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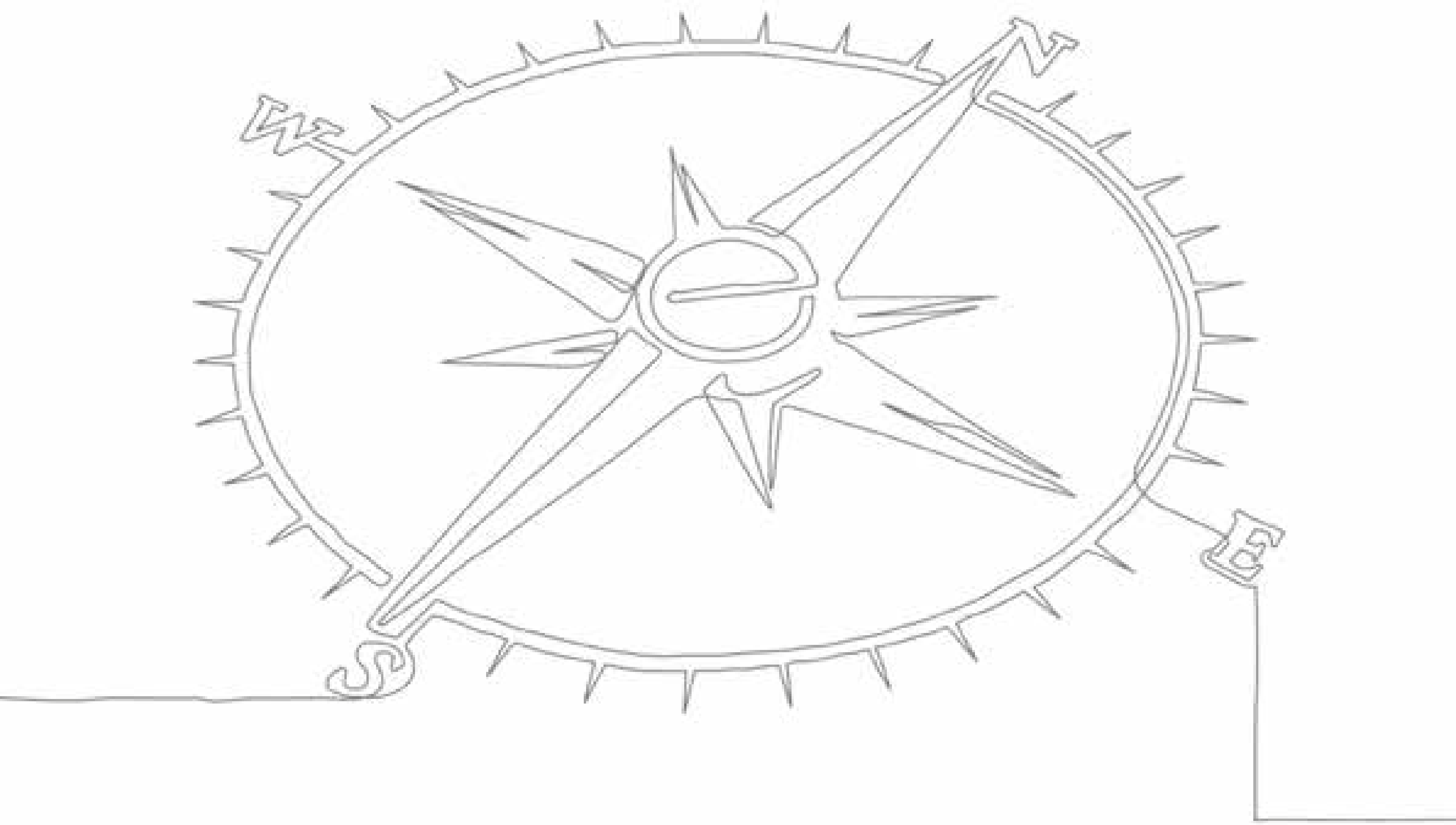
Beazley Furlonge Limited | Syndicate 623 at Lloyd's
Annual report 2019

Navigating change



Welcome to our Annual report 2019

The world is constantly changing. From the Lloyd's market to climate change, internal structure to management succession, change is a constant and navigating these is something the syndicate increased focus on in 2019. Change also brings opportunities and the steps the syndicate has taken in preparation over the last year mean it is ready to take advantage of these opportunities in 2020 and beyond.

Contents

Highlights

Syndicate capacity
£366.2m
(2018: £351.0m)

Claims ratio
61%
(2018: 57%)

Gross premiums written
$518.4m
(2018: $478.2m)

Expense ratio
38%
(2018: 39%)

Net premiums written
$427.0m
(2018: $404.3m)

Combined ratio
99%
(2018: 96%)

Earned premiums, net of reinsurance
$404.9m
(2018: $380.2m)

Cash and investments
$555.3m
(2018: $595.2m)

Profit for the financial year
$28.0m
(2018: $7.8m)

Annualised investment return
5.0%
(2018: 0.6%)

Renewal rate increase
6%
(2018: Increase 3%)

Strategic report of the managing agent

Overview

The balanced portfolio of syndicate 623 (the 'syndicate'), which has underpinned its underwriting performance in recent years, meant it was able to weather the natural catastrophe events of 2019 and achieve a profit for the year of $28.0m (2018: $7.8m). The syndicate has also benefited from effective cycle management over the past few years, reducing its exposure to catastrophe business, with its risk budget decreasing from $125m in 2013 to $89m in 2019. The risk budget will increase to $93m on the 2020 underwriting year. Gross premiums written increased to $518.4m (2018: $478.2m).

The capacities of the syndicates managed by Beazley Furlonge Ltd are as follows:

	2019 £m	2018 £m
2623	1,624.0	1,554.0
623	**366.2**	**351.0**
3623	69.3	213.0
6107	67.6	55.1
3622	25.0	23.0
5623	63.1	22.5
6050	–	–
Total	**2,215.2**	**2,218.6**

Year of account results

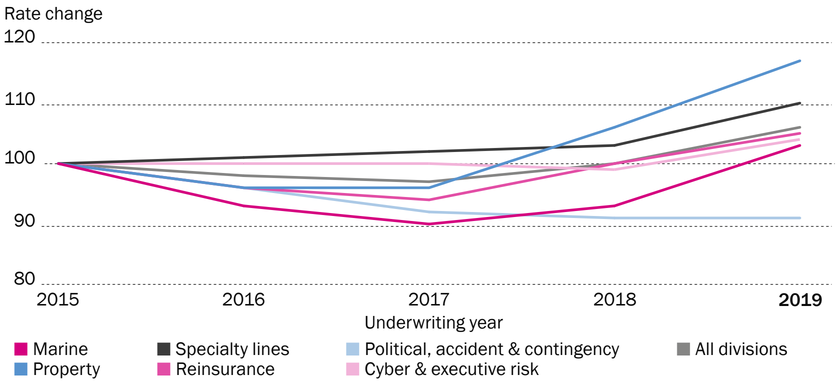
The 2017 year of account is expected to close with a loss on capacity of 2.4%. The syndicate has been taking action to address underperforming classes of business for several years and the syndicate has seen rates rise steadily as the market responded to elevated levels of claims activity and claims inflation. These increased claims combined with the 2017 catastrophe losses resulted in lower reserve releases on the 2017 year of account. The 2018 year of account currently forecasts to close with a breakeven position. The 2019 year of account, which is still in its early stages of development, has been impacted by natural catastrophe losses, namely Typhoons Hagibis and Faxai in Japan.

Rating environment

The catastrophe loss activity during 2018 had a continued positive effect on the rating environment with rates increasing by 6% in 2019 across the portfolio (2018: increase of 3%). Most of our lines of business saw increases in rates compared to 2018, with marine and property increasing by 11%, reinsurance rates increasing by 5%, specialty lines increasing by 6% and cyber & executive risk ('CyEx') increasing by 5%. Rates on renewals in our political, accident & contingency division remained flat.

An overview of the syndicate's performance by division is presented between pages 6 and 11.

Cumulative renewal rate changes since 2015 (%)



Combined ratio

The combined ratio of an insurance provider is a measure of its operating performance and represents the ratio of its total costs (including claims and expenses) to total net earned premium. A combined ratio under 100% indicates an underwriting profit. The syndicate's combined ratio has deteriorated in 2019 to 99% (2018: 96%). The calculation of the combined ratio for the syndicate includes all claims and other costs of the syndicate but excludes foreign exchange gains or losses. We believe this represents the most transparent and useful measure of operating performance as it ensures that all of the costs of being in business are captured, whether directly linked to underwriting activity or not.

Claims

The claims ratio of an insurance provider is a measure of the claims experience and represents the ratio of its net insurance claims to net earned premium. The syndicate's claims ratio deteriorated to 61% in 2019 (2018: 57%). The syndicate experienced a number of natural catastrophes during 2019 most significantly with Typhoons Hagibis and Faxai that hit Japan in September and October 2019. These claims, while large, were not outside of our expected range for such types of natural catastrophes. The syndicate reduced its exposure to US wildfires following the severe losses of 2017 and 2018. However the syndicate's total net insurance claims increased to $247.9m in 2019 (2018: $218.4m).

Prior year reserve releases

The syndicate has a consistent reserving philosophy, with initial reserves being set to include risk margins that may be released over time as and when any uncertainty reduces. Historically these margins have given rise to held reserves within the range 5-10% above the actuarial estimates, which themselves include some margin for uncertainty. The margin held above the actuarial estimate was 5.8% at the end of 2019 (2018: 5.0%).

Reserve monitoring is performed at a quarterly peer review, which involves a challenge process contrasting the claims reserves of underwriters and claim managers, who make detailed claim-by-claim assessments, and the actuarial team, who provide statistical analysis. This process allows early identification of areas where claims reserves may need adjustment.

During 2019, we have been able to release prior year reserves of $3.7m (2018: $25.1m). These reserve releases are shown by division in the table below:

	2019 $m	2018 $m
Cyber & executive risk	3.5	6.0
Marine	(1.5)	3.0
Political, accident & contingency	2.7	1.5
Property	(3.5)	(10.6)
Reinsurance	(6.6)	5.3
Specialty lines	9.1	19.9
Total	**3.7**	**25.1**
Releases as a percentage of net earned premium	**0.9%**	**6.6%**

Net operating expenses

Net operating expenses, including business acquisition costs and administrative expenses increased from $146.6m to $153.3m in 2019. The breakdown of these costs is shown below:

	2019 $m	2018 $m
Brokerage costs	117.7	108.3
Other acquisition costs	13.0	12.3
Total acquisition costs	**130.7**	**120.6**
Administrative and other expenses	22.6	26.0
Net operating expenses[1]	**153.3**	**146.6**

1 A further breakdown of net operating expenses can be seen in note 4.

Brokerage costs are deferred and expensed over the life of the associated premiums in accordance with accounting guidelines.

Other acquisition costs comprise costs that have been identified as being directly related to underwriting activity (e.g. underwriters' salaries and Lloyd's box rental). These costs are also deferred in line with premium earning patterns.

Administrative expenses comprise primarily IT costs, staff costs, facilities costs, Lloyd's central costs and other support costs.

The expense ratio of an insurance provider is a measure of the net operating expenses to net earned premium. The expense ratio for 2019 is 38% (2018: 39%).

Strategic report of the managing agent *continued*

Investment performance

After a challenging year in 2018, financial market conditions in 2019 proved much more supportive and the syndicate's financial assets returned $28.9m, or 5.0% in this period (2018: $3.5m, or 0.6%). The 2019 return is the highest in recent years, supported by falling yields, declining credit spreads and strong equity markets. Interest rates, particularly in the US, were generally expected to continue their upward path in 2019, but growing concerns about the sustainability of global growth instead resulted in an easing of monetary policy and the US Federal Reserve reduced interest rates three times between July and October. These developments helped to stabilise economic growth later in the year and provided the catalyst for a much improved investor sentiment across most asset classes.

The core portfolio, which is primarily comprised of fixed and floating rate debt securities, represented 87.1% of the syndicate's investment assets as at December 2019 (2018: 84.9%). These investments returned 4.5% in 2019, (2018: 1.1%) well above the level of yields at the beginning of the period, as declining yields and narrowing credit spreads generated capital gains on these assets. The syndicate was able to take advantage of the conditions by increasing the duration of our portfolio, which was maintained at close to two years for much of the year.

Capital growth assets also performed strongly, helped by rallying equities, returning 8.2% overall (2018: a loss of 2.8%). The syndicate was able to take advantage of the strong market conditions by adding to more volatile asset classes earlier in the year, utilising nearly all of our current appetite for investment risk. However, a more cautious approach later in the year, as risk assets became increasingly expensive, meant that the syndicate did not capture all of the available return, as markets continued to rally. Looking ahead, and despite the syndicate's limited appetite for investment risk, the material difference between outcomes in 2018 and 2019 highlights the dangers of forecasting investment returns in the short term. Notwithstanding, yields and credit spreads are much less attractive than they were and this leads the syndicate to expect a lower return in 2020. Overall total financial assets decreased year on year due to the timing of the settlement of the syndicate's creditor balances.

At 31 December 2019, the weighted average duration of fixed income investments was 1.8 years (2018: 1.7 years).

The table below details the breakdown of our portfolio by asset class:

	31 Dec 2019		31 Dec 2018	
	$m	%	$m	%
Cash at bank and in hand	25.4	4.6	18.5	3.1
Fixed and floating rate debt securities				
– Government, quasi-government and supranational	166.9	30.0	195.0	32.7
– Corporate bonds				
– Investment grade credit	264.1	47.6	287.5	48.3
– High yield	24.9	4.5	3.5	0.6
– Senior secured loans	–	–	–	–
Syndicate loan to Lloyd's central fund	1.6	0.3	–	–
Derivative financial assets	0.6	0.1	1.2	0.2
Core portfolio	483.5	87.1	505.7	84.9
Equity linked funds	15.0	2.7	30.2	5.1
Hedge funds	53.7	9.6	56.5	9.5
Illiquid credit assets	3.1	0.6	2.9	0.5
Total capital growth assets	71.8	12.9	89.6	15.1
Total	**555.3**	**100.0**	**595.3**	**100.0**

Comparison of return by major asset class:

	31 Dec 2019		31 Dec 2018	
	$m	%	$m	%
Core portfolio	22.2	4.5	6.0	1.1
Capital growth assets	6.6	8.2	(2.5)	(2.8)
Overall return	**28.9**	**5.0**	**3.5**	**0.6**

Reinsurance

In 2019, the amount spent on outward reinsurance was $91.4m (2018: $73.9m).

Reinsurance is purchased for a number of reasons:

- to mitigate the impact of catastrophes such as hurricanes;
- to enable the syndicate to put down large lead lines on risks we underwrite; and
- to manage capital to lower levels.

Solvency II

The Solvency II regime came into force on 1 January 2016. Beazley continues to provide Solvency II pillar 3 reporting to Lloyd's for the syndicate. Under Solvency II requirements, the syndicate is required to produce a Solvency Capital Requirement ('SCR') which sets out the amount of capital that is required to reflect the risks contained within the business. Lloyd's reviews the syndicate's proposed SCR each year in conjunction with the syndicate's business plan.

Solvency capital requirement

The current SCR has been established using our Solvency II approved internal model which has been run within the regime as prescribed by Lloyd's. In order to perform the capital assessment, we have made significant investments in both models and process:

- we use sophisticated mathematical models that reflect the key risks in the business allowing for probability of occurrence, impact if they do occur, and interaction between risk types. A key focus of these models is to understand the risk posed to individual teams, and to the business as a whole, of a possible deterioration in the underwriting cycle; and
- the internal model process is embedded so that teams can see the direct and objective link between underwriting decisions and the capital allocated to that team. This gives a consistent and comprehensive picture of the risk/reward profile of the business and allows teams to focus on strategies that improve return on capital.

Outlook

Due to the effects of the 2018 natural catastrophe events, the 2018 year of account is currently forecast to close at breakeven.

The 2019 underwriting year has been impacted by natural catastrophes including Typhoons Hagibis and Faxai in Japan. However these estimates are within the syndicate's expected range for such events.

During 2019 the syndicate also experienced some loss creep on prior year catastrophe events, namely Typhoon Jebi and Hurricane Maria.

The syndicate has adopted a more cautious underwriting approach on the treaty and property catastrophe insurance book in 2019. In addition, the syndicate wrote more property, marine and aviation short tailed non-catastrophe premium to take advantage of the reduced capacity in the market. The syndicate's strong premium growth in 2019 was not solely due to rate increases but also reflected the syndicate's success in targeting profitable growth and efficiency gains in technology initiatives.

A P Cox
Active underwriter

2 March 2020

Strategic report of the managing agent *continued*

Cyber & executive risk (CyEx)

	2019 $m	2018 $m
Gross premiums written	121.8	113.4
Net premiums written	102.5	94.9
Earned premiums, net of reinsurance	94.4	85.2
Claims incurred, net of reinsurance	(56.2)	(45.7)
Net operating expenses	(31.2)	(29.3)
Technical result	**7.0**	**10.2**
Claims ratio	60%	54%
Expense ratio	33%	34%
Combined ratio	93%	88%
Renewal rate change	5%	(1%)

In its first year as a standalone division, the syndicate's CyEx division, led by Mike Donovan, grew premiums by 7% and achieved a combined ratio of 93% (2018: 88%).

Market conditions affecting the division's two largest lines of business – cyber insurance and D&O liability insurance – were very different. The cyber market continues to grow and, although competition has been intensifying, claims have not been as heavy as in lines such as Directors and Officers ('D&O') that have borne the brunt of social inflation. The syndicate saw rates remain stable across the cyber book compared with rate rises for US D&O business of 30%.

The new division, which was formally launched in February 2019, has been very well received by brokers. Under the banner of 'protecting what matters most,' our cyber and management liability teams address major boardroom issues and purchasing patterns for their products overlap. The syndicate has made great strides in cross-selling products offered by the two teams.

Cyber insurance originated in the US in the years following the enactment of the first data breach regulation in California in 2002. Beazley's flagship cyber product, Beazley Breach Response ('BBR'), was launched in 2009 and, since then, most of the demand for cover has remained in the US. That began to change with the coming into force of the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in May 2018 and with the passage of similar laws and regulations elsewhere in the world. In 2019, the syndicate's international cyber business outside the US grew by 14% (albeit from a relatively low base) compared with growth of 9% for our more mature US business.

The syndicate still sees considerable opportunities to grow its cyber business in the US where the increasingly sophisticated and frequent attacks, particularly on mid-sized companies, are still significantly underinsured. However, growth opportunities outside the US, where we have been investing for more than five years now, may well prove more significant in the years to come.

The syndicate's international cyber team, based in London, has bound risks in 55 countries and we have launched BBR in the UK, France, Italy, Spain and Canada.

The CyEx division offers a range of specialist products under the executive risk banner and many of these have been growing strongly. The syndicate saw rapid growth in transaction liability business, which protects the parties in mergers and acquisition deals.

Marine

	2019 $m	2018 $m
Gross premiums written	65.3	61.1
Net premiums written	46.8	54.6
Earned premiums, net of reinsurance	46.9	54.3
Claims incurred, net of reinsurance	(26.4)	(29.0)
Net operating expenses	(22.8)	(21.3)
Technical result	**(2.3)**	**4.0**
Claims ratio	56%	53%
Expense ratio	49%	39%
Combined ratio	105%	92%
Renewal rate change	11%	3%

Most of the lines of business underwritten in our marine division, led by Tim Turner, have seen significant price erosion over a number of years and recent rate rises have not yet proved sufficient to reverse the damage. In 2019, the division recorded a combined ratio of 105% (2018: 92%) on premiums that increased by 7% to $65.3m (2018: $61.1m).

