



Stepping into our opportunity

Financial statements

Financial statements

- 129 Independent auditor's report
- 137 Consolidated statement of profit or loss and comprehensive income
- 138 Consolidated statement of financial position
- 139 Consolidated statement of changes in equity
- 140 Consolidated statement of cash flows
- 141 Notes to the consolidated financial statements
- 173 Company statement of financial position
- 174 Company statement of changes in equity
- 175 Company notes to the financial statements

129–175

Other information

- 179 Glossary of terms
- 180 Shareholder information

179–180

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ALFA FINANCIAL SOFTWARE HOLDINGS PLC

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Alfa Financial Software Holdings PLC (the 'parent company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 December 2021, which comprise the Consolidated statement of profit or loss and comprehensive income, Consolidated statement of financial position, Consolidated statement of changes in equity, Consolidated statement of cash flows, Company statement of financial position, Company statement of changes in equity and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in the preparation of the group financial statements is applicable law and UK-adopted International Accounting Standards. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in the preparation of the parent company financial statements is applicable law and United Kingdom

Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion:

- the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent company's affairs as at 31 December 2021 and of the group's profit for the year then ended;
- the group financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with UK-adopted International Accounting Standards;
- the parent company financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and parent company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard as applied to listed public interest entities and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Summary of our audit approach

Key audit matters

Commentary

Group

- Revenue recognition – software and services revenue from implementation projects

Parent Company

- None

Materiality

Group

- Overall materiality: £1,140,000 (2020: £893,000)
- Performance materiality: £859,000 (2020: £670,000)

Parent Company

- Overall materiality: £1,120,000 (2020: £882,000)
- Performance materiality: £846,000 (2020: £662,000)

Scope

Our audit procedures (excluding analytical procedures at group level) covered 100% of revenue, 98% of total assets and 99% of profit before tax.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ALFA FINANCIAL SOFTWARE HOLDINGS PLC CONTINUED

Key audit matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in our audit of the group and parent company financial statements of the current period and include the most significant assessed risks of material misstatement (whether or not due to fraud) we identified, including those which had the greatest effect on the overall audit strategy, the allocation of resources in the audit and directing the efforts of the engagement team. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the group and parent company financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

Revenue recognition – software and services revenue from implementation projects

Key audit matter description

The 2021 group financial statements disclose the following types of revenue:

- Software £13.6m (2020: £20.0m)
- Services £46.1m (2020: £40.8m)
- Subscription £23.5m (2020: £18.1m)

The Group's operations include complex software implementation programmes and service activities. The delivery of these contracts typically extends over more than one reporting period, and often the original project plans are amended, as the implementation progresses. As such, in recognising revenue, management has to apply a number of judgements to allocate the overall transaction price across the multiple performance obligations that have been identified within these projects.

In addition, due to the structure of the Group's licence and maintenance contractual arrangements, the Group also receives one-off licence uplifts or maintenance and right to use termination payments which need to be accounted for in accordance with IFRS 15 "Revenue from contracts with customers".

We consider revenue recognition for software and services revenue for implementation projects to be a key audit matter due to:

- The level of judgement involved in the identification of distinct performance obligations and subsequent measurement of revenue and timing of recognition.
- The degree of estimation involved in determining some inputs for inclusion in software/services implementation revenue calculations.
- The potential risk of fraud in revenue recognition.
- The allocation of audit resources and effort.

Further details on revenue recognition are included in note 1.5 "Accounting policies – Revenue recognition", note 2 "Critical accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions" and note 5 "Revenue from contracts with customers".

How the matter was addressed in the audit

In response to this key audit matter, the audit procedures we performed included:

- Obtaining an understanding of the processes and controls around revenue recognition.
- Reviewing the group's revenue recognition policy, including supporting accounting papers, to assess whether performance obligations have been appropriately identified and revenue recognised in line with IFRS 15.
- For software implementation revenue (software and services) we:
 - Assessed management's analysis of the performance obligations within individual contracts and of how the 5 steps in IFRS 15 should be applied.
 - Audited the revenue recognition calculations for a sample of the most significant contracts to assess whether the methodology applied was consistent with the group's revenue recognition policy and across projects. This included testing inputs in the calculations to supporting evidence.
 - Verified the explanations and data provided by management by holding discussions with project managers regarding the key assumptions and judgements made, in particular around the estimates of the projected costs to complete and the completeness of any contract arrangements, including any unusual terms and contract modifications.
 - Tested the completeness and accuracy of timesheet data as some performance obligations are recognised based on days worked.
 - Challenged management on the appropriateness of estimates made in the IFRS 15 calculations. This included assessing the results of management's analysis of the sensitivity of the calculations to these estimates.
 - Assessed key judgements made on specific contracts including management's treatment of any contract modifications and whether these were recognised appropriately in line with IFRS 15.
- Auditing the disclosures in the financial statements and evaluated whether the policy for revenue recognition is appropriately explained and critical judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty are appropriately disclosed.

Key observations

Disclosure of the impact of the key judgements and estimates applied in respect of revenue recognition are disclosed in note 2 to the financial statements. Based on the results of the audit procedures outlined above, we have no observations to report.

No key audit matters were identified in respect of the Parent Company.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ALFA FINANCIAL SOFTWARE HOLDINGS PLC CONTINUED

Our application of materiality

When establishing our overall audit strategy, we set certain thresholds which help us to determine the nature, timing and extent of our audit procedures. When evaluating whether the effects of misstatements, both individually and on the financial statements as a whole, could reasonably influence the economic decisions of the users we take into account the qualitative nature and the size of the misstatements. Based on our professional judgement, we determined materiality as follows:

	Group	Parent company
Overall materiality	£1,140,000 (2020: £893,000)	£1,120,000 (2020: £882,000)
Basis for determining overall materiality	5% of profit before tax (2020: 5% of profit before tax adjusted to exclude one off licence revenue associated with a five-year contract extension)	1% of net assets, capped at 99% of group overall materiality (2020: 1% of net assets, capped at 99% of group overall materiality)
Rationale for benchmark applied	As a listed entity, profit before taxation is considered the most appropriate benchmark for users of the financial statements.	Net assets is considered to be the most appropriate benchmark for the parent company as it is primarily a holding company.
Performance materiality	£859,000 (2020: £670,000)	£846,000 (2020: £662,000)
Basis for determining performance materiality	75% of overall materiality	75% of overall materiality
Reporting of misstatements to the Audit Committee	Misstatements in excess of £57,000 and misstatements below that threshold that, in our view, warranted reporting on qualitative grounds.	Misstatements in excess of £56,000 and misstatements below that threshold that, in our view, warranted reporting on qualitative grounds.

An overview of the scope of our audit

The group consists of 8 components, located in the following countries;

- United Kingdom
- United States of America
- Germany
- Australia
- New Zealand

Full scope audits were performed for 4 components, targeted audit procedures for 2 components and analytical procedures at group level for the remaining 2 components. The coverage achieved by our audit procedures was:

	Number of components	Revenue	Total assets	Profit before tax
Full scope audit	4	74%	90%	93%
Targeted audit procedures	2	26%	8%	6%
Analytical procedures at group level	2	0%	2%	1%
Total	8	100%	100%	100%

Targeted audit procedures were performed on components which are not financially significant by size but include a significant risk. The targeted audit procedures included testing of revenue and the associated balance sheet amounts as described in the key audit matter section above.

All audit work was completed by the group audit team and no component auditors were used in our audit.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate. Our evaluation of the directors' assessment of the group's and parent company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting included:

- Checking the arithmetic accuracy of the forecasts that form the basis of the directors' going concern assessment and Viability statement
- Corroborating the cash balance that is used as the starting point for the forecasts by confirming to bank confirmations
- Challenging management's forecasts and comparing the 2022 budget to YTD results and order book
- Assessing the assumptions made in management's stress-testing
- Completing further sensitivity analysis and stress-testing
- Auditing the disclosures in the financial statements in respect of going concern and viability

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group's or the parent company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

In relation to the entity reporting on how they have applied the UK Corporate Governance Code, we have nothing material to add or draw attention to in relation to the directors' statement in the financial statements about whether the directors considered it appropriate to adopt the going concern basis of accounting.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions 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.

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

- the information given in the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements and those reports have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements;
- the information about internal control and risk management systems in relation to financial reporting processes and about share capital structures, given in compliance with rules 7.2.5 and 7.2.6 in the Disclosure Rules and Transparency Rules sourcebook made by the Financial Conduct Authority (the FCA Rules), is consistent with the financial statements and has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements; and
- information about the company's corporate governance code and practices and about its administrative, management and supervisory bodies and their committees complies with rules 7.2.2, 7.2.3 and 7.2.7 of the FCA Rules.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ALFA FINANCIAL SOFTWARE HOLDINGS PLC CONTINUED

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in:

- the Strategic Report or the Directors' Report; or
- the information about internal control and risk management systems in relation to financial reporting processes and about share capital structures, given in compliance with rules 7.2.5 and 7.2.6 of the FCA Rules.

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the parent company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent company financial statements 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; or
- a corporate governance statement has not been prepared by the parent company.

Corporate governance statement

We have reviewed the directors' statement in relation to going concern, longer-term viability and that part of the Corporate Governance Statement relating to the parent company's compliance with the provisions of the UK Corporate Governance Code specified for our review by the Listing Rules.

Based on the work undertaken as part of our audit, we have concluded that each of the following elements of the Corporate Governance Statement is materially consistent with the financial statements and our knowledge obtained during the audit:

- Directors' statement with regards the appropriateness of adopting the going concern basis of accounting and any material uncertainties identified set out on pages 52 to 53;
- Directors' explanation as to their assessment of the group's prospects, the period this assessment covers and why the period is appropriate set out on pages 52 to 53;
- Director's statement on whether it has a reasonable expectation that the group will be able to continue in operation and meets its liabilities set out on page 53;
- Directors' statement on fair, balanced and understandable set out on page 98;
- Board's confirmation that it has carried out a robust assessment of the emerging and principal risks set out on pages 46 to 51;
- Section of the annual report that describes the review of effectiveness of risk management and internal control systems set out on page 98; and,
- Section describing the work of the audit committee set out on pages 94 to 99.

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement set out on page 127, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

Irregularities are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The objectives of our audit are to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding compliance with laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, to perform audit procedures to help identify instances of non-compliance with other laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements, and to respond appropriately to identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations identified during the audit.

In relation to fraud, the objectives of our audit are to identify and assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud, to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud through designing and implementing appropriate responses and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit.

However, it is the primary responsibility of management, with the oversight of those charged with governance, to ensure that the entity's operations are conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations and for the prevention and detection of fraud.

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud, the group audit engagement team:

- obtained an understanding of the nature of the industry and sector, including the legal and regulatory frameworks that the group and parent company operate in and how the group and parent company are complying with the legal and regulatory frameworks;
- inquired of management, and those charged with governance, about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, including any known actual, suspected or alleged instances of fraud;
- discussed matters about non-compliance with laws and regulations and how fraud might occur including assessment of how and where the financial statements may be susceptible to fraud.

The most significant laws and regulations were determined as follows:

Legislation/Regulation	Additional audit procedures performed by the audit engagement team included:
UK-adopted IAS, FRS 102 and Companies Act 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation; • Completion of disclosure checklists to identify areas of non-compliance.
Tax compliance regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspection of advice received from internal / external tax advisors; • Involvement of a tax specialist in the audit of tax; • Consideration of whether any matter identified during the audit required reporting to an appropriate authority outside the entity.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ALFA FINANCIAL SOFTWARE HOLDINGS PLC CONTINUED

The areas that we identified as being susceptible to material misstatement due to fraud were:

Risk	Audit procedures performed by the audit engagement team:
Revenue recognition	The audit procedures performed in relation to revenue recognition are documented in the key audit matter section of our audit report.
Capitalisation of development costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing the Investment Committee meeting minutes for any projects which may indicate the understatement of amounts capitalised during the period; • Interviewing relevant personnel to understand the projects capitalised in the period and the nature of projects not capitalised; • Verifying the amounts capitalised during the year by reference to underlying payroll records and timesheet data.
Management override of controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; • Assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; • Evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

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

Other matters which we are required to address

Following the recommendation of the audit committee, we were appointed by management in July 2020 to audit the financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2020 and subsequent financial periods.

The period of total uninterrupted consecutive appointments is 2 years, covering the years ending 31 December 2020 and 31 December 2021.

The non-audit services prohibited by the FRC's Ethical Standard were not provided to the group or the parent company and we remain independent of the group and the parent company in conducting our audit.

Our audit opinion is consistent with the additional report to the audit committee in accordance with ISAs (UK).

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006.

Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Graham Ricketts (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of RSM UK Audit LLP, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
25 Farringdon Street London, United Kingdom, EC4A 4AB
8 March 2022

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

£m	Note	2021	2020 (restated)
Continuing operations			
Revenue	5	83.2	78.9
Cost of sales*		(29.0)	(27.0)
Gross profit		54.2	51.9
Sales, general and administrative expenses*		(30.0)	(28.5)
Other income		0.5	0.5
Operating profit	6	24.7	23.9
Share of net loss of joint venture	19	(0.1)	–
Profit before net finance costs and tax		24.6	23.9
Finance income	10	–	0.1
Finance expense	10	(0.8)	(0.8)
Profit before taxation		23.8	23.2
Taxation	11	(4.6)	(2.9)
Profit for the financial year		19.2	20.3
Other comprehensive income:			
Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations	27	(0.1)	0.1
Other comprehensive (loss)/income net of tax		(0.1)	0.1
Total comprehensive income for the year		19.1	20.4
Earnings per share (in pence) for profit attributable to the ordinary equity holders of the Company			
Basic	12	6.49	6.93
Diluted	12	6.39	6.79
Weighted average no. of shares (m) – basic	12	296.7	293.8
Weighted average no. of shares (m) – diluted	12	301.5	300.1

* To better reflect the nature and function of certain expenses, changes have been made to the classification and allocation of expense line items. The comparative disclosures for the December 2020 reporting period have also been amended to reflect a fair base for comparability. Costs previously classified as implementation and support expenses and research and product development expenses of £11.9m and £15.1m, respectively, have been presented as cost of sales. In addition, £3.4m of implementation and support expenses and £3.8m of research and product development expenses have been reclassified to sales, general and administrative expenses. The main items affected are administrative salary costs, computer costs and property related expenses. These changes have had no impact on the total expenses or the profit before tax that were disclosed at the end of December 2020.

