

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

## **KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

### **COMPANY INFORMATION**

#### **Directors**

J. Brooke  
J. H. Goold  
M. A. Kirkland  
Sir N. Knowles (appointed 29 January 2023)  
D. Charters (appointed 29 March 2023)  
S. J. Rajani (appointed 11 October 2023)  
J. P. Pither (resigned 24 January 2023)  
G. A. Harvey (resigned 29 March 2023)  
A. C. Rhodes (resigned 29 January 2023)

#### **Company secretary**

MSP Corporate Services Limited

#### **Registered number**

11504186

#### **Registered office**

Eastcastle House  
27-28 Eastcastle Street  
London  
United Kingdom  
W1W 8DH

#### **Independent auditor**

Royce Peeling Green Limited  
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors  
The Copper Room  
Deva City Office Park  
Trinity Way  
Manchester  
M3 7BG

## **KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

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## KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC

### CHAIRMAN AND CEO REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### Chairman's statement

- Strong first full year results, raising gross proceeds of £3.0m at 2.0p in February 2023, £3.0m at 2.5p in June 2023 and post the year-end in January 2024, £1.9m at 3.0p
- Investment gain of £2.6m (realised: £1.2m, unrealised: £1.4m)
- IRR of 55%, exceeding 25% target
- Year-end portfolio of £8.1m across four investments, including cash: THG (52.5%), NCC (20.6%), Angling Direct (12.3%) and TheWorks (11.6%)
- Profit before tax of £2.0m (FY22: loss of £290k)
- Experienced Board established, focused on unlocking trapped value in the UK stock market

It has been an encouraging first full year for Kelso. We have established an experienced team and delivered a good return for investors as we continue to build our brand and track record. Whilst the initial progress is pleasing, we have a long way to go to meet our significant ambition.

The UK market remains full of opportunity for an active and focussed investor like Kelso. UK valuations remain extremely low relative to other markets. Our efforts to unlock shareholder value through supportive activism will, I hope, reward investors with attractive investment returns over the medium term.

We are comfortable that our strategies for achieving strong returns in our four core investments are well thought out following significant due diligence, planning and our ongoing involvement. I hope during the course of 2024 investors will see the full benefits of the Kelso model. Boards of listed companies in the UK have become increasingly inundated with bureaucracy, sometimes at the expense of shareholder value, whilst privately owned businesses are able to focus significantly more on shareholder value. Kelso aims to bridge that divide by bringing those best practices from the private equity arena into the public markets. Finally, I have been extremely impressed by the quality of the research and integrity of the investment proposals brought to the board and also by the constructive engagement and challenge by the NEDs to the Executive Directors.

During 2024, I hope Kelso will make further significant advances to create a sustainable and robust business for the long term.

We are grateful to all our shareholders for their support.

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Sir N. Knowles  
Chairman

29 April 2024

## **KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

### **CHAIRMAN AND CEO REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

#### **CEO's statement**

In our first full year, we have successfully assembled an experienced team with a deep knowledge of the UK small and mid-cap market. The Directors own 20.5% of Kelso having participated in each funding round and so are highly aligned with shareholders.

During the year, we initiated our portfolio with strategic stakes in THG Plc ('THG'), NCC Group Plc ('NCC'), TheWorks.co.uk Plc ('TheWorks') and Angling Direct Plc ('Angling Direct'). We identified these investments as deep value opportunities, each presenting substantial potential for growth and shareholder accretion. As at the year-end, our total investments were valued at £8.12m before raising additional funds in January 2024 of £1.88m, the maximum we could raise without the need for a prospectus.

Our investment strategy is centred on active and supportive engagement with our portfolio companies and their management to help them significantly enhance their market value.

The opportunity in the UK small and mid-cap space remains significant as detailed in a recent article in the Financial Times which highlighted UK stocks as being 'staggeringly cheap'. The analysis showed that stocks on the MSCI UK index were 47% cheaper than those on the US equivalent.

#### **Review of 2023**

##### **Financial performance**

The investment gain on our investment portfolio in our first year to 31 December 2023 was £2.58m, equating to an investment IRR of 54.6%, of which £1.15m was realised and £1.43m was unrealised. Kelso made a profit pre-tax and pre-MIP provision of £2.14m. The profit pre-tax, post-MIP, was £2.03m. The provision for the MIP was £108k, which will vest after three years and crystallise from year 3 to year 5 from inception, payable in Kelso shares. It will reverse if the valuation of the investment portfolio falls prior to payment. The net asset value per share at the end of 2023 was 2.4p before the most recent fund raise in January 2024 at 3.0p.

In the year to 31 December 2023, the Board expenses have been kept to a minimum, the Directors have drawn no salaries and there have been no property costs. Our principal costs have been fund raising, listing, legal, accountancy and audit fees.

During the year Kelso bought back 4.55m shares for cancellation at an average price of 2p. Kelso will seek a renewed authority to buy back shares for cancellation at the 2024 General Meeting.

##### **Investments**

As at 31 December 2023, Kelso had 4 core investments of £7.9m and net cash of £0.24m totalling £8.1m, of which investment in THG represented £4.3m (52.5% of the portfolio), NCC £1.7m (20.6%), Angling Direct £1.0m (12.3%), TheWorks £0.9 (11.6%) and net cash £0.2m (3.0%).

##### **THG**

THG has three divisions: Beauty, Nutrition and e-commerce fulfilment with revenues to 31 December 2023 of £2.2bn with continuing adjusted EBITDA of £120.4m. Consensus EBITDA to 31 December 2024 is £151m with the market capitalisation being £900m as at 31 March 2024. Within Beauty, it has three businesses: multi branded beauty and make-up portals including Lookfantastic.com with 8.5m active customers selling multi branded products, an in-house and third-party manufacturing business and 8 owned beauty brands. THG also has the largest Direct to Consumer Nutrition business in the

## **KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

### **CHAIRMAN AND CEO REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

world selling an array of nutritional products mostly under the brand MyProtein. Finally, within e-commerce fulfilment, Ingenuity acts for in-house and third-party brands globally through a network of logistics facilities. THG was floated in 2020 with a market capitalisation of £5.4bn. Its value peaked in 2021 at almost 800p giving a market cap of £8bn. On IPO and post listing THG raised £1.7bn.

In January 2023, Kelso initially bought 5m shares in THG at 55p, subsequently increasing this exposure to 8m shares, maintaining an average in price at around 61p. In the second half of the year, as we began to diversify our portfolio, we sold shares generating a realised gain of £0.9m. THG's share price at the end of 2023 was 85p resulting in a further unrealised gain for the year of £1.2m. Subsequent to Kelso's year-end, THG's share price fell back to 60p at which point we bought a further 1m shares at 60p to give us 6m ordinary shares in total.

Kelso's investment thesis is that the valuation of the sum of the parts of THG is significantly greater than the market capitalisation. During 2023, we made several statements supporting this view and urging management to make this a core focus. The independent city broker Peel Hunt supported this view when they released an investment research note on 22 March 2024 in which it set a price target of 141p but referred to a potential value of 280p based on a sum of the parts.

We believe that each of either the Beauty or Nutrition division is worth at least the current market capitalisation. We hope during 2024 that THG, as they recently stated was their intention, will demonstrate this value through a strategic or corporate transaction relating to at least one of its three businesses. Separately, we believe that one of the most impactful and positive actions THG can implement is to move its listing on the LSE from the standard list to the premium list. THG currently has very few passive indexed holders and most UK active fund managers do not have to consider an investment in THG as it is not in their performance benchmark of the premium index. We hope that this change of index happens in 2024 either naturally through the FCA changes or that THG is proactive and makes the change of listing itself.

As at 31 March 2024, our holding was 6m shares with an average in price of 61p, valued at £4.1m, which represented 46.4% of our portfolio.

On 10 April 2024, THG released its audited results for FY 2023 showing a material improvement in EBITDA and confirming the positive trading momentum in Q4 had continued into Q1, with particular strength in the Beauty division. On 23 April 2024, THG announced their Q1 statement showing overall revenue growth of 4.5%, with a notable performance from Beauty of 11.1%.

### **NCC**

NCC is a leader in software escrow services in the UK and US and has a fast growing cybersecurity business. The company serves a global client base of 15,000 companies and had a market capitalisation as at 31 March 2024 of £383m. The board suspended a strategic realisation plan in 2022 to separate NCC into two businesses. Under new management, significant strides have been made towards improving profitability and streamlining operations and Kelso's belief is that the potential value of these two businesses significantly exceeds the current market capitalisation.

Kelso bought its initial holding in October 2023 and at the year-end held 1.3m shares at an average cost of 109p. NCC's share price appreciated to 129p by 31 December 2023, thus delivering an unrealised gain of £262k. Following Kelso's fundraise in January 2024, we increased our investment in NCC purchasing additional shares to bring our total holding to 1.5m shares. We remain extremely pleased with the progress at NCC and continue to see significant potential for further value creation.