This increase in gross premiums written was due to the division increasing their indemnity appetite, notably in lines such as aviation and marine cargo. The net premiums written were impacted by the syndicate's decision to reinsure the run-off of the trucking portfolio, resulting in a decrease year on year.

The aviation market, which accounts for approximately 10% of the division's premiums, has seen the most dramatic rate rises over the past two years. Prices for the business the syndicate writes have risen 39% since 2017 and it plans to increase its participation in this business significantly in 2020. Marine cargo rates also rose sharply – by 12% – in 2019, prompting the syndicate to re-forecast it's underwriting for this class of business upwards during the course of the year.

The authorities at Lloyd's have been addressing the underperforming classes of business, with the marine classes of business being a particular area of focus. The syndicate has seen rates rise faster than would likely have been the case had Lloyd's not taken action, and the Lloyd's business planning process has allowed the syndicate to increase its underwriting appetite swiftly when market conditions warrant it. The syndicate also decided to take remedial action to stop underwriting our US trucking portfolio during 2019.

Strategic report of the managing agent *continued*

Political, accident & contingency

	2019 $m	2018 $m
Gross premiums written	31.1	29.8
Net premiums written	26.6	25.3
Earned premiums, net of reinsurance	26.5	23.1
Claims incurred, net of reinsurance	(10.5)	(8.8)
Net operating expenses	(10.7)	(9.4)
Technical result	**5.3**	**4.9**
Claims ratio	40%	38%
Expense ratio	40%	41%
Combined ratio	80%	79%
Renewal rate change	–	(1%)

The syndicate's political, accident & contingency division under the leadership of Christian Tolle had a very good year with strong profitable growth generated by all major lines of business. The division's combined ratio was 80% (2018: 79%) on premiums that grew 4% to $31.1m (2018: $29.8m).

In a year in which some political risk underwriters sustained heavy credit losses, the syndicate's business was largely unscathed and we made some recoveries from prior year claims.

In fact, both the political risk and contingency teams continued to successfully grow their portfolios in a controlled manner in competitive market conditions. Risk selection remains key in these markets and the teams have a proven track record.

On terrorism business, the rate declines that the syndicate has seen in previous years were less steep in 2019. Civil unrest in Hong Kong, Lebanon and Chile contributed to nervousness in the market and – in the case of more than 100 Walmart stores damaged by arson and looting in Chile – to actual losses. Although the syndicate was not exposed to these losses, we did have some exposure to the terrorist attack on the Shangri-La hotel in the Sri Lankan city of Colombo in April.

Property

	2019 $m	2018 $m
Gross premiums written	93.9	91.2
Net premiums written	80.2	79.1
Earned premiums, net of reinsurance	78.8	76.0
Claims incurred, net of reinsurance	(45.4)	(63.6)
Net operating expenses	(31.3)	(31.7)
Technical result	**2.1**	**(19.3)**
Claims ratio	57%	84%
Expense ratio	40%	42%
Combined ratio	97%	126%
Renewal rate change	11%	10%

The property division under the leadership of Richard Montminy saw a return to underwriting profitability in 2019, generating a combined ratio of 97% (2018: 126%) after two years of heavy losses. Premiums increased by 3% to $93.9m (2018: $91.2m).

Rates across the portfolio rose strongly in 2019, up 10% for the mid-sized excess and surplus lines risks written locally in the US and 18% for the large risks business written predominantly in London. The syndicate sees rate rises as still having further to run.

Submission flow to the syndicate's property teams remains very strong but the syndicate is being selective in the business it underwrites, as by no means all the risks seen meet the syndicates underwriting requirements. 2019 was a quiet year for catastrophe losses affecting the syndicate property division (although not its reinsurance division) but the syndicate still sees scope for improvement in its attritional loss ratios.

Most of our large risk business, categorised at Lloyd's as open market property, continues to be underwritten in London, but the syndicate has seen a very positive response from brokers to our decision to underwrite large risk property business in the US, originally taken in 2017.

The small property business the syndicate underwrites under binding authorities granted to Lloyd's coverholders around the world saw continued remediation in 2019 after performing poorly in 2018. In 2018, the syndicate cancelled a number of binders that failed to satisfy the syndicate's cross cycle profitability requirements and this process continued in 2019. The syndicates preference is to lead covers and it has been withdrawing from a number of accounts for which the syndicate provided following capacity. The syndicate took action relatively early to tackle poor performance in this part of the market and have since seen a number of other Lloyd's insurers follow suit.

The syndicate's jewellers', fine art and specie book performed well in 2019. The business is currently largely concentrated in the UK, but the syndicate has also been investing in international growth opportunities.

Strategic report of the managing agent *continued*

Reinsurance

	2019 $m	2018 $m
Gross premiums written	43.6	45.5
Net premiums written	25.7	30.2
Earned premiums, net of reinsurance	25.6	30.7
Claims incurred, net of reinsurance	(31.3)	(21.2)
Net operating expenses	(9.8)	(10.2)
Technical result	**(15.5)**	**(0.7)**
Claims ratio	123%	69%
Expense ratio	38%	33%
Combined ratio	161%	102%
Renewal rate change	5%	6%

Catastrophe losses affecting the syndicate's reinsurance division, led by Patrick Hartigan, were once again severe in 2019, the third year marked by heavy losses across the market. Rates have risen, but in many cases not as far as they need to in our estimation. The syndicate's underwriting stance for 2020 is therefore very cautious.

The business of the syndicate's reinsurance division, which is almost entirely property-focused, generated a combined ratio of 161% in 2019 (2018: 102%) on gross premiums written of $43.6m (2018: $45.5m).

The most significant catastrophe losses for the syndicate stemmed from Typhoons Hagibis and Faxai that hit Japan in September and October 2019. The syndicate's Japanese treaties include cover for flood, which was a major source of claims in the wake of Hagibis.

The syndicate's share of the Japanese treaty market remains small. However, the syndicate maintains its very long term relationships in this market, which have proven profitable over time.

Other sources of risk continue to present concerns. The syndicate has reduced its exposures to US wildfires following the very severe losses of 2017 and 2018. Claims were less severe in 2019, but the longer term weather patterns – with rising temperatures in California and other regions exposed to wildfires – are not encouraging.

Overall, reinsurance rates have yet to respond to recent catastrophe losses as strongly as rates in the primary property market or in the retrocession market. A good deal of reinsurance capital is now trapped following the Japanese catastrophe events and the syndicate may see a lower willingness to deploy surplus capital once these losses are fully realised, which will drive rates up further.

Specialty lines

	2019 $m	2018 $m
Gross premiums written	162.7	137.2
Net premiums written	145.2	120.2
Earned premiums, net of reinsurance	132.7	110.9
Claims incurred, net of reinsurance	(78.1)	(50.1)
Net operating expenses	(47.5)	(44.7)
Technical result	**7.1**	**16.1**
Claims ratio	59%	45%
Expense ratio	36%	40%
Combined ratio	95%	85%
Renewal rate change	6%	2%

The syndicate's specialty lines division, led by James Eaton, saw stronger rate rises than anticipated in 2019, with the team renewing business at prices that were on average 6% higher than in 2018.

This reflected the increased severity of major losses that has affected parts of the market, feeding into a combined ratio of 95% (2018: 85%) on premiums that rose 19% to $162.7m (2018: $137.2m).

Specialty lines is one of the two new divisions created when the syndicate split the old specialty lines division at the start of 2019. It underwrites a mix of specialty liability insurance, including professional liability for hospitals, lawyers, and architects & engineers; environmental liability business; and management liability business outside the US. The syndicate's private enterprise team, which offers a range of products including cyber insurance to small businesses, primarily in the US, also forms part of the division.

The strong premium growth that the division saw in 2019 was driven in large part by our non-US business, which has received steady investment in recent years. Since 2017, we have been building a diversified book of financial institutions business outside the US, particularly in continental Europe, as well as offering management liability and cyber cover to a broader clientele. In addition, the healthcare liability expertise that the syndicate have built over many years in the US has proved highly relevant to new markets outside the US: in 2019, the syndicate launched our virtual care product to meet the needs of telemedicine providers – a fast growing market – in the UK.

Parts of the syndicate's specialty lines book have been affected by social inflation, most notably healthcare liability risks. In the syndicate's hospitals professional liability (HPL) book the syndicate saw rates rise by 16% in 2019, spurred by a sharp increase in large claims. Even with these rate rises some hospital risks remain inadequately priced in the syndicate's view and we have declined to underwrite them.

A significant growth area for the syndicate in recent years has been environmental liability business, which the syndicate currently writes in the US, London and Canada. In 2019, the syndicate unveiled an innovative product, Beazley SLEAP (Site Lender Environmental Asset Protection), to cover lenders against their exposures to property assets that may subsequently be found to be contaminated.

Managing agent's report

The managing agent presents its report for the year ended 31 December 2019.

This annual report is prepared using the annual basis of accounting as required by Statutory Instrument No 1950 of 2008, the Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008 and applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ('FRS102') and Financial Reporting Standard 103: Insurance Contracts ('FRS103'). Underwriting year accounts for the 2017 closed year of account will be made available to the Syndicate members.

Principal activity

The principal activity of syndicate 623 is the transaction of a range of specialised insurance business at Lloyd's.

Business review

A review of the syndicate's activities is included in the strategic report.

Risk governance and reporting

Beazley Furlonge Limited's board of directors has the responsibility for defining and monitoring the risk appetite within which Beazley Furlonge Limited and the syndicates operate, with key individuals and committees accountable for day-to-day management of risks and controls. Regular reporting by the risk management team in board meetings and senior management committees ensures that risks are monitored and managed as they arise.

2019 in review

Last year we focused on the impact of external and internal change on Beazley plc (the 'group') and this change has continued into 2019.

Governance

In 2019, there were a number of changes to the membership of the Beazley plc executive committee, which resulted in changes to risk owners. Risk owners, a key role within the risk management framework, are senior members of staff responsible for identifying and managing risk in their areas of responsibility. The risk management function has worked with the new risk owners to explain their role and ensure that nothing has been missed or lost during the transition. Having new risk owners has created an opportunity to take a fresh look at the risks inherent within a function and reassess and enhance the control environment.

The chief risk officer of the managing agent has taken over as chairman of the risk and regulatory committee, which is the executive level committee with oversight of how the managing agent is managing risk. This evolution enables the committee to operate as an effective second line of defence committee to monitor and challenge risk owners as they undertake their risk responsibilities. The change has also meant that senior risk managers now attend the committee, which has improved the discussion as a result of their detailed knowledge of the areas of the risk register they focus on.

With the change in chief underwriting officer, the managing agent has taken the opportunity to split the underwriting committee into two separate committees. The underwriting committee will continue to be chaired by the chief underwriting officer and will focus on developing and delivering the business plan. The newly formed underwriting governance committee is chaired by the chief risk officer and will focus on oversight of the quality of the information used by the underwriting committee. The benefits created from this split are having the most appropriate people present at each committee and having sufficient time to focus on the relevant topics. The chief underwriting officer and chief risk officer are present at both committees, which provides a conduit of information between both committees.

The exposure management function now reports to the chief risk officer. Whilst the identification and management of aggregated exposure remains the responsibility of the underwriting teams and the chief underwriting officer remains the risk owner, the change in reporting line means that the exposure management team can move to more of an oversight role and challenge the underwriting teams to ensure that the methods and assumptions used to manage exposure remains appropriate. A further enhancement has been to split the exposure management committee into a committee that focusses on natural catastrophes and a committee that focuses on man-made catastrophes such as cyber. Again, this split means that we have the most appropriate people involved in oversight of these key risks as both areas require a different skill set and we ensure that we commit an appropriate amount of time so that one risk area does not monopolise time to the detriment of the other.

The experience of operating these new governance structures for the majority of 2019, has already demonstrated the value of having made these changes.

Culture

Every two years, the managing agent commissions a comprehensive staff engagement survey and this was undertaken in 2019. The results of this survey, coupled with leadership scores, are a useful guide for the risk management function to understand how the risk culture is evolving at the managing agent. It has been observed that the completion rate remains high at 83% and the level of engagement is 70%, which is on the boundary of top quartile companies and is at a relatively similar level from the survey in 2017. The survey also evidences a strong and open risk culture with consistency across most of the managing agent's offices. Any deviation by function or office is a valuable risk metric which the risk function use to scope their work in order to provide assurance to the 'board'.

The chief risk officer has taken on the executive sponsorship of the newly formed mental wellbeing and mental health initiative. Mental wellbeing is about educating the organisation on how to take care of themselves, since our people are our most important asset. Sleep deprivation and stress are two issues which can reduce the effectiveness of a workforce and their effects can be particularly dangerous because they are not always visible like a physical condition. Mental health is about providing a support network for situations where a mental health incident has occurred. This initiative has the secondary benefit of helping to support the risk culture at the managing agent.

In 2019, a number of new ways of working were introduced at the managing agent. Activity based working provides members of staff with different work spaces that are more conducive to the activity being undertaken, from a quiet room for high focused activity such as reading and reviewing to a collaborate space for group discussion, innovation and brainstorming. Remote working means that advances in technology allows staff to continue to work seamlessly when away from their offices. This reduces the need to rearrange meetings which would have caused a delay and reduces the risk that a meeting does not include an important participant. Finally, a number of change programmes are now being undertaken using an agile approach. This simply means that a cross functional team is formed to deliver change using a shared vision from the outset rather than one function delivering on behalf of another function. The core team meet on a more frequent basis so that activity is undertaken and overseen more regularly and any issues or decisions can be considered and made by all stakeholder in a timely manner, thereby increasing the likelihood of a successful outcome.

Whilst new ways of working can create risk, our assessment is that these changes are actually reducing operational risk.

Emerging and strategic risks

The emerging and strategic risk analysis helped identify the need for two of the current strategic initiatives. The Beazley Digital strategic initiative is working out how the syndicate underwrite and process simpler risks better. The Faster, Smarter Underwriting strategic initiative is working out how the syndicate provide underwriters with data and analytics to help better underwrite complex risks. Both initiatives are creating opportunities for the managing agent to work in new ways, develop new skill sets and harness new technology. Whilst they fundamentally improve profitability, they also reduce insurance and operational risk.

Brexit

Despite the uncertainty during 2019, a cross functional working group has prepared the syndicate for the worst case scenario of a hard Brexit, which is where the UK leaves the EU without agreements after the transition period. European clients who previously would have used the Lloyd's of London market, can now use the Lloyd's Brussels platform, which has been operating successfully since 1 January 2019. Authorisation for a European based service company, Beazley Solutions International Limited, which will underwrite risks from European offices onto the Lloyd's Brussels platform has been received. As such, the syndicate has successfully navigated the key risks of a potential hard Brexit. Since such a hard Brexit is not certain, our preparations have also considered some form of transitional arrangement which continues after 31 December 2020.

Climate change

The syndicate continues to monitor the impact and risks of climate change on its insurance portfolio and investment portfolio. The group has been undertaking initial stress tests of physical and transitional risks on behalf of the managing agent of the syndicates. In addition, a pilot assessment was undertaken to investigate the impact of climate change on the liability lines offered by our US architects and engineers team. These analyses will be extended out across other individual classes of business in 2020 to better understand the physical, transition and liability risks and assess how the insurance and investment portfolios should change over time.

The syndicate's stakeholders (including investors, regulators and staff) are increasingly interested in the financial impact of climate change.

To assess the risk within the syndicates insurance and investment portfolios, the managing agent ran the following three stress tests as part of our General Insurance Stress Test return to the Prudential Regulation Authority:

- Scenario A – A sudden transition (a Minsky moment), ensuing from rapid global action and policies, and materialising over the medium-term business planning horizon that results in achieving a temperature increase being kept below 2 degrees celsius (relative to pre-industrial levels) but only following a disorderly transition.

Managing agent's report *continued*

- Scenario B – A long-term orderly transition scenario that is broadly in line with the Paris Agreement. This involves a maximum temperature increase being kept well below 2 degrees celsius (relative to pre-industrial levels) with the economy transitioning in the next three decades to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 and greenhouse-gas neutrality in the decades thereafter.
- Scenario C – A scenario with failed future improvements in climate policy, reaching a temperature increase in excess of 4 degrees celsius (relative to pre-industrial levels) by 2100 assuming no transition and a continuation of current policy trends.

Insurance portfolio

From an insurance portfolio perspective, the increased claims costs of a US Hurricane under the three climatic scenarios are:

Insurance portfolio	Scenario A %	Scenario B %	Scenario C %
Average loss	15%	38%	90%
1:100 loss	9%	24%	63%

To illustrate, whilst the average claims costs would increase 15% under scenario A, the cost of a 1:100 event would only increase 9%. This is because some of the policies will have been exhausted in the more extreme 1:100 event and so the additional effect of climate change will not increase the claims costs by as much.

The managing agent also completed a pilot assessment, investigating the impact of climate change on the liability lines offered by our US Architects and Engineers team. The steps of the assessment were:

- Step 1 – Identify the uncertainty
- Step 2 – Create a scale of threat or opportunity
- Step 3 – Quantify the impact on the class, both present and future
- Step 4 – Implement changes where agreed appropriate

The managing agent is now extending the exercise across other classes of business to understand the liability and transition risk and asses how we should transition our insurance portfolio over time.

Conclusion

Dealing with change can create debilitating inertia for a company and significantly increase risk or it can create the catalyst for improvement and ultimately reduce risk. The managing agents assessment is that the syndicate is harnessing the opportunities created by change.

The latest chief risk officer report to the managing agents board has confirmed that the control environment has not identified any significant failings or weaknesses in key processes and that the syndicate is operating within risk appetite as at 31 December 2019.

Risk management philosophy

The syndicate's risk management philosophy is to balance the risks the business takes on with the associated cost of controlling these risks, whilst also operating within the risk appetite agreed by the board. In addition, our risk management processes are designed to continuously monitor our risk profile against risk appetite and to exploit opportunities as they arise.

Risk management strategy

The Beazley Furlonge Limited board has delegated executive oversight of the risk management department to the executive committee, which in turn has delegated immediate oversight to the risk and regulatory committee. The board has also delegated oversight of the risk management framework to the audit and risk committee.

Clear roles, responsibilities and accountabilities are in place for the management of risks and controls, and all employees are aware of the role they play in all aspects of the risk management process, from identifying sources of risk to their part in the control environment. The impact of each risk is recorded in the risk register on a 1:10 likelihood of that risk manifesting in the next 12 months. A risk owner has been assigned responsibility for each risk, and it is the responsibility of that individual to periodically assess the impact of the risk and to ensure appropriate risk mitigation procedures are in place. External factors facing the business and the internal controls in place are routinely reassessed and changes are made when necessary. On an annual basis the board agrees the risk appetite for each risk event and this is documented in the risk management framework document.

The residual financial impact is managed in a number of ways, including:

- mitigating the impact of the risk through the application of controls;
- transferring or sharing risk through outsourcing and purchasing insurance and reinsurance; and
- tolerating risk in line with the risk appetite.

