed stabilised occupancy level for the 53 trading stores (both freeholds and leaseholds) open at 31 March 2012 averages 82.4% (31 March 2011: 83.1%). The projected revenues and costs have been adjusted for estimated cost inflation and revenue growth. The average time assumed for the 32 established stores to trade at their maturity levels is 32 months (31 March 2011: 36 months); for the 21 lease-up stores, the period to maturity is 44 months (31 March 2011: 49 months).
- C. The capitalisation rates applied to existing and future net cash flow have been estimated by reference to underlying yields for industrial and retail warehouse property, yields for other trading property types such as student housing and hotels, bank base rates, ten year money rates, inflation and the available evidence of transactions in the sector. The valuation included in the accounts assumes rental growth in future periods. If an assumption of no rental growth is applied to the external valuation, the net initial yield pre administration expenses for the 32 established stores is 6.8% (31 March 2011: 6.3%) rising to a stabilised net yield pre administration expenses of 8.1% (31 March 2011: 8.2%). Also on a no growth and pre administration expenses basis the 21 lease-up stores have a net initial yield of 4.4% (31 March 2011: 3.6%) rising to 8.6% (31 March 2011: 8.7%) on stabilisation.
- D. The future net cash flow projections (including revenue growth and cost inflation) have been discounted at a rate that reflects the risk associated with each asset. The weighted average annual discount rate adopted (for both freeholds and leaseholds) is 11.23% (31 March 2011: 11.29%).
- E. Purchaser's costs of 5.8% (see below) have been assumed initially and sale plus purchaser's costs totalling 6.8% are assumed on the notional sales in the tenth year in relation to the freehold stores.

Short leasehold

The same methodology has been used as for freeholds, except that no sale of the assets in the tenth year is assumed but the discounted cash flow is extended to the expiry of the lease. The average unexpired term of the Group's seven short leasehold properties is 16.7 years (31 March 2011: 16.2 years).

14. VALUATION OF INVESTMENT PROPERTY (continued)

Assumptions (continued)

Investment properties under construction

C&W have valued the stores in development adopting the same methodology as set out above but on the basis of the cash flow projection expected for the store at opening and after allowing for the outstanding costs to take each scheme from its current state to completion and full fit-out. C&W have allowed for holding costs and construction contingency, as appropriate. One scheme does not yet have planning consent and C&W have reflected the planning risk in their valuation.

Proposed VAT change

The Government has announced in the Budget Statement a proposed change to the VAT status of self storage from 1 October 2012. The rental of self storage units is currently exempt from VAT as a licence to occupy land in the same way as the rental of commercial property. The Government are proposing that self storage will be subject to standard rate VAT (20%). C&W have prepared their valuation reflecting the potential impact of the proposed VAT Change.

We also instructed C&W to prepare a valuation on the Special Assumption that the proposed VAT change is not reflected in the valuation.

Immature stores: value uncertainty

C&W have assessed the value of each property individually. However, four of the stores in the portfolio are relatively immature and have low initial cash flow. C&W have endeavoured to reflect the nature of the cash flow profile for these properties in their valuation, and the higher associated risks relating to the as yet unproven future cash flow, by adjustment to the capitalisation rates and discount rates adopted. However, immature low cash flow stores of this nature are rarely, if ever, traded individually in the market, unless as part of a distressed sale or similar situation. Although, there is more evidence of immature low cash flow stores being traded as part of a group or portfolio transaction.

Please note C&W's comments in relation to market uncertainty in the self storage sector due to the lack of comparable market transactions and information. The degree of uncertainty relating to the four immature stores is greater than in relation to the balance of the properties due to there being even less market evidence that might be available for more mature properties and portfolios.

C&W state that in practice, if an actual sale of the properties were to be contemplated then any immature low cash flow stores would normally be presented to the market for sale lotted or grouped with other more mature assets owned by the same entity, in order to alleviate the issue of negative or low short term cash flow. This approach would enhance the marketability of the group of assets and assist in achieving the best price available in the market by diluting the cash flow risk.

C&W have not adjusted their opinion of Fair Value to reflect such a grouping of the immature assets with other properties in the portfolio and all stores have been valued individually. However, they highlight the matter to alert the Group to the manner in which the properties might be grouped or lotted in order to maximise their attractiveness to the market place.

C&W consider this approach to be a valuation assumption but not a Special Assumption, the latter being an assumption that assumes facts that differ from the actual facts existing at the valuation date – and which, if not adopted, could produce a material difference in value.

C&W have not assumed that the entire portfolio of properties owned by the Entity would be sold as a single lot and the value for the whole portfolio in the context of a sale as a single lot may differ significantly (either higher or lower) from the aggregate of the individual values for each property in the portfolio, reflecting the lotting assumption described above.

Valuation assumption for purchaser's costs

The Group's investment property assets have been valued for the purposes of the financial statements after deducting notional purchaser's cost of 5.8% of gross value, as if they were sold directly as property assets. The valuation is an asset valuation which is entirely linked to the operating performance of the business. They would have to be sold with the benefit of operational contracts, employment contracts and customer contracts, which would be very difficult to achieve except in a corporate structure.

