

BARCLAYS EQUITY HOLDINGS LIMITED

STRATEGIC REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Business review and principal activities

The principal activity of Barclays Equity Holdings Limited is to act as an investment holding company. The Company has been repurposed within the Barclays Group to act as an investment holding company for the principal investments area.

Business performance

The results of the Company show a loss after tax of £4,503,000 (2019: profit of £8,394,000) for the year. The Company has net assets of £610,184,000 (2019: £494,687,000). Net cash outflow from operating activities for 2020 was £23,463,000 (2019: £17,799,000).

Future outlook

The Company has been repurposed within the Barclays Group to act as a holding company for equity investments. The Directors have reviewed the Company's forecasts and considers it to be satisfactory for the year. The forecasts show that the Company can secure adequate capital going forward.

Principal risks & uncertainties

The Company is exposed to internal and external risk of ongoing activities. These risks are managed as part of the Company's business model.

Whilst the full direct and indirect impact of the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak remains uncertain, a number of central banks and governments have extended financial stimulus packages as a result of the significant negative impact on GDP. Concerns remain as to whether these policy tools will counter anticipated macro-economic risks and a prolongation of the outbreak could significantly adversely affect economic growth, affect specific industries or countries. In addition, an escalation in geopolitical tensions or increased use of protectionist measures may also negatively impact the Company's business.

Key performance indicators

The Directors of Barclays PLC manage the group's operations on a business cluster basis. For this reason, the Company's Directors believe that analysis using key performance indicators for the Company is not necessary or appropriate for an understanding of the development, performance or position of the business of the Company. The development, performance and position of the relevant business cluster, which includes the Company, is discussed in the Barclays PLC 2020 Annual Report, which does not form part of this report.

Section 172(1) statement

The Directors have acted in the way that they considered, in good faith, would be most likely to promote the success of the Company for the benefit of its member as a whole and this section forms our section 172 disclosure, describing how, in doing so, the Directors considered the matters set out in section 172(1)(a) to (f) of the Companies Act 2006. The Directors also took into account the views and interests of a wider set of stakeholders, including regulators.

The Directors have acted in a way that they considered, in good faith, to be most likely to promote the success of the Company for the benefit of its member as a whole, and in doing so had regard, amongst other matters, to:

- the likely consequences of any decision in the long term;
- the need to foster the Company's business relationships with suppliers, customers and others;
- the impact of the Company's operations on the community and the environment;
- the desirability of the Company's maintaining a reputation for high standards of business conduct;
- and to act fairly between members of the Company.

BARCLAYS EQUITY HOLDINGS LIMITED

STRATEGIC REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Section 172(1) statement (continued)

You can find out more about who the Barclays Group's stakeholders are, how management and /or the Directors engaged with them, the key issues raised and actions taken on pages 18 to 19 of the Barclays PLC Annual Report 2020 which are incorporated by reference into this statement.

Considering this broad range of interests is an important part of the way the Board makes decisions, although in balancing those different perspectives it won't always be possible to deliver everyone's desired outcome.

How does the board engage with stakeholders?

Depending on the decision in question, the relevance of each particular stakeholder group may differ, and equally the Board adopts a variety of methods of engagement with different stakeholder groups. The Board will sometimes engage directly with certain stakeholders on certain issues, but the size and distribution of our stakeholders and of the Company means that stakeholder engagement often takes place at an operational level.

In addition, to ensure a more efficient and effective approach, certain stakeholder engagement is led at Barclays Group level, in particular where matters are of group-wide significance or have the potential to impact the reputation of the Barclays Group.

The Board considers and discusses information from across the organisation to help it understand the impact of the Company's operations on, and the interests and views of our key stakeholders. It also reviews strategy, financial and operational performance, as well as information covering areas such as key risks, and legal compliance. This information is provided to the Board through reports sent in advance of each Board meeting, and through in-person presentations.

As a result of these activities, the Board has an overview of engagement with stakeholders, and other relevant factors, which enables the Directors to comply with their legal duty under section 172 of the Companies Act 2006.

The following are some examples of how the Directors have had regard to the matters set out in sections 172 (1)(a)-(f) when discharging their section 172 duties and the effect of that on certain of the decisions taken by them.

Engagement in action

COVID-19

Throughout almost the entirety of 2020, as the pandemic unfurled, the primary focus of the Company and the Board has been on (i) the operational and financial resilience of the bank to ensure the Company has been able to maximise its support for the economy and society during a time of such challenge; (ii) supporting customers and clients to relieve financial pressure whilst at the same time working with the UK Government to deliver programmes to help businesses; and (iii) protecting the health and well-being of colleagues (the 'COVID-19 Priorities'). The Board has demonstrated leadership and oversight during the pandemic, and this continues at the date of this report.

This report was approved by the Board on 3 November 2021 and signed on its behalf.

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James Ferrier

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J C Ferrier

Director

Date: 9/11/2021

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