In addition, the following risk management principles have been adopted:

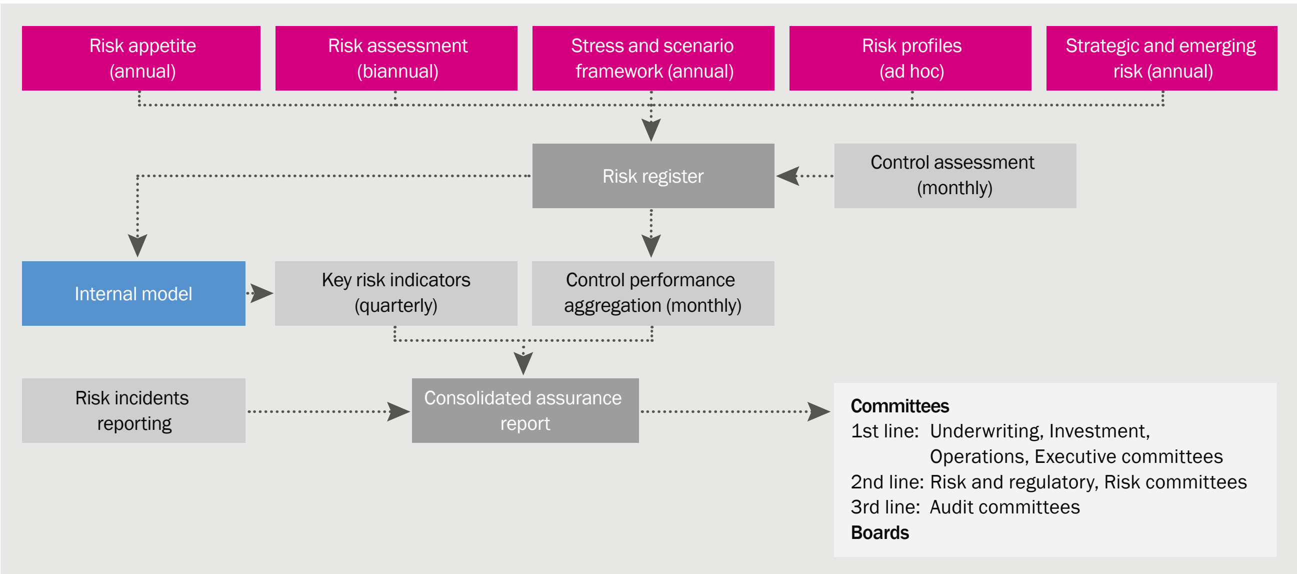
- risk management is a part of the wider governance environment;
- techniques employed are fit for purpose and proportionate to the business;
- risk management is a core capability for all employees;
- risk management is embedded in day-to-day activities;
- there is a culture of risk awareness, in which risks are identified, assessed and managed;
- risk management processes are robust and supported by verifiable management information; and
- risk management information and reporting is timely, clear, accurate and appropriately escalated.

Risk management framework

The managing agent takes an enterprise-wide approach to managing risk following the syndicate's risk management framework. The framework establishes our approach to identifying, measuring, mitigating and monitoring the syndicate's key risks. The managing agent has adopted the 'three lines of defence' framework: namely business risk management, the risk management function and the internal audit function. Within business risk management, there are two defined risk and control roles: risk owner and control reporter. Each risk event is owned by the risk owner who is a senior member of staff. Risk owners, supported by the risk management team, perform a risk assessment twice a year, including an assessment of heightened and emerging risks.

Business risk management *Risk ownership*	*Risk management* *Risk oversight*	*Internal audit* *Risk assurance*
– Identifies risk *– Assesses risk* *– Mitigates risk* *– Monitors risk* *– Records status* *– Remediates when required*	*– Are risks being identified?* *– Are controls operating effectively?* *– Are controls being signed off?* *– Reports to committees and board*	*– Independently tests control design* *– Independently tests control operation* *– Reports to committees and board*

The risk management framework comprises a number of risk management components, which when added together describe how risk is managed on a day to day basis. The framework includes a risk register that captures the risk universe (53 risk events grouped into eight risk categories: insurance, market, credit, liquidity, operational, regulatory and legal, group and strategic), the risk appetite set by the board, and the control environment that is operated by the business to remain within the risk appetite.



The diagram above illustrates the components of the risk management framework as operated across the Beazley Group. In summary, the board identifies risk, assesses risk and sets risk appetite. The business then implements a control environment which describes how the business should operate to stay within risk appetite. Risk management then reports to the board on how well the business is operating using a risk management report. For each risk, the risk management report brings together a view of how successfully the business is managing risk, qualitative commentary from the assurance functions and whether there have been any events that we can learn from (risk incidents). Finally, the framework is continually evaluated and where appropriate improved, through the consideration of stress and scenario testing, themed reviews using risk profiles and an assessment of strategic and emerging risks. There were no material changes made during 2019.

Managing agent's report *continued*

A suite of risk management reports are provided to the boards and committees to assist senior management and board members to discharge their oversight and decision making responsibilities. The risk reports include the risk appetite statement, the risk management report, risk profiles, stress and scenario testing, reverse stress testing, an emerging and strategic report, a report to the Beazley plc remuneration committee and the ORSA report. The internal audit function considers the risk management framework in the development of its audit universe to determine its annual risk-based audit plan. The plan is based on, among other inputs, the inherent and residual risk scores as captured in the risk register. Finally, a feedback loop operates, with recommendations from the internal audit reviews being assessed by the business and the risk management function for inclusion in the risk register as appropriate.

The risks to financial performance

The board of the managing agent monitors and manages risks grouped into eight categories, which cover the universe of risk that could affect the syndicate. There have been no new risk areas identified and no major shifts in existing risks. The board considers the following two risk categories to be the most significant.

Insurance risk

Given the nature of the syndicate's business, the key risks that impact financial performance arise from insurance activities. The main insurance risks can be summarised in the following categories:

- **Market cycle risk:** The risk of systematic mispricing of the medium tailed specialty lines business which could arise due to a change in the US tort environment, changes to the supply and demand of capital, and companies using incomplete data to make decisions. This risk would affect multiple classes within the specialty lines division across a number of underwriting years. The managing agent uses a range of techniques to mitigate this risk including sophisticated pricing tools, analysis of macro trends, analysis of claim frequency and the expertise of our experienced underwriters and claims managers.
- **Natural catastrophe risk:** The risk of one or more large events caused by nature affecting a number of policies and therefore giving rise to multiple losses. Given the syndicate's risk profile, such an event could be a hurricane, major windstorm or earthquake. This risk is monitored using exposure management techniques to ensure that the risk and reward are appropriate and that the exposure is not overly concentrated in one area.
- **Non natural catastrophe risk:** This risk is similar to natural catastrophe risk except that multiple losses arise from one event caused by mankind. Given the syndicate's risk profile, examples include a coordinated cyber attack, an act of terrorism, an act of war or a political event. This risk is monitored using exposure management techniques to ensure that the risk and reward are appropriate and that the exposure is not overly concentrated in one area.
- **Reserve risk:** The syndicate has a consistent reserving philosophy. However, there is a risk that the reserves put aside for expected losses turn out to be insufficient. This could be due to any of the three drivers of risk described above. The managing agent uses a range of techniques to mitigate this risk including a detailed reserving process which compares, claim by claim, estimates established by the claims team with a top down statistical view developed by the actuarial team. A suite of metrics is also used to ensure consistency each year.
- **Single risk losses:** Given the size of policy limits offered on each risk, it is unlikely that the poor performance of one policy will have a material impact on the syndicate's financial performance.

Strategic risk

Alongside these insurance risks, the success of the syndicate depends on the execution of an appropriate strategy. The main strategic risks can be summarised as follows:

- **Strategic decisions:** The syndicate's performance would be affected in the event of making strategic decisions that do not add value. The managing agent on behalf of the syndicate mitigates this risk through the combination of recommendations and challenge from non-executive directors, debate at the Beazley plc executive committee and input from the strategy and performance group (a group of approximately 30+ senior individuals from across different disciplines at Beazley).
- **Environment:** There is a risk that the chosen strategy cannot be executed because of the current environmental conditions within which the syndicate operates, thereby delaying the timing of the strategy.
- **Communication:** Having the right strategy and environment is of little value if it is not communicated internally so that the whole group is heading in the same direction, or if key external stakeholders are not aware of the syndicate's progress against its strategy.
- **Senior management performance:** There is a risk that senior management could be overstretched or could fail to perform, which would have a detrimental impact on the syndicate's performance. The performance of the senior management team is monitored by the chief executive and talent management team and overseen by the Beazley plc nomination committee.

- **Reputation:** Although reputational risk is a consequential risk, i.e. it emerges upon the occurrence of another risk manifesting, it has the potential to have a significant impact on an organisation. The syndicate expects staff working on their behalf to act honourably by doing the right thing.
- **Flight:** There is a risk that the managing agent could be unable to deliver its strategy due to the loss of key personnel. The syndicate has controls in place to identify and monitor this risk, for example, through succession planning.
- **Crisis management:** This is the risk caused by the destabilising effect of the syndicate having to deal with a crisis and is mitigated by having a detailed crisis management plan.
- **Corporate transaction:** There is a risk that the syndicate could be involved in a corporate transaction which did not return the expected value to members. This risk is mitigated through the due diligence performed, the financial structure of transactions and the implementation activity.

Under the environmental risk heading, the board identifies and analyses emerging and strategic risk on an annual basis for discussion at the Beazley plc board strategy day in May.

Other risks

- **Market (asset) risk:** This is the risk that the value of investments could be adversely impacted by movements in interest rates, exchange rates, default rates or external market forces. This risk is monitored by the investment committee.
- **Operational risk:** This risk is the failure of people, processes and systems or the impact of an external event on the syndicate's operations, and is monitored by the operations committee. An example would be a cyber attack having a detrimental impact on our operations.
- **Credit risk:** The syndicate has credit risk to its reinsurers, brokers and coverholders of which the reinsurance asset is the largest. The underwriting committee monitors this risk.
- **Regulatory and legal risk:** This is the risk that the syndicate might fail to operate in line with the relevant regulatory framework in the territories where it does business. Of the eight risk categories, the board has the lowest tolerance for this risk. This risk is monitored by the risk and regulatory committee.
- **Liquidity risk:** This is the risk that the syndicate might not have sufficient liquid funds following a catastrophic event. The investment committee monitors this risk which, given the nature of the asset portfolio, is currently small.
- **Group risk:** The structure of the Beazley group is not complex and so the main group risk is that one group entity might operate to the detriment of another group entity or entities. The Beazley plc board monitors this risk through the reports it receives from each entity.

Anti-bribery and corruption risk

The syndicate also considered anti-bribery and corruption risk across all risk categories. We are committed to ensuring that all business is conducted in an ethical and honest manner, and that we are not involved in any illicit activity defined under the UK Bribery Act and US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. This risk includes the risk of bribery and corruption we are exposed to and manifests itself in the susceptibility to unethical or dishonest influences whereby illicit payments and/or inducements are either made or received. Such activity has severe reputational, regulatory and legal consequences, including fines and penalties. Considerations relevant to this risk include the nature, size and type of transactions, the jurisdiction in which transactions occur, and the degree to which agents or third parties are used during such transactions.

Every employee and individual acting on the syndicate's behalf is responsible for maintaining our reputation. We have a zero-tolerance approach to bribery and corruption and are committed to acting professionally, fairly and with integrity in all aspects of our business. In doing so, we aim to recruit and retain high-calibre employees who carry out their responsibilities honestly, professionally and with integrity. We maintain a number of policies designed to prevent any risk of bribery and corruption, which are communicated to all employees and supplemented with appropriate training.

Climate change risk

The warming of the global climate is recognised as a significant emerging risk due to its widespread potential impact on the global population, environment and economy. A key aspect of the syndicate's business model is to support our clients who have been affected by natural catastrophes, helping them return to pre-catastrophe conditions as soon as possible. As a speciality insurer, various classes of business we underwrite are subject to the affect climate change presents to the risk environment. As part of the underwriting process, we work with our insureds to understand the risks facing their organisation, including applicable climate related risks, to tailor insurance coverages to mitigate the associated financial risks.

Managing agent's report *continued*

We acknowledge and accept that over time climate change could impact the risks facing our insureds and we aim to manage the resulting risk to the syndicate as described below.

- **Pricing risk:** This is the risk that current pricing benchmarks do not adequately consider the prospective impact of climate change resulting in systemic under-pricing of climate exposed risks. The syndicate's business planning process establishes how much exposure in certain classes of business or geographic area we wish to accept. We rely on a strong feedback loop between our claims and underwriting teams to ensure that emerging claims trends and themes can be contemplated in the business planning process, the rating tools and the underwriter's risk by risk transactional level considerations. Our underwriters are empowered to think about climate risk during their underwriting process in order to determine the implication on each risk.
- **Catastrophe risk:** This is the risk that current models do not adequately capture the impacts of climate change on the frequency, severity or nature of natural catastrophes or other extreme weather events. The syndicate utilises Risk Management Solutions ('RMS') models to facilitate the estimation of aggregate exposures based on the syndicate's underwriting portfolio. There is an on-going feedback loop between (re)insurers and catastrophe model vendors which has contributed to model improvements. Catastrophe models are evolving to include new or secondary perils which may or may not be related to climate change. In addition, the syndicate runs a series of Natural Catastrophe Realistic Disaster Scenarios ('RDS') on a regular basis which monitors the syndicate's exposure to these perils. These include hurricanes in the US, typhoons in Japan, European windstorms and floods in the UK.
- **Reserve risk:** This is the risk that established reserves are not sufficient, in particular for longer tail business, to reflect the ultimate impact climate change may have on paid losses. With support from our group actuarial team, claims teams and other members of management the syndicate establishes financial provisions for our ultimate claims liabilities. The syndicate maintains a prudent approach to reserving to help mitigate the uncertainty within the reserves estimation process.
- **Asset risk:** This is the risk that climate change has a significant impact across a number of industries which may negatively impact the value of investments in those companies. The syndicate considers the impact of climate change on its asset portfolio by seeking to incorporate an assessment of environmental risks in the investment process. We subscribe to the research services of a specialist company in the field of environmental, social and governance research and have integrated their proprietary ratings into the internal credit process applied to investments in corporate debt securities. A minimum standard for Environmental, Social and Governance ('ESG') performance is defined and companies not meeting the required standard will be excluded from the approved list of issuers. The analysis also includes a consideration of the sustainability of each company with regard to the potential decline in demand in specific sectors.
- **External event risk:** This is the risk that the physical impact of climate related events has a material impact on our own people, processes and systems leading to increased operating costs or the inability to deliver uninterrupted client service. The syndicate has business continuity plans in place to facilitate the delivery of uninterrupted client service in the event of a disaster.
- **Commercial management risk:** The syndicate aims to minimise where possible the environmental impact of our business activities and those that arise from the occupation of our office spaces. As we operate in leased office spaces our ability to direct environmental impacts is relatively limited however we do engage with our employees, vendors and customers in an effort to reduce overall waste and environmental footprint.
- **Credit risk:** As a result of material natural catastrophe events there is a risk that our reinsurance counterparties are unable to pay reinsurance balances due to the syndicate. If the frequency or severity of these events is increased due to climate change this could have a corresponding increase on credit risk. An important consideration when placing our reinsurance programme is evaluation of our counterparty risk. Every potential reinsurer is evaluated through a detailed benchmarking which considers: financial strength ratings, capital metrics, performance metrics as well as other considerations.
- **Regulatory and legal risk:** Regulators, investors and other stakeholders (including political activists) are becoming increasingly interested in the private sector's response to climate change. Failure to appropriately engage with these stakeholders and provide transparent information may result in the risk of reputational damage or increased scrutiny. The syndicate regularly monitors the regulatory landscape to ensure that we can adhere to any changes in relevant laws and regulations. This includes making any necessary regulatory or statutory filings with regard to climate risk.
- **Liquidity risk:** Linked to the underwriting and credit risks noted above, losses resulting from unprecedented natural disasters or extreme weather erode our ability to pay claims and remain solvent. The group establishes capital at a 1:250 level based on the prevailing business plan. Whilst over time we anticipate climate change to have an impact on the frequency, severity and nature of natural catastrophe events on a year to year basis this is captured in the internal capital modelling.
- **Strategic risk:** This is the risk that our strategy fails to effectively consider climate change resulting in our business planning not adapting fast enough to respond to changes in wider claims trends. In addition, market pressure or external factors result in a decision to stop underwriting certain classes of business which impacts our ability to deliver business plan results. This results in loss of value for investors which erode their confidence in management. This risk is considered through the annual and long term business planning process, we additionally look to the Lloyd's market to provide additional guidance.

Directors

The directors of Beazley Furlonge Limited during the period covered by this annual report who participated on syndicate 623 indirectly through Beazley Staff Underwriting Limited are as follows:

	2018 year of account underwriting capacity £	2019 year of account underwriting capacity £	2020 year of account underwriting capacity £
M R Bernacki[1]	400,000	N/A	N/A
M L Bride[1]	400,000	N/A	N/A
A P Cox	400,000	400,000	400,000
S M Lake	N/A	N/A	100,000
D A Horton	400,000	400,000	400,000
A S Pryde	N/A	300,000	350,000
I Fantozzi	N/A	300,000	350,000

1 M R Bernacki and M L Bride stepped down from the board in 2019.

A full list of the directors of the managing agent who held office during the year can be found on page 69 of these syndicate annual accounts.

Disclosure of information to the auditor

The directors of the managing agent who held office at the date of approval of this managing agent's report confirm that, so far as they are each aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the syndicate's auditor is unaware; and each director has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a director to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the syndicate's auditor is aware of that information.

Auditor

Following the audit tender carried out in 2018, Ernst & Young LLP have been appointed as the new external auditor for the 2019 accounting year, as approved by the Beazley Furlonge Ltd board on 24 May 2019. Pursuant to Section 14(2) of Schedule 1 of the Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008, the auditor will be deemed to be reappointed and Ernst & Young LLP will therefore continue in office, subject to the requirements of the Lloyd's advance consent regime.

On behalf of the board

C C W Jones
Finance director

2 March 2020

Statement of managing agent's responsibilities

The directors of the managing agent are responsible for preparing the syndicate financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008 requires the directors of the managing agent to prepare their syndicates annual accounts for each financial year. Under that law they have elected to prepare the annual accounts in accordance with UK Accounting Standards and applicable law (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Under Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008 the directors of the managing agent must not approve the annual accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the syndicate and of the profit or loss of the syndicate for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors of the managing agent are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the annual accounts;
- assess the syndicate'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 cease trading, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The directors of the managing agent are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the syndicate's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the syndicate and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008. 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 company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

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

On behalf of the board

C C W Jones
Finance director

2 March 2020

Independent auditor's report to the members of syndicate 623

Opinion

We have audited the syndicate annual accounts of syndicate 623 (the 'syndicate') for the year ended 31 December 2019 which comprise the Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Statement of Changes in Members' Balances, the Balance Sheet, the Cash flow Statement and the related notes 1 to 18, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and FRS 103 'Insurance Contracts' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the syndicate's affairs as at 31 December 2019 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of The Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the syndicate annual accounts section of our report below. We are independent of the syndicate in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the syndicate annual accounts in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, 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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the directors of the managing agent's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the syndicate annual accounts is not appropriate; or
- the directors of the managing agent have not disclosed in the syndicate annual accounts any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the syndicate's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the syndicate annual accounts are authorised for issue.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, set out on pages 2 through 20, other than the syndicate annual accounts and our auditor's report thereon. The directors of the managing agent are responsible for the other information.