This approach follows the logic of the valuation methodology in that the valuation is based on a capitalisation of the net operating income after allowing a deduction for operational cost and an allowance for central administration costs. Sale in a corporate structure would result in a reduction in the assumed Stamp Duty Land Tax but an increase in other transaction costs reflecting additional due diligence resulting in a reduced notional purchaser's cost of 2.75% of gross value. All the significant sized transactions that have been concluded in the UK in recent years were completed in a corporate structure. The Group therefore instructed C&W to carry out a Red Book valuation on the above basis, and this results in a higher property valuation at 31 March 2012 of £794,169,000 (£33,874,000 higher than the value recorded in the financial statements). The valuations in Big Yellow Limited Partnership are £4,920,000 higher than the value recorded in the financial statements, of which the Group's share is £1,640,000. The sum of these is £35,514,000 and translates to 27.2 pence per share. We have included this revised valuation in the adjusted diluted net asset calculation (see note 14).

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2012

15. SURPLUS LAND

	£000
At 1 April 2011	17,633
Additions	4,647
Disposals	(4,245)
At 31 March 2012	18,035

In the current year, a gain of £497,000 was recorded following the disposal of a site.

The prior year gain of £71,000 was comprised of a write back of a prior year impairment on a site of £500,000, offset by a loss on disposal of £429,000.

16. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	31 March 2012 £000	31 March 2011 £000
Trade receivables	1,559	1,776
Other receivables	1,316	274
Prepayments and accrued income	8,068	9,490
	10,943	11,540

Trade receivables are net of a bad debt provision of £24,000 (2011: £25,000). The Directors consider that the carrying amount of trade and other receivables approximates their fair value.

Trade receivables

The Group does not typically offer credit terms to its customers, requiring them to pay in advance of their storage period and hence the Group is not exposed to significant credit risk. A late charge of 10% is applied to a customer's account if they are greater than 10 days overdue in their payment. The Group provides for receivables on a specific basis. There is a right of lien over the customers' goods, so if they have not paid within a certain time frame, we have the right to sell the items they store to recoup the debt owed by the customer. Trade receivables that are overdue are provided for based on estimated irrecoverable amounts determined by reference to past default experience.

For individual storage customers, the Group does not perform credit checks, however this is mitigated by the fact that these customers are required to pay in advance, and also to pay a deposit ranging from 1 week to 4 weeks' storage income. Before accepting a new business customer who wishes to use a number of the Group's stores, the Group uses an external credit rating to assess the potential customer's credit quality and defines credit limits by customer. There are no customers who represent more than 5 per cent of the total balance of trade receivables.

Included in the Group's trade receivable balance are debtors with a carrying amount of £173,000 (2011: £155,000) which are past due at the reporting date for which the Group has not provided as there has not been a significant change in credit quality and the amounts are still considered recoverable. The average age of these receivables is 31 days past due (2011: 34 days past due).

Ageing of past due but not impaired receivables

	2012 £000	2011 £000
1 – 30 days	117	99
30 – 60 days	16	33
60 + days	40	23
Total	173	155

Movement in the allowance for doubtful debts

	2012 £000	2011 £000
Balance at the beginning of the year	25	29
Amounts provided in year	39	69
Amounts written off as uncollectible	(40)	(73)
Balance at the end of the year	24	25

The concentration of credit risk is limited due to the customer base being large and unrelated. Accordingly, the Directors believe that there is no further credit provision required in excess of the allowance for doubtful debts.

16. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES (continued)

Ageing of impaired trade receivables

	2012 £000	2011 £000
1 – 30 days	2	–
30 – 60 days	3	4
60 + days	19	21
Total	24	25

17. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	31 March 2012 £000	31 March 2011 £000
Current		
Trade payables	9,159	9,885
Other payables	2,957	2,075
Accruals and deferred income	12,916	9,663
Amounts owed to associate	2	177
VAT repayable under Capital Goods Scheme	641	918
	25,675	22,718
Non-current		
VAT repayable under Capital Goods Scheme	315	954

The Group has financial risk management policies in place to ensure that all payables are paid within the credit timeframe. The Directors consider the carrying amount of trade and other payables and accruals and deferred income approximates fair value. Included within accruals and deferred income is £1,656,000 in respect of the Long Term Bonus Performance Plan.

The Directors estimate the fair value of the Group's VAT payable under the capital goods scheme as follows:

	2012		2011	
	Carrying amount £000	Estimated fair value £000	Carrying amount £000	Estimated fair value £000
VAT payable under the capital goods scheme	956	913	1,872	1,791

The fair values have been calculated by discounting expected cash flows at interest rates prevailing at the year end.

18. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Group manages its capital to ensure that entities in the Group will be able to continue as going concerns while maximising the return to stakeholders through the optimisation of the debt and equity balance. The capital structure of the Group consists of debt, which includes the borrowings disclosed in note 19, cash and cash equivalents and equity attributable to equity holders of the parent, comprising issued capital, reserves and retained earnings. The Group's banking facilities at the year end required hedging of 70% of the funds drawn under the investment tranche of its core banking facility. The Group has complied with this during the year.

With the exception of derivative instruments which are classified as a financial liability at fair value through the profit and loss ("FVTPL"), financial liabilities are categorised under amortised cost. All financial assets are categorised as loans and receivables.

Exposure to credit, interest rate and currency risks arises in the normal course of the Group's business. Derivative financial instruments are used to manage exposure to fluctuations in interest rates, but are not employed for speculative purposes.

Significant accounting policies

Details of the significant accounting policies and methods adopted, including the criteria for recognition, the basis of measurement and the basis on which income and expenses are recognised, in respect of each class of financial asset, financial liability and equity instrument are disclosed in note 2 to the financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2012

18. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

A. Balance sheet management

The Group's Board reviews the capital structure on an ongoing basis. As part of this review, the Board considers the cost of capital and the risks associated with each class of capital. The Group seeks to have a conservative gearing ratio [the proportion of net debt to equity]. The Board considers at each review the appropriateness of the current ratio in light of the above. The Board is currently satisfied with the Group's gearing ratio.