NCC released its interim results in January 2024, which were reassuring, being in line with expectations, and reported that its strategy was transforming the business at pace'. We are also pleased that the company has arranged two capital markets briefings in the first half of this year for

## **KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

### **CHAIRMAN AND CEO REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

its two main operating divisions. Management are focussed on maximising shareholder value and appear to be executing the right strategy to achieve this.

As at 31 March 2024, our holding was 1.5m shares, with an average cost price of 110.5p, valued at £1.9m, which represented 21.0% of the portfolio.

#### **TheWorks.co.uk**

TheWorks is the UK's leading family-friendly retailer of value gifts, arts and craft, toys, books and stationery products with a portfolio of 12 proprietary brands. It operates a chain of over 500 retail stores based in the UK and Ireland and reported revenue in the year to 30 April 2023 of £280m with EBITDA of £9.0m. Its market capitalisation at the year-end was c.£15.0m.

As at 31 December 2023, Kelso's investment in TheWorks comprised 3.4m shares, purchased at an average price of 33.5p. The shares were valued at 27.6p by year-end due to a reduction in expected profits for the year, resulting in an unrecognised loss of £205k for our holding. Subsequent to the year-end, following Kelso's fund raise, we increased our holding to 3.7m shares, representing 6% of TheWorks, resulting in an improved average purchase price of 31.0p.

On 14 February 2024, John Gould and Mark Kirkland were appointed to the board of directors of TheWorks. John and Mark do not sit on any committees but instead focus purely on shareholder value. Kelso is paid a fee of £50,000 a year by TheWorks for the services of John and Mark. This initiative reflects our proactive approach to governance and investment management, aiming to significantly enhance shareholder returns through strategic oversight and guidance.

Kelso believes that The Works can return to previous historic EBITDA margins of 5% and maintain its revenue of approaching £300m. As at 31st March 2024 its market capitalisation remains at c.£15.0m.

As at 31 March 2024, our holding was 3.7m shares, with an average in price of 32.6p, valued at £1.0m, which represented 10.9% of the portfolio.

#### **Angling Direct**

Angling Direct was founded in 1986 and is the UK's largest fishing tackle retailer. The business sells a broad range of own brand and third party fishing tackle through a network of 46 retail stores and its own website with a revenue split of 55/45. Its retail outlets are typically out of town and between 3,000 and 5,000 square feet in size. Angling Direct also operates one store in Europe alongside a warehouse.

Angling Direct listed on AIM in 2018 with a market capitalisation of £27m, supported by revenues of £21m and EBITDA of c.£1m. On IPO and subsequently, the company has raised more than £32m, enabling expansion to 47 outlets. Despite the fact that revenue has grown over four-fold to an expected £94m in the current year to 31 January 2025, with EBITDA growing over three-fold to an estimated £3.2m, its market capitalisation remains at a similar level to that at the time of the IPO. At the 31 March 2024, the market capitalisation is £28m and the business has net cash of £16m reported as at January 2024.

Kelso owned 2.3m shares in Angling Direct at the year end which it bought at an average price of 35p. At year-end, the shares were priced at 43p thus producing an unrealised gain of £183k.

In April 2024, Kelso had an encouraging meeting with the chairman of Angling Direct. We believe that Angling Direct should continue to extend its market share in the UK by consolidating smaller operators, focussing on improving gross margins through buying and pricing initiatives, and

## KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC

### CHAIRMAN AND CEO REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

continuously review the European expansion cautiously. At the same time, given the strength of its balance sheet we believe they should consider at least a small buy back of ordinary shares, to cancel or for the EBT.

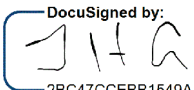
As at 31 March 2024, our holding was 2.45m shares, with an average in price of 35p, valued at £0.9m, which represented 9.7% of the portfolio.

#### Outlook and portfolio as at the 31 March 2024

The Board of Kelso is pleased with its portfolio and its progress in the first few months of 2024. The UK stock market remains challenging but we hope initiatives like the new British ISA will help stimulate demand, in particular for the UK's smaller companies which remain lowly valued. We also believe that as inflation and interest rates ultimately fall the potential returns from UK small and mid-cap stocks will become more attractive.

As at 31 March 2024, Kelso's portfolio including cash was valued at £8.9m, consisting of four core investments of £7.9m plus toe-hold investments of £0.5m and net cash of £0.6m, of which investment in THG represented £4.1m (46.4% of the portfolio), NCC £1.9m (21.0%), TheWorks £1.0m (10.9%) and Angling Direct £0.9m (9.7%), toe-hold investments £0.5m (5.8%), with net cash of £0.6m (6.2%). The main changes to the portfolio subsequent to the January 2024 fund raise of £1.9m are an increase in the THG holding of 1.0m shares at 60p, an increase in the NCC holding of 200k shares at 122p, a small increase in TheWorks of 300k shares at 25p and new toe-hold investments.

The Board is committed to enhancing its position in the UK market by helping companies and their investors unlock trapped value. In particular, we aim to leverage our expertise to ensure that boards are doing everything possible to maximise shareholder value. We believe that many of the UK's c.50 stocks that left UK listed markets in 2023 were bought simply because they were undervalued. The responsibility of public company directors to maximise value has never been more critical. We believe that the current year will see our desired minimum return of 25%. Patience as ever will be required but we are confident that the intrinsic value of our investments will come through during 2024.

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J GOOLD  
CEO

29 April 2024



## **KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

### **GROUP STRATEGIC REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

#### **Introduction**

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

#### **Business review**

Following the board's strategy changes in the previous year, Kelso Holdings Plc set up a subsidiary company, Kelso Ltd, to carry out all the trading activities of the newly formed Group, with Kelso Holdings Plc becoming a holding company. Kelso Group seeks to identify, engage and unlock trapped value in UK listed companies. Through active engagement and alignment with other stakeholders, taking stakes directly, Kelso aims to effect change where existing shareholders are often unable or unwilling to do so themselves.

#### **Financial key performance indicators**

Management considers the following as key performance indicators. As this is the first effective year of trading activity, no comparative are listed.

	2023
EBITDA	£2,117k
Net assets value per share	2.41p
Earnings per share	0.56p
Return on Equity	20.7%

## **KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

### **GROUP STRATEGIC REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 Principal risks and uncertainties**

The Group's activities expose it to a number of risks including portfolio risk, contract for differences risk, capital management risk, interest rate risk, foreign exchange risk, credit risk and liquidity risk. The policies for managing these risks are regularly reviewed and agreed by the Board.

#### **(a) Market risk**

##### **Portfolio risk**

The group invested in listed shares in the period. In doing so, the group's portfolio of investment is exposed to market fluctuations. Management closely monitors the market price of their investment to minimise adverse risk and are monitoring the stock market for opportunities to diversify the portfolio.

##### **Contract For Differences risk**

The group invested in Contract For Differences (CFD) in the year. Management is experienced in CFD trading and have chosen a highly respected CFD provider to minimise counterparty risks or delays. The CFD were fully repaid at the year end.

##### **Foreign exchange risk**

The Group operates in the United Kingdom and as such the majority of its financial assets and liabilities are denominated in sterling, and there is no material exposure to exchange risks.

##### **Cash flow and fair value interest rate risk**

As at 31 December 2023 and since that time there have been no loans outstanding and no undrawn overdraft facilities available to the Group.

#### **(b) Credit risk**

The Group does not currently have any significant credit risks as it has no trade receivables. Other receivables relate to VAT and are considered fully recoverable.

#### **(c) Liquidity risk**

Cash balances and borrowings are managed so as to maximise interest earned and minimise interest paid, while maintaining the liquidity requirement of the business. When seeking borrowings, the directors' consider the commercial terms available and, in consultation with their advisors, consider whether such terms should be fixed or variable and are appropriate to the business.

The Group ensures it has adequate resource to discharge all of its liabilities.

##### **Capital management risk**

The Group's main objective when managing capital is to protect returns to shareholders by ensuring the Group will continue to trade in the foreseeable future. The Group also aims to optimise its capital structure of debt and equity so as to minimise its cost of capital. The Group in particular reviews its levels of borrowing and the repayment dates, setting these out against forecast cash flows and reviewing the level of available funds.

The Board considers that these remain a current reflection of the risks and uncertainties facing the Group.

## **KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

### **GROUP STRATEGIC REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 Employees, social, community and human rights issues**

The Group does not have any employees other than the directors, with all support services provided by external parties. Therefore the directors believe that this information is not relevant for the year ended 31 December 2023 and have not disclosed any information to that effect.