Our opinion on the syndicate annual accounts does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the syndicate annual accounts, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the syndicate annual accounts or our knowledge obtained in 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 there is a material misstatement in the syndicate annual accounts or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of the other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by The Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008

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

- the information given in the managing agent's report for the financial year in which the syndicate annual accounts are prepared is consistent with the syndicate annual accounts; and
- the managing agent's report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Independent auditor's report to the members of syndicate 623 *continued*

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the syndicate and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the managing agent's report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where The Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you, if in our opinion:

- the managing agent in respect of the syndicate has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the syndicate annual accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- certain disclosures of the managing agents' emoluments specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of the directors of the managing agent

As explained more fully in the Statement of Managing Agent's Responsibilities set out on page 20, the managing agent is responsible for the preparation of the syndicate annual accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the managing agent determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the syndicate annual accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the syndicate annual accounts, the managing agent is responsible for assessing the syndicate's ability to continue in operation, disclosing as applicable, matters related to its ability to continue in operation and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the managing agent either intends to cease to operate the syndicate, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the syndicate annual accounts

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the syndicate annual accounts 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 syndicate annual accounts.

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the syndicate's members, as a body, in accordance with The Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the syndicate'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 syndicate and the syndicate's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Stuart Wilson (Senior statutory auditor)
for and on behalf of Ernst & Young LLP, Statutory Auditor
London

2 March 2020

Notes:

1 The maintenance and integrity of the managing agent web site is the responsibility of the manager; the work carried out by the auditors does not involve consideration of these matters and, accordingly, the auditors accept no responsibility for any changes that may have occurred to the financial statements since they were initially presented on the web site.

2 Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Statement of comprehensive income

for the year ended 31 December 2019

	Notes	2019 $m	2018 $m (restated)
Gross premiums written	3	518.4	478.2
Outward reinsurance premiums		(91.4)	(73.9)
Net premiums written	3	**427.0**	**404.3**
Change in the gross provision for unearned premiums	14	(22.8)	(24.4)
Change in the provision for unearned premiums, reinsurers' share	14	0.7	0.3
Change in the net provision for unearned premiums		(22.1)	(24.1)
Earned premiums, net of reinsurance	3	**404.9**	**380.2**
Allocated investment return transferred from the non-technical account	8	28.9	3.5
Gross claims paid		(273.7)	(244.3)
Reinsurers' share of claims paid		58.5	53.4
Claims paid net of reinsurance		(215.2)	(190.9)
Change in the gross provision for claims	14	(54.0)	(17.7)
Change in the provision for claims, reinsurers' share	14	21.3	(9.8)
Change in the net provision for claims		(32.7)	(27.5)
Claims incurred, net of reinsurance		**(247.9)**	**(218.4)**
Net operating expenses	4	**(153.3)**	**(146.6)**
Balance on the technical account		**32.6**	**18.7**
Investment income	8	13.6	12.1
Investment expenses and charges	8	(1.1)	(1.0)
Realised gains on investments	8	3.1	0.1
Unrealised gain/(loss) on investments	8	13.3	(7.7)
		28.9	3.5
Allocated investment return transferred to general business technical account		(28.9)	(3.5)
Loss on foreign exchange		(4.6)	(5.7)
Other charges	9	–	(5.2)
Profit for the financial year		**28.0**	**7.8**

All of the above operations are continuing.

The notes on pages 27 to 53 form part of these financial statements.

Statement of changes in members' balances

for the year ended 31 December 2019

	2019 $m	2018 $m
Members' balances brought forward at 1 January	(25.7)	16.4
Profit for the financial year	28.0	7.8
Profit distribution before members agent's fees – 2015 Year of account	–	(49.9)
Profit distribution before members agent's fees – 2016 Year of account	(31.2)	–
Members' balances carried forward at 31 December	**(28.9)**	**(25.7)**

Members participate on syndicates by reference to years of account (YOA) and their ultimate result, assets and liabilities are assessed with reference to policies incepting in that year of account in respect of their membership of a particular year.

The notes on pages 27 to 53 form part of these financial statements.

Balance sheet

at 31 December 2019

	Notes	2019 $m	2018 $m
Assets			
Financial assets at fair value	10	**529.9**	**576.8**
Reinsurers' share of technical provisions			
Provision for unearned premiums, reinsurers' share	14	37.2	36.4
Claims outstanding, reinsurers' share	14	207.6	185.3
		244.8	**221.7**
Debtors			
Debtors arising out of direct insurance operations		134.8	144.3
Debtors arising out of reinsurance operations		67.7	41.7
Other debtors	12	47.6	42.9
		250.1	**228.9**
Cash at bank and in hand	13	**25.4**	**18.5**
Deferred acquisition costs		**65.5**	**61.8**
Other prepayments and accrued income		**3.4**	**3.9**
Total assets		**1,119.1**	**1,111.6**
Liabilities, capital and reserves			
Capital and reserves			
Members' balances attributable to underwriting participations		(28.9)	(25.7)
Technical provisions			
Provision for unearned premiums	14	270.9	247.4
Claims outstanding	14	821.8	766.5
		1,092.7	**1,013.9**
Creditors			
Creditors arising out of direct insurance operations		37.9	37.9
Creditors arising out of reinsurance operations		3.9	2.4
Other creditors	15	2.0	78.4
		43.8	**118.7**
Financial liabilities	10	**1.6**	**1.6**
Accruals and deferred income		**9.9**	**3.1**
Total liabilities, capital and reserves		**1,119.1**	**1,111.6**

The notes on pages 27 to 53 form part of these financial statements.

The syndicate annual accounts on pages 23 to 53 were approved by the board of Beazley Furlonge Limited on 2 March 2020 and were signed on its behalf by:

A P Cox
Active underwriter

C C W Jones
Finance director

Cash flow statement

for the year ended 31 December 2019

	Notes	2019 $m	2018 $m
Reconciliation of profit for the financial year to net cash inflow from operating activities			
Profit for the financial year		28.0	7.8
Increase in net technical provisions		55.7	45.6
Increase in debtors		(20.7)	(31.1)
Decrease in creditors		(68.1)	(48.0)
Investment return		(28.9)	(3.5)
Increase in deferred acquisition costs		(3.7)	(3.4)
Net cash flows from operating activities		**(37.7)**	**(32.6)**
Net sale of investments		60.9	61.6
Cash received from investment return		15.6	11.2
Net cash from investing activities		**76.5**	**72.8**
Transfer to members in respect of underwriting participations		(31.2)	(49.9)
Net cash from financing activities		**(31.2)**	**(49.9)**
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		**7.6**	**(9.7)**
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		22.2	32.6
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents		(0.5)	(0.7)
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	13	**29.3**	**22.2**

The notes on pages 27 to 53 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the syndicate annual accounts

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

Syndicate 623 comprises a group of members of the Society of Lloyd's that underwrite insurance business in the London Market. The address of the syndicate's managing agent is given on page 69.

These syndicate annual accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008 ('the Regulations') and applicable Accounting Standards in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland, Financial Reporting Standard 102 'FRS 102' and the applicable Accounting Standard on insurance contracts Financial Reporting Standard 103 'FRS 103'.

The financial statements have been prepared on the historic cost basis, except for financial assets at fair value through profit or loss that are measured at fair value. The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these syndicate annual accounts are set out below. The policies have been consistently applied to all periods presented, unless otherwise stated. All amounts presented are stated in US dollars, being the syndicate's functional currency, and in millions, unless noted otherwise.

Use of estimates and judgements

The preparation of the syndicate annual accounts requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and 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 accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and in any future periods affected. In particular, information about significant areas of estimation uncertainty and critical judgements in applying accounting policies that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the syndicate annual accounts are described in this statement of accounting policies.

The most critical estimate included within the syndicate's financial position is the estimate for losses incurred but not reported. The total estimate as at 31 December 2019 is included within claims outstanding in the balance sheet.

Other key estimates contained within the syndicate close process are premium estimates and the earning pattern of recognising premium over the life of the contract. In the syndicate the premium written is initially based on the estimated premium income ('EPI') of each contract. Where premium is sourced through binders, the binder EPI is pro-rated across the binder period. This is done on a straight-line basis unless the underlying writing pattern from the prior period indicates the actual underlying writing pattern is materially different. The underwriters adjust their EPI estimates as the year of account matures. As the year of account closes premiums are adjusted to match the actual signed premium. An accrual for estimated future reinstatement premiums is retained. Premiums are earned on a straight-line basis over the life of each contract. At a portfolio level this is considered to provide a reasonable estimate for the full year of the pattern of risk over the coverage period.

The syndicate annual accounts have been prepared on an annual basis of accounting, whereby the incurred cost of claims, commission and related expenses are charged against the earned proportion of premiums, net of reinsurance as follows:

a) Premiums

Gross premiums written comprise premiums on contracts incepted during the financial year. Premiums are shown gross of brokerage payable and exclude taxes and duties levied on them. Estimates are made for pipeline premiums, representing amounts due to the syndicate not yet notified, as well as adjustments made in the year to premiums written in prior accounting periods.

b) Unearned premiums

The provision for unearned premiums comprises the proportion of premiums written which is estimated to be earned in the following or subsequent financial periods, computed separately for each insurance contract using the daily pro rata method, adjusted if necessary to reflect any variation in the incidence of risk during the period covered by the contract.

c) Claims

Claims incurred represent the cost of claims and claims handling expenses paid during the financial year, together with the movement in provisions for outstanding claims, claims incurred but not reported ('IBNR') and future claims handling provisions. Reinsurance recoveries are accounted for in the same period as the incurred claims for the related business.

The provision for claims comprises amounts set aside for claims advised and IBNR. The IBNR amount is based on estimates calculated using widely accepted statistical techniques (e.g. chain ladder) which are reviewed annually by external actuaries. The techniques generally use projections, based on past experience of the development of claims over time, to form a view on the likely ultimate claims to be experienced. For more recent underwriting, regard is given to the variations in the business portfolio accepted and the underlying terms and conditions.

Notes to the syndicate annual accounts *continued*

1 Accounting policies *continued*

Thus, the critical assumptions used when estimating claims provisions are that the past experience is a reasonable predictor of likely future claims development and that the rating and other models used to analyse current business are a fair reflection of the likely level of ultimate claims to be incurred.

The reinsurers' share of provisions for claims is based on calculated amounts for outstanding claims and projections for IBNR, net of estimated irrecoverable amounts having regard to the reinsurance programme in place for the class of business, the claims experience for the year and the current security rating of the reinsurance companies involved.

d) Acquisition costs

Acquisition costs comprise brokerage, staff and staff related costs of the underwriters acquiring the business. The proportion of acquisition costs in respect of unearned premiums is deferred at the balance sheet date and recognised in later periods when the related premiums are earned.

e) Liability adequacy testing

At each reporting date, liability adequacy tests are performed to ensure the adequacy of the claims liabilities net of deferred acquistion costs ('DAC') and unearned premium reserves. In performing these tests, current best estimates of future contractual cash flows, claims handling and administration expenses as well as investment income from the assets backing such liabilities are used. Any deficiency is immediately charged to the income statement initially by writing off DAC and by subsequently establishing a provision for losses arising from liability adequacy tests ('unexpired risk provision'). There is currently no unexpired risk provision.

f) Foreign currencies

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using average exchange rates applicable to the period in which the transactions take place and where the syndicate considers these to be a reasonable approximation of the transaction rate. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from translation at the period end of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in statement of comprehensive income. Non-monetary items recorded at historical cost in foreign currencies are translated using the exchange rate on the date of the initial transaction.

In previous years, amounts arising from foreign exchange translation between the converted Sterling balances reported to Lloyd's of London and the converted US dollar balances reported in the statutory accounts were recognised in other comprehensive income in order to achieve consistency between the two reports. A more direct interpretation of the requirements of FRS 102 would require these amounts to be recognised through profit or loss.

This revised interpretation has been applied in the current and prior period. For the year ended 31 December 2018, a reclassification of $1.3m has been made between loss on foreign exchange in the profit and loss account and foreign exchange loss on brought forward reserves in the statement of other comprehensive income. Subsequently the statement of other comprehensive income is no longer required as the loss on brought forward reserves is nil, therefore we have applied a change in accounting policy to combine the profit and loss account and statement of other comprehensive income into a single statement of comprehensive income.

g) Investments

Investments are stated at current value at the balance sheet date. For this purpose listed investments are stated at bid-market value and deposits with credit institutions and overseas deposits are stated at cost.

h) Investment return

Investment return comprises all investment income, realised investment gains and losses and movements in unrealised gains and losses, net of investment expenses, charges and interest.

Realised gains and losses on investments carried at market value are calculated as the difference between sale proceeds and purchase price. Movements in unrealised gains and losses on investments represent the difference between the valuation at the balance sheet date, together with the reversal of unrealised gains and losses recognised in earlier accounting periods in respect of investment disposals in the current period.

Investment return is initially recorded in the non-technical account. A transfer is made from the non-technical account to the general business technical account to reflect the investment return on funds supporting underwriting business.

i) Ceded reinsurance

These are contracts entered into by the syndicate with reinsurers under which the syndicate is compensated for losses on contracts issued by the syndicate and that meet the definition of an insurance contract. Insurance contracts entered into by the syndicate under which the contract holder is another insurer (inwards reinsurance) are included with insurance contracts.

1 Accounting policies *continued*

Any benefits to which the syndicate is entitled under its reinsurance contracts held are recognised as reinsurance assets. These assets consist of balances due from reinsurers and include reinsurers' share of provisions for claims. These balances are based on calculated amounts of outstanding claims and projections for IBNR, net of estimated irrecoverable amounts having regard to the reinsurance programme in place for the class of business, the claims experience for the period and the current security rating of the reinsurer involved. Reinsurance liabilities are primarily premiums payable for reinsurance contracts and are recognised as an expense when due.

The syndicate assesses its reinsurance assets for impairment. If there is objective evidence of impairment, then the carrying amount is reduced to its recoverable amount and the impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

j) Financial instruments

Financial instruments are recognised in the balance sheet at such time that the syndicate becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. A financial asset is derecognised when the contractual rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets expire, or where the financial assets have been transferred, together with substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership. Financial liabilities are derecognised if the syndicate's obligations specified in the contract expire, are discharged or cancelled.

Purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on the trade date, which is the date the syndicate commits to purchase or sell the asset.

Financial assets

On acquisition of a financial asset, the syndicate is required to classify the asset into the following categories: financial assets at fair value through profit or loss, loans and receivables, held to maturity and available for sale. The syndicate does not make use of the held to maturity and available for sale classifications.

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

Except for derivative financial instruments, all financial assets are designated as fair value through profit or loss upon initial recognition because they are managed and their performance is evaluated on a fair value basis. Information about these financial assets is provided internally on a fair value basis to the syndicate's key management. The syndicate's investment strategy is to invest and evaluate performance with reference to their fair values.

Fair value measurement

Fair value is the price at which an orderly transaction to sell an asset or to transfer a liability would take place between market participants at the measurement date.

When available, the syndicate measures the fair value of an instrument using quoted prices in an active market for that instrument. A market is regarded as active if quoted prices are readily and regularly available and represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis.

If a market for a financial instrument is not active, the syndicate establishes fair value using a valuation technique. Valuation techniques include using recent orderly transactions between market participants (if available), reference to the current fair value of other instruments that are substantially the same, discounted cash flow analyses and option pricing models. The chosen valuation technique makes maximum use of market inputs, relies as little as possible on estimates specific to the syndicate, incorporates all factors that market participants would consider in setting a price, and is consistent with accepted economic methodologies for pricing financial instruments. Inputs to valuation techniques reasonably represent market expectations and measures of the risk-return factors inherent in the financial instrument. The syndicate calibrates valuation techniques and tests them for validity using prices from observable current market transactions in the same instrument or based on other available observable market data.

The best evidence of the fair value of a financial instrument at initial recognition is the transaction price, i.e., the fair value of the consideration given or received, unless the fair value of that instrument is evidenced by comparison with other observable current market transactions in the same instrument (i.e., without modification or repackaging) or based on a valuation technique whose variables include only data from observable markets. When transaction price provides the best evidence of fair value at initial recognition, the financial instrument is initially measured at the transaction price and any difference between this price and the value initially obtained from a valuation model is subsequently recognised in profit or loss depending on the individual facts and circumstances of the transaction but not later than when the valuation is supported wholly by observable market data or the transaction is closed out.

Notes to the syndicate annual accounts *continued*

1 Accounting policies *continued*

Assets and long positions are measured at a bid price; liabilities and short positions are measured at an asking price. These prices are monitored and deemed to approximate exit price. Where the syndicate has positions with offsetting risks, mid-market prices are used to measure the offsetting risk positions and a bid or asking price adjustment is applied only to the net open position as appropriate. Fair values reflect the credit risk of the instrument and include adjustments to take account of the credit risk of the syndicate and counterparty where appropriate. Fair value estimates obtained from models are adjusted for any other factors, such as liquidity risk or model uncertainties, to the extent that the syndicate believes a third-party market participant would take them into account in pricing a transaction.

Upon initial recognition, attributable transaction costs relating to financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss are recognised in profit or loss when incurred. Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are measured at fair value, and changes therein are recognised in profit or loss within investment income.

Hedge funds, equity funds and illiquid credit assets

The syndicate participates in a number of hedge funds and related financial instruments for which there are no available quoted market prices. The valuation of these hedge funds is based on fair value techniques (as described above). The fair value of our hedge fund portfolio is calculated by reference to the underlying net asset values (NAV) of each of the individual funds. Consideration is also given in valuing these funds to any restriction applied to distributions, the existence of side pocket provisions, and the timing of the latest available valuations. At certain times, the syndicate will have uncalled unfunded commitments in relation to its illiquid credit assets. These uncalled unfunded commitments are actively monitored by the syndicate and are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. The additional investment into its illiquid credit asset portfolio is recognised on the date that this funding is provided.

k) Insurance debtors and creditors

Insurance debtors and creditors are recognised when due. These include amounts due to and from agents, brokers and insurance contract holders. These are classified as insurance debtors and creditors as they are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted on an active market. Insurance debtors are measured at amortised cost less any provision for impairments. Insurance creditors are stated at amortised cost.

l) Other debtors

Other debtors principally consist of prepayments, accrued income and sundry debtors and are carried at amortised cost less any impairment losses.

m) Other creditors

Other creditors are stated at amortised cost determined on the effective interest rate method.

n) Hedge accounting and derivative financial instruments

Derivatives are initially recognised at fair value on the date on which a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently remeasured at their fair value. Fair values are obtained from quoted market prices in active markets, recent market transactions, and valuation techniques which include discounted cash flow models. All derivatives are carried as assets when fair value is positive and as liabilities when fair value is negative.

The best evidence of fair value of a derivative at initial recognition is the transaction price.

o) Impairment of financial assets

The syndicate assesses at each reporting date whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset or group of financial assets measured at amortised cost is impaired. A financial asset or group of financial assets is impaired and impairment losses are incurred only if there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more events that have occurred after the initial recognition of the assets and that event has an impact on the estimated cash flows of the financial asset or group of financial assets that can be reliably estimated.

If there is objective evidence that impairment exists, the amount of the loss is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the financial asset's original effective interest rate. The amount of the loss is recognised in profit or loss.

p) Cash and cash equivalent

This consists of cash at bank and in hand, deposits held at call with banks and other short-term highly liquid investments with maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition. Cash at bank and in hand are classified as loans and receivables and carried at amortised cost less any impairment losses.