The gearing ratio at the year end is as follows:

	2012 £000	2011 £000
Debt	(284,000)	(275,000)
Cash and cash equivalents	10,060	8,954
Net debt	273,940	266,046
Balance sheet equity	494,500	544,949
Net debt to equity ratio	55.4%	48.8%

Debt is defined as long-term and short-term bank borrowings, as detailed in note 19. Equity includes all capital and reserves of the Group attributable to equity holders of the Company. Net debt is defined as gross bank borrowings less cash and cash equivalents.

B. Debt management

The Group borrows through a senior term loan, secured on its existing store portfolio, and in addition since the year end has arranged a 15 year loan with Aviva Commercial Finance Limited secured on a portfolio of 15 self storage assets. Borrowings are arranged to ensure an appropriate maturity profile and to maintain short term liquidity. Funding is arranged in the Group and in Big Yellow Limited Partnership through banks and financial institutions with whom the Group has a strong working relationship.

C. Interest rate risk management

The Group is exposed to interest rate risk as entities in the Group borrow funds at both fixed and floating interest rates. The risk is managed by the Group by maintaining an appropriate mix between fixed and floating rate borrowings, and by the use of interest rate swap contracts. Hedging activities are evaluated regularly to align with interest rate views and defined risk appetite; ensuring optimal hedging strategies are applied, by either positioning the balance sheet or protecting interest expense through different interest rate cycles.

At 31 March 2012 the Group had two interest rate derivatives in place; £120 million fixed at 2.99% [excluding the margin on the underlying debt instrument] until September 2015 and £70 million fixed at 3.93% [excluding the margin on the underlying debt instrument] also until September 2015.

In April 2012, the Group announced the completion of a £100 million 15 year term fixed rate loan with Aviva Commercial Finance Limited, which was deployed to repay £100 million of existing bank debt. At the same time, the Group also cancelled £100 million of the above interest rate derivatives at a cost of £9.2 million. This left a £90 million interest rate swap in the core bank debt facility at 2.99% plus margin to September 2015, with the remaining £100 million of the core bank debt paying at floating rates plus margin, in addition to the Aviva fixed rate loan.

Under interest rate swap contracts, the Group agrees to exchange the difference between fixed and floating rate interest amounts calculated on agreed notional principal amounts. Such contracts enable the Group to mitigate the risk of changing interest rates on the fair value of issued fixed rate debt held and the cash flow exposures on the issued variable rate debt held. The fair value of interest rate swaps at the reporting date is determined by discounting the future cash flows using the curves at the reporting date and the credit risk inherent in the contract, and is disclosed below. The average interest rate is based on the outstanding balances at the end of the financial year.

The interest rate swaps settle on a monthly basis. The floating rate on the interest rate swaps is one month LIBOR. The Group will settle the difference between the fixed and floating interest rate on a net basis.

The Group does not hedge account for its interest rate swaps and states them at fair value, with changes in fair value included in the statement of comprehensive income. The loss in the statement of comprehensive income for the year of these interest rate swaps was £7,965,000 [2011: gain of £197,000].

The fair value of the above derivatives at 31 March 2012 was a liability of £15,748,000 [2011: liability of £7,783,000].

D. Interest rate sensitivity analysis

In managing interest rate risks the Group aims to reduce the impact of short-term fluctuations on the Group's earnings, without jeopardising its flexibility. Over the longer term, permanent changes in interest rates may have an impact on consolidated earnings.

At 31 March 2012, it is estimated that an increase of 0.5 percentage points in interest rates would have reduced the Group's adjusted profit before tax by £470,000 [2011: reduced adjusted profit before tax by £425,000] and a decrease of 0.5 percentage points in interest rates would have increased the Group's adjusted profit before tax by £470,000 [2011: increased adjusted profit before tax by £425,000]. There would have been no effect on amounts recognised directly in equity. The sensitivity has been calculated by applying the interest rate change to the variable rate borrowings, net of interest rate swaps, at the year end.

18. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

D. Interest rate sensitivity analysis (continued)

The Group's sensitivity to interest rates has increased during the year, following the drawing of additional floating rate debt from cash resources. The Board monitors closely the exposure to the floating rate element of our debt.

E. Cash management and liquidity

Ultimate responsibility for liquidity risk management rests with the Board of Directors, which has built an appropriate liquidity risk management framework for the management of the Group's short, medium and long-term funding and liquidity management requirements. The Group manages liquidity risk by maintaining adequate reserves, banking facilities and reserve borrowing facilities by continuously monitoring forecast and actual cash flows and matching the maturity profiles of financial assets and liabilities. Included in note 19 is a description of additional undrawn facilities that the Group has at its disposal to further reduce liquidity risk.

Short term money market deposits are used to manage liquidity whilst maximising the rate of return on cash resources, giving due consideration to risk.

F. Foreign currency management

The Group does not have any foreign currency exposure.

G. Credit risk

The credit risk management policies of the Group with respect to trade receivables are discussed in note 16. The Group has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over 36,000 customers in our stores.

The credit risk on liquid funds is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies.

H. Financial maturity analysis

In respect of interest-bearing financial liabilities, the following table provides a maturity analysis for individual elements.