As a Board, we believe that diversity is important as it supports good decision making and reduces the risk of groupthink by providing different viewpoints, ideas and challenge. As part of this, we believe that it is important for our Board to be diverse in terms of gender, ethnic and social backgrounds and have a broad range of perspectives to help us make better strategic decisions and lead by example in creating an inclusive culture for our people.

The Board considered and approved the following board composition changes throughout the year with Sir N Knowles, D Charters and S J Rajani replacing J P Pitcher, G A Harvey and A C Rhodes. Sir N Knowles was appointed as the Chairman. At 31 December 2023, the company had 5 male directors and 1 female director.

## **KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

### **GROUP STRATEGIC REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 Directors' section 172 statement**

The Board of Directors, in line with their duties under s172 of the Companies Act 2006, act in a way they consider, in good faith, would be most likely to promote the success of the Company for the benefit of its members as a whole, and in doing so have regards to a range of matters when making decisions for the long term. Key decisions and matters that are of strategic importance to the Group are appropriately informed by s172 factors.

Section 172 of the Companies Act 2006 requires the Directors to act in the way they consider, in good, faith, would be most likely to promote the success of the Group for the benefit of its members as a whole, having regard to various factors, including the matters listed below.

- a. The likely consequences of any decisions in the long-term;
- b. The interests of the Group's employees;
- c. The need to foster the Group's business relationship with suppliers, customers and others;
- d. The impact of the Group's operations on the community and environment;
- e. The desirability of the Group maintaining a reputation for high standards of business conduct;  
and
- f. The need to act fairly as between members of the Group.

The Directors believe that they have acted in the way most likely to promote the success of the Group for the benefit of its members as a whole, as required by s172 of the Companies Act 2006.

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Group has sought to act in a way that upholds these principles. The shareholders will be fully aware, through various announcements, shareholder meetings and financial communications, of the Board's broad and specific intentions and the rationale for its decisions.

The Group pays creditors promptly and keeps its costs to a minimum to protect shareholders funds. The Group promotes the concept of ESG (Environment, Sustainability, Governance) to its shareholders and suppliers. Our ethos is to provide an opportunity to make a positive impact on the community and the environment.

#### **The interests of the Group 's employees**

Although the Group has no employees, the directors who undertake functional activities on behalf of the Group are subject to high standards of compliance and conduct training, The Group requires all employees to comply with the FCA's individual conduct rules: to act with integrity; to act with due skill, care and diligence; to be open and cooperative with the FCA and other regulators; to pay due regard to the interests of customers and treat them fairly; and to observe proper standards of market conduct.

#### **Our investor stakeholder**


Our investor stakeholder group are interested in the success and sustainability of the business. We conduct extensive engagement with our investors throughout the year with regular reporting in the form of announcements and Annual General Meeting.

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

**GROUP STRATEGIC REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
Future developments**

As mentioned in the Chairman's report, the company completed a fund raise of £1.88m before expenses from an issue of ordinary shares on 23 January 2024.

This report was approved by the board on 29 April 2024 and signed on its behalf.

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**M. A. Kirkland**  
Director

## **KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

### **DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

#### **Directors' responsibilities statement**

The directors are responsible for preparing the Group strategic report, Remuneration report (shown within the Directors report), Directors' report and the consolidated financial statements, in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare consolidated financial statements for each financial year. Under that law they have elected to prepare the consolidated financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as adopted by the UK.

Under company law the directors must not approve the consolidated financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Group and the Company and of the profit or loss of the Group for that period. In preparing the consolidated financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether they have been prepared in accordance with IFRS as adopted by the UK, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- assess the Group and Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern; and
- use the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the Group or the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Parent Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Parent Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Group and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

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

The directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Group and Parent company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of the consolidated financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The directors consider that the annual report and financial statements, taken as a whole, is fair, balanced and understandable and provides the information necessary for shareholders to assess the Group and parent Company's position, performance, business model and strategy.

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023****Principal activity**

The principal activity of the Group is that of investment.

**Internal control**

The Board has the primary responsibility for the oversight of the Group's system of internal controls including controls over financial reporting. The Board seeks to ensure that the Group operates within a framework of prudent and effective controls that allow risks to be identified, assessed and managed.

Policies and manuals in relation to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and a Financial Control Framework (FCF) are in place across the Group. FCF is a first line framework that supports the Committee in enabling it to understand and assess the design and effectiveness of controls over financial reporting, covering IFRS and climate and other non-financial reporting. FCF is a risk-based approach with management identification, documentation, testing, remediation (as required), reporting and certification over key financial reporting-related controls.

The Board has completed its review and approval of the effectiveness of the Group's system of internal control policies and procedures, during the year and up to the date of this report, in accordance with the requirements of the guidance on risk management, internal control and related financial and business reporting published by the FRC. During this review, the Board did not identify any weaknesses which were determined to be significant to the preparation of the financial statements.

**Substantial shareholders**

The Company has been notified of the following interests of 3% or more in its issued share capital as at 31 December 2023:

	Shareholding 31 Dec 2023	%
Mr John H Goold	40,250,000	12.86
Mr Jason Walker	22,000,000	7.03
Mr Jamie Brooke	21,000,000	6.71
Mr Matthew Moulding	18,951,196	6.06
Hargreaves Lansdown Asset Mgt	16,260,791	5.20
Mr Roger McDowell	10,000,000	3.20
Mr Martin K Bolland	10,000,000	3.20
Mr Umar M Kamani	10,000,000	3.20
Mr Angus Monro	9,570,000	3.06

**Results and dividends**

The profit for the year, after taxation and non-controlling interests, amounted to £1,534,314 (2022 - loss £289,324).

The directors did not recommend a payment of a dividend during the year.

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
Internal control and risk management**

The directors intend, so far as appropriate given the Group's size and the constitution of the Board, to comply with the QCA Guidelines on Corporate Governance. As at 31 December 2023, the board comprises 6 members, 3 of whom are executives. As the Company's business has developed sufficiently, the directors have set up an audit committee and a remuneration committee comprising of three executive directors and three non-executive directors.

**Directors' remuneration**

The Board believes they have the relevant expertise and experience to determine the Group's framework for the remuneration of its directors including the design of an equity-based performance related Management Incentive Plan (MIP). There was no remuneration paid in the year other than remuneration accruing under the MIP. The directors were entitled to £107,616 in the form of MIP during the year (2022 £nil).

There are no agreements between the Group and its directors providing for compensation for loss of office or employment (whether through resignation, purported redundancy or otherwise), except for those relating to normal notice periods. Any termination payments in lieu of notice would consist solely of base pay, which is currently nil, and the cost of providing benefits for the outstanding notice period. Any statutory requirements will be observed. Our standard practice is to include within the directors' contractual terms mitigation provisions as regards to payments in lieu of notice.

The rules of the Group's share plans contain provisions under which options and awards to participants, including directors, may vest on a takeover or change of control of the Group or transfer of undertaking.

**Employees**

The Group has no employees other than the directors.

**Directors**

The directors who served during the year and their interests in the Group's issued ordinary share capital were:

	31/12/23
J Brooke	21,000,000
J H Goold	40,250,000
M A Kirkland	6,200,000
Sir N G Knowles	1,000,000
D Charters (appointed 29 March 2023)	200,000
G A Harvey(resigned 29 March 2023)	2,178,259

The directors who served during the year were:

J. Brooke  
J. H. Goold  
M. A. Kirkland  
Sir N. Knowles (appointed 29 January 2023)  
D. Charters (appointed 29 March 2023)  
S. J. Rajani (appointed 11 October 2023)  
J. P. Pither (resigned 24 January 2023)  
G. A. Harvey (resigned 29 March 2023)  
A. C. Rhodes (resigned 29 January 2023)



## **KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

### **DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

Biography of the directors are disclosed on Kelso's website at [kelsopl.com/who-are-we/](https://kelsopl.com/who-are-we/)

#### **Directors' indemnities**

Directors' insurance cover has been established for all Directors to provide appropriate cover for their reasonable actions on behalf of the Group.

The indemnities, which constitute a qualifying third-party indemnity provision as defined by section 234 of the Companies Act 2006, were in force during the 2023 financial year and remain in force for all current and past Directors of the Group.

#### **Future developments**

Future developments has been disclosed in the Strategic Report.

#### **Acquisition of own shares**

During the year Kelso Group Holdings Plc cancelled 4,550,000 of its own shares at a cost of £91,000.

#### **Greenhouse gas emissions, energy consumption and energy efficiency action**

The Group has not disclosed information in respect of greenhouse gas emissions, energy consumption and energy efficiency action as its energy consumption in the United Kingdom for the year is 40,000kWh or lower.