1 Accounting policies *continued*

q) Taxation

Under Schedule 19 of the Finance Act 1993 managing agents are not required to deduct basic rate income tax from trading income. In addition, all UK basic rate income tax (currently at 20%) deducted from syndicate investment income is recoverable by managing agents and consequently the distribution made to members or their members' agents is gross of tax. Capital appreciation falls within trading income and is also distributed gross of tax.

No provision has been made for any US federal income tax payable on underwriting results or investment earnings. Any payments on account made by the syndicate during the year have been included in the balance sheet under the heading 'other debtors'.

No provision has been made for any other overseas tax payable by members on underwriting results.

r) Pension costs

Beazley Furlonge Limited operates a defined benefit scheme. Pension contributions relating to staff who act on behalf of the syndicate are charged to the syndicate and included within net operating expenses.

s) Profit commission

Profit commission is charged by the managing agent at a rate of 17.5% of the profit on a year of account basis subject to the operating of a three-year deficit clause. This is charged to the syndicate as incurred but does not become payable until after the appropriate year of account closes, normally at 36 months.

2 Risk management

The syndicate has identified the risks arising from its activities and has established policies and procedures to manage these items in accordance with its risk appetite. The sections below outline the syndicate's risk appetite and explain how it defines and manages each category of risk.

2.1 Insurance risk

The syndicate's insurance business assumes the risk of loss from persons or organisations that are directly exposed to an underlying loss. Insurance risk arises from this risk transfer due to inherent uncertainties about the occurrence, amount and timing of insurance liabilities. The four key components of insurance risk are underwriting, reinsurance, claims management and reserving. Each element is considered below:

a) Underwriting risk

Underwriting risk comprises four elements that apply to all insurance products offered by the syndicate:

- cycle risk – the risk that business is written without full knowledge as to the (in)adequacy of rates, terms and conditions;
- event risk – the risk that individual risk losses or catastrophes lead to claims that are higher than anticipated in plans and pricing;
- pricing risk – the risk that the level of expected loss is understated in the pricing process; and
- expense risk – the risk that the allowance for expenses and inflation in pricing is inadequate.

The syndicate's underwriting strategy is to seek a diverse and balanced portfolio of risks in order to limit the variability of outcomes.

This is achieved by accepting a spread of business over time, segmented between different products, geography and size.

The annual business plans for each underwriting team reflect the syndicate's underwriting strategy, and set out the classes of business, the territories and the industry sectors in which business is to be written. These plans are approved by the board of Beazley Furlonge Limited and monitored by the monthly underwriting committee.

The syndicate's underwriters calculate premiums for risks written based on a range of criteria tailored specifically to each individual risk. These factors include but are not limited to the financial exposure, loss history, risk characteristics, limits, deductibles, terms and conditions and acquisition expenses.

The syndicate also recognises that insurance events are, by their nature, random, and the actual number and size of events during any one year may vary from those estimated using established statistical techniques.

Notes to the syndicate annual accounts *continued*

2 Risk management *continued*

To address this, the syndicate sets out the exposure that it is prepared to accept in certain territories to a range of events such as natural catastrophes and specific scenarios which may result in large industry losses. This is monitored through regular calculation of RDS. The aggregate position is monitored at the time of underwriting a risk, and reports are regularly produced to highlight the key aggregations to which the syndicate is exposed.

The syndicate uses a number of modelling tools to monitor its exposures against the agreed risk appetite set and to simulate catastrophe losses in order to measure the effectiveness of its reinsurance programmes. Stress and scenario tests are also run using these models. The range of scenarios considered include natural catastrophes, marine, liability, political, terrorism and war events.

One of the largest types of event exposure relates to natural catastrophe events such as windstorm or earthquake. Where possible the syndicate measures geographic accumulations and uses its knowledge of the business, historical loss behaviour and commercial catastrophe modelling software to assess the expected range of losses at different return periods. Upon application of the reinsurance coverage purchased, the key gross and net exposures are calculated on the basis of extreme events at a range of return periods.

To manage underwriting exposures, the syndicate has developed limits of authority and business plans which are binding upon all staff authorised to underwrite and are specific to underwriters, classes of business and industry. In 2019, the normal maximum line that any one underwriter could commit the managed syndicate to was $18.0m. In most cases, maximum lines for classes of business were much lower than this.

These authority limits are enforced through a comprehensive sign-off process for underwriting transactions including dual sign-off for all line underwriters and peer review for all risks exceeding individual underwriters authority limits. Exception reports are also run regularly to monitor compliance.

All underwriters also have a right to refuse renewal or change the terms and conditions of insurance contracts upon renewal. Rate monitoring details, including limits, deductibles, exposures, terms and conditions and risk characteristics are also captured and the results are combined to monitor the rating environment for each class of business.

Binding authority contracts

A proportion of the syndicate's insurance risks are transacted by third parties under delegated underwriting authorities. Each third party is thoroughly vetted by our coverholder approval group before it can bind risks, and is subject to rigorous monitoring to maintain underwriting quality and confirm ongoing compliance with contractual guidelines.

Operating divisions

In 2019, the syndicate's business consisted of six operating divisions. The following table provides a breakdown of gross premiums written by division:

	2019 %	2018 %
Cyber & executive risk[1]	23	24
Marine	13	13
Political, accident & contingency	6	6
Property	18	19
Reinsurance	8	10
Specialty lines[1]	32	28
Total	**100**	**100**

1 From 1 January 2019, the specialty lines division has been split into two. The prior year comparative has been re-presented to allow comparison.

b) Reinsurance risk

Reinsurance risk to the syndicate arises where reinsurance contracts, put in place to reduce gross insurance risk, do not perform as anticipated, result in coverage disputes or prove inadequate in terms of the vertical or horizontal limits purchased. Failure of a reinsurer to pay a valid claim is considered a credit risk which is detailed separately below.

The syndicate's reinsurance programmes complement the underwriting team business plans and seek to protect syndicate capital from an adverse volume or volatility of claims on both a per risk and per event basis. In some cases the syndicate deems it more economic to hold capital than purchase reinsurance. These decisions are regularly reviewed as an integral part of the business planning and performance monitoring process.

2 Risk management *continued*

The group's reinsurance security committee ('RSC') examines and approves all reinsurers to ensure that they possess suitable security. The syndicate's ceded reinsurance team ensures that these guidelines are followed, undertakes the administration of reinsurance contracts, monitors and instigates our responses to any erosion of the reinsurance programmes.

c) Claims management risk

Claims management risk may arise within the syndicate in the event of inaccurate or incomplete case reserves and claims settlements, poor service quality or excessive claims handling costs. These risks may damage the Beazley brand and undermine its ability to win and retain business or incur punitive damages. These risks can occur at any stage of the claims life-cycle.

The syndicate's claims teams are focused on delivering quality, reliability and speed of service to both internal and external clients. Their aim is to adjust and process claims in a fair, efficient and timely manner, in accordance with the policy's terms and conditions, the regulatory environment, and the business's broader interests. Prompt and accurate case reserves are set for all known claims liabilities, including provisions for expenses.

d) Reserving and ultimate reserves risk

Reserving and ultimate reserves risk occurs within the syndicate where established insurance liabilities are insufficient through inaccurate forecasting, or where there is inadequate allowance for expenses and reinsurance bad debt in provisions.

To manage reserving and ultimate reserves risk, our actuarial team uses a range of recognised techniques to project gross premiums written, monitor claims development patterns and stress test ultimate insurance liability balances. An external independent actuary also performs an annual review to produce a statement of actuarial opinion for the syndicate.

The objective of the syndicate's reserving policy is to produce accurate and reliable estimates that are consistent over time and across classes of business. The estimates of gross premiums written and claims prepared by the actuarial department are used through a formal quarterly peer review process to independently test the integrity of the estimates produced by the underwriting teams for each class of business. These meetings are attended by senior management, senior underwriters, actuarial, claims, and finance representatives.

A five percent increase or decrease in total claims liabilities would have the following effect on profit or loss and equity:

	5% increase in net claims reserves		5% decreases in net claims reserves	
Sensitivity to insurance risk (claims reserves)	2019 $m	2018 $m	2019 $m	2018 $m
Impact on profit	(30.7)	(29.1)	30.7	29.1

The syndicate also monitors its exposure to insurance risk by location. The below table provides an analysis of the geographical breakdown of its written premiums.

	2019 %	2018 %
US	62	61
Europe[1]	15	16
Other	23	23
	100	**100**

1 Includes UK.

2.2 Financial risk

The focus of financial risk management for the syndicate is ensuring that the proceeds from its financial assets are sufficient to fund the obligations arising from its insurance contracts. The goal of the investment management process is to optimise the risk-adjusted investment income and risk-adjusted total return by investing in a diversified portfolio of securities, whilst ensuring that the assets and liabilities are managed on a cash flow and duration basis.

2.3 Strategic risk

This is the risk that Beazley Furlonge Limited's strategy is inappropriate or that Beazley Furlonge Limited is unable to implement its strategy. There is no tolerance for any breach of guidance issued by the board, and where events supersede the strategic plan this is escalated at the earliest opportunity through Beazley Furlonge Limited's monitoring tools and governance structure.

Notes to the syndicate annual accounts *continued*

2 Risk management *continued*

2.4 Market risk

Market risk arises where the value of assets and liabilities changes as a result of movements in foreign exchange rates, interest rates and market prices.

Foreign exchange risk

The functional currency of the syndicate is the US dollar and the presentation currency in which the syndicate reports its results is the US dollar. The effect of this on foreign exchange risk is that the syndicate is exposed to fluctuations in exchange rates for non-dollar denominated transactions and net assets.

The syndicate has four main settlement currencies: US dollars, sterling, Canadian dollars and euro. Transactions in all currencies are converted to US dollars on initial recognition and revalued at the reporting date. Remaining foreign exchange risk is actively managed as described below.

The syndicate's assets are broadly matched by currency to the principal underlying settlement currencies of its insurance liabilities. This helps mitigate the risk that future movements in exchange rates would materially impact the syndicate's assets required to cover its insurance liabilities.

The following table summarises the carrying value of total assets and total liabilities categorised by currency:

31 December 2019	UK £ $m	CAD $ $m	EUR € $m	Subtotal $m	US $ $m	Total $m
Total assets	100.0	64.0	27.9	191.9	927.2	1,119.1
Total liabilities	(86.2)	(40.7)	(70.4)	(197.3)	(950.7)	(1,148.0)
Net assets	**13.8**	**23.3**	**(42.5)**	**(5.4)**	**(23.5)**	**(28.9)**

31 December 2018	UK £ $m	CAD $ $m	EUR € $m	Subtotal $m	US $ $m	Total $m
Total assets	81.1	57.9	21.1	160.1	951.5	1,111.6
Total liabilities	(96.8)	(34.2)	(69.7)	(200.7)	(936.6)	(1,137.3)
Net assets	**(15.7)**	**23.7**	**(48.6)**	**(40.6)**	**14.9**	**(25.7)**

Sensitivity analysis

In 2019, the syndicate managed its foreign exchange risk by periodically assessing its non-dollar exposures and hedging these to a tolerable level while targeting net assets to be entirely US dollar denominated. As part of this hedging strategy, exchange rate derivatives were used to rebalance currency exposure. Details of all foreign currency derivative contracts entered into with external parties are disclosed in note 11. On a forward looking basis an assessment is made of expected future exposure development and appropriate currency trades put in place to reduce risk.

Fluctuations in the syndicate's trading currencies against the US dollar would result in a change to profit and net asset value. The table below gives an indication of the impact on profit and net assets of a percentage change in relative strength of US dollar against the value of sterling, Canadian dollar and euro, simultaneously. The analysis is based on the current information available and an assumption that the impact of foreign exchange on non-monetary items will be nil and is presented net of the impact of the exchange rate derivatives referenced above.

	Impact on profit for the year ended		Impact on net assets	
Change in exchange rate of sterling, Canadian dollar and euro relative to US dollar	2019 $m	2018 $m	2019 $m	2018 $m
Dollar weakens 30% against other currencies	1.9	0.4	1.9	0.4
Dollar weakens 20% against other currencies	1.3	0.3	1.3	0.3
Dollar weakens 10% against other currencies	0.6	0.1	0.6	0.1
Dollar strengthens 10% against other currencies	(0.6)	(0.1)	(0.6)	(0.1)
Dollar strengthens 20% against other currencies	(1.3)	(0.3)	(1.3)	(0.3)
Dollar strengthens 30% against other currencies	(1.9)	(0.4)	(1.9)	(0.4)

2 Risk management *continued*

Interest rate risk

Some of the syndicate's financial instruments, including financial investments, cash and borrowings, are exposed to movements in market interest rates.

The syndicate manages interest rate risk by primarily investing in short duration financial investments and cash. The investment committee monitors the duration of these assets on a regular basis.

The syndicate also entered into interest rate futures contracts to manage the interest rate risk on bond portfolios.

The following table shows the average duration at the reporting date of the financial instruments that are exposed to movements in market interest rates. Duration is a commonly used measure of volatility and we believe gives a better indication than maturity of the likely sensitivity of our portfolio to changes in interest rates.

Duration 31 December 2019	<1 yr $m	1-2 yrs $m	2-3 yrs $m	3-4 yrs $m	4-5 yrs $m	5-10 yrs $m	>10 yrs $m	Total $m
Fixed and floating rate debt securities	189.4	110.9	90.1	26.8	29.4	8.1	1.2	455.9
Syndicate loan to Lloyd's central fund	–	–	–	–	–	1.6	–	1.6
Cash at bank and in hand	25.4	–	–	–	–	–	–	25.4
Derivative financial instruments	0.6	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.6
Total	**215.4**	**110.9**	**90.1**	**26.8**	**29.4**	**9.7**	**1.2**	**483.5**

Duration 31 December 2018	<1 yr $m	1-2 yrs $m	2-3 yrs $m	3-4 yrs $m	4-5 yrs $m	5-10 yrs $m	>10 yrs $m	Total $m
Fixed and floating rate debt securities	204.9	101.0	82.5	60.4	21.5	15.7	–	486.0
Cash at bank and in hand	18.5	–	–	–	–	–	–	18.5
Derivative financial instruments	1.2	–	–	–	–	–	–	1.2
Total	**224.6**	**101.0**	**82.5**	**60.4**	**21.5**	**15.7**	**–**	**505.7**

Sensitivity analysis

The syndicate holds financial assets and liabilities that are exposed to interest rate risk. Changes in interest yields, with all other variables constant, would result in changes in the capital value of debt and derivative financial instruments. This will affect reported profits and net assets as indicated in the below table:

	Impact on profit for the year ended		Impact on net assets	
Shift in yield (basis points)	2019 $m	2018 $m	2019 $m	2018 $m
150 basis point increase	(12.0)	(12.9)	(12.0)	(12.9)
100 basis point increase	(8.0)	(8.6)	(8.0)	(8.6)
50 basis point increase	(4.0)	(4.3)	(4.0)	(4.3)
50 basis point decrease	4.0	4.3	4.0	4.3
100 basis point decrease	8.0	8.6	8.0	8.6

Price risk

Financial assets and derivatives that are recognised on the balance sheet at their fair value are susceptible to losses due to adverse changes in prices. This is referred to as price risk.

Financial assets include fixed and floating rate debt securities, hedge funds, equity funds and derivative financial assets. The fixed income securities are well diversified across high quality, liquid securities. The price risk associated with these securities is predominantly interest, foreign exchange and credit risk related. The sensitivity to price risk that relates to the syndicate's hedge fund investments and equity linked funds is presented on the next page. The investment committee has established comprehensive guidelines with investment managers setting out maximum investment limits, diversification across industries and concentrations in any one industry or company.

Notes to the syndicate annual accounts *continued*

2 Risk management *continued*

Listed investments are recognised on the balance sheet at quoted bid price. If the market for the investment is not considered to be active, then the syndicate establishes fair value using valuation techniques (refer to note 10). This includes using recent arm's length market transactions, reference to current fair value of other investments that are substantially the same, discounted cash flow models and other valuation techniques that are commonly used by market participants.

	Impact on profit for the year ended		Impact on net assets	
Change in fair value of hedge funds and equity linked funds	2019 $m	2018 $m	2019 $m	2018 $m
30% increase in fair value	21.5	20.8	21.5	20.8
20% increase in fair value	14.3	13.9	14.3	13.9
10% increase in fair value	7.2	6.9	7.2	6.9
10% decrease in fair value	(7.2)	(6.9)	(7.2)	(6.9)
20% decrease in fair value	(14.3)	(13.9)	(14.3)	(13.9)
30% decrease in fair value	(21.5)	(20.8)	(21.5)	(20.8)

2.5 Operational risk

Operational risk arises from the risk of losses due to inadequate or failed internal processes, people, systems, service providers or from external events.

There are a number of business activities for which the syndicate uses the services of a third-party company, such as data entry and credit control. These service providers are selected against rigorous criteria and formal service level agreements are in place, and regularly monitored and reviewed.

Beazley Furlonge Limited also recognises that it is necessary for people, systems and infrastructure to be available to support the syndicate's operations. They have therefore taken significant steps to mitigate the impact of business interruption which could follow a variety of events, including the loss of key individuals and facilities. The syndicate operates a formal disaster recovery plan which, in the event of an incident, allows the movement of critical operations to an alternative location within 24 hours.

Beazley Furlonge Limited actively manages operational risks and minimises them where appropriate. This is achieved by implementing and communicating guidelines to staff and other third parties. Beazley Furlonge Limited also regularly monitors the performance of its controls and adherence to these guidelines through the risk management reporting process.

Key components of Beazley Furlonge Limited's operational control environment include:

- solvency capital requirement (SCR) modelling of operational risk exposure and scenario testing;
- management review of activities;
- documentation of policies and procedures;
- preventative and detective controls within key processes;
- contingency planning; and
- other systems controls.

2.6 Credit risk

Credit risk arises from the failure of another party to perform its financial or contractual obligations to the syndicate in a timely manner. The primary sources of credit risk for the syndicate are:

- reinsurers – whereby reinsurers may fail to pay valid claims against a reinsurance contract held by the syndicate;
- brokers and coverholders – whereby counterparties fail to pass on premiums or claims collected or paid on behalf of the syndicate;
- investments – whereby issuer default results in the syndicate losing all or part of the value of a financial instrument and derivative financial instrument; and
- cash at bank and in hand.

The syndicate's core business is to accept significant insurance risk and the appetite for other risks is low. This protects the syndicate's capital from erosion so that it can meet its insurance liabilities.

The syndicate limits exposure to a single counterparty or a group of counterparties and analyses the geographical locations of exposures when assessing credit risk.

2 Risk management *continued*

An approval system also exists for all new brokers, and broker performance is carefully monitored. Regular exception reports highlight trading with non-approved brokers, and the syndicate's credit control function frequently assesses the ageing and collectability of debtor balances. Any large, aged items are prioritised and where collection is outsourced, incentives are in place to support these priorities.

The investment committee has established comprehensive guidelines for the syndicate's investment managers regarding the type, duration and quality of investments acceptable to the syndicate. The performance of investment managers is regularly reviewed to confirm adherence to these guidelines.

The syndicate has developed processes to formally examine all reinsurers before entering into new business arrangements. New reinsurers are approved by the RSC, which also reviews arrangements with all existing reinsurers at least annually. Vulnerable or slow-paying reinsurers are examined more frequently.