	Total £000	Less than one year £000	One to two years £000	Two to five years £000	More than five years £000
2012 Maturity					
<i>Debt</i>					
Bank loan payable at variable rate	94,000	–	94,000	–	–
Debt fixed by interest rate derivatives	190,000	–	190,000	–	–
Total	284,000	–	284,000	–	–
2011 Maturity					
<i>Debt</i>					
Bank loan payable at variable rate	85,000	–	–	85,000	–
Debt fixed by interest rate derivatives	190,000	–	–	190,000	–
Total	275,000	–	–	275,000	–

I. Fair values of financial instruments

The fair values of the Group's cash and short term deposits and those of other financial assets equate to their book values. Details of the Group's receivables at amortised cost are set out in note 16. The amounts are presented net of provisions for doubtful receivables, and allowances for impairment are made where appropriate. Trade and other payables, including bank borrowings, are carried at amortised cost. Finance lease liabilities are included at the fair value of their minimum lease payments. Derivatives are carried at fair value.

For those financial instruments held at valuation, the Group has categorised them into a three level fair value hierarchy based on the priority of the inputs to the valuation technique in accordance with IFRS 7. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). If the inputs used to measure fair value fall within different levels of the hierarchy, the category level is based on the lowest priority level input that is significant to the fair value measurement of the instrument in its entirety. The fair values of the Group's outstanding interest rate swaps, as detailed in note 18J, have been estimated by calculating the present value of future cash flows, using appropriate market discount rates, representing Level 2 fair value measurements as defined by IFRS 7. There are no financial instruments which have been categorised as Level 1 or Level 3.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2012

18. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

J. Maturity analysis of financial liabilities

The contractual maturities based on market conditions and expected yield curves prevailing at the year end date are as follows:

	Trade and other payables £000	Interest rate swaps £000	Borrowing and interest £000	Finance leases £000	Total £000
2012					
From five to twenty years	–	–	–	25,436	25,436
From two to five years	–	4,854	–	5,953	10,807
From one to two years	315	4,235	288,680	1,984	295,214
Due after more than one year	315	9,089	288,680	33,373	331,457
Due within one year	25,675	4,860	10,228	1,984	42,747
Total	25,990	13,949	298,908	35,357	374,204
	Trade and other payables £000	Interest rate swaps £000	Borrowing and interest £000	Finance leases £000	Total £000
2011					
From five to twenty years	–	–	–	23,189	23,189
From two to five years	–	482	279,566	5,959	286,007
From one to two years	954	2,682	9,980	1,987	15,603
Due after more than one year	954	3,164	289,546	31,135	324,799
Due within one year	22,718	4,444	9,980	1,987	39,129
Total	23,672	7,608	299,526	33,122	363,928

K. Reconciliation of maturity analyses

The maturity analysis in note 18J shows non-discounted cash flows for all financial liabilities including interest payments. The table below reconciles the borrowings column in note 19 with the borrowings and interest column in the maturity analysis presented in note 18J.

	Borrowings £000	Interest £000	Unamortised borrowing costs £000	Borrowings and interests £000
2012				
From two to five years	–	–	–	–
From one to two years	282,960	4,680	1,040	288,680
Due after more than one year	282,960	4,680	1,040	288,680
Due within one year	–	10,228	–	10,228
Total	282,960	14,908	1,040	298,908
	Borrowings £000	Interest £000	Unamortised borrowing costs £000	Borrowings and interests £000
2011				
From two to five years	273,230	4,566	1,770	279,566
From one to two years	–	9,980	–	9,980
Due after more than one year	273,230	14,546	1,770	289,546
Due within one year	–	9,980	–	9,980
Total	273,230	24,526	1,770	299,526

19. BANK BORROWINGS

	31 March 2012 £000	31 March 2011 £000
Secured borrowings at amortised cost		
Bank borrowings	284,000	275,000
Unamortised loan arrangement costs	(1,040)	(1,770)
	282,960	273,230

The weighted average interest rate paid on the bank borrowings during the year was 3.7% (2011: 3.6%).

The Group has £41,000,000 in undrawn committed borrowing facilities at 31 March 2012 which expire between one and two years (2011: £50,000,000 expiring between two and three years).

On 26 April 2012, the Group announced the completion of a £100 million 15 year fixed rate loan with Aviva Commercial Finance Limited. The loan is secured over a portfolio of 15 freehold self storage centres which were valued at £242.1 million at 29 February 2012 for the purposes of the drawdown. The annual fixed interest rate on the loan is 4.9%.

The loan amortises to £60 million over the course of the 15 years, consistent with the Group's medium term debt reduction strategy. The debt service is payable monthly based on fixed annual amounts. The loan outstanding on the fifth anniversary will be £89.8 million; £76.7 million outstanding on the tenth anniversary, with £60 million remaining at expiry in April 2027.

The new 15 year term loan has been deployed to repay and cancel £100 million of the Group's core bank debt facility, reducing it to £225 million of which £190 million is drawn. This facility expires in September 2013 and is secured on the remainder of the Group's self storage centres. The repayment and cancellation has been disproportionately applied against HSH Nordbank's commitment which has been reduced from £150 million to £65 million. The remainder of the loan is held by Lloyds TBS Bank plc, HSBC Bank plc and Santander.

The Group was comfortably in compliance with its banking covenants at 31 March 2012, as illustrated in the table below.