Based on the Group's size and operations, the Board has considered the related climate-related risks and opportunities on the group to be minimal and has decided against setting up a task force on climate-related financial disclosures at this time. The group's position on TCFD is being continually monitored and will be reviewed when the Board considers the impact of climate-related risks and opportunities to be relevant to the Group.

#### **Disclosure of information to auditor**

Each of the persons who are directors at the time when this Directors' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as the director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company and the Group's auditor is unaware, and
- the director has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a director in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company and the Group's auditor is aware of that information.

#### **Subsequent events**

As mentioned in the Chairman's report, the Group completed a fund raise of £1.9m before expenses from an issue of ordinary shares in January 2024.


**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

**DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**Auditor**

The auditor, Royce Peeling Green Limited, will be proposed for reappointment in accordance with section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Board on 29 April 2024 and signed on its behalf.

DocuSigned by:  
  
F44DE7450199469...

**M. A. Kirkland**  
Director

## **KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Kelso Group Holdings PLC (the 'Parent Company') and its subsidiaries (the 'Group') for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the Consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the Consolidated statement of financial position, the Company Statement of financial position, the Consolidated statement of cash flows, the Consolidated statement of changes in equity, the 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 and company financial statements is applicable law and UK adopted international accounting standards.

In our opinion:

- the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's and the Parent Company's affairs as at 31 December 2023 and of the Group's profit for the year then ended;
- the Group financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with IFRSs ; 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 Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Group and the 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.

#### **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 the Parent Company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting included:

- Discussions with the directors regarding the Group and parent Company's plans and timelines;
- Review of expenditure and overheads and reviewed the high level forecasts; and
- Review of post year end investment activity and fund raising.

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.

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

#### **Our approach to the audit**

The scope of our audit was the audit of the Group and parent Company for the year ended 31 December 2023. The audit was scoped by obtaining an understanding of the Group and parent

## **KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC (CONTINUED)**

Company and their environment, including the Group and parent Company's system of internal control and assessing the risks of material misstatement.

Audit work to respond to the assessed risks was planned and performed directly by the engagement team which performed full scope audit procedures.

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the 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 financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

#### **Key Audit Matter**

#### **How our scope addressed this matter**

Carrying value of investments within the Balance Sheet and the realised and unrealised gains addition to the Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income due to their material values.

For a sample of investments, we agreed the amount was recognised on acquisition;

We agreed a sample of investment share prices at the year end to third party source to validate the valuation;

We confirmed legal title of the investments is with the Group;

For realised gains, we obtained the disposal contract note confirming the amount received on disposal and comparing to the acquisition cost to ensure the Realised gain is correct; and

For unrealised gains at year end, we checked and agreed the accuracy of the calculation by comparing the acquisition value to the year end value.

#### **Our conclusion**

Based on the procedures performed, we are satisfied that the carrying value of investments and the realised and unrealised gains are materially stated.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC  
(CONTINUED)**

Under ISA (UK) 240 The Auditor's Responsibilities We considered the potential for the manipulation Relating to Fraud in an Audit of Financial of financial results to be a significant fraud risk. Statements, there is a presumed significant risk of management override of the system of internal Our work in this area included: controls.

The primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with management. Their role in the detection of fraud is an extension of their role in preventing fraudulent activity.

Management are responsible for establishing a sound system of internal control designed to support the achievement of policies, aims and objectives and to manage risks facing an entity; this includes the risk of fraud.

Management are in a unique position to perpetrate fraud because of their ability to manipulate accounting records and prepare fraudulent financial statements by overriding controls that otherwise appear to be operating effectively.

Review of journals processed during the period and in the preparation of the financial statements to determine whether these were appropriate;

Review of bank transactions throughout the period and since the year end for material, round sum or unusual amounts and evidenced these back to appropriate documentation;

Review of key estimates, judgements and assumptions within the financial statements for evidence of management bias and agreement of any such estimates to appropriate supporting documentation; and

Assessment of whether the financial results and accounting records included any significant or unusual transactions where the economic substance was not clear.

**Our conclusion**

Based on the procedures performed, we are satisfied that the accounting records and financial statements are free from material misstatements in this respect.

Valuation, measurement and accounting treatment of the Management Incentive Plan ("MiP") share option scheme given the basis of the calculations and range of vesting periods.

We discussed and agreed the basis of the calculation with key management;

We reviewed and agreed the calculation of the MiP, making reference to the underlying agreement; and

We undertook sensitivity analysis of the key calculation inputs to assess the impact on the valuation of the MiP.

**Our conclusion**

Based on the procedures performed, we are satisfied that the MiP has been calculated correctly and is free from material misstatement.

## **KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC (CONTINUED)**

#### **Our application of materiality**

The scope and focus of our audit was influenced by our assessment and application of materiality.

We define materiality as the magnitude of misstatement that could reasonably be expected to influence the readers and the economic decisions of the users of the financial statements. We use materiality to determine the scope of our audit and the nature, timing and extent of our audit procedures and to evaluate the effect of misstatements, both individually and on the financial statements as a whole.

Materiality for the Group financial statements as a whole was set at £203,000, determined with reference to the Gross Assets of the Group (2022: £15,000 based on net assets). This was considered an appropriate level of materiality given the limited trading activity of the Group and the Gross Assets are considered to be of the most interest to the users of the financial statements at this stage of operations. Performance materiality was set at £152,000, being 75% of materiality (2022: £9,000 being 62.5% of materiality). We report to the Board any corrected or uncorrected misstatements arising exceeding £8,000 (2022: £500).

A specific materiality level was set in relation to the Income Statement and Balance Sheet items other than Investments at £137,000, determined with reference to Profit Before Taxation of the Group. This was considered an appropriate level of materiality. Specific performance materiality was set at £103,000, being 75% of materiality. We report to the Board any corrected or uncorrected misstatements arising exceeding £5,000.

#### **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.

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC  
(CONTINUED)**

**Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion the part of the Directors' remuneration report to be audited has been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

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

- the information given in the Group strategic report and the Directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Group strategic report and the Directors' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

## **KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF KELSO GROUP 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 its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Group strategic report or the Directors' report.

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 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.

#### **Responsibilities of directors**

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement on page 11, 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We evaluated the directors' and management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to posting manual journal entries to manipulate financial performance, management bias through judgements and assumptions in significant accounting estimates and significant one-off or unusual transactions.

Our audit procedures were designed to respond to those identified risks, including non-compliance



## **KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC (CONTINUED)**

with laws and regulations (irregularities) and fraud that are material to the financial statements. Our audit procedures included but were not limited to:

- Discussing with the directors and management their policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations;
- Communicating identified laws and regulations throughout our engagement team and remaining alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout our audit; and
- Considering the risk of acts by the Group and parent Company which were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

Our audit procedures in relation to fraud included but were not limited to:

- Making enquiries of the directors and management on whether they had knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
- Gaining an understanding of the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud;
- Discussing amongst the engagement team the risks of fraud; and
- Addressing the risks of fraud through management override of controls by performing journal entry testing.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of irregularities including fraud rests with management. As with any audit, there remained a risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal controls.

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

#### **Other matters which we are required to address**

We were appointed by The Board on 7 March 2023 to audit the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 and subsequent financial periods. Our total uninterrupted period of engagement is two years, covering the periods ending 31 December 2022 to 31 December 2023.

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

Our audit opinion is consistent with the additional report to the Audit Committee.

#### **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.

KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC  
(CONTINUED)

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Royce Peeling Green Limited". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

Jonathan Hayward BA FCA (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of  
**Royce Peeling Green Limited**

Chartered Accountants  
Statutory Auditors

The Copper Room  
Deva City Office Park  
Trinity Way  
Manchester  
M3 7BG

29 April 2024

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Revenue</b>	6	2,577,401	-
<b>Gross profit</b>		2,577,401	-
Administrative expenses		(460,430)	(287,857)
<b>Profit/(loss) from operations</b>		2,116,971	(287,857)
Finance income		3,714	-
Finance expense		(121,217)	(1,467)
Income from fixed assets and dividends		31,500	-
<b>Profit/(loss) before tax</b>		2,030,968	(289,324)
Tax expense	11	(471,436)	-
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>		1,559,532	(289,324)
<b>Profit/(loss) for the year attributable to:</b>			
Owners of the parent		1,534,314	(289,324)
Non-controlling interests		25,218	-
		1,559,532	(289,324)
<b>Total comprehensive income attributable to:</b>			
Owners of the parent		1,534,314	(289,324)
Non-controlling interests		25,218	-
		1,559,532	(289,324)
		2023 Pence	2022 Pence
<b>Earnings per share attributable to the ordinary equity holders of the parent</b>			
<b>Profit or loss</b>			
Basic	12	0.56	(0.61)
Diluted	12	0.55	(0.61)

The notes on pages 32 to 52 form part of these financial statements.