The above consolidated statement of profit or loss and comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

£m	Note	2021	2020
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Goodwill	14	24.7	24.7
Other intangible assets	15	2.4	2.2
Property, plant and equipment	16	0.8	0.9
Right-of-use assets	17	14.4	14.8
Deferred tax assets	18	1.8	1.8
Interests in joint venture	19	0.3	0.4
Total non-current assets		44.4	44.8
Current assets			
Trade receivables	20	6.0	5.8
Accrued income	21	6.3	5.0
Prepayments	21	3.2	2.1
Other receivables	21	1.0	0.8
Cash and cash equivalents	22	23.1	37.0
Total current assets		39.6	50.7
Total assets		84.0	95.5
Liabilities and equity			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	23	9.3	8.1
Corporation tax	23	1.8	1.3
Lease liabilities	24	1.9	1.7
Contract liabilities	23	11.0	7.0
Total current liabilities		24.0	18.1
Non-current liabilities			
Lease liabilities	24	15.2	15.8
Provisions for other liabilities	25	1.4	1.4
Total non-current liabilities		16.6	17.2
Total liabilities		40.6	35.3
Capital and reserves			
Share capital	26	0.3	0.3
Translation reserve	27	–	0.1
Own shares	28	(3.4)	–
Retained earnings		46.5	59.8
Total equity		43.4	60.2
Total liabilities and equity		84.0	95.5

The above consolidated statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

The consolidated financial statements on pages 137 to 172 were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 8 March 2022 and signed on its behalf.

Andrew Denton
Chief Executive Officer

Duncan Magrath
Chief Financial Officer

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

£m	Note	Share capital	Own shares	Translation reserve	Retained earnings	Equity attributable to owners of the parent
Balance as at 1 January 2020		0.3	–	–	82.0	82.3
Profit for the financial year		–	–	–	20.3	20.3
Other comprehensive income		–	–	0.1	–	0.1
Total comprehensive income for the year		–	–	0.1	20.3	20.4
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:						
Equity-settled share-based payment schemes	29	–	–	–	1.3	1.3
Equity-settled share-based payment schemes – deferred tax impact	18	–	–	–	0.4	0.4
Dividends	31	–	–	–	(44.2)	(44.2)
Balance as at 31 December 2020		0.3	–	0.1	59.8	60.2
Profit for the financial year		–	–	–	19.2	19.2
Other comprehensive loss		–	–	(0.1)	–	(0.1)
Total comprehensive income for the year		–	–	(0.1)	19.2	19.1
Transactions with owners in their capacity as owners:						
Equity-settled share-based payment schemes	29	–	–	–	1.1	1.1
Equity-settled share-based payment schemes – deferred tax impact	18	–	–	–	0.3	0.3
Dividends	31	–	–	–	(32.7)	(32.7)
Own shares issued	28	–	1.2	–	(1.2)	–
Own shares acquired	28	–	(4.6)	–	–	(4.6)
Balance as at 31 December 2021		0.3	(3.4)	–	46.5	43.4

The above consolidated statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

£m	Note	2021	2020
Cash flows from operating activities			
Profit before tax		23.8	23.2
Net finance costs		0.8	0.7
Share of net loss from joint venture		0.1	–
Operating profit		24.7	23.9
Adjustments:			
Depreciation	6/16/17	2.3	2.2
Amortisation	6/15	0.8	0.8
Share-based payment charge	29	1.5	1.5
Loss on disposal of assets		–	0.1
Movement in provisions	25	–	0.5
Movement in working capital:			
Movement in contract liabilities	23	4.1	(1.9)
Movement in trade and other receivables	20/21	(2.8)	0.6
Movement in trade and other payables (excluding contract liabilities)	23	0.7	2.4
Cash generated from operations		31.3	30.1
Interest element on lease payments	10/24	(0.8)	(0.8)
Income taxes paid	11	(3.8)	(3.8)
Net cash generated from operating activities		26.7	25.5
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	16	(0.3)	(0.2)
Purchases of computer software	15	(0.1)	(0.1)
Payments for internally developed software	15	(0.9)	(0.7)
Investment in joint venture	19	–	(0.3)
Loan to joint venture	19	–	(0.1)
Interest received	10	–	0.1
Net cash used in investing activities		(1.3)	(1.3)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Dividends paid to Company shareholders		(32.7)	(44.2)
Principal element on lease payments	24	(1.9)	(1.7)
Purchase of own shares		(4.6)	–
Cash used in financing activities		(39.2)	(45.9)
Net decrease in cash		(13.8)	(21.7)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	22	37.0	58.8
Effect of foreign exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents		(0.1)	(0.1)
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	22	23.1	37.0

The above consolidated statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1. Summary of significant accounting policies

This note provides a list of the significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these consolidated financial statements. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated. The financial statements are for the Group, consisting of Alfa Financial Software Holdings PLC (Alfa or the Company), its subsidiaries and joint venture, and are presented to the nearest million unless otherwise stated. The change in presentation from thousands to millions has been done to make the financial statements clearer for the users.

The principal activity of the Group is to provide software solutions and consultancy services to the auto and equipment finance industry in the United Kingdom, United States of America, Europe and Australasia.

1.1 Basis of preparation

Compliance with IFRS

The consolidated financial statements of the Group have been prepared in accordance with UK-adopted international accounting standards and Company Law. The change in the basis of preparation from 2020 is required by UK Company Law as a result of the UK's exit from the EU on 31 January 2020 and the cessation of the transition period on 31 December 2020. This change does not constitute a change in accounting policy, rather a change in the framework which is required to group the use of IFRS in company law. There is no impact on the recognition, measurement or disclosure between the two frameworks in the period reported.

Historical cost convention

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, other than the revaluation of financial assets and financial liabilities recorded at fair value through profit or loss.

Going concern

The financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis. The Group continues to be cash-generative and the Directors believe that the Group has a resilient business model. The Group meets its day-to-day working capital requirements through its cash reserves generated from operating activities. The Group's forecasts and projections, taking account of reasonably possible changes in trading performance, show that the Group has sufficient cash reserves to continue to operate for a period of not less than 12 months from the date of these financial statements.

The going concern assessment also includes downside stress testing in line with FRC guidance which demonstrates that even in the most extreme downside conditions considered reasonably possible, given the existing level of cash held, the Group would continue to be able to meet its obligations as they fall due, without the need for substantive mitigating actions.

On this basis, whilst it is acknowledged that there is continued uncertainty over future economic conditions, the Directors consider it appropriate to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

New and amended standards adopted by the Group

The Group applies for the first time the following new standard:

- Amendments to IFRS 16 Leases: COVID 19-Related Rent Concessions (issued on 28 May 2020).

By adopting the above, there has been no material impact on the financial statements.

New standards, amendments and interpretations not yet adopted

At the date of authorisation of these financial statements, the Group has not applied the following new and revised IFRS Standards that have been issued but are not yet effective:

- Amendments to IFRS 3 Business Combinations; IAS 16 Property, Plant and Equipment; IAS 37 Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets; and Annual Improvements 2018-2020 (All issued 14 May 2020, effective from 1 January 2022).

The directors do not expect that the adoption of the Standards listed above will have a material impact on the financial statements of the Group.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 CONTINUED

1. Summary of significant accounting policies continued

1.2 Group structure

Basis of consolidation

Subsidiaries are all entities over which the Group has control. The Group controls an entity when the Group is exposed to, or has rights to, variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power over the entity. Subsidiaries are fully consolidated from the date on which control is transferred to the Group.

Unless otherwise stated, subsidiaries have share capital consisting solely of ordinary shares, and the proportion of ownership interests held equals the voting rights held by the Group. The country of incorporation or registration is also each subsidiary's principal place of business.

All intra-Group transactions, balances, income and expenses are eliminated on consolidation. All subsidiaries have a 31 December year end.

In the current period it was concluded that the Group exercises control over the employee benefit trust because it is exposed to, and has a right to, variable returns from this trust and is able to use its power over the trust to affect those returns. Therefore the trust has been consolidated by the Group in the current period. The impact of consolidation of the trust in the prior period was immaterial.

Joint arrangements

A joint arrangement is a contractual arrangement whereby the Group and other parties undertake an economic activity that is subject to joint control; that is, when the relevant activities that significantly affect the investee's returns require the unanimous consent of the parties sharing control.

Joint control is the contractually agreed sharing of control of an arrangement, and exists only when decisions about the activities that significantly affect the arrangement's returns require the unanimous consent of the parties sharing control. Judgement is required in determining this classification through an evaluation of the facts and circumstances arising from each individual arrangement. Joint arrangements are classified as either joint operations or joint ventures based on the rights and obligations of the parties to the arrangement. In joint operations, the parties have rights to the assets and obligations for the liabilities relating to the arrangement, whereas in joint ventures, the parties have rights to the net assets of the arrangement.

Alfa only has one joint venture, namely Alfa iQ, which was formed in May 2020. The investment in the joint venture is accounted for using the equity method. The Group's share of the joint venture's net profit/ (loss) is based on its most recent financial statement drawn up to the Group's balance sheet date. The total carrying value of investment in joint venture represents the cost of the investment, including loans which form part of the net investment in the joint venture, plus the share of post-acquisition retained earnings and any other movements in reserves less any impairment in the value of the investment.

The carrying values of joint ventures are reviewed on a regular basis and if there is objective evidence that an impairment in value has occurred as a result of one or more events during the period, the investment is impaired. The Group's share of the joint venture's losses in excess of its interest in that joint venture is not recognised to the extent that the Group has incurred legal or constructive obligations or made payments on behalf of the joint venture. Unrealised gains arising from transactions with joint ventures are eliminated against the investment to the extent of the Group's interest in the investee. Unrealised losses are eliminated in the same way, but only to the extent that there is no evidence of impairment.

Loans to the joint venture are measured at fair value on initial recognition, and subsequently carried at amortised cost. Any surplus between the nominal and fair value of the loan is recognised as an investment in the joint venture.

1.3 Segment reporting

Operating and reporting segments are reported in a manner consistent with the internal reporting provided to the Chief Operating Decision Maker (CODM). The Group's Chief Executive Officer (CEO), who is responsible for allocating resources and assessing performance, has been identified as the CODM.

The CODM regularly reviews the Group's operating results in order to assess performance and to allocate resources. The CODM considers the business from a product perspective and, therefore, recognises one operating and reporting segment, being the sale of software and related services. The Group splits revenue by type of project but reports operating results on a consolidated basis, as presented to the CODM, along with the required entity wide disclosure.

The Group discloses revenue split by type of project being Subscription, Software and Services.

- a. Subscription revenues include recurring revenues paid on a monthly or annual basis, including subscription licence revenues, maintenance and cloud hosting.
- b. Software revenues include revenues from recognition of customised licence revenue, one-off licence fees and any development revenues.
- c. Services revenues are revenues from any work done for customers including pre-implementation, implementation work, and ongoing services, but excludes any revenue from development work which is disclosed in Software.

To better reflect the nature and type of revenue, changes have been made in 2021 to the classification and allocation of revenue line items. The comparative disclosures for the December 2020 reporting period have also been amended to reflect a fair base for comparability. These changes have had no impact on the total revenue or the profit before tax that were disclosed at the end of December 2020.

See note 1.5 for details of our revenue recognition accounting policy and note 2 for the critical accounting judgements and estimates in relation to revenue recognition.

1.4 Foreign currency translation

Functional currency

Items included in the consolidated financial statements of each of the Group's subsidiaries are measured using their functional currency. The functional currency of the parent and each subsidiary is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the entity operates. See applicable exchange rates used in 2021 and 2020 below:

	2021		2020	
	Closing	Average	Closing	Average
USD	1.35	1.38	1.37	1.28
EUR	1.19	1.16	1.11	1.13
NZD	1.98	1.95	1.89	1.98
AUD	1.86	1.83	1.77	1.86

Presentation currency

The consolidated financial statements are presented in pounds sterling. Alfa's functional and presentation currency is pounds sterling.

Group companies

The results and financial position of foreign operations (none of which has the currency of a hyperinflationary economy) that have a functional currency different from the presentation currency are translated into the presentation currency as follows:

- Assets and liabilities for each consolidated statement of financial position presented are translated at the closing rate at the date of that consolidated statement of financial position;
- Income and expenses for each statement of profit or loss and statement of comprehensive income are translated at average exchange rates (unless this is not a reasonable approximation of the cumulative effect of the rates prevailing on the transaction dates, in which case income and expenses are translated at the dates of the transactions); and
- All resulting exchange differences are recognised in other comprehensive income.

On consolidation, exchange differences arising from the translation of any net investment in foreign entities are recognised in other comprehensive income. When a foreign operation is sold the associated exchange differences are reclassified to profit or loss, as part of the gain or loss on sale.

Foreign currency transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into the respective functional currencies using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Foreign exchange differences arising from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation at the reporting date of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in profit or loss. See applicable exchange rates used by the Group above.