	Covenant	At 31 March 2012
Minimum income cover on charged assets	1.5x	3.67x
Minimum net assets (excluding goodwill)	£250 million	£493.1m
Maximum gross loan to net assets gearing	1.3:1	0.58:1

The minimum net asset and gearing covenants on the Aviva loan are in line with the covenants on the existing loan. There is also a minimum income cover covenant of 1.5x on the charged assets and a minimum debt service cover of 1.2x, and a loan to value covenant of 65% based on the valuation of the 15 assets charged to Aviva.

Interest rate profile of financial liabilities	Total £000	Floating rate £000	Fixed rate £000	Weighted average interest rate	Period for which the rate is fixed	Weighted average period until maturity
At 31 March 2012						
Gross financial liabilities	284,000	94,000	190,000	3.7%	6.0 years	3.5 years
At 31 March 2011						
Gross financial liabilities	275,000	85,000	190,000	3.6%	6.0 years	4.7 years

The floating rate at 31 March 2012 was paying a margin of 1.125% above one month LIBOR, the fixed rate debt was paying a weighted average margin of 1.16%. All monetary liabilities, including short term receivables and payables are denominated in sterling. The weighted average interest rate includes the effect of the Group's interest rate derivatives.

Narrative disclosures on the Group's policy for financial instruments are included within the Report on Corporate Governance and in note 18.

20. DEFERRED TAX

Deferred tax assets in respect of share based payments (£0.1 million), interest rate swaps (£5.0 million), losses (£1.7 million), capital allowances in excess of depreciation (£0.3 million) and capital losses (£1.1 million) in respect of the non-REIT taxable business have not been recognised due to uncertainty over the projected tax liabilities arising in the short term within the non-REIT taxable business.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2012

21. OBLIGATIONS UNDER FINANCE LEASES

	Minimum lease payments		Present value minimum of lease payments	
	2012 £000	2011 £000	2012 £000	2011 £000
Amounts payable under finance leases:				
Within one year	1,984	1,987	1,946	1,947
Within two to five years inclusive	7,937	7,946	6,857	6,828
Greater than five years	25,436	23,189	13,591	12,469
	35,357	33,122	22,394	21,244
Less: future finance charges	(12,963)	(11,878)		
Present value of lease obligations	22,394	21,244		

All lease obligations are denominated in sterling. Interest rates are fixed at the contract date. All leases are on a fixed repayment basis and no arrangements have been entered into for contingent rental payments.

The carrying amount of the Group's lease obligations approximates their fair value.

22. SHARE CAPITAL

	Authorised		Called up, allotted and fully paid	
	2012 £000	2011 £000	2012 £000	2011 £000
Ordinary shares of 10 pence each	20,000	20,000	13,139	13,106
Movement in issued share capital				
Number of shares at 31 March 2010				130,990,837
Exercise of share options – Share option schemes				69,685
Number of shares at 31 March 2011				131,060,522
Exercise of share options – Share option schemes				332,519
Number of shares at 31 March 2012				131,393,041

The Company has one class of ordinary shares which carry no right to fixed income.

At 31 March 2012 options in issue to Directors and employees were as follows:

Date option granted	Option price per ordinary share	Date first exercisable	Date on which the exercise period expires	Number of ordinary shares 2012	Number of ordinary shares 2011
8 November 2001	98p	8 November 2004	7 November 2011	–	18,359
15 May 2002	102p	15 May 2005	14 May 2012	8,000	20,200
16 December 2002	81.5p	16 December 2005	15 December 2012	8,150	14,830
2 July 2003	82.5p	2 July 2006	1 July 2013	18,613	22,112
11 November 2003	96p	11 November 2006	10 November 2013	7,650	10,850
27 September 2004	nil p**	27 September 2007	26 September 2014	–	6,500
6 June 2005	nil p**	6 June 2008	5 June 2015	74,765	94,165
9 June 2006	nil p**	9 June 2009	8 June 2016	91,665	101,665
6 March 2008	310p*	1 April 2011	1 October 2011	–	11,019
9 July 2008	nil p**	9 July 2011	8 July 2018	57,620	343,000
22 August 2008	249p*	22 August 2011	21 February 2012	–	13,439
24 February 2009	141p*	1 April 2012	1 October 2012	215,650	224,690
3 August 2009	nil p**	3 August 2012	2 August 2019	372,967	375,167
23 February 2010	255p*	1 April 2013	1 October 2013	11,263	19,319
12 July 2010	nil p**	12 July 2013	11 July 2020	457,212	457,212
28 February 2011	263p*	28 February 2014	29 August 2014	29,060	34,132
19 July 2011	nil p**	19 July 2013	19 July 2021	493,582	–
12 March 2012	240p*	1 April 2015	1 October 2015	124,702	–
				1,970,899	1,766,659

* SAYE (see note 23)

** LTIP (see note 23)

22. SHARE CAPITAL (continued)

OWN SHARES

The own shares reserve represents the cost of shares in Big Yellow Group PLC purchased in the market, and held by the Big Yellow Group PLC Employee Benefit Trust, along with shares issued directly to the Employee Benefit Trust. 1,885,117 shares are held in the Employee Benefit Trust (2011: 1,905,000), and 1,418,750 shares are held in treasury.

23. SHARE BASED PAYMENTS

The Company has four equity share-based payment arrangements, namely approved and unapproved share option schemes, an LTIP scheme, an Employee Share Save Scheme ("SAYE") and a Long Term Bonus Performance Plan. The Group recognised a total expense in the year related to equity-settled share-based payment transactions of £1,532,000 (2011: £1,641,000).