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**  
**REGISTERED NUMBER: 11504186**

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Trade and other receivables	14	6,722	9,006
Cash and cash equivalents	16	240,332	332,971
Current asset investments	15	7,868,400	-
		<u>8,115,454</u>	<u>341,977</u>
<b>Total assets</b>		<u>8,115,454</u>	<u>341,977</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Deferred tax liability		274,913	-
		<u>274,913</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade and other liabilities	17	305,527	44,198
		<u>305,527</u>	<u>44,198</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<u>580,440</u>	<u>44,198</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>7,535,014</u>	<u>297,779</u>
<b>Issued capital and reserves attributable to owners of the parent</b>			
Share capital	18	3,129,750	475,250
Share premium reserve	19	3,194,577	320,150
Capital redemption reserve	19	45,500	-
Other reserves	19	107,616	-
Retained earnings	19	991,193	(497,621)
		<u>7,468,636</u>	<u>297,779</u>
Non-controlling interest	20	<u>66,378</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<u>7,535,014</u>	<u>297,779</u>

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**  
**REGISTERED NUMBER: 11504186**

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (CONTINUED)**  
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023**

The financial statements on pages 24 to 52 were approved and authorised for issue by the board of directors on 29 April 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

DocuSigned by:  
  
F44DE7450199469...

**M. A. Kirkland**  
Director

The notes on pages 32 to 52 form part of these financial statements.

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**  
**REGISTERED NUMBER: 11504186**

**COMPANY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Other non-current investments	13	2,974,998	-
		<u>2,974,998</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Trade and other receivables	14	2,768,949	9,006
Cash and cash equivalents	16	15,738	332,971
		<u>2,784,687</u>	<u>341,977</u>
<b>Total assets</b>		<u>5,759,685</u>	<u>341,977</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Deferred tax liability		(56,259)	-
		<u>(56,259)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade and other liabilities	17	14,398	44,198
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<u>(41,861)</u>	<u>44,198</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>5,801,546</u>	<u>297,779</u>
Share capital	18	3,129,750	475,250
Share premium reserve	19	3,194,577	320,150
Capital redemption reserve	19	45,500	-
Retained earnings	19	(568,281)	(497,621)
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<u>5,801,546</u>	<u>297,779</u>

The Company's loss for the year was £25,160 (2022 - £289,324).

The financial statements on pages 24 to 52 were approved and authorised for issue by the board of directors on 29 April 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

**M. A. Kirkland**  
 Director

The notes on pages 32 to 52 form part of these financial statements.

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Profit/(loss) for the year		1,559,532	(289,324)
<b>Adjustments for</b>			
Tax charges		471,436	-
Finance income		(3,714)	-
Finance expense		121,217	1,467
Unrealised gains on current assets investments	15	(1,432,303)	-
Share-based payment expense	22	107,616	-
		<u>823,784</u>	<u>(287,857)</u>
<b>Movements in working capital:</b>			
Decrease in trade and other receivables		2,284	38,583
Increase in trade and other payables		64,806	7,690
		<u>890,874</u>	<u>(241,584)</u>
<b>Cash generated from operations</b>			
		<u>890,874</u>	<u>(241,584)</u>
<b>Net cash from/(used in) operating activities</b>			
		<u>890,874</u>	<u>(241,584)</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Payments to acquire current assets investments	15	(9,972,293)	-
Proceeds on sale of current assets investments	15	3,536,196	-
		<u>(6,436,097)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net cash (used in)/from investing activities</b>			
		<u>(6,436,097)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Issue of ordinary shares		5,619,927	-
Issue of A ordinary shares		41,160	-
Purchase of ordinary shares for cancellation		(91,000)	-
Finance costs		(121,217)	(1,467)
Finance income		3,714	-
		<u>5,452,584</u>	<u>(1,467)</u>
<b>Net cash from/(used in) financing activities</b>			
		<u>5,452,584</u>	<u>(1,467)</u>
<b>Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents</b>			
		<u>(92,639)</u>	<u>(243,051)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of year		<u>332,971</u>	<u>576,022</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	16	<u><u>240,332</u></u>	<u><u>332,971</u></u>

The notes on pages 32 to 52 form part of these financial statements.

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Share capital	Share premium	Capital redemption reserve	Other reserves	Retained earnings	Total attributable to equity holders of parent	Non-controlling interest	Total equity
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>At 1 January 2022</b>	475,250	320,150	-	-	(208,297)	587,103	-	587,103
<b>Comprehensive income for the year</b>								
Loss for the year	-	-	-	-	(289,324)	(289,324)	-	(289,324)
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	-	-	-	-	(289,324)	(289,324)	-	(289,324)
<b>Contributions by and distributions to owners</b>								
<b>At 31 December 2022</b>	475,250	320,150	-	-	(497,621)	297,779	-	297,779
<b>At 1 January 2023</b>	475,250	320,150	-	-	(497,621)	297,779	-	297,779
<b>Comprehensive income for the year</b>								
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	1,534,314	1,534,314	25,218	1,559,532
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	-	-	-	-	1,534,314	1,534,314	25,218	1,559,532
<b>Contributions by and distributions to owners</b>								
Issue of share capital	2,700,000	2,919,927	-	-	-	5,619,927	-	5,619,927
Shares cancelled during the year	-	-	45,500	-	(45,500)	-	-	-
Shares cancelled during the year	(45,500)	-	-	-	-	(45,500)	-	(45,500)
Share based payments	-	-	-	107,616	-	107,616	-	107,616
Shares cancelled during the year	-	(45,500)	-	-	-	(45,500)	-	(45,500)
<b>Total contributions by and distributions to owners</b>	2,654,500	2,874,427	45,500	107,616	(45,500)	5,636,543	-	5,636,543



**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Share capital	Share premium	Capital redemption reserve	Other reserves	Retained earnings	Total attributable to equity holders of parent	Non-controlling interest	Total equity
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>	<u>3,129,750</u>	<u>3,194,577</u>	<u>45,500</u>	<u>107,616</u>	<u>991,193</u>	<u>7,468,636</u>	<u>25,218</u>	<u>7,493,854</u>

The notes on pages 32 to 52 form part of these financial statements.

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****COMPANY STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Share capital £	Share premium £	Capital redemption reserve £	Retained earnings £	Total equity £
<b>At 1 January 2022</b>	475,250	320,150	-	(208,297)	587,103
<b>Comprehensive income for the year</b>					
Loss for the year	-	-	-	(289,324)	(289,324)
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	-	-	-	(289,324)	(289,324)
<b>Contributions by and distributions to owners</b>					
<b>At 31 December 2022</b>	475,250	320,150	-	(497,621)	297,779
<b>At 1 January 2023</b>	475,250	320,150	-	(497,621)	297,779
<b>Comprehensive income for the year</b>					
Profit for the year	-	-	-	(25,160)	(25,160)
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	-	-	-	(25,160)	(25,160)
<b>Contributions by and distributions to owners</b>					
Issue of share capital	2,700,000	2,919,927	-	-	5,619,927
Purchase of own shares	-	-	45,500	(45,500)	-
Shares cancelled during the year	(45,500)	-	-	-	(45,500)
Shares cancelled during the year	-	(45,500)	-	-	(45,500)
<b>Total contributions by and distributions to owners</b>	2,654,500	2,874,427	45,500	(45,500)	5,528,927
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>	3,129,750	3,194,577	45,500	(568,281)	5,801,546

The notes on pages 31 to 52 form part of these financial statements.

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023****1. Reporting entity**

Kelso Group Holdings PLC (the 'Company') is a public limited company incorporated in the United Kingdom. The Company's registered office is at Eastcastle House, 27-28 Eastcastle Street, London, United Kingdom, W1W 8DH. These consolidated financial statements comprise the Company and its subsidiary (collectively the 'Group' and individually 'Group companies'). The principal activity of the parent company is that of a holding company and the principal of Kelso Ltd is that of an investment company.

**2. Basis of preparation**

The Group's consolidated and the Company's individual financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, International Accounting Standards and Interpretations as adopted by the UK (collectively IFRSs). They were authorised for issue by the Company's board of directors on 29 April 2024.

Details of the Group's accounting policies, including changes during the year, are included in note 4.

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption available under section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 and elected not to present its own Statement of comprehensive income in these financial statements.

In preparing these financial statements, management has made judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of the Group accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to estimates are recognised prospectively.

The areas where judgements and estimates have been made in preparing the consolidated financial statements and their effects are disclosed in note 5.

**2.1 Basis of measurement**

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis except for the following items, which are measured on an alternative basis on each reporting date.