1.5 Revenue recognition

The Group derives revenue by type of project being Subscription, Software and Services (as disclosed in note 1.3).

- Subscription revenue which includes the periodic rights to use Alfa Systems, periodic maintenance, subscription (including cloud hosting) and one-off revenue relating to catch-up periodic maintenance;
- Software revenue which includes development revenue (part of the customised licence revenue), options over the right to use Alfa Systems, and one-off licence fees; and
- Services revenue which includes software implementation services.

The Group provides the right to use, software development services, core implementation services and ongoing support of its product, Alfa Systems. The Group's contractual arrangements contain multiple deliverables or services, such as the development or customisation of the software to the customer's requirements, implementation services such as migration of data and testing and certain project management services.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 CONTINUED

1. Summary of significant accounting policies continued

Alfa assesses whether there are distinct performance obligations at the start of each contract and throughout the performance of the implementation, development and services projects and maintenance period. These performance obligations are laid out below. Any one contract may include a single performance obligation or a combination of those listed below:

a. Software implementation services

Where implementation services are considered to be distinct, i.e. when relatively straightforward, do not require additional development services and could be performed by an external third party, the implementation services are accounted for as a separate performance obligation from any development services.

When a customer is in the process of implementing the software, the transaction price is allocated to this based on the stand-alone selling prices (derived from standard day rates) and is recognised over time based on the effort incurred, limited to the amount to which Alfa has a right to payment. For customers under the Group's subscription based contracts that are undergoing implementation, revenue for software implementation services is deemed to be distinct from any other performance obligation and is recognised based on a percentage of completion basis.

When the type of services provided are ongoing services, the transaction price is deemed to be the actual day rate, and revenue is recognised at a point in time as the service is provided.

b. Development services and licence services (the customised licence)

The second performance obligation is the granting of a right to use Alfa Systems, which includes the delivery of the related software licence and any development efforts which change the underlying code.

During the initial phase of implementing the software, the total revenue attributable to this performance obligation is estimated at the outset of the relevant software implementation project and recognised as the effort is expended, on a percentage-of-completion basis, limited to the amount of revenue to which Alfa has the right to payment. A percentage-of-completion basis has been used because customers obtain the ability to benefit from the product from the start of the implementation project, the development or customisation of the asset is tailored to the customer's specific requirements; and the customer is entitled to the benefits of the efforts as at the date the efforts are delivered, so recognition over time is appropriate.

Revenue attributable to development services is valued using the residual value method as there are no stand-alone selling prices which are observable as each project is customised. For customers under the Group's subscription based contracts that are undergoing implementation, revenue for development services is deemed to be distinct from any other performance obligation and is recognised based on a percentage of completion basis.

Once the customer is already using the software and the services provided are ongoing development, the transaction price is deemed to be the actual day rate and revenue is recognised at a point in time as the development service is provided.

c. Option over the right to use Alfa Systems

In the event that customers have to pay periodic maintenance fees in order to keep using Alfa Systems, a component of these future maintenance fees is attributable to the right to use the software. In these circumstances the licence granted by Alfa is considered to renew in future periods. There may be a material right in respect of discounts in future periods. In order to ascribe a value to this option, management annualise the value of the customised licence performance obligation and compare it to the annual right to use software performance obligation post go live.

The value of this option is built up from the start of the implementation project in line with the percentage-of-completion of development revenue described in 1.5(b) above. Following the completion of the implementation project, the value of this option is recognised evenly over the expected remaining customer life.

d. Periodic right to use Alfa Systems

When a customer pays its maintenance fee annually, this performance obligation represents the proportion of this fee which relates to the periodic option to renew the right to use Alfa Systems. If there is the right of clawback of the annual right to use, such amounts are recognised throughout the annual period. If there is no right of clawback, then the annual right to use amount is recognised in full when there is a right of collection.

When a customer pays for its maintenance fee as part of a subscription contract (see section 1.5f below), it will not be treated as a separate performance obligation (and will instead be part of the subscription amount).

e. Periodic maintenance amounts

This represents the stand-alone selling price of the ongoing support or maintenance of Alfa Systems which is recognised throughout the period over which the services are delivered.

f. Subscription amounts

Certain of the Group's implementation and service contracts include a subscription payment mechanism. This represents a monthly fee charged to the customer covering one or more of the following performance obligations; the provision of monthly hosting services; the monthly periodic right to use Alfa Systems and the provision of monthly maintenance services (when this becomes applicable to the customer). The monthly payments are recognised as revenue in the period to which they relate. This reflects the underlying performance obligations of the Group and termination rights of the customer.

g. One-off revenue amounts

From time to time, the Group is entitled to receive one-off licence revenue from its customers as they increase the number of contracts on their version of Alfa Systems. Additionally, there are times when catch-up periodic maintenance amounts are entitled to be received by the Group, also as a result of the increased number of contracts. Generally this revenue is recognised at the point in time it is invoiced, or becomes contractually payable, reflecting the fact that the Group has no remaining performance obligations to satisfy.

Capitalised sales incentive costs

The Group incentivises its sales force for securing sales. In line with IFRS 15, these costs are capitalised and are amortised in line with the percentage of completion of the software implementation project.

Costs to fulfil contracts

The Group has recognised an asset of £1.1m in relation to employee costs to fulfil its long-term development contracts. These costs relate directly to the contracts, generate or enhance resources to be used to satisfy performance obligations in the future and are expected to be recovered. This asset is presented within prepayments in the Statement of Financial Position. These costs are amortised within cost of sales in line with the percentage of completion of the development project.

1.6 Operating expenses

Operating expenses include items such as personnel costs (including training and recruitment), cost of software not capitalised, research and development costs and other infrastructure expenses. These items have been grouped into the following categories for disclosure purposes:

- Cost of sales – This includes salaries and other direct costs associated with satisfying customer contracts and for developing software.
- Sales, general and administrative expenses – This includes all the residual operating costs.

1.7 Income tax

Taxation expense for the year comprises current and deferred tax recognised in the reporting period. Tax is recognised in profit and loss, except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity. Current or deferred taxation assets and liabilities are not discounted.

Current tax

The current income tax charge is calculated on the basis of the tax laws enacted or substantively enacted at the reporting date in the countries where the Group and its subsidiaries operate and generate taxable income. Management periodically evaluates positions taken in tax returns with respect to situations in which applicable tax regulation is subject to interpretation. It establishes provisions where appropriate on the basis of amounts expected to be paid to the tax authorities.

Deferred tax

Deferred income tax is recognised, using the liability method, on temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the Group's consolidated financial statements. However, the deferred income tax is not accounted for if it arises from initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction other than a business combination that at the time of the transaction affects neither accounting nor taxable profit or loss. Deferred income tax is determined using tax rates (and laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date and are expected to apply when the related deferred income tax asset is realised or the deferred income tax liability is settled.

Deferred income tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which the temporary differences can be utilised. Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to offset current tax assets against current tax liabilities and when the deferred income taxes, assets and liabilities relate to income taxes levied by the same taxation authority on either the taxable entity or different taxable entities where there is an intention to settle the balances on a net basis.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 CONTINUED

1. Summary of significant accounting policies continued

1.8 Leases

Alfa enters into lease contracts in respect of various properties and motor vehicles. These rental contracts are typically made for fixed periods of two to ten years, and sometimes have extension options. Lease terms are negotiated on an individual basis and contain a wide range of different terms and conditions. In accordance with IFRS 16, leases are recognised as a right-of-use asset with a corresponding liability, at the date at which the leased asset is available for use by Alfa. These assets and liabilities are initially measured on a present value basis (as set out in more detail below), with each subsequent lease payment allocated between the liability and finance cost. The finance cost is charged to profit or loss over the lease period to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability for each period. The right-of-use asset is depreciated over the shorter of the asset's useful life and the lease term on a straight-line basis.

Alfa assesses whether a contract is, or contains a lease, at inception of the contract. The Group recognises a right-of-use asset and a corresponding lease liability, with respect to all lease arrangements in which it is the lessee, except for short-term leases (defined as leases with a lease term of 12 months, or fewer) and leases of low-value assets. For these leases, the Group recognises the lease payments as an expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease, unless another systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which economic benefits from the leased assets are consumed.

Lease liabilities

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at the commencement date, discounted by using the rate implicit in the lease. If this rate cannot be readily determined, the Group uses its incremental borrowing rate.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability comprise:

- Fixed lease payments (including in substance fixed payments), less any lease incentives;
- Variable lease payments that depend on an index or rate, initially measured using the index or rate at the commencement date;
- The amount expected to be payable by the lessee under residual value guarantees;
- The exercise price of purchase options, if the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise the options; and
- Penalties for terminating the lease, if the lease term reflects the exercise of an option to terminate the lease.

The lease liability is presented in separate lines, split between current and non-current liabilities, in the consolidated statement of financial position. It is subsequently measured by increasing the carrying amount to reflect interest on the lease liability (using the effective interest method) and by reducing the carrying amount to reflect the lease payments made.

The Group re-measures the lease liability (and makes a corresponding adjustment to the related right-of-use asset) whenever:

- The lease term has changed, or there is a change in the assessment of exercise of a purchase option, in which case the lease liability is re-measured by discounting the revised lease payments using a revised discount rate;
- The lease payments change due to changes in an index, or rate, or a change in expected payment under a guaranteed residual value. In these cases, the lease liability is re-measured by discounting the revised lease payments, using the initial discount rate (unless the lease payments change is due to a change in a floating interest rate, in which case a revised discount rate is used); and
- A lease contract is modified and the lease modification is not accounted for as a separate lease, in which case the lease liability is re-measured by discounting the revised lease payments using a revised discount rate.

Right-of-use assets

The right-of-use assets comprise:

- The initial measurement of the corresponding lease liability;
- Lease payments made at, or before, the commencement day;
- Any initial direct costs; and
- Restoration cost.

The right-of-use assets are presented as a separate line in the consolidated statement of financial position.

The right-of-use assets are subsequently measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses (if applicable). They are depreciated from the commencement date of the lease and over the shorter period of the lease term and useful life of the underlying asset. If a lease transfers ownership of the underlying asset, or the cost of the right-of-use asset reflects an expectation that the Group will exercise a purchase option, the related right-of-use asset is depreciated over the useful life of the underlying asset. Currently, the Group does not have any leases that include a purchase option, or transfer ownership of the underlying asset.

Whenever the Group incurs an obligation for costs to dismantle and remove a leased asset, restore the site on which it is located, or restore the underlying asset to the condition required by the terms and conditions of the lease, a provision is recognised and measured under IAS 37.

Extension options (or periods after termination options) are only included in the lease term if the lease is reasonably certain to be extended (or not terminated). The assessment is reviewed if a significant event or a significant change in circumstances occurs which affects this assessment and that is within the control of the lessee. During the current financial period, there have been no changes in such assessments.

Variable rents that do not depend on an index, or rate, are not included in the measurement of the lease liability and the right-of-use asset. The related payments are recognised as an expense in the period in which the event or condition that triggers those payments occurs and are included as an expense in the consolidated statement of profit or loss and comprehensive income.

1.9 Impairment of assets

Goodwill is tested annually for impairment. The carrying amount is allocated to the cash-generating unit (CGU) that is expected to benefit from investment and which represents the lowest level at which the goodwill is monitored for internal management purposes. The carrying value of the CGU is then compared to the higher of its fair value less costs of disposal and its value in use. Any impairment attributed to the goodwill is recognised immediately as an expense and is not subsequently reversed.

Other assets are tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount might not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value in use. For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash inflows which are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets (cash-generating units). Non-financial assets other than goodwill that suffered an impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at the end of each reporting period.

1.10 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at bank and in hand as well as short-term deposits with original maturities of three months or less.

1.11 Financial assets

Recognition and de-recognition

Financial assets are recognised in the statement of financial position when the Group becomes party to the contractual provision of the instrument.

Financial assets are derecognised when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire, or when the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards are transferred.

Classification and initial measurement of financial assets

Except for those trade receivables that do not contain a significant financing component and are measured at the transaction price in accordance with IFRS 15, all financial assets are initially measured at fair value adjusted for transaction costs (where applicable). Financial assets, other than those designated and effective as hedging instruments, are classified into the following categories:

- Amortised cost;
- Fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL); and
- Fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI).

In the periods presented, the Group does not have any financial assets categorised as FVTPL or FVOCI. The classification is determined by both:

- The entity's business model for managing the financial asset; and
- The contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial asset.

All income and expenses relating to financial assets that are recognised in profit or loss are presented within finance costs, finance income or other financial items, except for impairment of trade receivables which is presented within sales, general and administrative expenses.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 CONTINUED

1. Summary of significant accounting policies continued

Subsequent measurement of financial assets

Financial assets at amortised cost

Financial assets are measured at amortised cost if the assets meet the following conditions (and are not designated as FVTPL):

- They are held within a business model whose objective is to hold the financial assets and collect their contractual cash flows; and
- The contractual terms of the financial assets give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

After initial recognition, these are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Discounting is omitted where the effect of discounting is immaterial. The Group's trade and most other receivables (notes 20 and 21) and cash and cash equivalents (note 22) fall into this category of financial instruments.

Impairment of financial assets

Under IFRS 9 the requirements are to use forward-looking information to recognise expected credit losses – the 'expected credit loss (ECL) model'. The Group considers a broad range of information when assessing credit risk and measuring expected credit losses, including past events, current conditions, reasonable and supportable forecasts that affect the expected collectability of the future cash flows of the instrument.

In applying this forward-looking approach, a distinction is made between:

- Financial instruments that have not deteriorated significantly in credit quality since initial recognition or that have low credit risk ('Stage 1'); and
- Financial instruments that have deteriorated significantly in credit quality since initial recognition and whose credit risk is not low ('Stage 2').
- 'Stage 3' would cover financial assets that have objective evidence of impairment at the reporting date.