Equity-settled share option plans

The Group granted options to employees under Approved and Unapproved Inland Revenue Share option schemes between November 1999 and November 2003. The Group's schemes provided for a grant price equal to the average quoted market price of the Group shares on the date of grant. The vesting period is three to ten years. If the options remain unexercised after a period of 10 years from the date of grant, the options expire. Furthermore, options are forfeited if the employee leaves the Group before the options vest.

Since 2004 the Group has operated an Employee Share Save Scheme ("SAYE") which allows any employee who has more than six months service to purchase shares at a 20% discount to the average quoted market price of the Group shares at the date of grant. The associated savings contracts are 3 years at which point the employee can exercise their option to purchase the shares or take the amount saved, including interest, in cash. The scheme is administered by Yorkshire Building Society.

On an annual basis since 2004 the Group awarded nil-paid options to senior management under the Group's Long Term Incentive Plan ("LTIP"). The awards are conditional on the achievement of challenging performance targets as described on page 49 of the Remuneration Report. The awards granted in 2004, 2005 and 2006 vested in full. The awards granted in 2007 lapsed, and the awards granted in 2008 partially vested.

The weighted average share price at the date of exercise for options exercised in the year was 287 pence (2011: 327 pence).

	2012 No. of options	2012 Weighted average exercise price (£)	2011 No. of options	2011 Weighted average exercise price (£)
Share option scheme "ESO"				
Outstanding at beginning of year	86,351	0.92	107,501	0.94
Exercised during the year	(43,938)	0.95	(21,150)	0.85
Outstanding at the end of the year	42,413	0.85	86,351	0.92
Exercisable at the end of the year	42,413	0.85	86,351	0.92

Options outstanding at 31 March 2012 had a weighted average contractual life of 1.2 years (2011: 1.6 years).

	2012 No. of options	2011 No. of options
LTIP scheme		
Outstanding at beginning of year	1,377,709	1,488,780
Granted during the year	495,582	471,062
Forfeited during the year	(48,300)	(537,383)
Exercised during the year	(277,180)	(44,750)
Outstanding at the end of the year	1,547,811	1,377,709
Exercisable at the end of the year	220,550	202,330

The weighted average fair value of options granted during the year was £433,000 (2011: £453,000).

Options outstanding at 31 March 2012 had a weighted average contractual life of 7.8 years (2011: 7.8 years).

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2012

23. SHARE BASED PAYMENTS (continued)

Equity-settled share option plans (continued)

	2012 No. of options	2012 Weighted average exercise price (£)	2011 No. of options	2011 Weighted average exercise price (£)
Employee Share Save Scheme ("SAYE")				
Outstanding at beginning of year	302,599	1.73	304,176	1.66
Granted during the year	124,702	2.40	34,132	2.63
Forfeited during the year	(35,225)	2.38	(31,924)	2.04
Exercised during the year	(11,401)	2.66	(3,785)	1.41
Outstanding at the end of the year	380,675	1.86	302,599	1.73
Exercisable at the end of the year	–	–	–	–

Options outstanding at 31 March 2012 had a weighted average contractual life of 1.6 years (2011:1.6 years).

The inputs into the Black-Scholes model are as follows:

	ESO	LTIP	SAYE
Expected volatility	24%	41%	45%
Expected life	3 years	3 years	3 years
Risk-free rate	4.7%	2.2%	1.9%
Expected dividends	3.2%	4.4%	4.9%

Expected volatility was determined by calculating the historical volatility of the Group's share price over the year prior to grant.

Long term bonus performance plan

The Group has a joint share ownership plan in place. This is accounted for as a compound instrument, with 50% accrued as a liability as this proportion of the award may be cash settled. The balance is recognised as a credit to equity, recognising the equity settled element. The plan was set up in August 2009. Directors and senior employees have a partial interest in 1,885,117 shares with the Group's Employee Benefit Trust. The fair value of each award is £2 subject to the vesting criteria as set out in the Directors' Remuneration Report. At 31 March 2012 the weighted average contractual life was 0.4 years.

24. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

Amounts contracted but not provided in respect of the Group's properties as at 31 March 2012 were £4.9 million (2011: £3.4 million).

25. EVENTS AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE

As disclosed in note 18, in April 2012 the Group entered into a £100 million 15 year loan with Aviva Commercial Finance Limited. At the same time the Group spent £9.2 million to cancel £100 million of the Group's interest rate derivatives.

26. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Transactions between the Company and its subsidiaries, which are related parties, have been eliminated on consolidation and are not disclosed in this note.

Transactions with Big Yellow Limited Partnership

As described in note 13, the Group has a 33.3% interest in Big Yellow Limited Partnership ("the Partnership"), and entered into transactions with the Partnership during the year on normal commercial terms.

In the current year the Group earned fees from the Partnership of £714,000 (2011: £920,000). At 31 March 2012, the Partnership owed £294,000 to the Group (2011: Group owed £177,000 to the Partnership).

The remuneration of the Executive and Non-Executive Directors, who are the key management personnel of the Group, is set out below in aggregate. Further information on the remuneration of individual Directors is found in the audited part of the Directors' Remuneration Report on pages 53 to 55.

	31 March 2012 £000	31 March 2011 £000
Short term employee benefits	1,155	1,103
Post-employment benefits	86	83
Share based payments	464	–
	1,705	1,186

Dreams plc

Steve Johnson, a Non-Executive Director of the Group was appointed as Executive Chairman of Dreams plc in July 2011. During the year, the Group entered into a lease over a retail unit at its Eltham store with Dreams plc on normal commercial terms. The contracted rent is £127,000 per annum.