To assist in the understanding of credit risks, A.M. Best, Moody's and Standard & Poor's (S&P) ratings are used. These ratings have been categorised below as used for Lloyd's reporting:

	A.M. Best	Moody's	S&P
Tier 1	A++ to A-	Aaa to A3	AAA to A-
Tier 2	B++ to B-	Baa1 to Ba3	BBB+ to BB-
Tier 3	C++ to C-	B1 to Caa	B+ to CCC
Tier 4	D, E, F, S	Ca to C	R, (U,S) 3

The following tables summarise the syndicate's concentrations of credit risk:

31 December 2019	Tier 1 $m	Tier 2 $m	Tier 3 $m	Tier 4 $m	Unrated $m	Total $m
Financial assets at fair value						
– fixed and floating rate debt securities	227.7	154.0	–	–	74.2	455.9
– syndicate loan to Lloyd's central fund	–	1.6	–	–	–	1.6
– equity funds	–	–	–	–	15.0	15.0
– hedge funds	–	–	–	–	53.7	53.7
– derivative financial assets	–	0.6	–	–	–	0.6
– illiquid credit assets	–	–	–	–	3.1	3.1
Reinsurers' share of outstanding claims	204.9	–	–	–	2.8	207.7
Reinsurance debtors	10.4	–	–	–	0.1	10.5
Cash at bank and in hand	–	–	–	–	25.4	25.4
Total	**443.0**	**156.2**	**–**	**–**	**174.3**	**773.5**

31 December 2018	Tier 1 $m	Tier 2 $m	Tier 3 $m	Tier 4 $m	Unrated $m	Total $m
Financial assets at fair value						
– fixed and floating rate debt securities	388.0	98.0	–	–	–	486.0
– equity funds	–	–	–	–	30.2	30.2
– hedge funds	–	–	–	–	56.5	56.5
– derivative financial assets	1.2	–	–	–	–	1.2
– illiquid credit assets	–	–	–	–	2.9	2.9
Reinsurers' share of outstanding claims	184.7	–	–	–	1.4	186.1
Reinsurance debtors	9.4	–	–	–	1.2	10.6
Cash at bank and in hand	–	–	–	–	18.5	18.5
Total	**583.3**	**98.0**	**–**	**–**	**110.7**	**792.0**

Notes to the syndicate annual accounts *continued*

2 Risk management *continued*

Based on all evidence available, debtors arising out of insurance operations and other debtors have not been impaired and no impairment provision has been recognised in respect of these assets. An analysis of the overall credit risk exposure indicates that the syndicate has reinsurance assets that are impaired at the reporting date. The total impairment provision made in respect of these assets at 31 December 2019 is $0.7m (2018: $0.8m). This $0.7m provision in respect of overdue reinsurance recoverables is included within the debtors arising out of reinsurance operations balance of $67.7m (2018: $41.7m). No other financial assets held at year end were impaired.

Financial investments falling within the unrated category comprise hedge funds for which there is no readily available market data to allow classification within the respective tiers. Additionally, some debtors are classified as unrated in accordance with Lloyd's guidelines.

The syndicate has insurance debtors and reinsurance assets that are past due but not impaired at the reporting date. An aged analysis of these is presented below:

31 December 2019	Neither due nor impaired $m	0-3 months past due $m	3-6 months past due $m	6-12 months past due $m	Greater than 1 year past due $m	Total $m
Insurance debtors	110.1	18.1	3.9	2.7	–	134.8
Reinsurance assets	10.5	0.6	–	–	–	11.1

31 December 2018	Neither due nor impaired $m	0-3 months past due $m	3-6 months past due $m	6-12 months past due $m	Greater than 1 year past due $m	Total $m
Insurance debtors	128.5	12.9	1.8	1.1	–	144.3
Reinsurance assets	10.6	0.5	–	–	–	11.1

2.7 Regulatory and legal risk

Regulatory and legal risk is the risk arising from not complying with regulatory and legal requirements. The operations of Beazley Furlonge Limited are subject to legal and regulatory requirements within the jurisdictions in which it operates and Beazley Furlonge Limited's compliance function is responsible for ensuring that these requirements are adhered to.

2.8 Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk arises where cash may not be available to pay obligations when due at a reasonable cost. The syndicate is exposed to daily calls on its available cash resources, principally from claims arising from its insurance business. In the majority of the cases, these claims are settled from the premiums received.

The syndicate's approach is to manage its liquidity position so that it can reasonably survive a significant individual or market loss event. This means that the syndicate maintains sufficient liquid assets, or assets that can be translated into liquid assets at short notice and without any significant capital loss, to meet expected cash flow requirements. These liquid funds are regularly monitored using cash flow forecasting to ensure that surplus funds are invested to achieve a higher rate of return.

The following is an analysis by business segment of the estimated timing of the net cash flows based on the net claims liabilities balance held at 31 December:

31 December 2019	Within 1 year	2-3 years	4-5 years	Greater than 5 years	Total	Weighted average term to settlement (years)
Cyber & executive risk	41.2	67.4	27.8	9.1	145.5	2.2
Marine	23.3	20.8	7.3	3.4	54.8	1.8
Political, accident & contingency	9.2	6.7	1.7	1.7	19.3	1.9
Property	34.9	28.3	7.0	4.6	74.8	1.7
Reinsurance	22.6	19.8	5.5	4.1	52.0	1.9
Specialty lines	45.2	88.7	62.6	72.0	268.5	3.8
Net insurance liabilities	**176.4**	**231.7**	**111.9**	**94.9**	**614.9**	

2 Risk management *continued*

31 December 2018	Within 1 year	2-3 years	4-5 years	Greater than 5 years	Total	Weighted average term to settlement (years)
Cyber & executive risk	28.8	53.0	33.4	18.9	134.1	2.9
Marine	25.4	21.3	6.2	4.8	57.7	2.0
Political, accident & contingency	7.2	5.3	1.5	1.9	15.9	2.4
Property	39.8	24.7	6.4	6.0	76.9	1.8
Reinsurance	19.5	15.8	5.0	4.7	45.0	2.2
Specialty lines	48.9	78.8	51.6	72.4	251.6	3.5
Net insurance liabilities	**169.6**	**198.9**	**104.1**	**108.7**	**581.2**	

The next two tables summarise the carrying amount at reporting date of financial instruments analysed by maturity date.

Maturity 31 December 2019	<1 yr $m	1-2 yrs $m	2-3 yrs $m	3-4 yrs $m	4-5 yrs $m	5-10 yrs $m	>10 yrs $m	Total $m
Fixed and floating rate debt securities	161.8	114.8	91.3	38.1	45.8	1.8	2.3	455.9
Syndicate loan to Lloyd's central fund	–	–	–	–	–	1.6	–	1.6
Derivative financial instruments	0.6	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.6
Cash at bank and in hand	25.4	–	–	–	–	–	–	25.4
Other debtors	47.6	–	–	–	–	–	–	47.6
Other creditors	(2.0)	–	–	–	–	–	–	(2.0)
Total	**233.4**	**114.8**	**91.3**	**38.1**	**45.8**	**3.4**	**2.3**	**529.1**

Maturity 31 December 2018	<1 yr $m	1-2 yrs $m	2-3 yrs $m	3-4 yrs $m	4-5 yrs $m	5-10 yrs $m	>10 yrs $m	Total $m
Fixed and floating rate debt securities	158.4	115.0	92.0	65.2	37.3	18.1	–	486.0
Derivative financial instruments	1.2	–	–	–	–	–	–	1.2
Cash at bank and in hand	18.5	–	–	–	–	–	–	18.5
Other debtors	42.9	–	–	–	–	–	–	42.9
Other creditors	(78.4)	–	–	–	–	–	–	(78.4)
Total	**142.6**	**115.0**	**92.0**	**65.2**	**37.3**	**18.1**	**–**	**470.2**

2.9 Senior management responsibilities

Management stretch is the risk that business growth might result in an insufficient or overly complicated management team structure, thereby undermining accountability and control within the syndicate. As the syndicate expands its worldwide business in the UK, US, Europe and Asia, management stretch may make the identification, analysis and control of risks more complex. On a day-to-day basis, Beazley Furlonge Limited's management structure encourages organisational flexibility and adaptability, while ensuring that activities are appropriately co-ordinated and controlled. By focusing on the needs of their customers and demonstrating both progressive and responsive abilities, staff, management and outsourced service providers are expected to excel in service and quality. Individuals and teams are also expected to transact their activities in an open and transparent way. These behavioural expectations reaffirm low risk tolerance by aligning interests to ensure that routine activities, projects and other initiatives are implemented to benefit and protect resources of both local business segments and the syndicate as a whole.

Notes to the syndicate annual accounts *continued*

2 Risk management *continued*

2.10 Capital management

Capital framework at Lloyd's

The Society of Lloyd's is a regulated undertaking and subject to the supervision of the Prudential Regulatory Authority ('PRA') under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.

Within this supervisory framework, Lloyd's applies capital requirements at member level and centrally to ensure that Lloyd's complies with Solvency II, and beyond that to meet its own financial strength, licence and ratings objectives.

Although, as described below, Lloyd's capital setting processes use a capital requirement set at syndicate level as a starting point, the requirement to meet Solvency II and Lloyd's capital requirements apply at overall and member level respectively, not at syndicate level. Accordingly the capital requirement in respect of syndicate 623 is not disclosed in these financial statements.

Lloyd's capital setting process

In order to meet Lloyd's requirements, each syndicate is required to calculate its Solvency Capital Requirement for the prospective underwriting year. This amount must be sufficient to cover a 1 in 200 year loss, reflecting uncertainty in the ultimate run-off of underwriting liabilities (SCR to ultimate). The syndicate must also calculate its SCR at the same confidence level but reflecting uncertainty over a one year time horizon (one year SCR) for Lloyd's to use in meeting Solvency II requirements. The SCRs of each syndicate are subject to review by Lloyd's and approval by the Lloyd's Capital and Planning Group.

A syndicate comprises one or more underwriting members of Lloyd's. Each member is liable for its own share of underwriting liabilities on the syndicate(s) on which it participates but not other members' shares. Accordingly, the capital requirement that Lloyd's sets for each member operates on a similar basis. Each member's SCR shall thus be determined by the sum of the member's share of the syndicate SCR 'to ultimate'. Where a member participates on more than one syndicate, a credit for diversification is provided to reflect the spread of risk, but consistent with determining an SCR which reflects the capital requirement to cover a 1 in 200 year loss 'to ultimate' for that member. Over and above this, Lloyd's applies a capital uplift to the member's capital requirement, known as the Economic Capital Assessment ('ECA'). The purpose of this uplift, which is a Lloyd's not a solvency II requirement, is to meet Lloyd's financial strength, licence and ratings objectives. The capital uplift applied for 2019 was 35% (2018: 35%) of the member's SCR to ultimate.

Provision of capital by members

Each member may provide capital to meet its ECA either by assets held in trust by Lloyd's specifically for that member (funds at Lloyd's), held within and managed within a syndicate (funds in syndicate) and/or as the member's share of the Solvency II members' balances on each syndicate on which it participates.

3 Segmental analysis

2019	Cyber & executive risk $m	Marine $m	Political, accident & contingency $m	Property $m	Reinsurance $m	Specialty lines $m	Unallocated $m	Total $m
Gross premiums written	121.8	65.3	31.1	93.9	43.6	162.7	–	518.4
Net premiums written	102.5	46.8	26.6	80.2	25.7	145.2	–	427.0
Gross earned premiums	112.8	66.0	31.5	92.3	43.3	149.7	–	495.6
Outward reinsurance premiums earned	(18.4)	(19.1)	(5.0)	(13.5)	(17.7)	(17.0)	–	(90.7)
Earned premiums, net of reinsurance	**94.4**	**46.9**	**26.5**	**78.8**	**25.6**	**132.7**	–	**404.9**
Gross claims	(69.6)	(39.9)	(12.9)	(49.3)	(63.8)	(92.2)	–	(327.7)
Reinsurers share	13.4	13.5	2.4	3.9	32.5	14.1	–	79.8
Claims incurred, net of reinsurance	**(56.2)**	**(26.4)**	**(10.5)**	**(45.4)**	**(31.3)**	**(78.1)**	–	**(247.9)**
Operating expenses before foreign exchange	(31.2)	(22.8)	(10.7)	(31.3)	(9.8)	(47.5)	–	(153.3)
Technical result before items below	**7.0**	**(2.3)**	**5.3**	**2.1**	**(15.5)**	**7.1**	–	**3.7**
Loss on foreign exchange	–	–	–	–	–	–	(4.6)	(4.6)
Investment income	–	–	–	–	–	–	28.9	28.9
Profit for the financial year	**7.0**	**(2.3)**	**5.3**	**2.1**	**(15.5)**	**7.1**	**24.3**	**28.0**
Claims ratio	60%	56%	40%	57%	123%	59%	–	61%
Expense ratio	33%	49%	40%	40%	38%	36%	–	38%
Combined ratio	93%	105%	80%	97%	161%	95%	–	99%

2018	Cyber & executive risk $m	Marine $m	Political, accident & contingency $m	Property $m	Reinsurance $m	Specialty lines $m	Unallocated $m	Total $m
Gross premiums written	113.4	61.1	29.8	91.2	45.5	137.2	–	478.2
Net premiums written	94.9	54.6	25.3	79.1	30.2	120.2	–	404.3
Gross earned premiums	101.5	60.6	27.7	89.0	47.2	127.8	–	453.8
Outward reinsurance premiums earned	(16.3)	(6.3)	(4.6)	(13.0)	(16.5)	(16.9)	–	(73.6)
Earned premiums, net of reinsurance	**85.2**	**54.3**	**23.1**	**76.0**	**30.7**	**110.9**	**–**	**380.2**
Gross claims	(56.7)	(23.1)	(10.0)	(71.8)	(40.7)	(59.7)	–	(262.0)
Reinsurers share	11.0	(5.9)	1.2	8.2	19.5	9.6	–	43.6
Claims incurred, net of reinsurance	**(45.7)**	**(29.0)**	**(8.8)**	**(63.6)**	**(21.2)**	**(50.1)**	**–**	**(218.4)**
Operating expenses before foreign exchange	(29.3)	(21.3)	(9.4)	(31.7)	(10.2)	(44.7)	–	(146.6)
Technical result before items below	**10.2**	**4.0**	**4.9**	**(19.3)**	**(0.7)**	**16.1**	**–**	**15.2**
Loss on foreign exchange	–	–	–	–	–	–	(5.7)	(5.7)
Investment income	–	–	–	–	–	–	3.5	3.5
Other charges	–	–	–	–	–	–	(5.2)	(5.2)
Profit for the financial year	**10.2**	**4.0**	**4.9**	**(19.3)**	**(0.7)**	**16.1**	**(7.4)**	**7.8**
Claims ratio	54%	53%	38%	84%	69%	45%	–	57%
Expense ratio	34%	39%	41%	42%	33%	40%	–	39%
Combined ratio	88%	92%	79%	126%	102%	85%	–	96%

Notes to the syndicate annual accounts *continued*

3 Segmental analysis *continued*

The expense ratios shown are calculated excluding any profit or loss on foreign exchange.

The teams are classified in Schedule 3 of the Companies Act 2006 as:

- Cyber & executive risk – cyber and management liability;
- Marine – marine, aviation and transport;
- Political, accident & contingency – pecuniary loss;
- Property – fire and other damage to property;
- Reinsurance – reinsurance and
- Specialty lines – third party liability.

All business was underwritten in the UK.

4 Net operating expenses

	2019 $m	2018 $m
Acquisition costs	134.2	124.7
Change in deferred acquisition costs	(3.5)	(4.1)
Members' standard personal expenses	8.2	8.9
Administrative expenses	21.1	23.7
Overriding commission	(6.7)	(6.6)
	153.3	**146.6**

Administrative expenses include:

	2019 $000	2018 $000
Fees payable to the syndicate's auditor for the audit of these syndicate annual accounts	83.7	88.2
Fees payable to the syndicate's auditor and its associates in respect of:		
Other services pursuant to legislation	151.7	214.3
	235.4	**302.5**

Managing agent fees paid to Beazley Furlonge Limited in respect of services provided to the syndicate amounted to $2.5m (2018: $2.6m).

5 Staff costs

All staff are employed by Beazley Management Limited, with the majority of these costs incurred in sterling. The following amounts were recharged to the syndicate in respect of staff costs:

	2019 $m	2018 $m
Wages and salaries	11.0	14.7
Short-term incentive payments	4.6	2.9
Social security costs	2.8	3.3
Pension costs	2.5	3.0
	20.9	**23.9**

6 Emoluments of the directors of Beazley Furlonge Limited

The directors of Beazley Furlonge Limited, excluding the active underwriter, received the following aggregate remuneration charged to syndicate 623 and included within net operating expenses:

	2019 $m	2018 $m
Emoluments and fees	1.2	1.3
	1.2	**1.3**

7 Active underwriter's emoluments

The aggregate amount of remuneration paid to and for the benefit of the active underwriter, which was recharged to syndicate 623, was $0.4m (2018: $0.3m).

8 Net investment income

	2019 $m	2018 $m
Interest and dividends on financial investments at fair value through profit or loss	13.5	12.0
Interest on cash and cash equivalents	0.1	0.1
Realised gains on financial instruments at fair value though profit or loss	3.1	0.1
Net unrealised fair value gains/(losses) on financial investments at fair value through profit or loss	13.3	(7.7)
Investment income from financial investments	**30.0**	**4.5**
Investment management expenses	(1.1)	(1.0)
Total net investment income	**28.9**	**3.5**

9 Other charges

	2019 $m	2018 $m
Profit commissions paid to Beazley Furlonge Limited	–	5.2
	–	**5.2**

10 Financial assets and liabilities

	Market value		Cost	
	2019 $m	2018 $m	2019 $m	2018 $m
Financial assets at fair value				
Fixed and floating rate debt securities:				
– Government issued	166.9	189.4	165.5	188.0
– Quasi-government	–	5.6	–	5.5
– Corporate bonds				
– Investment grade credit	264.1	287.5	261.9	287.9
– High yield	24.9	3.5	24.1	3.5
Syndicate loan to Lloyd's central fund	1.6	–	1.6	–
Total fixed and floating rate debt securities and syndicate loans to Lloyd's central fund	457.5	486.0	453.1	484.9
Equity funds	15.0	30.2	12.2	30.1
Hedge funds	53.7	56.5	41.6	56.2
Illiquid funds	3.1	2.9	2.7	2.9
Total capital growth	71.8	89.6	56.5	89.2
Total financial investments at fair value through profit or loss	**529.3**	**575.6**	**509.6**	**574.1**
Derivative financial instruments	0.6	1.2	0.6	1.2
Total financial assets at fair value	**529.9**	**576.8**	**509.6**	**575.3**
Financial liabilities				
Derivative financial instruments	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6

A breakdown of derivative financial instruments is disclosed in note 11. The investment portfolio above contains $3.9m of short term deposits separately disclosed in the cash and cash equivalents note (note 13).

Notes to the syndicate annual accounts *continued*

10 Financial assets and liabilities *continued*

Overseas deposits are held as a condition of conducting underwriting business in certain countries.

Fair value measurement

The table below summarises financial assets carried at fair value using a valuation hierarchy that reflects the significance of the inputs used in making the measurements. The fair value hierarchy has the following levels:

Level 1 – Valuations based on quoted prices in active markets for identical instruments. An active market is a market in which transactions for the instrument occur with sufficient frequency and volume on an ongoing basis such that quoted prices reflect prices at which an orderly transaction would take place between market participants at the measurement date. Included within level 1 are bonds and treasury bills of government and government agencies which are measured based on quoted prices in active markets.