'12-month expected credit losses' are recognised for the first category while 'lifetime expected credit losses' are recognised for the second and third categories.

1.12 Trade receivables

Trade receivables are amounts due from customers for licences sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business. They are generally due for settlement within 30 days of the invoice date and are therefore all classified as current. Trade receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. An impairment loss is recognised when there is objective evidence that the Group will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivable. The Group considers information developed internally or obtained from external sources that indicates that a debtor is unlikely to pay its creditors, including the Group, in full (without taking into account any collateral held by the Group) as an indication that a financial asset is not recoverable.

The Group has applied the simplified approach to measuring expected credit losses, which uses a lifetime expected loss allowance. To measure the expected credit losses, trade receivables have been grouped based on days overdue. The expected impairment loss is recognised in the consolidated statement of profit or loss and comprehensive income within sales, general and administrative expenses, and subsequent recoveries are credited to the same account previously used to recognise the impairment charge. During the current and prior period the result of the above was immaterial and no impairment loss has been recognised.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date is the carrying value of each class of receivable mentioned above. The credit qualities of these receivables are periodically assessed by reference to external credit ratings (if available) or to historical information about their default rates. The Group does not hold any collateral as security.

As the total carrying amount of the current portion of the trade and other receivables is due within the next 12 months after the reporting date, the impact of applying the effective interest method is not significant and, therefore, the carrying amount equals the contractual amount or the fair value initially recognised.

1.13 Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment is stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the item. Depreciation on assets is calculated using the straight-line method to allocate their cost over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

Fixtures and fittings: 3-10 years

IT equipment: 2-5 years

Motor vehicles: 10 years

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed and adjusted if necessary at each reporting date. An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount. Repairs and maintenance are charged to the consolidated statement of profit or loss and comprehensive income as incurred. Any gains or losses on disposals are recognised within sales, general and administrative expenses in the consolidated statement of profit or loss and comprehensive income unless otherwise specified.

Property, plant and equipment are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount, which is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use. For the purpose of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash flows.

1.14 Goodwill and other intangible assets

Goodwill

Goodwill arose on the acquisition of subsidiaries in 2012 as part of a group reorganisation and represents the excess of the consideration transferred and the amount of any non-controlling interest in the investment over the fair value of the identifiable assets acquired and liabilities and contingent liabilities assumed.

The Group assesses whether goodwill has suffered any impairment on an annual basis in accordance with the accounting policy stated in note 1.9 above. There is one CGU, being the Group, as its geographical operations do not have separate or distinct cash inflows. The recoverable amount of goodwill has been determined based on value-in-use calculations using cash flow projections from financial budgets and forecasts.

Budgeted cash flow projections are based on the expectation of signing new customers in the Group's sales pipeline as well as ongoing projects with existing customers. Budgeted gross margin is based on historical evidence and the expectations of market development and efficiency leverage. Management believes that any reasonable change in any of the key assumptions on which the recoverable amount is based would not cause the reported carrying amount to exceed the recoverable amount of the CGU. The discount rate used reflects the Group's pre-tax weighted average cost of capital (WACC), as adjusted for region-specific risks and other factors as required by IFRS.

Intangible assets

Internally generated product development costs only qualify for capitalisation if the Group can demonstrate all of the following:

- The technical feasibility of completing the intangible asset so that it will be available for use or sale, its intention to complete the intangible asset and use or sell it;
- Its ability to use or sell the intangible asset; including how the intangible asset will generate probable future economic benefits;
- The existence of a market or, if it is to be used internally, the usefulness of the intangible asset;
- The availability of adequate technical, financial and other resources to complete the development and to use or sell the intangible asset; and
- Its ability to measure reliably the expenditure attributable to the intangible asset during development.

Generally, commercial viability of new products, modules or capabilities is not proven until all high-risk development issues have been resolved through testing of the specific development. Development expenditure incurred on minor or major upgrades, or other changes in software functionality, does not satisfy the criteria, where it is considered that the product is not substantially new in its design or functional characteristics. Such expenditure is therefore recognised as an expense. See note 15 for disclosure of development costs which have met the criteria of IAS 38 for recognition. The Group continues to assess the eligibility of development costs for capitalisation on a project-by-project basis.

Externally acquired intangible assets are initially recorded at historical cost. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the item.

The Group amortises intangible assets with a limited useful life, using the straight-line method over the following periods:

Computer software: licence period or 10 years as applicable

Internally generated software: 3-5 years

Amortisation is presented within sales, general and administrative expenses.

Research and development which does not meet the criteria set out above is recognised as an expense as incurred. Development costs previously recognised as an expense are not recognised as an asset in subsequent periods.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 CONTINUED

1. Summary of significant accounting policies continued

1.15 Trade and other payables

Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods or services which have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Trade payables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised costs using the effective interest rate method. As the total carrying amount is due within the next 12 months from the reporting date, the impact of applying the effective interest method is not significant and, therefore, the carrying amount equals the contractual amount or the fair value initially recognised.

The Group's financial liabilities include trade and other payables and lease liabilities. Financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value, and, where applicable, adjusted for transaction costs unless the Group designated a financial liability at fair value through profit or loss. Subsequently, financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. All interest-related charges and, if applicable, changes in an instrument's fair value that are reported in profit or loss are included within finance costs or finance income. The Group derecognises financial liabilities when, and only when, the Group's obligations are discharged, cancelled or expired.

Trade and other payables and lease liabilities are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

1.16 Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Group has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is more likely than not that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate of the amount can be made. When the effect of the discounting is material, provisions are measured at the present value of the expenditures expected to be required to settle the obligation.

1.17 Employee benefits

The Group provides a range of benefits to employees, including paid holiday arrangements and defined contribution pension plans.

Short-term benefits

Short-term benefits, including health cover and other similar non-monetary benefits, are recognised as an expense in the period in which the service is received.

Post-employment benefits

The Group operates various defined contribution plans for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan where the Group pays fixed contributions into a separate independent entity. The Group has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to the employee's service in the current and prior periods.

Employee share scheme expense

The Group makes equity-settled share-based payments to certain employees, which are measured at fair value at the date of grant and expensed on a straight-line basis over the vesting period, based on the Group's estimate of shares that will eventually vest. For those share schemes with market-related vesting conditions, the fair value is determined using the Monte Carlo model at the grant date. For share options issued with EPS (non-market) performance vesting conditions, the fair value of the underlying vehicle is equal to the grant date share price discounted by the expected dividend yield to reflect the lack of dividend accrual over the vesting period. For all other share awards, those with pure employment conditions attached, the fair value is determined by reference to the market value of the shares at the grant date or (where they have an exercise price) by using the Black Scholes model. For all share schemes with non-market vesting conditions, the likelihood of vesting has been taken into account when determining the relevant charge. Vesting assumptions are reviewed during each reporting period to ensure they reflect current expectations.

1.18 Equity

Ordinary shares

Ordinary shares are classified as equity. There are no restrictions on the distribution of capital and the repayment of capital.

Cumulative translation reserve

Exchange differences arising on translation of the foreign-controlled entities are recognised in Other Comprehensive Income and accumulated in a separate reserve within equity. The cumulative amount would be reclassified to profit or loss if the entity was disposed of.

Own shares

Own shares represent the shares of the parent company Alfa Financial Software Holdings PLC that are held by the employee benefit trust. Own shares are recorded at cost and deducted from equity.

1.19 Earnings per share

Basic earnings per share

Basic earnings per share is calculated by dividing the profit attributable to equity holders of Alfa by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the year (excluding own shares held).

Diluted earnings per share

Diluted earnings per share is calculated in line with the basic earnings per share calculation above except that the weighted average number of shares includes all potentially dilutive options granted by the reporting date as if those options had been exercised on the first day of the accounting period or the date of the grant, if later. The shares have no right to voting or to dividends while held in trust.

2. Critical accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of accounting estimates which, by definition, will seldom equal the actual results. Management also needs to exercise judgement in applying the Group's accounting policies.

This note provides an overview of the areas that involved a higher degree of judgement or complexity, and of items which are more likely to be materially adjusted in future periods due to estimates and assumptions turning out to be wrong. Detailed information about each of these estimates and judgements is included in other notes, together with information about the basis of calculation for each affected line item in the financial statements.

2.1 Critical judgements in applying the Group's accounting policies

Revenue recognition – Assessing performance obligations

The Group is required to make an assessment as to whether the implementation process, which includes customised licence, implementation revenue streams as well as any maintenance fees during this phase, forms one or a number of performance obligations. Since the residual value method is used for the customised licence revenue (as explained in note 1.5), the estimation of fair value of implementation revenue will impact the contract consideration assigned to the customised licence.

In addition, the Group is also required to make an assessment as to whether each contract contains an expectation to deliver multiple separate instances of the customised licence which may form separate groups of distinct performance obligations. In doing the above, the Group assesses each software implementation contract as to whether the underlying software requires significant modification or customisation by the Group in order to meet the customer's requirements before Alfa Systems can be utilised by the customer. Therefore judgement is required in determining which efforts relate to the implementation process and which efforts could be determined to be development services which change or enhance the underlying code. In making this judgement, the Group assesses the contractual terms and the original project plan for the implementation but also uses historical evidence of what constitutes core implementation work.

Internally generated software development – Assessing whether a project meets criteria of IAS 38

The Group is required to make an assessment of each ongoing project in order to determine at what stage a project meets the criteria outlined in the Group's accounting policies. Such assessment may, in certain circumstances, require significant judgement. In making this judgement, the Group evaluates, amongst other factors, the stage at which technical feasibility has been achieved, management's intention to complete and use or sell the product, the likelihood of success, the availability of technical and financial resources to complete the development phase and management's ability to measure reliably the expenditure attributable to the project. Research and product development expenditure incurred on minor or major upgrades, or other changes in software functionality, does not satisfy the criteria where it is considered that the product is not substantially new in its design or functional characteristics. Such expenditure is therefore recognised as an expense.

2.2 Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Revenue recognition – Estimates feeding through to the customised licence

The customised licence and its associated material right are both impacted by the following estimates:

- Assigning a stand-alone selling price for implementation services day rates: the Group assesses the value of the implementation services delivered by assessing the effective day rate for an implementation contract, taking into account all revenue streams from implementation contracts against day rates of similar projects in the same geographies;
- Estimating the appropriate life of customer relationship: the Group calculates the material right deferral of the customised licence based on the total customer relationship life. This is also the time over which the material right will be spread; and
- Determining the split of maintenance amount between support efforts and right to use: the Group must estimate what percentage of the total maintenance fee relates to the customised licence.

Management reassesses estimates and applies them to new projects prospectively. A variation of 5% to 10%, or an increase in expected customer life by a year, in the above, results in an impact on revenue for the year ranging between an increase / decrease of £0.4m.

2.3 Other sources of estimation uncertainty

Revenue recognition – Number of forecast implementation and development days

The Group estimates the number of days required to complete the relevant software customisation effort at the outset of each project and on an ongoing basis including at each consolidated statement of financial position date. Estimates of total project days required for a relevant project are based on historical evidence of past implementations, knowledge of the customer's systems being replaced and scope of customisation being requested. The Group applies the percentage-of-completion method when calculating implementation and development services revenue and updates estimates at each quarter end accordingly. Therefore, a significant movement in total planned days would result in volatility in implementation and customised licence revenue.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 CONTINUED

3. Financial risk management

In common with all other businesses, the Group is exposed to risks that arise from its use of financial instruments. This note describes the Group's objectives, policies and processes for managing those risks and the methods used to measure them. Further quantitative information in respect of these risks is presented throughout these financial statements.

Area	Exposure arising from	Measurement	Management
Market risk – foreign exchange	Contracted revenue and costs denominated in a currency other than the entity's functional currency; and Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in a currency other than the entity's functional currency.	Cash flow forecasting and foreign exchange sensitivity	Natural hedging from localised cost base and prompt conversion of foreign currency cash balances into pound sterling
Credit risk – cash balances	Cash and cash equivalents	Credit ratings	Diversification of bank deposits
Credit risk – customer receivables	Trade receivables and accrued income	Ageing analysis Credit ratings	Credit checks and contractual payment terms
Liquidity	Cash and cash equivalents	Cash flow forecasting	Collection of upfront licence fees, ageing analysis of customer receivables

The Group's overall risk management policy focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the Group's financial performance. The Group has used financial instruments to hedge certain risk exposures in the past. Risk management is carried out by the finance function under policies approved by the Chief Financial Officer. The finance function identifies, evaluates and mitigates financial risks when deemed necessary.

The Group's objectives when managing capital are to safeguard the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, so that it can provide returns for shareholders and benefits for other stakeholders and maintain an optimal capital structure.

3.1 Foreign exchange risk

The Group operates internationally and is exposed to foreign exchange risks arising from various currencies, primarily with respect to those described below. Revenue is predominantly denominated in pounds sterling and US dollars. Operating costs are influenced by the currencies of the countries where the Group's subsidiaries are based and pounds sterling and the US dollars are the currencies in which most operating costs are denominated.

The split by currency in relation to trade receivables is set out in note 20.

The Group's exposure to foreign currency risk in relation to revenue is set out in note 5.4.

The Group has not entered into or utilised any form of hedging against foreign currency exposure during the current or prior period, nor does the Group have any outstanding commercial foreign exchange contracts at 31 December 2021 or 31 December 2020.

A 10% increase in the USD:GBP exchange rate in the year ended 31 December 2021 would have increased revenue and profit by 4% and 8% respectively.