AnyJunk Limited

James Gibson is a Non-Executive Director and shareholder in AnyJunk Limited and Adrian Lee is a shareholder in AnyJunk Limited. During the year AnyJunk Limited provided waste disposal services to the Group on normal commercial terms, amounting to £12,000.

No other related party transactions took place during the years ended 31 March 2012 and 31 March 2011.

Company Balance Sheet

Year ended 31 March 2012

	Note	2012 £000	2011 £000
Non-current assets			
Plant, equipment and owner-occupied property	29a	1,511	1,546
Investment in subsidiary companies	29b	6,630	5,639
		8,141	7,185
Current assets			
Trade and other receivables	30	659,531	664,230
Cash and cash equivalents		5,056	8,940
		664,587	673,170
Total assets		672,728	680,355
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	31	(1,576)	(680)
		(1,576)	(680)
Net current assets		663,011	672,490
Non-current liabilities			
Derivative financial instruments	32	(15,748)	(7,783)
Bank borrowings	32	(282,960)	(273,230)
		(298,708)	(281,013)
Total liabilities		(300,284)	(281,693)
Net assets		372,444	398,662
Equity			
Called up share capital	22	13,139	13,106
Share premium account		43,432	43,404
Reserves		315,873	342,152
Equity shareholders' funds		372,444	398,662

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 21 May 2012. They were signed on its behalf by:

James Gibson
Director

John Trotman
Director

Company Registration No. 03625199

Company Cash Flow Statement

Year ended 31 March 2012

	2012 £000	2011 £000
Operating loss	(846)	(756)
Depreciation	35	32
Decrease in receivables	778	13,415
Increase/(decrease) in payables	889	(82)
Cash generated by operations	856	12,609
Interest paid	(10,378)	(11,555)
Interest received	12,527	12,930
Cash flows from operating activities	3,005	13,984
Investing activities		
Purchase of non-current assets	-	(9)
	-	(9)
Financing activities		
Issue of share capital	61	27
Purchase of own shares	(3,727)	-
Equity dividends paid	(12,223)	(10,328)
Increase/(reduction) in borrowings	9,000	(25,000)
Cash flows from financing activities	(6,889)	(35,301)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(3,884)	(21,326)
Opening cash and cash equivalents	8,940	30,266
Closing cash and cash equivalents	5,056	8,940

Company Statement of Changes in Equity

Year ended 31 March 2012

	Share capital £000	Share premium account £000	Capital redemption reserve £000	Retained earnings £000	Own shares £000	Total £000
At 1 April 2011	13,106	43,404	1,653	342,395	(1,896)	398,662
Total comprehensive loss for the year	–	–	–	(11,320)	–	(11,320)
Equity dividends paid	–	–	–	(12,223)	–	(12,223)
Issue of share capital	33	28	–	–	–	61
Purchase of own shares	–	–	–	–	(3,727)	(3,727)
Credit to equity for equity-settled share based payments	–	–	–	991	–	991
At 31 March 2012	13,139	43,432	1,653	319,843	(5,623)	372,444

The Company's share capital is disclosed in note 22.

The own shares balance represents amounts held in treasury and by the Employee Benefit Trust (see note 22).

Year ended 31 March 2011

	Share capital £000	Share premium account £000	Capital redemption reserve £000	Retained earnings £000	Own shares £000	Total £000
At 1 April 2010	13,099	43,384	1,653	351,596	(1,896)	407,836
Total comprehensive income for the year	–	–	–	63	–	63
Equity dividends paid	–	–	–	(10,328)	–	(10,328)
Issue of share capital	7	20	–	–	–	27
Credit to equity for equity-settled share based payments	–	–	–	1,064	–	1,064
At 31 March 2011	13,106	43,404	1,653	342,395	(1,896)	398,662

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2012

27. PROFIT FOR THE YEAR

As permitted by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006, the statement of comprehensive income of the Company is not presented as part of these financial statements. The loss for the year attributable to equity shareholders dealt with in the financial statements of the Company was £11.3 million (2011: profit of £0.1 million), largely arising following the fair value loss on derivatives of £8.0 million.

28. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The separate financial statements of the Company are presented as required by the Companies Act 2006. As permitted by that Act, the separate financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

The financial statements have been prepared on the historic cost basis except that derivative financial instruments are stated at fair value.

The Company's principal accounting policies are the same as those applied in the Group financial statements. See note 23 for details of share based payments affecting the Company.

Going concern

See note 2 for the review of going concern for the Group and the Company.

IFRIC 11, IFRS 2 Group and Treasury Share Transactions

The Company makes equity settled share based payments to certain employees of certain subsidiary undertakings. Equity settled share based payments that are made to the employees of the Company's subsidiaries are treated as increases in equity over the vesting period of the award, with a corresponding increase in the Company's investments in subsidiaries, based on an estimate of the number of shares that will eventually vest. This is the only addition to investment in subsidiaries in the current year. The Company does not have any employees.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2012

29. NON-CURRENT ASSETS

a) Plant, equipment and owner occupied property

	Freehold property £000	Leasehold improvements £000	Total £000
Cost			
At 31 March 2011 and 31 March 2012	1,735	17	1,752
Accumulated depreciation			
At 31 March 2011	(189)	(17)	(206)
Charge for the year	(35)	–	(35)
At 31 March 2012	(224)	(17)	(241)
Net book value			
At 31 March 2012	1,511	–	1,511
At 31 March 2011	1,546	–	1,546

b) Investments in subsidiary companies

	Investment in subsidiary undertakings £000
Cost	
At 31 March 2011	5,639
Additions	991
At 31 March 2012	6,630