<b>Items</b>	<b>Measurement basis</b>
Current assets investments	Fair value

Level 1 relates to quoted prices in active markets for an identical asset. The fair value of financial investments traded in active markets is based on quoted market prices at the balance sheet date. A market is regarded as active if quoted prices are readily and regularly available, and those prices represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis. The quoted market price used for financial assets held is the quoted price at the balance sheet date.

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023****2. Basis of preparation (continued)****2.2 Changes in accounting policies**

## i) New standards, interpretations and amendments effective from 1 January 2023

## Disclosure of Accounting Policies – Amendments to IAS 1 and IFRS Practice Statement 2

The amendments aim to help entities provide accounting policy disclosures that are more useful by replacing the requirement for entities to disclose their 'significant accounting policies' with a requirement to disclose 'material accounting policy information' and adding guidance on how entities apply the concept of materiality in making decisions about accounting policy disclosures.

## Definition of Accounting Estimates - Amendments to IAS 8

The amendments clarify the distinction between changes in accounting estimates and changes in accounting policies and the correction of errors. Also, they clarify how entities use measurement techniques and inputs to develop accounting estimates.

## International Tax Reform – Pillar Two Model Rules – Amendments to IAS 12

In May 2023, the Board issued amendments to IAS 12, which introduce a mandatory exception in IAS 12 from recognising and disclosing deferred tax assets and liabilities related to Pillar Two income taxes.

## Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction – Amendments to IAS 12.

The amendments clarify that where payments that settle a liability are deductible for tax purposes, it is a matter of judgement (having considered the applicable tax law) whether such deductions are attributable for tax purposes to the liability recognised in the financial statements (and interest expense) or to the related asset component (and interest expense). This judgement is important in determining whether any temporary differences exist on initial recognition of the asset and liability.

There are no new standards which have had a material impact in the annual financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

## ii) New standards, interpretations and amendments not yet effective

The following standards and interpretations to published standards are not yet effective:

<b>New standard or interpretation</b>	<b>EU Endorsement status</b>	<b>Mandatory effective date (period beginning)</b>
Amendment to IFRS 16 – Leases on sale and leaseback	Endorsed	1 January 2024
Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current and Non-current Liabilities with Covenants– Amendments to IAS 1	Endorsed	1 January 2024

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023****2. Basis of preparation (continued)****ii) New standards, interpretations and amendments not yet effective (continued)**

Disclosures: Supplier Finance Arrangements - Amendments to IAS 7 and IFRS 7	Not yet endorsed	1 January 2024
Lack of exchangeability – Amendments to IAS 21	Endorsed	1 January 2025
Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture – Amendments to IFRS 10 and IAS 28	Deferred	Retrospective application permitted

The directors anticipate that the adoption of these Standards in future periods will not have an impact on the results and net assets of the Company, however, it is too early to quantify this.

The directors anticipate that the adoption of other Standards and interpretations that are not yet effective in future periods will only have an impact on the presentation in the financial statements of the Company.

**3. Functional and presentation currency**

These consolidated financial statements are presented in British pound sterling, which is the Company's functional currency. All amounts have been rounded to the nearest pound, unless otherwise indicated.

**4. Material accounting policies****4.1 Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash comprises cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023****4. Material accounting policies (continued)****4.2 Basis of consolidation**

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the financial statements of the Company and entities (including structured entities) controlled by the Company and its subsidiaries. Control is achieved when the Company:

- has power over the investee;
- is exposed, or has rights, to variable returns from its involvement with the investee; and
- has the ability to use its power to affect its returns.

The Company reassesses whether or not it controls an investee if facts and circumstances indicate that there are changes to one or more of the three elements of control listed above.

When the Company has less than a majority of the voting rights of an investee, it has power over the investee when the voting rights are sufficient to give it the practical ability to direct the relevant activities of the investee unilaterally. The Company considers all relevant facts and circumstances in assessing whether or not the Company's voting rights in an investee are sufficient to give it power, including:

- the size of the Company's holding of voting rights relative to the size and dispersion of holdings of the other vote holders;
- potential voting rights held by the Company, other vote holders or other parties;
- rights arising from other contractual arrangements; and
- any additional facts and circumstances that indicate that the Company has, or does not have, the current ability to direct the relevant activities at this time that decisions need to be made, including voting patterns at previous shareholders' meetings.

Consolidation of a subsidiary begins when the Company obtains control over the subsidiary and ceases when the Company loses control of the subsidiary. Specifically, income and expenses of a subsidiary acquired or disposed of during the year are included in the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income from the date the Company gains control until the date when the Company ceases to control the subsidiary.

Profit or loss and each component of other comprehensive income are attributed to the owners of the Company and to the non-controlling interests. Total comprehensive income of subsidiaries is attributed to the owners of the Company and to the non-controlling interests even if this results in the non-controlling interests having a deficit balance.

When necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring their accounting policies into line with the Group's accounting policies.

All intragroup assets and liabilities, equity, income, expenses and cash flows relating to transactions between members of the Group are eliminated in full on consolidation.

## KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 4. Material accounting policies (continued)

##### 4.2 Basis of consolidation (continued)

Changes in the Group's ownership interests in existing subsidiaries

Changes in the Group's ownership interests in subsidiaries that do not result in the Group losing control over the subsidiaries are accounted for as equity transactions. The carrying amounts of the Group's interests and the non-controlling interests are adjusted to reflect the changes in their relative interests in the subsidiaries. Any difference between the amount by which the non-controlling interests are adjusted and the fair value of the consideration paid or received is recognised directly in equity and attributed to owners of the Company.

When the Group loses control of a subsidiary, a gain or loss is recognised in profit or loss and its calculated as the difference between (i) the aggregate of the fair value of the consideration received and the fair value of any retained interest and (ii) the previous carrying amount of the assets (including goodwill), and liabilities of the subsidiary and any non-controlling interests. All amounts previously recognised in other comprehensive income in relation to that subsidiary are accounted for as if the Group had directly disposed of the related assets or liabilities of the subsidiary (i.e. reclassified to profit or loss or transferred to another category of equity as specified/permitted by applicable IFRSs). The fair value of any investment retained in the former subsidiary at the date when control is lost is regarded as the fair value on initial recognition for subsequent account under IAS 39, when applicable, the cost on initial recognition of an investment in an associate or a joint venture.

##### 4.3 Revenue

Revenue consists of gains made on investment in listed companies shares. Investment income recognised in net income for fair-value investments consists of realised gains and losses resulting from the disposal of, and unrealised gains or losses resulting from the holding of trading investments. Income from current assets investments consists of dividends receivable.

Realised gains and losses are recognised on the disposal of the trading investments.

Unrealised gains and losses are measured based on the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Unrealised gains and losses are recognised in the statement of profit and loss to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits or costs can be reliably measured and will flow to the Company.

Dividend and interest income

Dividend income from investments is recognised when the shareholder's right to receive payment has been established (provided that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Group and the amount of revenue can be measured reliably).

Interest income from a financial asset is recognised when it is possible that the economic benefits will flow to the Group and the amount of income can be measured reliably. Interest income is accrued on a time basis, by reference to the principal outstanding and at the effective interest rate applicable, which is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset to that asset's net carrying amount on initial recognition.

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023****4. Material accounting policies (continued)****4.4 Financial instruments**

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when a Group entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instruments.

Financial assets and financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value. Transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition or issue of financial assets and financial liabilities (other than financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss) are added to or deducted from the fair value of the financial assets or financial liabilities, as appropriate, on initial recognition. Transaction costs directly attributable to the acquisition of financial assets or financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are recognised immediately in profit or loss.

**4.5 Financial assets**

All regular way purchases or sales of financial assets are recognised and derecognised on a trade date basis. Regular way purchases or sales are purchases or sales of financial assets that require delivery of assets within the time frame established by regulation or convention in the marketplace.

All recognised financial assets are subsequently measured in their entirety at either amortised cost or fair value, depending on the classification of the financial assets.

**4.6 Investments**

The Group holds equity investments which are classified as trading, based on the Group's intent to sell the security at the right price.

Trading securities are those investments which are purchased principally for the purpose of selling them in the near term. Trading securities are carried at fair value on the consolidated statements of financial condition with changes in fair value recorded in the consolidated statements of income during the period of the change.

**4.7 Non-controlling interests**

The Group attributes total comprehensive income or loss of subsidiaries between the owners of the parent and the non-controlling interests based on their respective ownership interests.

The Group includes one subsidiary, Kelso Ltd, with non-controlling interests arising in 2023. The non-controlling interests, including the share options represented 1.62% of the total shareholding. No dividends were paid in the year.



## **KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

### **NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

#### **4. Material accounting policies (continued)**

##### **4.8 Share options**

The A Shares issued by Kelso Ltd represent equity-settled share based payment arrangements under which the Group receives services as a consideration for the additional rights attached to these equity shares, over and above their nominal price.