Level 2 – Valuations based on quoted prices in markets that are not active, or based on pricing models for which significant inputs can be corroborated by observable market data (e.g. interest rates, exchange rates). Included within level 2 are government bonds and treasury bills which are not actively traded, corporate bonds, asset backed securities and mortgage-backed securities.

Level 3 – Valuations based on inputs that are unobservable or for which there is limited market activity against which to measure fair value.

The availability of financial data can vary for different financial assets and is affected by a wide variety of factors, including the type of financial instrument, whether it is new and not yet established in the marketplace, and other characteristics specific to each transaction. To the extent that valuation is based on models or inputs that are unobservable in the market, the determination of fair value requires more judgement. Accordingly the degree of judgement exercised by management in determining fair value is greatest for instruments classified in level 3. The syndicate uses prices and inputs that are current as of the measurement date for valuation of these instruments.

The majority of the syndicate's investments are valued based on quoted market information or other observable market data. The rest of the investments are recorded at fair value which is based on the prices obtained by our administrator who source it from independent pricing sources as set out in our valuation policy. The syndicate records the unadjusted price provided and validates the price through a number of methods including a comparison of the prices provided by the administrator with the investment custodians and the investment managers. Where estimates are used, these are calibrated to market observable data where possible. While such valuations are sensitive to estimates, it is believed that changing one or more of the assumptions to reasonably possible alternative assumptions would not change the fair value significantly.

The table below analyses financial instruments measured at fair value at 31 December 2019 and 31 December 2018, based on the level in the fair value hierarchy into which the financial instrument is categorised:

2019	Level 1 $m	Level 2 $m	Level 3 $m	Total $m
Financial assets at fair value				
Fixed and floating rate debt securities:				
– Government issued	162.1	4.8	–	166.9
– Corporate bonds				
– Investment grade credit	33.1	231.0	–	264.1
– High yield	–	24.9	–	24.9
Syndicate loan to Lloyd's central fund	–	–	1.6	1.6
Equity funds	–	15.0	–	15.0
Hedge funds	–	53.7	–	53.7
Illiquid credit assets	–	–	3.1	3.1
Derivative financial assets	0.6	–	–	0.6
Total financial assets at fair value	**195.8**	**329.4**	**4.7**	**529.9**
Financial liabilities				
Derivative financial instruments	1.6	–	–	1.6

10 Financial assets and liabilities *continued*

2018	Level 1 $m	Level 2 $m	Level 3 $m	Total $m
Financial assets at fair value				
Fixed and floating rate debt securities:				
– Government issued	189.4	–	–	189.4
– Quasi-government	5.6	–	–	5.6
– Supranational	–	–	–	–
– Corporate bonds				
– Investment grade credit	–	287.5	–	287.5
– High yield	–	3.5	–	3.5
– Senior secured loans	–	–	–	–
Equity funds	–	30.2	–	30.2
Hedge funds	–	56.5	–	56.5
Illiquid credit assets	–	–	2.9	2.9
Derivative financial assets	1.2	–	–	1.2
Total financial assets at fair value	**196.2**	**377.7**	**2.9**	**576.8**
Financial liabilities				
Derivative financial instruments	**1.6**	**–**	**–**	**1.6**

The table below shows the movement in level 3 assets:

	2019 $m	2018 $m
As at 1 January	2.9	2.8
Purchases	1.6	–
Sales	–	–
Total net gains recognised in profit or loss	0.2	0.1
As at 31 December	**4.7**	**2.9**

There were no transfers in either direction between level 1, level 2 and level 3 in 2018. The following transfers between levels 1 & 2 occurred for period ended 31 December 2019.

31 December 2019 transfer from level 1 to 2	**Level 1 $m**	**Level 2 $m**
Fixed and floating rate debt securities:		
– Sovereign, Quasi-government and Supranational	(4.8)	4.8
	(4.8)	**4.8**

31 December 2019 transfer from level 2 to 1	Level 1 $m	Level 2 $m
Fixed and floating rate debt securities:		
– Investment grade credit	16.7	(16.7)
	16.7	**(16.7)**

Additional information is obtained from fund managers relating to the underlying assets within individual hedge funds. We identified that 82% (2018: 80%) of these underlying assets were level 1 and the remainder level 2. This enabled us to categorise hedge funds as level 2.

Notes to the syndicate annual accounts *continued*

10 Financial assets and liabilities *continued*

If the inputs used to measure the fair value of an asset or a liability could be categorised in different levels of fair value hierarchy, then the fair value measurement is categorised in its entirety in the same level of the fair value hierarchy as the lowest level input that is significant to the entire measurement.

The above qualitative and quantitative disclosure along with the risk management discussions in note 2 enables more accurate evaluation of syndicate's exposure to risk arising from financial instruments.

11 Derivative financial instruments

In 2019 and 2018, the syndicate entered into over-the-counter and exchange traded derivative contracts. The syndicate had the right and intention to settle each contract on a net basis.

Derivative financial instrument assets	2019 Gross contract amount $m	2019 Fair value of assets $m	2018 Gross contract amount $m	2018 Fair value of assets $m
Foreign exchange forward contract	35.0	0.6	68.3	1.2
Bond future contracts	20.3	–	–	–
	55.3	**0.6**	**68.3**	**1.2**

Derivative financial instrument liabilities	2019 Gross contract amount $m	2019 Fair value of liabilities $m	2018 Gross contract amount $m	2018 Fair value of liabilities $m
Foreign exchange forward contract	39.7	1.7	68.4	1.3
Bond future contracts	–	–	16.1	0.2
	39.7	**1.7**	**84.5**	**1.5**

Foreign exchange forward contracts

The syndicate entered into over-the-counter foreign exchange forward agreements in order to economically hedge the foreign currency exposure resulting from transactions and balances held in currencies that are different to the functional currency of the syndicate.

Bond future contracts

The syndicate entered in bond futures transactions for the purpose of efficiently managing the term structure of its interest rate exposures. A negative gross contract amount represents a notional short position that generates positive fair value as interest rates rise.

12 Other debtors

	2019 $m	2018 $m
Amounts due from members	15.9	15.9
Amounts due from 6107	25.1	12.7
Amounts due from 2623	1.4	9.1
Sundry debtors including taxation	5.2	5.2
	47.6	**42.9**

These balances are due within one year.

13 Cash and cash equivalents

	2019 $m	2018 $m
Cash at bank and in hand	25.4	18.5
Short term deposits	3.9	3.7
	29.3	**22.2**

14 Technical provisions

	Provision for unearned premium $m	Claims outstanding $m
Gross technical provisions		
As at 1 January 2019	247.4	766.5
Movement in the technical provision	22.8	54.0
Exchange adjustments	0.7	1.3
As at 31 December 2019	**270.9**	**821.8**
Reinsurers' share of technical provisions		
As at 1 January 2019	36.4	185.3
Movement in the technical provision	0.7	21.3
Reclassification of bad debt provision on debtors[1]	–	0.7
Exchange adjustments	0.1	0.3
As at 31 December 2019	**37.2**	**207.6**
Net technical provisions		
As at 1 January 2019	211.0	581.2
As at 31 December 2019	**233.7**	**614.2**

1 The bad debt provision held against reinsurance assets has been split in 2019 between reinsurance technical provisions and debtors arising out of reinsurance operations.

	Provision for unearned premium $m	Claims outstanding $m
Gross technical provisions		
As at 1 January 2018	224.7	753.9
Movement in the technical provision	24.4	17.7
Exchange adjustments	(1.7)	(5.1)
As at 31 December 2018	**247.4**	**766.5**
Reinsurers' share of technical provisions		
As at 1 January 2018	36.2	195.8
Movement in the technical provision	0.3	(9.8)
Exchange adjustments	(0.1)	(0.7)
As at 31 December 2018	**36.4**	**185.3**
Net technical provisions		
As at 1 January 2018	188.5	558.1
As at 31 December 2018	**211.0**	**581.2**

Notes to the syndicate annual accounts *continued*

14 Technical provisions *continued*

Gross ultimate claims	2009 ae %	2010 %	2011 %	2012 %	2013 %	2014 %	2015 %	2016 %	2017 %	2018 %	2019 %
Cyber & executive risk											
12 months		74.2	75.8	72.5	72.5	68.3	67.0	64.3	61.5	63.0	63.7
24 months		72.8	74.7	72.9	72.6	69.0	66.6	63.6	61.9	62.4	
36 months		72.7	82.3	69.5	72.0	61.9	62.2	59.9	57.2		
48 months		77.1	82.6	54.4	67.9	61.6	58.1	58.8			
60 months		74.8	88.0	52.0	67.3	65.8	59.5				
72 months		71.0	80.8	49.6	63.5	64.7					
84 months		69.3	85.0	48.0	64.0						
96 months		65.2	87.2	48.0							
108 months		62.8	89.4								
120 months		62.9									
Marine											
12 months		50.5	54.7	55.9	56.4	57.5	56.6	59.5	68.0	62.2	60.1
24 months		49.8	47.4	46.3	52.0	46.8	54.0	70.3	62.4	68.5	
36 months		44.1	39.0	34.8	44.3	47.2	47.2	65.5	61.7		
48 months		42.4	33.7	32.2	42.7	46.8	45.3	64.1			
60 months		40.4	35.4	31.5	42.0	55.6	43.2				
72 months		40.2	31.7	30.7	41.4	52.7					
84 months		42.3	30.9	30.0	40.2						
96 months		40.8	29.4	29.8							
108 months		41.2	29.4								
120 months		40.9									
Political, accident & contingency											
12 months		61.2	58.4	62.2	57.2	56.5	55.1	55.7	56.2	55.8	57.3
24 months		40.2	39.2	43.7	41.4	41.2	51.9	40.8	44.7	50.3	
36 months		33.0	33.8	39.8	35.1	36.1	47.2	35.3	40.6		
48 months		23.5	27.7	38.2	34.3	41.7	47.4	33.0			
60 months		22.2	26.1	35.6	38.9	44.5	40.9				
72 months		20.9	23.4	35.4	38.7	47.0					
84 months		19.6	22.8	34.0	38.6						
96 months		19.9	22.8	33.1							
108 months		16.6	22.8								
120 months		15.0									
Property											
12 months		54.3	54.2	55.4	55.4	53.6	55.4	59.2	72.5	63.4	53.1
24 months		56.4	46.3	47.3	49.3	48.1	49.4	68.7	88.6	63.3	
36 months		53.4	43.9	39.5	45.5	41.8	46.3	71.8	91.3		
48 months		50.6	42.1	36.3	45.3	41.3	45.2	72.2			
60 months		47.6	41.1	35.9	44.7	40.3	44.5				
72 months		46.8	40.0	35.4	46.6	40.8					
84 months		45.9	39.5	35.5	46.0						
96 months		45.7	39.2	36.7							
108 months		45.6	39.1								
120 months		45.7									

14 Technical provisions *continued*

Gross ultimate claims	2009 ae %	2010 %	2011 %	2012 %	2013 %	2014 %	2015 %	2016 %	2017 %	2018 %	2019 %	
Reinsurance												
12 months		68.0	79.2	62.9	58.3	61.4	65.7	67.5	124.1	96.1	103.4	
24 months		142.6	77.7	37.4	44.6	33.4	33.6	41.6	117.1	124.8		
36 months		129.6	70.0	32.0	42.1	30.8	25.7	40.5	130.0			
48 months		122.2	66.3	31.1	40.8	27.7	25.5	41.3				
60 months		125.8	63.5	31.2	37.9	27.5	25.3					
72 months		124.5	63.3	30.9	37.6	27.0						
84 months		124.6	58.5	31.0	36.8							
96 months		123.6	58.5	30.6								
108 months		121.3	59.0									
120 months		121.5										
Specialty lines												
12 months		74.1	75.8	75.7	75.6	71.1	71.1	69.3	67.4	69.4	67.3	
24 months		73.8	76.4	75.8	74.9	70.9	71.1	69.3	66.7	69.2		
36 months		73.0	75.0	74.3	74.6	67.2	71.9	62.9	67.6			
48 months		73.6	75.7	74.4	69.3	63.2	70.7	59.1				
60 months		72.3	71.4	72.1	63.5	59.6	72.1					
72 months		75.7	68.2	71.0	61.3	56.9						
84 months		76.4	64.1	69.6	60.1							
96 months		72.9	61.3	73.2								
108 months		69.4	59.3									
120 months		68.1										
Total												
12 months		63.8	66.5	64.6	63.5	62.3	63.0	63.8	72.6	67.8	65.9	
24 months		71.4	61.7	56.9	58.5	55.0	57.8	63.1	73.2	70.8		
36 months		67.0	59.1	51.4	55.2	51.0	54.3	60.1	73.9			
48 months		65.4	57.1	47.6	52.7	49.8	52.5	58.6				
60 months		64.0	56.4	46.2	51.0	51.3	52.2					
72 months		63.9	53.4	45.3	50.1	50.2						
84 months		63.9	52.0	44.4	49.4							
96 months		62.0	51.3	45.5								
108 months		60.3	51.0									
120 months		59.8										
Gross claims liabilities (Beazley managed level) ($m)	**221.7**	**51.5**	**88.7**	**99.7**	**155.3**	**163.0**	**349.0**	**572.2**	**1,071.4**	**1,434.8**	**1,074.8**	**5,282.1**
Less non 623 share ($m)	(179.8)	(41.5)	(72.7)	(81.4)	(129.1)	(136.6)	(290.8)	(488.0)	(909.8)	(1,217.0)	(913.6)	(4,460.3)
Gross claims liabilities, 623 share	**41.9**	**10.0**	**16.0**	**18.3**	**26.2**	**26.4**	**58.2**	**84.2**	**161.6**	**217.8**	**161.2**	**821.8**

Notes to the syndicate annual accounts *continued*

14 Technical provisions *continued*

	2009 ae	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Net ultimate claims	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Cyber & executive risk											
12 months		71.2	72.7	69.9	69.2	65.8	63.3	61.7	60.1	60.4	60.9
24 months		70.0	72.0	68.4	68.5	66.6	62.7	61.0	59.9	59.9	
36 months		72.2	74.3	64.9	67.2	60.9	59.7	57.4	55.3		
48 months		72.6	73.3	52.3	61.3	57.7	54.3	56.6			
60 months		68.7	78.7	50.4	60.5	61.4	54.8				
72 months		66.6	75.3	48.7	57.8	60.8					
84 months		65.0	78.3	47.3	57.5						
96 months		62.6	80.1	47.4							
108 months		60.2	82.7								
120 months		60.3									
Marine											
12 months		52.1	55.6	55.4	56.0	56.4	56.7	56.7	57.5	59.7	56.5
24 months		49.2	47.6	46.1	53.1	48.4	52.5	62.4	61.4	68.1	
36 months		44.7	38.6	37.4	47.3	46.6	46.9	61.8	61.9		
48 months		42.7	34.4	35.1	45.8	45.7	46.6	62.4			
60 months		41.1	35.5	34.0	45.2	46.8	45.3				
72 months		40.2	32.2	33.3	44.7	45.0					
84 months		42.5	31.3	32.9	42.6						
96 months		40.8	30.2	32.7							
108 months		41.3	30.1								
120 months		40.9									
Political, accident & contingency											
12 months		57.2	54.6	59.1	54.6	53.3	52.0	52.6	53.0	53.1	55.7
24 months		37.8	37.9	42.2	40.6	39.3	48.8	37.3	42.0	47.6	
36 months		30.6	32.0	38.7	36.	33.6	46.2	34.8	37.1		
48 months		21.4	29.1	38.4	33.5	44.2	45.3	31.7			
60 months		20.2	27.3	34.7	35.9	45.5	40.3				
72 months		18.9	24.6	34.4	36.5	48.1					
84 months		16.9	23.9	33.9	36.9						
96 months		17.8	23.9	33.4							
108 months		14.6	24.0								
120 months		13.1									
Property											
12 months		58.4	59.3	58.6	56.8	54.4	54.9	57.6	76.5	64.5	56.5
24 months		63.5	56.6	52.8	56.4	51.0	50.2	69.6	93.8	66.7	
36 months		62.8	52.6	45.8	52.0	44.1	46.7	71.6	95.7		
48 months		57.0	49.2	41.0	49.8	42.9	44.6	70.9			
60 months		54.5	47.7	40.6	49.3	42.0	44.6				
72 months		53.7	46.7	40.1	51.1	43.0					
84 months		53.2	46.4	40.0	51.1						
96 months		53.0	46.2	41.4							
108 months		52.9	46.1								
120 months		53.0									

14 Technical provisions *continued*

Net ultimate claims	2009 ae %	2010 %	2011 %	2012 %	2013 %	2014 %	2015 %	2016 %	2017 %	2018 %	2019 %	
Reinsurance												
12 months		76.7	90.0	67.0	56.3	58.7	61.3	60.9	106.7	85.2	89.0	
24 months		127.1	88.0	45.3	51.2	37.2	34.1	38.8	93.4	100.4		
36 months		117.6	80.8	39.0	47.8	33.4	24.2	38.2	105.4			
48 months		111.8	75.3	37.7	46.5	30.6	24.0	40.0				
60 months		121.2	73.0	37.7	43.0	30.4	24.3					
72 months		115.9	73.0	37.3	42.7	29.9						
84 months		116.0	67.7	37.4	41.8							
96 months		115.4	67.8	36.9								
108 months		112.2	68.5									
120 months		112.6										
Specialty lines												
12 months		70.7	72.3	72.7	72.2	68.5	67.3	67.0	65.2	67.2	65.6	
24 months		70.6	72.6	72.7	71.5	68.2	67.2	67.1	64.5	67.1		
36 months		69.2	71.3	71.3	71.1	65.6	66.9	61.1	64.7			
48 months		69.4	69.4	69.2	64.4	60.6	61.2	54.3				
60 months		69.6	68.0	68.2	59.0	57.4	60.7					
72 months		72.5	68.0	68.6	57.9	55.8						
84 months		72.9	65.2	67.8	56.9							
96 months		69.8	63.2	69.7								
108 months		66.6	61.7									
120 months		65.9										
Total												
12 months		64.3	67.1	64.2	62.1	60.7	60.4	61.0	67.9	64.8	62.8	
24 months		68.7	63.3	57.4	59.7	55.4	56.0	61.0	69.8	66.9		
36 months		65.8	59.4	52.4	56.5	51.2	52.6	58.6	70.0			
48 months		63.1	56.4	48.4	52.9	49.4	49.5	56.5				
60 months		62.8	56.1	47.3	51.0	49.4	48.9					
72 months		62.4	54.6	46.9	50.6	48.9						
84 months		62.4	53.4	46.3	49.8							
96 months		60.9	52.7	47.0								
108 months		59.2	52.7									
120 months		58.9										
Net claims liabilities (Beazley managed level) ($m)	**157.2**	**48.0**	**70.2**	**85.3**	**109.6**	**129.6**	**251.8**	**419.3**	**817.4**	**1,122.8**	**795.2**	**4,006.4**
Less non 623 share ($m)	(131.6)	(39.6)	(57.5)	(71.0)	(89.0)	(107.5)	(210.3)	(356.6)	(696.8)	(955.4)	(676.9)	(3,392.2)
Net claims liabilities, 623 share ($m)	**25.6**	**8.4**	**12.7**	**14.3**	**20.6**	**22.1**	**41.5**	**62.7**	**120.6**	**167.4**	**118.3**	**614.2**

Notes to the syndicate annual accounts *continued*

15 Other creditors

	2019 $m	2018 $m
Amount due to syndicate 3623	–	0.2
Other creditors	0.5	–
Profit commissions	–	5.9
Net amount due to other related entities	1.5	72.3
	2.0	**78.4**

Profit commissions payable are nil (2018: $5.9m). These creditor balances shown are payable within one year.