Details of the Company's principal subsidiary companies at 31 March 2012 and 31 March 2011 are as follows:

Name of subsidiary	Place of incorporation ownership (or registration) and operation	Proportion of ownership interest %	Proportion of voting power held %	Principal activity
.Big Yellow Self Storage Company Limited	UK	100	100	Self storage
Big Yellow Self Storage Company 8 Limited	UK	100	100	Self storage
BYSSCo Limited	UK	100	100	Self storage
BYRCo Limited	UK	100	100	Property management
Big Yellow Construction Company Limited	UK	100	100	Construction management
.Big Yellow Self Storage (GP) Limited	UK	51	51	General Partner

Details of the Company's principal associate at 31 March 2012 and 31 March 2011 are as follows:

Name of subsidiary	Place of incorporation ownership (or registration) and operation	Proportion of ownership interest %	Proportion of voting power held %	Principal activity
Big Yellow Limited Partnership	UK	33.3	33.3	Self storage

30. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	31 March 2012 £000	31 March 2011 £000
Amounts owed by Group undertakings	659,443	664,162
Prepayments and accrued income	88	68
	659,531	664,230

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2012

31. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	31 March 2012 £000	31 March 2011 £000
Current		
Other payables	942	52
Accruals and deferred income	634	628
	1,576	680

32. BANK BORROWINGS AND FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Interest rate derivatives

The Company has two interest rate swaps in place at the year end; £120 million fixed at 2.99% (excluding the margin on the underlying debt instrument) until September 2015 and £70 million fixed at 3.93% (excluding the margin on the underlying debt instrument) until September 2015.

The floating rate at 31 March 2012 was paying a margin of 1.125% above one month LIBOR, the fixed rate debt was paying a weighted average margin of 1.16%.

The Group's policy on risk management is set out in the Report on Corporate Governance on page 28 and in note 18.

	31 March 2012 £000	31 March 2011 £000
Bank borrowings	284,000	275,000
Unamortised loan arrangement costs	(1,040)	(1,770)
	282,960	273,230

Maturity profile of financial liabilities

	2012 Financial liabilities £000	2011 Financial liabilities £000
Between one and two years	284,000	–
Between two and five years	–	275,000
Gross financial liabilities	284,000	275,000

The fair value of interest rate derivatives at 31 March 2012 was a liability of £15,748,000 (2011: liability of £7,783,000). See note 18 for detail of the interest rate profile of financial liabilities.

33. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The disclosure relating to the Company's financial instruments are disclosed in note 18 to the Group financial statements. These disclosures are relevant to the Company's bank borrowings and derivative financial instruments. In addition, the Company has other payables of £942,000 in the current year (2011: £52,000), which are held at amortised cost in the financial statements.

34. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Included within these financial statements are amounts owing from Group undertakings of £659,440,000 (2011: £664,162,000), including intercompany interest receivable of £12,506,000 (2011: £13,126,000).

Ten Year Summary

Year ended 31 March 2012

	2012 £000	2011 £000	2010 £000	2009 £000	2008 £000	2007 £000	2006 £000	2005 £000	2004 £000	2003 £000
Results										
Revenue	65,663	61,885	57,995	58,487	56,870	51,248	41,889	33,375	23,830	15,579
Operating profit/(loss) before gains and losses on property assets	35,079	32,058	29,068	30,946	29,342	27,067	21,645	15,030	4,719	(449)
Cash flow from operating activities	27,388	23,534	19,063	10,203	14,388	16,726	16,125	9,664	5,761	2,125
Profit/(loss) before taxation	(35,551)	6,901	10,209	(71,489)	102,618	152,837	118,547	42,836	1,243	(2,294)
Adjusted profit before taxation	23,643	20,207	16,514	13,791	15,006	14,233	12,601	7,791	n/d	n/d
Net assets	494,500	544,949	547,285	502,317	580,886	487,979	244,139	159,168	58,391	58,951
EPRA earnings per share	18.22p	15.49p	12.99p	11.89p	11.72p	10.01p	8.86p	5.53p	n/d	n/d
Declared total dividend per share	10.0p	9.0p	4.0p	nil p	9.5p	9.0p	5.0p	2.0p	1.05p	1.0p
Key statistics										
Number of stores open*	65	62	60	54	48	43	37	32	29	26
Sq ft occupied (000)*	2,458	2,130	1,915	1,775	1,850	1,835	1,672	1,470	1,268	875
Occupancy growth in year (000 sq ft)*	328	215	140	(75)	15	163	202	202	393	325
Number of customers*	36,300	32,800	30,500	28,500	30,500	30,100	27,800	24,600	20,400	13,800
Average no. of employees during the year	279	273	252	239	218	191	178	160	140	116

* - includes stores operating in Big Yellow Limited Partnership
Results to 2004 under UK GAAP, 2005 onwards under IFRS.
n/d – measure not disclosed in that year

The paper used in this report is produced with FSC mixed sources pulp which is partially recyclable, biodegradable, pH Neutral, heavy metal absence and acid-free. It is manufactured within a mill which complies with the international environmental ISO 14001 standard.

Fulmar Colour is FSC certified, PEFC certified and ISO 14001 certified showing that it is committed to all round excellence and improving environmental performance is an important part of this strategy. We aim to reduce at source the effect our operations have on the environment, and are committed to continual improvement, prevention of pollution and compliance with any legislation or industry standards.

Fulmar Colour is a Carbon Neutral Printing Company.



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