Equity-settled share-based payments to certain of the Directors and others providing similar services are measured at the fair value of the equity instruments at the grant date. The fair value is expensed, with a corresponding increase in equity, on a straight-line basis from the grant date to the expected exercise date. Where the equity instruments granted are considered to vest immediately, the services are deemed to have been received in full, with a corresponding expense and increase in equity recognised at grant date.

The dilutive effect of outstanding share-based payments is reflected as share dilution in the computation of diluted EPS.

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023****5. Accounting estimates and judgements****5.1 Judgement**

When preparing the Financial Statements, management undertakes a number of judgements, estimates and assumptions about recognition and measurement of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. The actual results may differ from the judgements, estimates and assumptions made by management, and will seldom equal the estimated results.

**Management Incentive Plan**

The Group provides for the compensation to management arising from the Management Incentive Plan as estimated by reference to the share price performance and dividends in the year. The compensation is attached to rights Kelso Limited will have the right to convert the compensation entitlement in Kelso Ltd A shares into ordinary shares in Kelso Group Holdings Plc in years 3, 4 and 5. Management has applied judgement in forecasting the future growth of the Group and its investments.

The directors believe that there were no other significant judgements required with regard to the application of the Company's accounting policies in preparing these financial statements.

**5.2 Estimates and assumptions****Estimate and assumption**

The valuation of the investment portfolio is determined in accordance with the Group's valuation principles. All listed investments are measured at fair value and based on active market prices. Unrealised holding gains and losses are recognised in other comprehensive income. On sale, net gains and losses previously accumulated in other comprehensive income are transferred to retained earnings. Deferred tax provision is made on the unrealised gain at the year end on the assumption that the gain will be realised and the Group will continue to be profitable.

Estimates included within these financial statements relates to the Management Incentive Plan (MIP). The directors believe that the performance and market condition of the MIP will be met and a return hurdle between 8% and 15% p.a will be achieved by year 3. The directors believe that none of these estimates carry a significant estimation uncertainty, nor do they bear a significant risks of causing material adjustments to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the foreseeable future.

**6. Revenue**

The following is an analysis of the Group's revenue for the year from continuing operations:

	2023 £	2022 £
Realised gains on investments	1,145,098	-
Unrealised gains on investments	1,432,303	-
	<u>2,577,401</u>	<u>-</u>

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023****7. Finance income and expense****Recognised in profit or loss**

	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Finance income</b>		
Interest on:		
- Bank deposits	3,714	-
Total interest income arising from financial assets measured at amortised cost or FVOCI	<u>3,714</u>	<u>-</u>
Dividends received - listed investments	31,500	-
Total finance income	<u>35,214</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Finance expense</b>		
Interest on Contract for Difference	121,217	-
Other interest payable	-	1,467
Total finance expense	<u>121,217</u>	<u>1,467</u>
Net finance expense recognised in profit or loss	<u>(86,003)</u>	<u>(1,467)</u>

**8. Expenses by nature**

	2023 £	2022 £
Professional fees	291,613	-
Interest on Contract for Difference	121,217	-
Share based payments costs	107,616	-
	<u>520,446</u>	<u>-</u>

**9. Auditor's remuneration**

During the year, the Group obtained the following services from the Group's auditor and its associates:

	2023 £	2022 £
Fees payable for the audit of the Group's financial statements	<u>23,500</u>	<u>10,000</u>

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023****10. Employee benefit expenses**

Group

	2023 £	2022 £
Employee benefit expenses (including directors) comprise:		
Management Incentive Plan	107,616	-
	<u>107,616</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u><u>107,616</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>

**Key management personnel compensation**

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Group, including the directors of the Company listed on page 13.

	2023 £	2022 £
Management Incentive Plan	107,616	-
	<u>107,616</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u><u>107,616</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>

The monthly average number of persons, including the directors, employed by the Group and Company during the year was as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Directors	6	6
	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>
	<u><u>6</u></u>	<u><u>6</u></u>

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023****11. Tax expense****11.1 Income tax recognised in profit or loss**

	2023 £	2022 £
Current tax		
Current tax on profits for the year	196,523	-
Total current tax	<u>196,523</u>	<u>-</u>
Deferred tax expense		
Origination and reversal of timing differences	274,913	-
Total deferred tax	<u>274,913</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>471,436</u>	<u>-</u>

The reasons for the difference between the actual tax charge for the year and the standard rate of corporation tax in the United Kingdom applied to profits for the year are as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Profit/(loss) for the year	1,559,532	(289,324)
Income tax expense (including income tax on associate, joint venture and discontinued operations)	471,436	-
Profit/(loss) before income taxes	<u>2,030,968</u>	<u>(289,324)</u>
Tax using the Company's domestic tax rate of 25% (2022:19%)	507,742	(54,972)
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes, other than goodwill, amortisation and impairment	37,454	16,720
Non-taxable income less expenses not deductible for tax purposes, other than goodwill and impairment	(8,801)	-
Dividends from UK companies	-	38,252
Unrelieved tax losses carried forward	(56,259)	-
Marginal relief	(8,700)	-
Total tax expense	<u>471,436</u>	<u>-</u>

**Changes in tax rates and factors affecting the future tax charges**

As from the 1 April 2023, the UK tax rate on profits above £50,000 p.a. increased from 19% to 25% p.a with marginal relief available for profits in between £50,000 and £250,000. In 2022, the Group had accumulated tax losses of approximately £255,000 which was carried forward.

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023****12. Earnings per share**

## (i) Basic earnings per share

	2023 Pence	2022 Pence
From continuing operations attributable to the ordinary equity holders of the Company	0.56	(0.61)
Total basic earnings per share attributable to the ordinary equity holders of the Company	<u>0.56</u>	<u>(0.61)</u>

## (ii) Diluted earnings per share

	2023 Pence	2022 Pence
From continuing operations attributable to the ordinary equity holders of the Company	0.55	(0.61)
Total diluted earnings per share attributable to the ordinary equity holders of the Company	<u>0.55</u>	<u>(0.61)</u>

## (iii) Reconciliation of earnings used in calculating earnings per share

	2023 £	2022 £
Profit/(loss) attributable to the ordinary equity holders of the Company used in calculating basic earnings per share:		
From continuing operations	1,534,314	(289,324)
	<u>1,534,314</u>	<u>(289,324)</u>
Profit/(loss) from continuing operations attributable to the ordinary equity holders of the Company:		
Used in calculating basic earnings per share	1,534,314	(289,324)
Used in calculating diluted earnings per share	1,534,314	(289,324)
Profit/(loss) attributable to the ordinary equity holders of the Company used in calculating diluted earnings per share	<u>1,534,314</u>	<u>(289,324)</u>

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023****12. Earnings per share (continued)**

(iv) Weighted average number of shares used as the denominator

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Weighted average number of ordinary shares used as the denominator in calculating basic earnings per share	280,343,904	47,525,000
Adjustments for calculation of diluted earnings per share:		
Options	5,144,418	-
Weighted average number of ordinary shares and potential ordinary shares used as the denominator in calculating diluted earnings per share	<u>285,488,322</u>	<u>47,525,000</u>

On the 16th January 2024, Kelso Group Holdings Plc placed 62,594,999 shares bringing the total number of shares in issue to 375,569,999.

**13. Other non-current investments**

Company

	2023 £	2022 £
Investments in subsidiary companies	2,974,998	-
	<u>2,974,998</u>	<u>-</u>

The company holds 98.4% of ordinary shares and voting rights in Kelso Ltd. The registered office of Kelso Ltd is at Eastcastle House, 27-28 Eastcastle Street, London, United Kingdom, W1W 8DH. The principal activity of Kelso Ltd is that of an investment company.