3.2 Credit risk

a. Credit risk related to transactions with financial institutions

Credit risk with financial institutions is managed by the Group's finance function in accordance with a Board approved policy. Management is not aware of any significant risks associated with financial institutions as a result of cash and cash equivalents deposits (including short-term investments) and financial derivative transactions.

b. Credit risks related to customer trade receivables

Significant financial difficulties of the debtor, probability that the debtor will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, change of strategy and default or delinquency in payments are considered indicators that a trade receivable could be impaired. Given the complexity, the size and the length of certain software implementation of related projects, a delay in the settlement of an open trade receivable does not necessarily constitute objective evidence that the trade receivable is impaired.

The Group's customer base predominantly consists of large financial institutions that are financially sound. The responsibility for customer credit risk management rests with management of the Group. Payment terms are set in accordance with practices in the different geographies and end-markets served, typically being 30 days from the date of the invoice. Trade receivables are actively monitored and managed. Collection risk is mitigated through the use of upfront payments of licences and maintenance. Historically, there has been a de minimis level of customer default as a result of the long history of dealing with the Group's customer base and an active credit monitoring function. Where applicable, credit limits may be established based on internal or external rating criteria, which take into account such factors as the financial condition of the customers, their credit history and the risk associated with their industry segment.

The Group applies the IFRS 9 simplified approach to measuring expected credit losses which uses a lifetime expected loss allowance for all trade receivables and accrued income. To measure the expected credit losses, trade receivables and accrued income have been grouped based on shared credit risk characteristics and the days past due. The accrued income relates to unbilled work in progress and has substantially the same risk characteristics as the trade receivables for the same types of contracts, other than where the Group has collected upfront payments in the form of licence fees at the start of a software implementation contract. The Group has concluded that the expected loss rates for trade receivables are less than the loss rates for the accrued income.

The expected loss rates of trade receivables are based on the payment profiles of customer invoices over a period of 36 months before 31 December 2021 or 31 December 2020 respectively and the corresponding historical credit losses experienced within this period. The historical loss rates would then be adjusted to reflect current or forward-looking information in relation to any macroeconomic factors affecting the ability of the customers to settle the receivables.

The Group has not identified any current factors or forward-looking information which would be relevant to the historical loss rates as all trade receivables have been collected in the past 24 months. Therefore on this basis, the loss allowance as at 31 December 2021 and 31 December 2020 was immaterial for both trade receivables and accrued income.

See note 20 – Trade receivables for the ageing of trade receivables and significant customer credit risk exposure.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 CONTINUED

3. Financial risk management continued

3.3 Liquidity risk

The Group's principal objective when managing capital is to safeguard the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, so that it can continue to provide returns for shareholders and benefits for other stakeholders.

The capital structure of the Group consists of cash and cash equivalents (note 22) and equity attributable to equity holders of the parent.

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Group will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due.

The Group manages its exposure to liquidity risk through short and long-term forecasts and by seeking to align the maturity profiles of its financial assets with its financial liabilities. The Group's policy is to maintain an adequate level of liquidity to meet its liabilities expected to be settled in the short or near term, under both normal and stressed conditions.

The following table details the remaining contractual maturity of the Group's financial liabilities. The amounts disclosed in the table are the contractual undiscounted cash flows.

£m	31 December 2021					
	Carrying value	Less than 6 months	Between 6 to 12 months	Between 1 to 2 years	Between 2 to 5 years	More than 5 years
Trade and other payables	6.9	6.9	–	–	–	–
Lease liabilities – future lease payments	20.3	1.3	1.4	2.7	7.4	7.5

£m	31 December 2020					
	Carrying value	Less than 6 months	Between 6 to 12 months	Between 1 to 2 years	Between 2 to 5 years	More than 5 years
Trade and other payables	5.6	5.6	–	–	–	–
Lease liabilities – future lease payments	21.1	1.2	1.2	2.4	6.9	9.4

4. Segments and principal activities

4.1 Revenue by stream

The Group assesses revenue by type of activity, being Subscription, Software and Services, as summarised below:

£m	2021	2020 (restated*)
Software	13.6	20.0
Subscription	23.5	18.1
Services	46.1	40.8
Total revenue	83.2	78.9

* To better reflect the nature and type of revenue, changes have been made to the classification and allocation of revenue line items. The comparative disclosures for the December 2020 reporting period have also been amended to reflect a fair base for comparability. These changes have had no impact on the total revenue or the profit before tax that were disclosed at the end of December 2020.

4.2 Operating profit

The following tables reconciles profit for the period attributable to equity holders to Operating Profit for the periods presented:

£m	2021	2020
Profit for the year	19.2	20.3
Adjusted for:		
Net income from joint venture	0.1	–
Taxation	4.6	2.9
Finance income	–	(0.1)
Finance expense	0.8	0.8
Operating profit	24.7	23.9

4.3 Non-current assets geographical information

Non-current assets attributable to each geographical market:

£m	2021	2020
UK	42.6	44.0
USA	1.2	0.7
Rest of World	0.6	0.1
Total non-current assets	44.4	44.8

Revenue by geographical market is contained within note 5.3.

5. Revenue from contracts with customers

5.1 Customer concentration

Customers with revenue accounting for more than 10% of total revenue in the current year are as follows:

£m	2021	2020
Customer A	10%	12%

See note 20 for outstanding trade receivables from those customers with revenue accounting for more than 10% of total revenue.

5.2 Timing of revenue

The Group derives revenue from the transfer of goods and services as follows over time and at a point in time in the following revenue segments:

2021 £m	Services	Software	Subscription	Total revenue
At a point in time – time and materials	25.2	5.6	–	30.8
At a point in time – fixed price	–	2.1	–	2.1
Over time – time and materials	19.8	4.1	–	23.9
Over time – fixed price	1.1	1.8	23.5	26.4
Total revenue	46.1	13.6	23.5	83.2

2020 £m (restated)*	Services	Software	Subscription	Total revenue
At a point in time – time and materials	19.4	5.1	–	24.5
At a point in time – fixed price	0.2	5.7	0.8	6.7
Over time – time and materials	18.8	8.0	–	26.8
Over time – fixed price	2.4	1.2	17.3	20.9
Total revenue	40.8	20.0	18.1	78.9

All goods and services are sold directly to customers.

* To better reflect the nature and type of revenue, changes have been made to the classification and allocation of revenue line items. The comparative disclosures for the December 2020 reporting period have also been amended to reflect a fair base for comparability. These changes have had no impact on the total revenue or the profit before tax that were disclosed at the end of December 2020.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 CONTINUED

5. Revenue from contracts with customers continued

5.3 Revenue geographical information

Revenue attributable to each geographical market based on where the customer mainly utilises its instance of Alfa, or where the service is rendered, is as follows:

£m	2021	2020
UK	30.0	25.8
USA	28.9	29.2
Rest of EMEA (excl UK)	18.7	21.3
Rest of World	5.6	2.6
Total revenue	83.2	78.9

5.4 Revenue by currency

Revenue by contractual currency is as follows:

£m	2021	2020
GBP	35.9	33.3
USD	30.0	30.4
Euro	11.6	12.6
Other	5.7	2.6
Total revenue	83.2	78.9

5.5 Liabilities from contracts with customers

£m	2021	2020
Contract liabilities – deferred licence	5.3	1.9
Contract liabilities – deferred maintenance	5.7	5.1
Total contract liabilities	11.0	7.0

Contract liabilities – deferred licence

Where a customer purchases a perpetual software licence this is generally invoiced upfront at the commencement of the implementation project. Customers generally require additional development efforts over the life of the implementation project in order to customise the underlying code within Alfa Systems. Together these two elements form the Group's customised licence performance obligation. The fair value of this performance obligation is determined using the residual method as set out in note 1.5b and this fair value is recognised as the development effort is expended, on a percentage of completion basis.

As such the deferred licence contract liability balance as at 31 December 2021 represents any amounts received in advance for the customised licence performance obligation being satisfied (including any unrecognised software licence amounts that were received upfront). Additionally, where an option over the right to use Alfa Systems in the future exists, the value of this is also included within the deferred licence contract liability. The contract liability relating to the material right value is increased over the life of the implementation project in line with the percentage of completion of the development efforts and then released on a straight-line basis over the expected remaining customer life post completion of the implementation project.

The deferred licence contract liability balance will increase during the year as a result of:

- any new upfront software licence payments;
- any write back in previously recognised revenue as a result of project extensions or re-plans; and
- any additional material right balances that are added during the year.

The deferred licence contract liability balance will decrease during the year as a result of:

- increasing percentage of completion of development efforts; and
- any release of material right balances following the completion of the implementation project.

Contract liabilities – deferred maintenance

The majority of the Group's customers are invoiced annually in advance for the maintenance and support service provided by the Group. As such, the deferred maintenance contract liability balance will increase during the year as a result of billing and invoices becoming due, and will decrease as the Group satisfies its associated performance obligations. The deferred maintenance contract liability balance as at 31 December 2021 therefore represents the Group's unsatisfied period maintenance performance obligation for which the revenue has been invoiced in advance.

5.6 Unsatisfied Performance Obligations

During 2020, the Group entered into a new one-off five-year contract with a customer to renew its software licence and maintenance agreements. The total amount of the contract price from this non-cancellable contract that relates to the performance obligations that are unsatisfied at 31 December 2021 is £8.4m (2020: £10.6m). We expect to recognise £2.2m in each of the next three financial years and then the remaining £1.8m in the final financial year of the contract, being 2025.

In addition, the Group has unsatisfied or partially satisfied performance obligations at 31 December 2021 that relate to the licence customisation for those customers that have ongoing implementation projects, or implementation projects that commenced in early 2022 and for which contracts were agreed prior to 31 December 2021. This performance obligation includes the delivery of the related software licence and any development efforts which will change the underlying code. Linked to certain of these ongoing and future projects, and also to certain implementation projects completed during 2021, the Group also has unsatisfied or partially satisfied performance obligations at 31 December 2021 that relate to the option over the right to use Alfa Systems, and in particular any material right in respect of discounts to be received by customer in future periods.

The above includes certain amounts recognised as contract liabilities. The transaction price allocated to these unsatisfied or partially satisfied performance obligations as at 31 December 2021 is £11.1m (2020: £9.0m). This amount is expected to be recognised over the remaining life of the implementation projects, in respect of the licence and development efforts, and over the expected customer life (following the completion of the implementation project) in respect of the option over the right to use Alfa Systems.

These unsatisfied or partially satisfied performance obligations are based on management's best judgement and may be impacted in the future by a number of factors including:

- any possible contract modifications;
- currency fluctuations;
- external market factors; and
- changes to the overall forecast project plan including the overall life of the implementation project and any required development efforts.

The Group applies the practical expedient in paragraph 121 of IFRS 15 and does not disclose information about the unsatisfied performance obligations that have original expected durations of one year or less. This includes those performance obligations linked to ongoing services for all project types (i.e. subscription, software and services).

The Group also applies the practical expedient in paragraph B16 of IFRS 15 and does not disclose the amount of the transaction price allocated to the unsatisfied contract performance obligations where consideration will be received directly corresponding to the value of the performance obligation in the future and this consideration aligns to the value received to date for the corresponding performance obligation. This includes those performance obligations linked to our software implementation services.

The Group has variable consideration in the form of contract banding for its licence and maintenance volumes. It is included in the transaction price only to the extent that it is highly probable that a significant reversal of revenue will not occur when the uncertainty associated with the variable consideration is subsequently resolved.

6. Operating profit

The following items have been included in arriving at operating profit in the table below:

£m	2021	2020 (restated)
Research and development costs*	1.6	1.5
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	0.4	0.5
Depreciation of right-of-use lease assets	1.9	1.7
Amortisation of intangible assets	0.8	0.8
Share-based payments (inc. social security contributions)	1.5	1.5

* To better reflect the nature of research and development expenditure and align with capitalised development costs, changes have been made to the classification of expense line items. Research and development costs are now primarily made up of costs incurred as part of the Group's internal research and development activities, where as previously this line item included broader costs. The comparative disclosures for the December 2020 reporting period have also been amended to reflect a fair base for comparability.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 CONTINUED

7. Personnel related costs

£m	2021	2020
Wages and salaries	31.8	30.0
Social security contributions (on wages and salaries)	3.9	3.4
Pension costs	2.1	2.0
Profit share pay *	3.1	2.7
Share-based payments **	1.5	1.5
Total employment costs	42.4	39.6

* Profit share pay refers to a pool of money (that equates to approximately 10% of the Group's pre-tax profits) which is shared amongst the employees, excluding Directors and some other senior managers, as a percentage of basic salary. The amount disclosed includes the related social security contributions.

** This includes the related social security contributions.

Average monthly number of people employed based on location of home office (including Executive Directors)

	2021	2020
UK	282	255
USA	71	66
Rest of World	30	20
Total average monthly number of people employed	383	341

8. Key management

Key management compensation (including Executive Directors):

£m	2021	2020
Wages, salaries and short-term benefits	3.1	2.6
Social security contributions	0.4	0.3
Post-employment benefits	0.1	0.1
Share-based payments *	0.9	0.2
Total key management compensation	4.5	3.2

* This includes the related social security contributions.

Key management personnel consists of the Company Leadership Team and the Executive Directors. Directors' remuneration is detailed in the Remuneration Report.