**14. Trade and other receivables**

Group

	2023 £	2022 £
Prepayments and accrued income	6,722	5,697
Other receivables	-	3,309
Total current portion	<u>6,722</u>	<u>9,006</u>

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023****14. Trade and other receivables (continued)**

## Company

	2023 £	2022 £
Receivables from related parties	2,763,195	-
Total financial assets other than cash and cash equivalents classified as loans and receivables	<u>2,763,195</u>	<u>-</u>
Prepayments and accrued income	5,754	5,697
Other receivables	-	3,309
Total trade and other receivables	<u><u>2,768,949</u></u>	<u><u>9,006</u></u>

**15. Current asset investments**

## Group

## Listed investments

	2023 £	2022 £
Additions	9,972,293	-
Disposals	(3,536,196)	-
Fair value movement	1,432,303	-
	<u>7,868,400</u>	<u>-</u>

**16. Notes supporting statement of cash flows**

## Group

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash at bank available on demand	240,332	332,971
Cash and cash equivalents in the statement of cash flows	<u>240,332</u>	<u>332,971</u>

## Company

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash at bank available on demand	15,738	332,971
	<u>15,738</u>	<u>332,971</u>



**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023****17. Trade and other payables**

## Group

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade payables	40,678	-
Other payables - tax and social security payments	12,743	12,743
Other payables	-	9,173
Accruals	55,583	22,282
Total financial liabilities, excluding loans and borrowings, classified as financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	<u>109,004</u>	<u>44,198</u>
Corporation tax	196,523	-
Total trade and other payables	<u><u>305,527</u></u>	<u><u>44,198</u></u>

## Company

	2023 £	2022 £
Other payables	-	9,173
Accruals	1,655	22,282
Total financial liabilities, excluding loans and borrowings, classified as financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	<u>1,655</u>	<u>31,455</u>
Other payables - tax and social security payments	12,743	12,743
Total current portion	<u><u>14,398</u></u>	<u><u>44,198</u></u>

**18. Share capital****Authorised**

	2023 Number	2023 £	2022 Number	2022 £
Shares treated as equity				
Ordinary shares of £0.01 each	317,525,000	3,175,250	150,000,000	1,500,000
	<u>317,525,000</u>	<u>3,175,250</u>	<u>150,000,000</u>	<u>1,500,000</u>
	<u><u>317,525,000</u></u>	<u><u>3,175,250</u></u>	<u><u>150,000,000</u></u>	<u><u>1,500,000</u></u>

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023****18. Share capital (continued)****Issued and fully paid**

	2023 Number	2023 £	2022 Number	2022 £
<b>Ordinary shares of £0.01 each</b>				
At 1 January	47,525,000	475,250	47,525,000	475,250
Shares issued	270,000,000	2,700,000	-	-
Shares cancelled	(4,550,000)	(45,500)	-	-
At 31 December	<u>312,975,000</u>	<u>3,129,750</u>	<u>47,525,000</u>	<u>475,250</u>

On 24 January 2023, the Kelso Group Holdings PLC issued 150,000,000 ordinary shares for cash for a value of £3,000,000 and on 24 March 2023 the Kelso Group Holdings PLC issued an additional 120,000,000 ordinary shares for cash for a value of £3,000,000. The total number of ordinary shares in issue at 30 June 2023 was 317,525,000. All the shares have the same right to receive dividends and the repayment of capital and represents one vote at the shareholders' meeting.

During the year the year, Kelso Group Holdings PLC cancelled 4,550,000 of its own shares for £91,000.

**19. Reserves****Share premium**

This reserve records the amount above the nominal value received for shares sold, net of transaction costs.

**Capital redemption reserve**

The Capital redemption reserve is a non-distributable reserve which represents the nominal value of its own shares bought back by the Group.

**Other reserves**

Other reserves consists of the assessed value of share based payments for services received which is yet to be converted into share options. Any amounts in relation to share options that expire or are not exercised will be transferred to distributable reserves.

**Retained earnings**

This balance represents the cumulative profit and loss made by the Group, net of distributions to owners.

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023****20. Non-controlling interests**

	2023 £	2022 £
Share of profit for the year	25,218	-
Non-controlling interests	41,160	-
	<u>66,378</u>	<u>-</u>

**21. Financial instruments - fair values and risk management****21.1 Financial risk management objectives**

The Group only deals in basic financial instruments. In the current period the Group's financial instruments comprise cash and cash equivalents and accruals which arise directly from its operations. All financial assets and liabilities are recognised at amortised cost. The Group does not use financial instruments for speculative purposes.

**Portfolio risk**

The group invested in listed shares in the period. In doing so, the group's portfolio of investment is exposed to market fluctuations. Management closely monitors the market price of their investments to minimise adverse risk and are monitoring the stock market for opportunities to diversify and reduce the portfolio risk.

**Contract For Differences risk**

The group invested in Contract For Differences (CFD) in the period. Management is experienced in CFD trading and have chosen a highly respected CFD provider to minimise counterparty risks or delays. All CFDs' were repaid before the year end.

**Financial Risk Factors**

The Group's activities expose it to mainly liquidity risk. The Group's overall risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the Company's financial performance.

**Liquidity Risk**

The Group has to date financed its operations from cash reserves funded from share issues, Management's objectives are now to manage liquid assets in the short term through closely monitoring costs and raising funds through the issue of shares.

The Group has no borrowing facilities that require repayment and therefore has no interest rate risk exposure.

**Capital Management Risk**

The capital structure of the Group consists of debt, cash and cash equivalents and equity attributable to holders of the parent, comprising issued share capital and retained earnings. Consistent with others in the industry, the Group reviews the gearing ratio to monitor the capital. This ratio is calculated as the net debt divided by total capital. Net debt is calculated as total

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC**

**NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**21. Financial instruments - fair values and risk management (continued)**

**21.1 Financial risk management objectives (continued)**

borrowings less cash and cash equivalents. Total capital is calculated as equity (including capital, reserves and retained earnings). This gearing ratio will be considered in the wider macroeconomic environment.

**Fair Values**

Management have assessed that the fair values of cash and short-term deposits and accruals approximate to their carrying amounts due to the short-term maturities of these instruments.

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### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 22. Share based payments

##### 22.1. Employee share option plan of the Group

###### Details of the employee share option of the Group

During the year, the board set up a management incentive plan ("MIP") in the company's newly formed subsidiary, Kelso Ltd. The MIP is focussed on aligning the participants with shareholders and investment returns. The principal terms are as follows:

The MIP is linked to total shareholder return (share price performance plus dividends). Participants of the MIP hold A shares in Kelso Ltd.

Kelso Limited will have the right to convert to shares in Kelso Group Holdings Plc, the value to be calculated as follows:

- Subject to achieving a return hurdle for Kelso shareholders of 8% p.a., an entitlement to 15% of the value created
- Subject to achieving a return hurdle for Kelso shareholders of 15% p.a., an entitlement of 20% of the value created
- For returns between these hurdle rates, an entitlement of between 15% and 20% of value created calculated on a straight line basis
- Standard good/bad leaver provision
- MIP shares may vest a third each on the third, fourth and fifth anniversaries. 50% of MIP shares, once converted into Kelso shares, will be locked up for one year.

The MIP currently includes 6 participants who are entitled to a share of the MIP based on the share price performance at the end of the vesting period of 5 years. The exercise period is on the third, fourth and fifth anniversary.

Employee services are measured indirectly with reference to the fair value of the equity instruments granted and has been done by applying the modified grant date method. The grant-date fair value of the equity instruments has been determined at the grant date on 14 April 2023 at 3.00p per share based on the market value at that date, with no downward adjustment value expected.

The Board has estimated that the performance and market condition will be met with an estimated growth of 11.51% p.a. The participants were entitled to 16.28% of the value created of £4,605,051 over the vesting period of 5 years. In accordance to the modified grant date method, this would entitle the participants to 2,682,352 share options at 31 December 2023, at the grant date price of 3.00p with a value of £107,616. This was recognised in equity in the accounts.

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023****23. Related party transactions**

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

A Management Incentive Plan ("MIP") has been established, at a cost to the participants of £41,160, in exchange for A shares in Kelso Ltd.

There are no personnel considered to be key management other than the directors who received no remuneration other than compensation under the MIP during the year.

In 2022, J C Green a shareholder, charged the Group £49,000 for consultancy and fundraising services. All invoices were paid before the year end. There was no such transaction in the year.

**24. Control**

There is no controlling party but the Group has been notified of the following interest of 3 per cent or more in its issued share capital as at 31 December 2023:

	Shareholding 31 Dec 2023	%
Mr John H Goold	40,250,000	12.86
Mr Jason Walker	22,000,000	7.03
Mr Jamie Brooke	21,000,000	6.71
Mr Matthew Moulding	18,951,196	6.06
Hargreaves Lansdown Asset Mgt	16,260,791	5.20
Mr Roger McDowell	10,000,000	3.20
Mr Martin K Bolland	10,000,000	3.20
Mr Umar M Kamani	10,000,000	3.20
Mr Angus Monro	9,570,000	3.06

**25. Events after the reporting date**

Group

As mentioned in the Chairman's report, the Group completed a fund raise of £1.9m before expenses from an issue of ordinary shares in January 2024.

**KELSO GROUP HOLDINGS PLC****NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023****26. Deferred tax**

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Company 2023 £	Company 2022 £
Arising in the year	(274,913)	-	56,259	-
At end of year	<u>(274,913)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>56,259</u>	<u>-</u>
			Group 2023 £	Company 2023 £
Tax losses			56,259	56,259
Unrealised investment gains			(358,076)	-
Management incentive plan			26,904	-
			<u>(274,913)</u>	<u>56,259</u>