9. Auditor's remuneration

The Group obtained the following services from the Group's auditor as detailed below:

£m	2021	2020
Audit fees		
Deloitte LLP		
Audit fees relating to prior year	–	0.1
RSM UK Audit LLP		
Audit of the consolidated financial statements	0.2	0.2
Audit of subsidiaries	0.2	0.2
Total audit fees	0.4	0.5
Audit-related assurance fees		
RSM UK Audit LLP	0.1	0.1
Total audit-related assurance fees	0.1	0.1
Non-audit services	–	–
Total audit and non-audit-related services	0.5	0.6

10. Finance income and expense

£m		2021	2020
Finance income			
Interest income on cash or short-term bank deposits		–	0.1

£m	Note	2021	2020
Finance expense			
Interest on lease liability	24	(0.8)	(0.8)
Total finance expense		(0.8)	(0.8)

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 CONTINUED

11. Income tax expense

Analysis of charge for the year

£m	2021	2020
Current tax		
Current tax on profit for the year	4.5	4.5
Adjustment in respect of prior years	(0.5)	(1.4)
Foreign tax on profit of subsidiaries for the current year	0.3	0.6
Current tax	4.3	3.7
Deferred tax		
Origination and reversal of temporary differences	(0.1)	(0.3)
Adjustment in respect of prior years	0.6	(0.5)
Effect of changes in tax rates	(0.2)	–
Deferred tax	0.3	(0.8)
Total tax charge in the year	4.6	2.9

The effective tax rate for the year is higher (2020: lower) than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK. The effective tax rate for the year ended 31 December 2021 was 19.3% (2020: 12.5%). The effective tax rate for the year is impacted by adjustments in respect of prior years totalling £0.1m (2020: favourable adjustment of £1.9m), due to increased tax costs for the prior year of £0.2m, an adjustment in respect to deferred tax on share awards of £0.5m, less the benefit of the UK R&D tax claim for 2020 of £0.6m (2020: predominately due to the benefit of UK R&D tax claims for 2018 and 2019). Excluding the impact of adjustments in respect to prior years, the effective tax rate for the year was 18.9% (2020: 20.7%). The overall tax charge for the year is reconciled as follows:

Analysis of charge for the year

£m	2021	2020
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	23.8	23.2
Profit on ordinary activities at the standard rate of corporation tax – 19%	4.5	4.4
Tax effects of:		
Effect of different tax rates of subsidiaries operating in other jurisdictions	0.1	0.2
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	–	0.1
Adjustment in respect of prior years	0.1	(1.9)
Impact of tax rate changes	(0.2)	–
Other	0.1	0.1
Total tax charge for the year	4.6	2.9

12. Earnings per share

	2021	2020
Profit attributable to equity holders of Alfa (£m)	19.2	20.3
Weighted average number of shares outstanding during the year	296,709,610	293,824,145
Basic earnings per share (pence per share)	6.49	6.93
Weighted average number of shares outstanding including potentially dilutive shares	301,505,177	300,069,048
Diluted earnings per share (pence per share)	6.39	6.79

The weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue excludes 3,290,390 (2020: 6,175,855) shares held by employee benefit trust. The diluted number of ordinary shares outstanding, including share awards, is calculated on the assumption of conversion of all 5,470,741 (2020: 6,139,161) potentially dilutive ordinary shares.

13. Financial assets and liabilities

£m	Note	2021	2020
Finance assets			
Financial assets at amortised cost:			
Trade receivables	20	6.0	5.8
Other financial assets at amortised cost	21	7.3	5.8
Cash and cash equivalents	22	23.1	37.0
Total financial assets		36.4	48.6
Finance liabilities			
Financial liabilities at amortised cost:			
Trade and other payables	23	6.9	5.6
Lease liabilities	24	17.1	17.5
Total finance liabilities		24.0	23.1

14. Goodwill

£m	2021	2020
Cost		
At 1 January	24.7	24.7
At 31 December	24.7	24.7

The recoverable amount of goodwill has been determined based on value-in-use calculations using cash flow projections from financial budgets and forecasts for a five-year period using a pre-tax discount rate of 11% (2020: 11%). Cash flows beyond these periods have been extrapolated using a steady 2% (2020: 2%) average growth rate. This growth rate does not exceed the long-term average growth rate for the markets in which the Group operates. Management believes that any reasonable change in any of the key assumptions on which the recoverable amount is based would not cause the reported carrying amount to exceed the recoverable amount of the CGU.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 CONTINUED

15. Other intangible assets

£m	Computer software	Internally generated software	Total
Cost			
At 1 January 2020	1.4	1.5	2.9
Additions	0.1	0.7	0.8
At 31 December 2020	1.5	2.2	3.7
Amortisation			
At 1 January 2020	0.5	0.2	0.7
Charge for the year	0.3	0.5	0.8
At 31 December 2020	0.8	0.7	1.5
Net book value			
At 31 December 2020	0.7	1.5	2.2
Cost			
At 1 January 2021	1.5	2.2	3.7
Additions	0.1	0.9	1.0
At 31 December 2021	1.6	3.1	4.7
Amortisation			
At 1 January 2021	0.8	0.7	1.5
Charge for the period	0.1	0.7	0.8
At 31 December 2021	0.9	1.4	2.3
Net book value			
At 31 December 2021	0.7	1.7	2.4

Significant movement in other intangible assets

During 2021, Alfa developed new internally generated software at a cost of £0.9m (2020: £0.7m). This software will be amortised over three to five years.

The total research and product development expense for the period was £1.6m (2020: £1.5m restated – see note 6).

16. Property, plant and equipment

£m	Fixtures and fittings	IT equipment	Total
Cost			
At 1 January 2020	1.2	3.2	4.4
Additions	0.1	0.2	0.3
Disposals	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.2)
At 31 December 2020	1.2	3.3	4.5
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2020	0.7	2.6	3.3
Charge for the year	0.1	0.4	0.5
Disposals	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.2)
At 31 December 2020	0.7	2.9	3.6
Net book value			
At 31 December 2020	0.5	0.4	0.9
Cost			
At 1 January 2021	1.2	3.3	4.5
Additions	–	0.3	0.3
Disposals	–	(0.1)	(0.1)
At 31 December 2021	1.2	3.5	4.7
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2021	0.7	2.9	3.6
Charge for the year	0.1	0.3	0.4
Disposals	–	(0.1)	(0.1)
At 31 December 2021	0.8	3.1	3.9
Net book value			
At 31 December 2021	0.4	0.4	0.8

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 CONTINUED

17. Right-of-use assets

£m	Motor vehicles	Property	Total
Cost			
At 1 January 2020	0.2	17.9	18.1
Additions	0.1	0.1	0.2
Disposals	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.2)
At 31 December 2020	0.2	17.9	18.1
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2020	0.1	1.6	1.7
Charge for the year	0.1	1.6	1.7
Disposals	(0.1)	–	(0.1)
At 31 December 2020	0.1	3.2	3.3
Net book value			
At 31 December 2020	0.1	14.7	14.8
Cost			
At 1 January 2021	0.2	17.9	18.1
Additions	0.2	1.3	1.5
At 31 December 2021	0.4	19.2	19.6
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2021	0.1	3.2	3.3
Charge for the year	0.1	1.8	1.9
At 31 December 2021	0.2	5.0	5.2
Net book value			
At 31 December 2021	0.2	14.2	14.4

The Group recognised the following amounts in the consolidated statement of profit or loss and comprehensive income in relation to leases under IFRS 16:

£m	2021	2020
Depreciation	(1.9)	(1.7)
Interest expense	(0.8)	(0.8)
Short-term lease expense	(0.2)	(0.2)

Sub-lease rentals

One of the leased properties is sub-leased to tenants under operating leases, with rentals payable quarterly. Minimum lease payments receivable on these sub-leases of property are as follows:

£m	2021	2020
Within one year	–	0.4
Later than one year but not later than 5 years	–	–
Later than 5 years	–	–
Total sub-lease payments receivable	–	0.4
Income from sub-lease in the year	0.5	0.5

18. Deferred income tax

The provision for deferred tax consists of the following deferred tax assets/(liabilities) relating to accelerated capital allowances and short-term timing differences in relation to accruals and share-based payments.

£m	2021	2020
Balance as at 1 January	1.8	0.6
Effect of changes in tax rates	0.2	–
Adjustments in respect of prior period	(0.6)	0.5
Deferred income taxes recognised in the consolidated statement of profit or loss and comprehensive income	0.1	0.3
Deferred tax on share-based payments recognised in reserves	0.3	0.4
Foreign exchange movements	–	–
Balance as at 31 December	1.8	1.8
Consisting of:		
Depreciation in excess of capital allowances	–	(0.1)
Other timing differences	1.8	1.9
Balance as at 31 December	1.8	1.8

Deferred income tax liabilities have not been recognised for the withholding tax and other taxes that would be payable on the unremitted earnings of certain subsidiaries as the Group is able to control the timing of these temporary differences and it is probable that they will not reverse in the foreseeable future. Unremitted earnings totalled £3.4m at 31 December 2021 (2020: £3.1m).

19. Interests in joint venture

At the beginning of May 2020, the Group formed Alfa iQ, a joint venture established to greatly enhance Alfa's ability to develop artificial intelligence solutions for the auto and equipment finance industry. The joint venture was set up 51:49 between Alfa and Bitfount, a company founded by Blaise Thomson. The financial and operating activities of the Group's joint venture are jointly controlled by the participating shareholders. The participating shareholders have rights to the net assets of the joint venture through their equity shareholdings.

The interest in the joint venture consists of part investment and part loan to joint venture accounted for as set out in note 1.2.

Investment

£m	2021	2020
Carrying amount as at 1 January	0.3	–
Carrying amount as at 6 May 2020 (i.e. on establishment of the joint venture)	–	0.3
Share of net loss from the joint venture	(0.1)	–
Carrying amount as at 31 December	0.2	0.3

Loan to joint venture

£m	2021	2020
Carrying amount as at 1 January	0.1	–
Carrying amount as at 6 May 2020 (i.e. on establishment of the joint venture)	–	0.1
Interest	–	–
Carrying amount as at 31 December	0.1	0.1

The total loss from interest in joint venture is £0.1m (2020: £0.0m) and the total interest in the joint venture is £0.3m (2020: £0.4m).

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 CONTINUED

20. Trade receivables

£m	2021	2020
Trade receivables	6.0	5.8
Provision for impairment	–	–
Trade receivables – net	6.0	5.8

Ageing of trade receivables

Ageing of net trade receivables £m	2021	2020
Within agreed terms	4.1	5.6
Past due 1-30 days	1.2	0.1
Past due 31-90 days	0.6	–
Past due 91+ days	0.1	0.1
Trade receivables – net	6.0	5.8

The Group believes that the unimpaired amounts that are past due are fully recoverable as there are no indicators of future delinquency or potential litigation.

Currency of trade receivables

£m	2021	2020
GBP	4.9	1.8
USD	0.9	3.1
Other	0.2	0.9
Trade receivables – net	6.0	5.8

Trade receivables due from significant customers

Customers with revenue accounting for more than 10% of total revenue in the current year have outstanding trade receivables as follows:

£m	2021	2020
Customer A	0.8	0.6

As at issuance of these financial statements, all amounts relating to customers accounting for more than 10% of total revenue had been collected.

Impairment and risk exposure

Information about the impairment of trade receivables and the Group's exposure to market risk (specifically foreign currency risk) and credit risk can be found in note 3.

21. Other receivables held at amortised cost

£m	2021	2020
Accrued income	6.3	5.0
Prepayments	3.2	2.1
Other receivables	1.0	0.8
Total other receivables held at amortised cost	10.5	7.9

Accrued income represents fees earned but not yet invoiced at the reporting date which has no right of offset with contract liabilities – deferred licence amounts.

Accrued income increased by £1.3m. The current year balance represents unbilled professional fees work in progress, as well as £0.5m in relation to subscription and £0.5m of one-off licence revenue items where there is contractual agreement to invoice in subsequent periods.

Prepayments include £1.1m of deferred costs in relation to costs to fulfil contracts – see note 1.5.

22. Cash and cash equivalents

£m	2021	2020
Cash at bank and in hand	23.1	37.0
Cash and cash equivalents	23.1	37.0

Currency of cash and cash equivalents

£m	2021	2020
GBP	14.9	28.5
USD	4.4	4.8
AUD	1.3	1.1
Euro	2.0	2.1
Other	0.5	0.5
Cash and cash equivalents	23.1	37.0

23. Current and non-current liabilities

£m	2021	2020
Trade payables	0.8	0.9
Other payables	8.5	7.2
Corporation tax	1.8	1.3
Contract liabilities – deferred licence	5.3	1.9
Contract liabilities – deferred maintenance	5.7	5.1
Lease liabilities (note 24)	17.1	17.5
Provisions for other liabilities	1.4	1.4
Total current and non-current liabilities	40.6	35.3
Less non-current portion	(16.6)	(17.2)
Total current liabilities	24.0	18.1

Other payables includes amounts relating to other tax and social security of £2.4m (2020: £2.5m).

24. Lease liabilities

The following table sets out the reconciliation of the lease liabilities from 1 January to the amount disclosed at 31 December:

£m	2021	2020
Lease liabilities recognised at 1 January	17.5	19.0
Additions	1.5	0.2
Interest charge	0.8	0.8
Payments made on lease liabilities	(2.7)	(2.5)
At 31 December	17.1	17.5

Additions to lease liabilities include extensions to existing lease agreements.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 CONTINUED

24. Lease liabilities continued

Below is the maturity analysis of the lease liabilities:

£m	2021	2020
Non-current	15.2	15.8
Current	1.9	1.7
Total lease liabilities	17.1	17.5
No later than one year	2.7	2.4
Between one year and 5 years	10.1	9.3
Later than 5 years	7.5	9.4
Total future lease payments	20.3	21.1
Total future interest payments	(3.2)	(3.6)
Total lease liabilities	17.1	17.5

The group's net debt is made up of cash and cash equivalents and lease liabilities. The movement during the year in lease liabilities is set out above. Movements in cash and cash equivalents are set out in the Cash flow statement. These are the only changes in liabilities arising from financing activities in the year.

25. Provision for other liabilities

£m	
At 1 January 2020	0.7
Provided in the period	0.7
At 31 December 2020	1.4
Provided in the period	0.7
Utilised in the period	(0.1)
Released in the period	(0.6)
At 31 December 2021	1.4

Provisions for other liabilities comprise amounts for office dilapidations, employer taxes on share-based payments and legal matters. It is expected that these will be utilised by as follows: £0.5m in 2022, £0.2m in 2030 and £0.7m over various years.

26. Share capital

	2021		2020	
	Shares	£m	Shares	£m
Issued and fully paid				
Ordinary shares – 0.1 pence	300,000,000	0.3	300,000,000	0.3
Balance as at 31 December	300,000,000	0.3	300,000,000	0.3

No additional shares have been issued or cancelled in the year ended 31 December 2021.

27. Translation reserve

£m	2021	2020
At 1 January	0.1	–
Currency translation of subsidiaries	(0.1)	0.1
At 31 December	–	0.1

28. Own Shares

£m	2021	2020
Balance at 1 January	–	–
Acquired in the year	4.6	–
Issued on exercise of options	(1.2)	–
Balance at 31 December	3.4	–

The own shares reserve represents the cost of shares in Alfa Financial Software Holdings PLC purchased in the market and held by the Group's employee benefit trust to satisfy options under the Group's share options plans (see Note 1.2). The number of ordinary shares held by the employee benefit trust at 31 December 2021 was 2,590,260 (2020: 552,783). As at 31 December 2021, the Group held 0.86% (2020: 0.18%) of its own called up share capital.

29. Share awards

The Group recognised total expenses relating to share-based payment of £1.5m (2020: £1.5m) in the current year. Of this, £1.5m (2020: £1.5m) relates to equity-settled LTIP schemes and £0.0m (2020: £nil) relates to Employee Share Save schemes. See further detail below.

The outstanding share schemes are made up of the following:

Grant date	Plan	Expiry date	Exercise price	Share options 31 December 2021	Share options 31 December 2020
June 2014/2015	LTIP	4 annual tranches from 1 June 2018	0p	–	1,197,503
June 2018	LTIP	June 2021	0p	–	1,378,178
November 2019	LTIP	November 2022	0p	1,113,909	1,205,036
June 2020	LTIP	June 2023	0p	2,322,473	2,358,444
April 2021	LTIP	April 2024	0p	1,121,104	–
November 2021	LTIP	October 2024	0p	60,872	–
November 2021	UK Employee ShareSave	January 2025	1.536p	774,659	–
November 2021	US Employee ShareSave	January 2024	1.670p	77,724	–

The weighted average share price at the date of exercise for share options exercised during the period was 130.4p (2020: 74.3p). The options outstanding at 31 December 2021 had a weighted average exercise price of 24.1p (at 31 December 2020: nil), and a weighted average remaining contractual life of 1.7 years (2020: 2.3 years). The opening weighted average exercise price at 1 January 2021 was nil (1 January 2020: nil). The weighted average exercise price of options forfeited and exercised during the year was nil (31 December 2020: nil).

A. LTIPs

The 2019 LTIP awards granted are conditional on employment only; the fair value of these awards has been calculated using the grant date share price as a proxy for fair value of the option adjusted for any dividends over the period. There are no market or non-market performance conditions attached to the option scheme and, as such, no performance conditions are included in the fair value calculation.

The 2020 LTIP awards granted are conditional on performance conditions, 50% based on EPS performance (non-market condition) and 50% on TSR (market condition) as well as a three-year employment fulfilment. The fair value of these awards has been determined using the Monte Carlo model at the grant date.

On 30 April 2021 the Group awarded an LTIP conditional on performance conditions, 50% based on EPS performance (non-market condition) and 50% on TSR (market condition) as well as a three-year employment fulfilment. For those share schemes with market-related vesting conditions, the fair value is determined using the Monte Carlo model at the grant date. For share options issued with EPS (non-market) performance vesting conditions, the fair value of the underlying option is equal to the grant date share price. The following table lists the inputs to the model used for the awards granted in the year ended 31 December 2021 based on information at the date of grant:

LTIP awards (granted in April)	TSR element	EPS element
Share price at date of grant	136p	136p
Award price	0p	0p
Volatility	60.3%	–
Embedded TSR	6.9%	–
Average correlation	41.1%	–
Life of award	3 years	3 years
Risk-free rate	0.12%	–
Fair value per award	73.6p	136.0p

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 CONTINUED

29. Share awards continued

On 30 November 2021, the Group awarded to certain employees an LTIP conditional on employment only. The fair value of these awards is equal to the closing share price on the date of grant (192 pence), discounted by the expected 12-month dividend yield to reflect the lack of dividend accrual over the vesting period (three years). The expected price volatility is based on the historic volatility (based on the remaining life of the scheme), adjusted for any expected changes to future volatility due to publicly available information.

All of these Company schemes, as well as any non-cyclical awards, are equity-settled by award of ordinary shares.

The total share-based payment charge relating to Alfa Financial Software Holdings PLC shares for the year is split as follows:

£m	2021	2020
Employee share schemes – value of services	1.1	1.3
Expense in relation to fair value of social security liability on employee share schemes	0.4	0.2
Total cost of employee share schemes	1.5	1.5

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

	2021	2020
Outstanding at 1 January	6,139,161	6,482,950
Conditionally awarded in year	2,034,359	2,358,444
Exercised	(2,575,681)	(2,592,919)
Forfeited or expired in year	(127,098)	(109,314)
Outstanding at 31 December	5,470,741	6,139,161
Exercisable at the end of the year	–	–

B. Employee ShareSave Scheme

On 30 November 2021, the Group launched an Employee ShareSave Scheme – the Save As You Earn (SAYE) scheme in the UK and Employee Stock Purchase Plan (ESPP) scheme in the US. Under these schemes, eligible employees can save up to a set limit each month. At the end of the savings period (three years for SAYE and two years for ESPP), employees can choose whether or not they wish to buy the shares at the option price or take back their savings as cash. The option price is the share price at the start of the plan with a 20% discount for the UK scheme and 15% discount for the US scheme. The fair value of these awards have been determined using the Monte Carlo model at the grant date. The expected price volatility is based on the historic volatility (based on the remaining life of the scheme), adjusted for any expected changes to future volatility due to publicly available information.

	31 December 2021			
	SAYE		ESPP	
	Number of share options	Exercise price	Number of share options	Exercise price
Outstanding at beginning of year	–	–	–	–
Granted during the year	774,659	153.6p	77,724	167.0p
Outstanding at the end of the year	774,659	153.6p	77,724	167.0p
Exercisable at the end of the year	–	–	–	–

	SAYE 31 December 2021	ESPP 31 December 2021
Share price	205.0p	205.0p
Exercise price	153.6p	167.0p
Expected volatility	57.5%	57.2%
Expected life	36 months	24 months
Risk-free rate	0.51%	0.45%
Expected dividend yields	2.45%	2.33%

30. Unrecognised items

30.1 Contingencies and commitments

The Group has no capital commitments, no material contingent liabilities and no contingent assets.

30.2 Events occurring after the reporting period

On 18 January 2022 the Group announced the launch of a share buyback programme. Refer to the Company website for more details.

There have been no other reportable subsequent events.

31. Dividends

A 2020 ordinary dividend of 1 pence per share was paid on 2 July 2021 amounting to £3.0m (2020: £nil).

A special dividend of 10 pence per share was paid on 5 November 2021 amounting to £29.7m (2020: £44.2m).

Subject to approval at the Annual General Meeting on 12 May 2022, a 2021 dividend of 1.1 pence per share will be paid on 24 June 2022 to holders on the register on 27 May 2022. The ordinary shares will be quoted ex-dividend on 26 May 2022.

32. Related parties

32.1 Controlling shareholder

The ultimate parent undertaking is CHP Software and Consulting Limited (the 'Parent'), which is the parent undertaking of the smallest and largest group in relation to these consolidated financial statements. The ultimate controlling party is Andrew Page.

32.2 Basis of consolidation

The principal subsidiaries and joint ventures of the Group and the Group percentage of equity capital are set out below. All these are consolidated within the Group's financial statements.

	Registered address and country of incorporation	Principal activity	Held by Company 2021	Held by Group 2021	Held by Company 2020	Held by Group 2020
Alfa Financial Software Group Limited	Moor Place, 1 Fore Street Avenue, London, EC2Y 9DT, UK	Holding company	100%	100%	100%	100%
Alfa Financial Software Limited	Moor Place, 1 Fore Street Avenue, London, EC2Y 9DT, UK	Software and services	–	100%	–	100%
Alfa Financial Software Inc	350N Old Woodward Avenue, Birmingham, MI 48009, USA	Software and services	–	100%	–	100%
Alfa Financial Software Australia Pty Limited	Lisgar House, Level 3, 32 Carrington Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000, Australia	Services	–	100%	–	100%
Alfa Financial Software NZ Limited	Level 1 Building B, 600 Great South Road, Greenlane, Auckland 1051, New Zealand	Services	–	100%	–	100%
Alfa Financial Software GmbH	Bockenheimer Landstraße 20, 60323 Frankfurt am Main, Germany	Software and services	–	100%	–	100%
Alfa iQ	Moor Place, 1 Fore Street Avenue, London, EC2Y 9DT, UK	Software and services	–	51%	–	51%

Alfa iQ was established in May 2020 – see note 19 for more detail.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 CONTINUED

32. Related parties continued

32.3 Transactions with related parties

Full details of the Directors' compensation and interests are set out in the Directors' Remuneration Report on pages 100 to 121.

See note 8 for further detail on monies paid to key management (including Directors).

Dividends to the amount of £21.7m were paid to the Parent (2020: £29.6m).

Dividends of 1 pence and 10 pence per share were paid to all shareholders in 2021 (2020: 15 pence per share). Directors and other key management received dividends based on their beneficial interest in the shares of the Company. Directors' beneficial interests in the shares of the Company are disclosed in the Remuneration Report on page 116.

The balances outstanding from the Parent at 31 December 2021 and 2020 were £nil and £nil respectively.

In the prior period the Group invested £0.4m in Alfa iQ consisting of: a capital contribution of £0.3m; and an interest-free loan fair valued at £0.1m. At 31 December 2021 the value of the investment is carried at £0.2m (2020: £0.3m) and the loan fair valued at £0.1m (2020: £0.1m).

In the current period, the Group entered into a rental agreement with CHP Software and Consulting Limited for rental of a meeting room on the 9th floor of Moor Place for £0.03m per annum (2020: £nil) and at 31 December 2021 there was £nil balance outstanding from, or to, the Parent (2020: £nil).

There were no other outstanding receivable balances from related parties at the end of the reporting period.

33. Offsetting assets and liabilities

Assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount is reported in the consolidated statement of financial position where Alfa currently has a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts, and there is an intention to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

The following table presents the recognised assets and liabilities that are offset as at 31 December 2021 and 31 December 2020 in the consolidated statement of financial position.

31 December 2021 £m	Gross amounts	Amounts offset	Net amounts presented
Accrued income	14.0	(7.7)	6.3
Contract liabilities – deferred licence	(13.0)	7.7	(5.3)
31 December 2020 £m	Gross amounts	Amounts offset	Net amounts presented
Accrued income	12.6	(7.6)	5.0
Contract liabilities – deferred licence	(9.5)	7.6	(1.9)

COMPANY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

£m	Note	2021	2020
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Investment in subsidiary companies	4	427.6	348.7
Total non-current assets		427.6	348.7
Current assets			
Other receivables	5	0.1	0.2
Cash and cash equivalents	6	0.1	0.1
Total current assets		0.2	0.3
Total assets		427.8	349.0
Liabilities and equity			
Current liabilities			
Amounts owed to subsidiaries	7	39.9	0.2
Other payables	8	0.7	0.4
Accruals		0.4	0.4
Total current liabilities		41.0	1.0
Non-current liabilities			
Amounts owed to subsidiaries	7	–	–
Provision	8	0.2	–
Total non-current liabilities		0.2	–
Total liabilities		41.2	1.0
Capital and reserves			
Ordinary shares	9	0.3	0.3
Own shares	10	(3.4)	–
Retained earnings		389.7	347.7
Total equity		386.6	348.0
Total liabilities and equity		427.8	349.0

Retained earnings includes a profit of £74.8m for the 2021 financial year (31 December 2020: £79.8m). See the statement of changes in equity on the next page for further detail.

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption under Section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 from presenting its own profit and loss account.

The above Company statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

The Company financial statements on pages 173 to 178 were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 8 March 2022 and signed on its behalf.

Andrew Denton
Chief Executive Officer

Duncan Magrath
Chief Financial Officer

Alfa Financial Software Holdings PLC
Registered number 10713517

COMPANY STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

£m	Note	Called-up share capital	Own shares	Retained earnings	Total equity
Balance as at 1 January 2020		0.3	–	310.7	311.0
Total comprehensive profit for the period		–	–	79.8	79.8
Employee share schemes – value of employee services	11	–	–	1.4	1.4
Dividends	12	–	–	(44.2)	(44.2)
Balance as at 31 December 2020		0.3	–	347.7	348.0
Total comprehensive profit for the period		–	–	74.8	74.8
Employee share schemes – value of employee services	11	–	–	1.1	1.1
Dividends	12	–	–	(32.7)	(32.7)
Own shares acquired	10	–	(4.6)	–	(4.6)
Own shares issued	10	–	1.2	(1.2)	–
Balance as at 31 December 2021		0.3	(3.4)	389.7	386.6

As at 31 December 2021 £3.4m (2020: £2.3m) of the retained earnings balance relates to reserves held to settle the Alfa employee share schemes, and does not qualify as distributable reserves.

The above Company statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

NOTES TO THE COMPANY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1. Summary of significant accounting policies

Alfa Financial Software Holdings PLC is a public company limited by shares and is incorporated and domiciled in England. These financial statements are the separate financial statements for the Company.

The registered office is Moor Place, 1 Fore Street Avenue, London, EC2Y 9DT, United Kingdom. The registered no. of Alfa is 10713517.

The principal activity of the Company is as a holding company.

1.1 Statement of compliance and basis of preparation

The financial statements of Alfa Financial Software Holdings PLC have been prepared in compliance with Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland ('FRS 102') and the Companies Act 2006.

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out above. These policies have been consistently applied to the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

These financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention. The Directors have used the going concern principle on the basis that the current profitable financial projections of the Company and its subsidiaries indicate they will continue in operation for the foreseeable future. As described in note 1.1 to the Consolidated financial statements, this assessment includes downside stress testing in line with FRC guidance.

The Company financial statements have been prepared in pounds sterling which is the functional and presentational currency of the Company and have been presented in £m.

As permitted by FRS 102 the Company has taken advantage of the disclosure exemptions available under that standard in relation to financial instruments, presentation of a Cash Flow Statement, share-based payments, the aggregate remuneration of key management personnel and related party transactions with other wholly-owned members of the Group.

The parent company meets the definition of a qualifying entity under FRS 102. Where required, equivalent disclosures are given in the Group accounts of Alfa Financial Software Holdings PLC.

In the current period it was concluded that the Company exercises control over the employee benefit trust because it is exposed to, and has a right to, variable returns from this trust and is able to use its power over the trust to affect those returns. Therefore the trust has been consolidated by the Company. The impact of consolidation of the trust in the prior period was immaterial.

1.2 Investments in subsidiaries

Subsidiaries are all entities over which the Company has control. The Company controls an entity when the Company is exposed to, or has rights to, variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power over the entity.

Unless otherwise stated, subsidiaries have share capital consisting solely of ordinary shares, and the proportion of ownership interests held equals the voting rights held by the Company. The country of incorporation or registration is also each subsidiary's principal place of business.

Investments in subsidiary undertakings are stated at cost, including those costs associated with the acquisitions, less provision for any impairment in value. Where events or changes in circumstances, including an adverse movement in the share price, indicate that the carrying amount of an investment may not be recoverable, an impairment review is performed. An impairment write-down is recognised to the extent that the carrying amount of the asset exceeds the higher of the fair value less cost to sell and value in use.

Any subsidiary undertakings sold or acquired during the year are included up to, or from, the dates of change of control. Where control of a subsidiary is lost it is recognised in the profit or loss.

Amounts subsidiaries are unsecured, interest-free and repayable on demand. The carrying amounts of such payables are considered to be the same as their fair values due to their short-term nature.

1.3 Financial assets

Basic financial assets, including trade and other receivables, cash and bank balances and other receivables, are initially recognised at transaction price, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction.

At the end of each reporting period financial assets measured at amortised cost are assessed for objective evidence of impairment. If an asset is impaired the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the estimated cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. The impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

NOTES TO THE COMPANY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 CONTINUED

1.4 Financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including trade and other payables and trading balances and loans from subsidiaries are initially recognised at transaction price, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. The Company derecognises financial liabilities when, and only when, the Company's obligations are discharged, cancelled or expired.

Other payables are initially recorded at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. As the total carrying amount is due within the next 12 months from the balance sheet date, the impact of applying the effective interest method is not significant and therefore the carrying amount equals to the contractual amount or the fair value initially recognised.

Payables are classified as current liabilities if receipt or payment is due within one year or less.

1.5 Equity

Ordinary shares

Ordinary shares are classified as equity. There are no restrictions on the distribution of capital and the repayment of capital.

Own shares

Own shares represent the shares of Alfa Financial Software Holdings PLC that are held by the employee benefit trust. Own shares are recorded at cost and deducted from equity.

1.6 Employee share schemes

Grants made to subsidiary employees will not result in a charge recognised in the income statement, any charges for share-based payments are recognised as an increase in the cost of investment in subsidiaries (as a capital contribution). For full details of the Group's share-based payments, refer to note 29 to the consolidated financial statements.

1.7 Dividends

Dividends are recognised through equity when approved by Alfa's shareholders or on payment, whichever is earlier.

2. Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. There were no critical accounting judgements that would have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the parent company financial statements or key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that would have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

3. Financial risk management

The Company's exposure to financial risks is managed as part of the Group's financial risk management. Full details about the Group's exposure to financial risks and how these risks could affect the Group's future financial performance are given in note 3 to the consolidated financial statements.

4. Investments in subsidiaries

£'000s	2021	2020
Cost		
As at 1 January	348.7	347.4
Capital contributions to subsidiaries	0.9	1.3
Reversal of impairment	78.0	–
As at 31 December	427.6	348.7

The carrying amount of the investment is £427.6m at 31 December 2021 (2020: £348.7m). The recoverable amount of the investment was determined based on value-in-use calculations using cash flow projections of the Company and its subsidiaries from financial budgets and forecasts for a five-year period using a pre-tax discount rate of 11% (2020: 11%). Cash flows beyond these periods have been extrapolated using a steady 2% (2020: 2%) average growth rate. This growth rate does not exceed the long-term average growth rate for the markets in which the Company and its subsidiaries operate. In addition, the market capitalisation of the Company as at 31 December 2021 was £569.0m. As the recoverable amount, and the market capitalisation of the Company, are in excess of the carrying amount of the investment, no impairment charge has been recognised during the current financial year.

As the circumstances that resulted in an impairment charge in 2018 of £78.0m no longer apply, it has been reversed in the current year.

5. Other receivables

At 31 December 2021, other receivables relate to prepayments of £0.0m (2020: £0.2m) and VAT receivables of £0.1m (2020: £0.0m).

6. Cash and cash equivalents

£m	2021	2020
Cash and cash equivalents	0.1	0.1

7. Amounts owed to subsidiaries

£m	2021	2020
Amounts owed to subsidiaries – current	39.9	0.2
Amounts owed to subsidiaries – non-current	–	–
Total amounts owed to subsidiaries	39.9	0.2

Current amounts owed to subsidiaries of £39.9m relate primarily to cash advanced by Alfa Financial Software Limited to the Company for dividend payments (2020: £0.2m).

8. Other payables and provision for other liabilities

Other payables relate to accruals of social security and other taxes of £0.0m (2020: £0.1m), trade creditors of £0.1m (2020: £0.1m) and salary costs of £0.6m (2020: £0.2m).

Long-term provision relates to the employer national insurance contribution of £0.2m of the 2021 and 2020 share grant expense that relates to the employees of the Company (2020: £0.0m).

9. Called-up share capital

Each ordinary share has a par value of 0.1 pence. All shares are fully paid and have equal voting rights.

Issued and full paid	Shares – ordinary	£m
At 31 December 2021	300,000,000	0.3
At 31 December 2020	300,000,000	0.3

10. Own Shares

	2021 £m	2020 £m
Balance at 1 January	–	–
Acquired in the year	4.6	–
Issued on exercise of options	(1.2)	–
Balance at 31 December	3.4	–

The own shares reserve represents the cost of shares in Alfa Financial Software Holdings PLC purchased in the market and held by the Company's employee benefit trust to satisfy options under the Group's share options plans (see Note 1.2 of the Group accounts). The number of ordinary shares held by the employee benefit trust at 31 December 2021 was 2,590,260 (2020: 552,783). As at 31 December 2021, the Company held 0.86% (2020: 0.18%) of its own called up share capital.

11. Employee share schemes

Under the rules of the Company's LTIP plans, on 1 June 2018, 1 November 2019, 2 June 2020, 30 April 2021 and 30 November 2021 selected employees of the Company's subsidiary were granted awards in the form of nil cost options over ordinary shares in Alfa.

On 30 November 2021, employees of the Company's subsidiary that met the set criteria were invited to join a ShareSave Scheme – the SAYE scheme for the UK employees and the ESPP scheme for the US employees. Under these schemes, eligible employees can save up to a set limit each month and at the end of the vesting period can use these savings to buy ordinary shares in Alfa (at a discount) or take these back as cash.

Refer to note 29 of the consolidated accounts for more detail on these schemes. The cost of the share-based remuneration is passed to the relevant subsidiary.

NOTES TO THE COMPANY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 CONTINUED

12. Dividends

A 2020 ordinary dividend of 1 pence per share was paid on 2 July 2021 amounting to £3.0m (2020: £nil).

A special dividend of 10 pence per share was paid on 5 November 2021 amounting to £29.7m (2020: £44.2m).

Subject to approval at the Annual General Meeting on 12 May 2022, a 2021 dividend of 1.1 pence per share will be paid on 24 June 2022 to holders on the register on 27 May 2022. The ordinary shares will be quoted ex-dividend on 26 May 2022.

Refer to note 31 of the consolidated accounts for more detail.

13. Directors' remuneration

The Company has no employees other than the Directors. Full details of the Directors' compensation and interests are set out in the Directors' Remuneration Report on pages 100 to 121.

14. Events occurring after the reporting period

On 18 January 2022 the Group announced the launch of a share buyback programme. Refer to the Company website for more details. There have been no other reportable subsequent events.

15. Related party and ultimate controlling party

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption under FRS 102:33.1A from disclosing transactions with other members of the Group.

The immediate and ultimate parent undertaking is CHP Software and Consulting Limited, which is the parent undertaking of the smallest and largest group to consolidate these financial statements. The registered office of the immediate and ultimate parent undertaking is Moor Place, 1 Fore Street Avenue, London EC2Y 9DT and copies of the financial statements of CHP Software and Consulting Limited can be obtained from this address. The ultimate controlling party is Andrew Page.

See a full listing of Company's subsidiaries and joint venture in note 32.2 of the Group accounts.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

API: Application Programming Interface.

AGM: Annual General Meeting.

Alfa: The Group or Alfa Financial Software Holdings PLC and its subsidiary undertakings (as defined by the Companies Act 2006).

APM: Alternative Performance Measure.

Articles: The Articles of Association of the Company.

Banks: Customers classified as banking institutions are finance entities associated with regulated banking groups.

Basic earnings per share: Calculated by dividing the profit attributable to equity holders of Alfa by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the year.

Board: The Board of Directors of Alfa Financial Software Holdings PLC.

Companies Act: The Companies Act 2006 (as amended).

CEO: Chief Executive Officer.

CFO: Chief Financial Officer.

CGU: Cash-generating unit.

Company: Alfa Financial Software Holdings PLC, a company incorporated in England and Wales with registered number 10713517 whose registered office is at Moor Place, 1 Fore Street Avenue, London, EC2Y 9DT, United Kingdom.

CLT: Company Leadership Team.

CODM: Chief Operating Decision Maker.

COO: Chief Operating Officer.

CSR: Corporate Social Responsibility.

Customer concentration: The proportion of group revenues made up by the top 5 or top 10 customers, in each relevant period as stated

DBSP: Deferred Bonus Share Plan.

Directors: The Directors of the Company whose names are set out on pages 74 to 75.

Disclosure and Transparency Rules: The Disclosure and Transparency Rules made under Part VI of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (as amended).

EMEA: Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

ESG: Environmental, Social and Governance.

EPS: Earnings per share.

EU: European Union.

EURIBOR: the Euro Interbank Offer Rate.

FCA: Financial Conduct Authority

FCF: Free cash flow.

FRC: The Financial Reporting Council.

FTE: Full time equivalent.

FVOCI: Fair value through other comprehensive income.

FVTPL: Fair value through profit or loss.

GHG: Greenhouse gases.

Group: Alfa Financial Software Holdings PLC and its subsidiaries.

HMRC: Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs.

KPI: Key performance indicator.

IP: Intellectual property.

IRT: Incident Response Team.

I&S: Implementation and Support ("I&S") expense.

LIBOR: London Inter-bank Offered Rate.

LTIP: Long-Term Incentive Plan.

ML: Machine Learning.

OEMs: Original equipment and automotive manufacturers.

Operating free cash flow conversion: Operating free cash flow is calculated as cash from operations, less capital expenditures, less the principal element of lease payments in respect of IFRS 16. Operating free cash flow conversion represents Operating free cash flow generated as a proportion of Operating profit.

PDMR: Person Discharging Managerial Responsibilities.

PDP: Performance Development Plan.

RFI: Request for information.

R&PD: Research and product development.

SG&A: Sales, general and administrative expenses.

SI: Systems integrator.

SONIA: Sterling Overnight Index Average. The effective overnight interest rate paid by banks for unsecured transactions in the British sterling market.

STFR: Single total figure of remuneration.

TCV: Total contract value.

The Code: The UK Corporate Governance Code published by the FRC in July 2018.

TSR: Total shareholder return.

UAT: User acceptance testing

UI: User interface.

VAT: UK value added taxation.

XaaS: Everything as a service.

SHAREHOLDER INFORMATION

Alfa Financial Software Holdings PLC

Registered Office
Moor Place
1 Fore Street Avenue
London
EC2Y 9DT

www.alfasystems.com

T+44 (0)20 7588 1800
Registered Number: 10713517
Stock code: ALFA
ISIN: GB00BDHXPG30
LEI: 213800C5UOZHUTNUGA28

Investor relations

ir@alfasystems.com

Media relations

Tulchan Communications LLP

Auditor

RSM UK Audit LLP

Brokers

Barclays Bank plc
Investec Bank plc

Corporate lawyer

White & Case LLP

Remuneration advisors

Ellason LLP
Tapestry Global Compliance LLP

Registrar/shareholder queries

Equiniti Limited
Aspect House,
Spencer Road,
Lancing, West Sussex
BN99 6DA

Telephone 0371 384 2030 and outside the UK +44 (0)121 415 7047

Online: help.shareview.co.uk (from here, you will be able to securely email Equiniti with your enquiry.)