16 Related parties transactions

Beazley Furlonge Limited, the managing agency of syndicate 623, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Beazley plc. The directors of Beazley Furlonge Limited who have participated in syndicate 623 indirectly through Beazley Staff Underwriting Limited are disclosed in the managing agent's report on page 19.

The directors of Beazley Furlonge Limited have shareholdings in Beazley plc which provides the capacity for syndicates 2623, 3622, 3623 and on the 2018 year of account to syndicate 5623. Syndicate 623 has capacity in 2019 of £366.2m, as previously disclosed, and writes in parallel with syndicate 2623. Beneficial shareholdings are shown below.

	Shareholding of Beazley plc as at 31 December 2019	Shareholding of Beazley plc as at 31 December 2018
D L Roberts – chairman	50,750	41,300
M R Bernacki (resigned 30/04/2019)	N/A	293,433
G P Blunden	27,000	40,000
M L Bride (resigned 27/06/2019)	N/A	169,643
S M Lake (appointed 14/06/2019)	50,000	N/A
A P Cox – active underwriter	905,082	785,756
A Crawford-Ingle (resigned 31/05/2019)	N/A	34,207
N H Furlonge	355,584	355,584
D A Horton – chief executive officer	1,834,136	1,716,766
R Stuchbery	62,500	62,500
K W Wilkins	14,000	14,000
C C W Jones (appointed finance director 27/06/2019)	43,384	N/A
A S Pryde (appointed 11/06/2019)	130,227	N/A
A J Reizenstein (appointed 09/04/2019)	10,000	N/A
I Fantozzi (appointed 13/03/2019)	115,376	N/A

Beazley plc has the following service companies (managing general agents) underwriting on behalf of the syndicate:

- Beazley Solutions Limited – (UK & Europe);
- Beazley Solutions International Limited – (Europe);
- Beazley Underwriting Pty Ltd – (Australia);
- Beazley Leviathan Limited – (UK & Europe);
- Beazley USA Services, Inc. – (USA);
- Beazley Canada Limited – (Canada);
- Beazley Limited – (Hong Kong); and
- Beazley Pte Limited – (Singapore).

All of the above companies are coverholders for syndicates 623 and 2623 (the 'syndicates') and write business either directly for the syndicates or via Lloyd's Brussels. Beazley Underwriting Pty Ltd is also a coverholder for syndicate 3623.

16 Related parties transactions *continued*

The syndicates are charged commissions for the type of business underwritten by these companies. The commission is based on the costs incurred by these service companies in generating the business on behalf of the syndicates. As Beazley plc owns 100% of the share capital, it could receive profits from these entities in the future from the business underwritten by the names on syndicate 623.

The syndicate is charged fees from Beazley Furlonge Limited in respect of management services provided. Both Beazley Management Limited and Beazley Furlonge Limited, the managing agent of syndicate 623, are ultimately controlled by Beazley plc.

Since 2010, syndicate 623 ceded part of the international reinsurance account to a special purpose syndicate 6107. In 2015, 2016 and 2017 the syndicates entered into a quota share reinsurance agreement with another special purpose syndicate 6050. Both syndicates 6050 and 6107 are managed by Beazley Furlonge Limited and commissions are received by the syndicates in respect of these transactions. During 2017, syndicate 623 entered into a commutation agreement with syndicate 6050 on the 2015 year of account contract. During 2018, syndicate 623 also entered into a commutation agreement with syndicate 6050 on the 2016 and 2017 year of account contracts.

The intercompany positions with other syndicates managed by Beazley Furlonge Limited at 31 December 2019 are disclosed above in note 12 (other debtors) and note 15 (other creditors).

Beazley has a 25% equity interest in Falcon Money Management Holdings Limited (Falcon), an asset management company, who, up until 10 October 2014, was investment manager on behalf of syndicate 623. During this period, Falcon charged fees at a market rate for the type of assets managed. Subsequent to 10 October 2014, Beazley Furlonge Limited were the appointed investment manager.

Profit related remuneration for syndicate 623's underwriting staff is charged to the syndicate. At the balance sheet date, the syndicate has amounts due to managing agent of $3.8m (2018: $2.0m). In addition to this amount, the syndicate is also carrying a profit commission payable to the managing agent of nil (2018: $5.9m).

The managing agent recharged expenses and fees of $47.6m (2018: $50.7m) to the syndicate in the current year.

17 Post balance sheet events

Members' funds

The following amounts are proposed to be transferred to members' personal reserve funds. The figures stated are after the deduction of members agent's fees incurred.

	2019 $m	2018 $m
2016 Year of account	–	28.5
2017 Year of account	(5.5)	–
	(5.5)	**28.5**

18 Foreign exchange rates

The syndicate used the following exchange rates to translate foreign currency assets, liabilities, income and expenses into US dollars, being the syndicate's presentational currency:

	2019		2018	
	Average	Year end spot	Average	Year end spot
Sterling	0.79	0.76	0.75	0.78
Canadian dollars	1.33	1.32	1.29	1.36
Euro	0.89	0.90	0.84	0.87

2017 year of account for syndicate 623

Managing agent’s report

The syndicate underwriting year accounts have been prepared under the Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd’s Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008 (the ‘Lloyd’s Regulations’) and in accordance with the Syndicate Accounting Byelaw (No.9 of 2005), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102) and 103 Insurance Contracts (FRS 103).

Members participate on a syndicate by reference to a year of account and each syndicate year of account is a separate annual venture. These accounts relate to the 2017 year of account which has been closed by reinsurance to close at 31 December 2019; consequently the balance sheet represents the assets and liabilities of the 2017 year of account and the profit and loss account reflect the transactions for that year of account during the 36 months period until closure.

Directors

A list of directors of the managing agent who held office during the current year can be found on page 69 of the syndicate annual accounts.

Disclosure of information to the auditor

The directors of the managing agent who held office at the date of approval of this managing agent’s report confirm that, so far as they are each aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the syndicate’s auditors are unaware; and each director has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a director to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the syndicate’s auditors are aware of that information.

Auditor

Following the audit tender carried out in 2018, Ernst & Young LLP have been appointed as the new external auditor for the 2019 accounting year, as approved by the Beazley Furlonge Ltd board on 24 May 2019. Pursuant to Section 14(2) of Schedule 1 of the Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd’s Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008, the auditor will be deemed to be reappointed and Ernst & Young LLP will therefore continue in office, subject to the requirements of the Lloyd’s advance consent regime.

On behalf of the board

C C W Jones
Finance director

2 March 2020

Statement of managing agent's responsibilities

The directors of the managing agent are responsible for preparing the syndicate underwriting year accounts in accordance with the Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008 and the Lloyd's Syndicate Accounting Byelaw. They have elected to prepare the accounts in accordance with FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Under Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008 the directors of the managing agent must not approve the underwriting year accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the result of the underwriting year at closure. In preparing these accounts, the directors of the managing agent are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently and where there are items which affect more than one year of account, ensure a treatment which is equitable between the members of the syndicate affected is used;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts;
- assess the syndicate'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 cease trading, or have no realistic alternative but to do so. As explained in note 1 the directors of the managing agent have not prepared the underwriting year accounts on a going concern basis.

The directors of the managing agent are responsible for keeping adequate and proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the syndicate's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the syndicate and enable them to ensure that the underwriting year accounts comply with the Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008. They are responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of accounts 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 company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

On behalf of the board

C C W Jones
Finance director

2 March 2020

Independent auditor's report to the members of syndicate 623

2017 closed year of account

Opinion

We have audited the syndicate underwriting year accounts for the 2017 year of account of syndicate 623 (the 'syndicate') for the three years ended 31 December 2019 which comprise the Profit or Loss Account, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and the Statement of changes in Members' Balances and the related notes 1 to 13, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and FRS 103 'Insurance Contracts' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the syndicate underwriting year accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the loss for the 2017 closed year of account;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of The Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008 and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Lloyd's Syndicate Accounting Byelaw (no. 8 of 2005).

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the syndicate underwriting year accounts section of our report below. We are independent of the syndicate in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the syndicate underwriting year accounts in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, 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.

Emphasis of matter – closure of the 2017 year of account

We draw attention to the Basis of preparation which explains that the 2017 year of account of syndicate 623 has closed and all assets and liabilities transferred to the 2018 year of account by reinsurance to close at 31 December 2019.

As a result, the 2017 year of account of syndicate 623 is no longer a going concern. The reinsurance to close occurs in the normal course of business for a syndicate year of account at the 36 months stage of development and the syndicate underwriting accounts have been prepared on the basis that the recorded assets and liabilities will be realised and discharged in the normal course of business.

Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the syndicate underwriting year accounts and our auditor's report thereon. The managing agent is responsible for the other information.

Our opinion on the syndicate underwriting year accounts does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the syndicate underwriting year accounts, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the syndicate underwriting year accounts or our knowledge obtained in 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 there is a material misstatement in the syndicate underwriting year accounts or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of the other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where The Lloyd's Syndicate Accounting Byelaw (no. 8 of 2005) requires us to report to you, if in our opinion:

- the managing agent in respect of the syndicate has not kept adequate accounting re cords; or
- the syndicate underwriting year accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records

We have nothing to report in these respects.

Independent auditor's report to the members of syndicate 623 *continued*

2017 closed year of account

Responsibilities of the managing agent

As explained more fully in the Statement of Managing Agent's Responsibilities set out on page 56, the managing agent is responsible for the preparation of the syndicate underwriting year accounts in accordance with The Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008 and The Lloyd's Syndicate Accounting Byelaw (no. 8 of 2005) and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the managing agent determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the syndicate underwriting year accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the syndicate underwriting accounts, the managing agent is responsible for assessing the syndicate's ability to realise its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course of business, disclosing, as applicable, any matters that impact its ability to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the syndicate underwriting year accounts

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the syndicate underwriting year accounts 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 syndicate underwriting year accounts.

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the syndicate's members, as a body, in accordance with The Lloyd's Syndicate Accounting Byelaw (no. 8 of 2005) and The Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the syndicate'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 syndicate and the syndicate's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Stuart Wilson (Senior statutory auditor)
for and on behalf of Ernst & Young LLP, Statutory Auditor
London

2 March 2020

Notes:

1 The maintenance and integrity of the Managing Agents web site is the responsibility of the manager] the work carried out by the auditors does not involve consideration of these matters and, accordingly, the auditors accept no responsibility for any changes that may have occurred to the financial statements since they were initially presented on the web site.

2 Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Profit or loss account

2017 year of account for the 36 months ended 31 December 2019

	Notes	2017 year of account $m
Gross premiums written	3	445.2
Outward reinsurance premiums		(81.2)
Earned premiums, net of reinsurance	**3**	**364.0**
Allocated investment return transferred from the non-technical account		18.5
Reinsurance to close premiums received, net of reinsurance	4	297.3
		315.8
Gross claims paid		(278.0)
Reinsurers' share		61.6
Claims incurred, net of reinsurance		**(216.4)**
Reinsurance to close premiums payable, net of reinsurance	5	(324.6)
		(541.0)
Net operating expenses	7	(147.7)
Balance on the technical account	**3**	**(8.9)**
Investment income		19.5
Investment expenses and charges	8	(1.0)
		18.5
Allocated investment return transferred to the technical account		(18.5)
Other charges		0.0
Loss on foreign exchange		(0.6)
Loss for the 2017 closed year of account	**6**	**(9.5)**
Syndicate allocated capacity (£m)		304.5
Loss for the 2017 closed year of account (£m)		(7.2)
Return on capacity		(2.4%)

There are no recognised gains or losses in the accounting period other than those dealt with within the profit or loss account above.

Balance sheet

closed at 31 December 2019

	Notes	2017 year of account $m
Assets		
Financial assets at fair value	9	225.4
Debtors	10	97.4
Reinsurance recoveries anticipated on gross reinsurance to close premiums payable to close the account	5	109.8
Prepayments and accrued income		–
Cash at bank and in hand		10.5
Total assets		**443.1**
Liabilities		
Amounts due from members	11	(9.5)
Reinsurance to close premium payable to close the account – gross amount	5	431.5
Creditors	12	20.7
Accruals and deferred income		0.4
Total liabilities		**443.1**

The underwriting year accounts on pages 59 to 67 were approved by the board of directors on 2 March 2020 and were signed on its behalf by:

A P Cox
Active underwriter

C C W Jones
Finance director

Cash flow statement

2017 year of account for the 36 months ended 31 December 2019

	2017 year of account $m
Reconciliation of loss for the financial year to net cash inflow from operating activities	
Loss for the financial year	(9.5)
Increase in gross reinsurance to close payable	431.5
Increase in reinsurers' share of reinsurance to close	(109.8)
Increase in debtors	(97.4)
Increase in creditors	20.7
Increase in prepayments	–
Increase in accruals	0.4
Investment return	(18.5)
Net cash flows from operating activities	**217.4**
Net purchase of financial instruments	(217.5)
Cash received from investment income	10.6
Net cash from investing activities	**(206.9)**
Transfer to members in respect of underwriting participations	–
Net cash from financing activities	**–**
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	**10.5**
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January 2017	–
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December 2019	**10.5**

Statement of changes in members' balances

for the 36 months ended 31 December 2019

	2017 year of account $m
Loss for the 2017 closed year of account	**(9.5)**
Amounts due from members at 31 December 2019	**(9.5)**

Members participate on syndicates by reference to years of account 'YOA' and their ultimate result, assets and liabilities are assessed with reference to policies incepting in that year of account in respect of their membership of a particular year.

Notes to the syndicate underwriting year accounts

closed at 31 December 2019

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

These syndicate underwriting year accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Insurance Accounts Directive (Lloyd's Syndicate and Aggregate Accounts) Regulations 2008 ('the Regulations') and applicable Accounting Standards in the United Kingdom, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102) and Insurance Contracts 103 (FRS 103).

Whilst the directors of the managing agent have a reasonable expectation that the syndicate has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, these financial statements represent the participation of members in the 2017 year of account which closed on 31 December 2019. The accumulated profits of the 2017 year of account will be distributed shortly after publication of these accounts. Therefore the 2017 year of account is not continuing to trade and, accordingly, the directors have not adopted the going concern basis in the preparation of these accounts. The amounts reported would be identical if the accounts had been prepared on a going concern basis as the 2017 year of account will be closed by payment of a reinsurance to close premium, as outlined in note (a) below, which is consistent with the normal course of business for a Lloyd's syndicate and with the approach we have applied to earlier underwriting years.

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these syndicate underwriting year accounts are set out below. The policies have been consistently applied to all periods presented, unless otherwise stated. All amounts presented are stated in US dollars, being the syndicate's functional currency, and in millions, unless noted otherwise.

Underwriting transactions

a) The underwriting accounts for each year of account are normally kept open for three years before the result on that year is determined. At the end of the three year period, outstanding liabilities can normally be determined with sufficient accuracy to permit the year of account to be closed by payment of a reinsurance to close premium to the successor year of account.

b) Gross premiums are allocated to years of account on the basis of the inception date of the policy. Commission and brokerage are charged to the year of account to which the relevant policy is allocated. Policies written under binding authorities, lineslips or consortium arrangements are allocated to the year of account into which the arrangement incepts. Additional and return premiums follow the year of account of the original premium. Premiums in respect of reinsurance ceded are attributed to the same year as the original risk being protected. Premiums are shown gross of brokerage payable and exclude taxes and duties levied on them. Estimates are made for pipeline premiums, representing amounts due but not yet notified to the syndicate year of account.

c) Gross claims paid are allocated to the same year of account as that to which the corresponding premiums are allocated and include internal and external claims settlement expenses. Reinsurance recoveries are allocated to the year of account to which the claim was charged.

d) A provision for unexpired risks is made where claims, related expenses and deferred acquisition costs, likely to arise after the balance sheet date in respect of contracts relating to the closing year of account, are expected to exceed the unearned premiums and premiums receivable under these contracts, after the deduction of any acquisition costs deferred.

e) The reinsurance to close premium is determined by reference to outstanding liabilities, including claims incurred but not yet reported, relating to the closed year and to all previous closed years reinsured therein. Although the estimate of net outstanding liabilities is considered to be fair and reasonable, it is implicit in the estimation procedure that the ultimate liabilities will be at variance from the premium so determined. The reinsurance to close premium includes a provision for unearned premiums and unexpired risks at the balance sheet date, net of deferred acquisition costs.

Comparatives

f) Comparatives are not provided in these accounts as each syndicate year of account is a separate annual venture.

Notes to the syndicate underwriting year accounts *continued*

1 Accounting policies *continued*

Investment return

g) The gross investment return comprises investment income, realised investment gains and losses and movements in unrealised gains and losses, net of investment expenses and charges. Investment return arising in each calendar year is allocated to years of account in proportion to the average funds available for investment attributable to those years. Investment returns in respect of overseas deposits are allocated to the year of account which funded these deposits.

h) The investment return is wholly allocated to the technical account.

i) Investments are valued at market value at the balance sheet date. Movements in unrealised gains and losses on investments represent the difference between their valuation at the balance sheet date and their purchase price or, if they have been previously valued, their valuation at the last balance sheet date.

Syndicate operating expenses

j) Costs incurred by the managing agent in respect of the syndicate are charged to the syndicate. Where expenses do not relate to any specific year of account they are apportioned between years of account on a basis which reflects the benefit obtained by each year of account from each type of expense.

k) Where expenses are incurred jointly by the managing agent and the syndicate, they are apportioned as follows:
- salaries and related costs – according to the staff time spent on dealing with syndicate matters;
- accommodation costs – proportioned based on the overall staff costs allocation above; and
- other costs – as appropriate in each case.

Taxation

l) Under Schedule 19 of the Finance Act 1993, managing agents are not required to deduct basic rate income tax from trading income. In addition, all UK basic income tax deducted from syndicate investment income is recoverable by managing agents and consequently the distribution made to members or their members' agents is gross of tax. Capital appreciation falls within trading income and is also distributed gross of tax. It is the responsibility of members to agree and settle their individual tax liabilities with the Inland Revenue.

m) No provision has been made for any United States Federal Income Tax or any overseas tax payable on the underwriting results or investment earnings.

Members resident overseas for tax purposes are responsible for agreeing and settling any tax liabilities with the taxation authorities of their country of residence.

Basis of currency translation

n) The syndicate operates in four separate currency funds of sterling, euro, US dollars and Canadian dollars. Items going through the profit or loss account in sterling, euro and Canadian dollars are translated to US dollars at the three years' average rates of exchange. Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are retranslated to the functional currency at the foreign exchange rate ruling at that date. The euro, sterling and Canadian dollar three years' average exchange rates ruling at 31 December 2019 are euro 0.88, sterling 0.77 and Canadian dollar 1.31.

2 Risk management

The 2017 year of account has closed and all assets and liabilities have been transferred to a reinsuring year of account. The result for the year of account was declared in sterling so there is no exchange rate risk. To this extent, the risks that it is exposed to in respect of the reported financial position and financial performance are significantly less than those relating to the open years of account as disclosed in the syndicate annual accounts. Accordingly, these underwriting year accounts do not have associated risk disclosures as required by section 34 of FRS 102. Full disclosures relating to these risks are provided in the syndicate annual accounts.

2.1 Capital management

Please refer to note 2.10 in syndicate 623 annual accounts.

3 Segmental analysis

An analysis of the underwriting result before investment return is set out below:

2017 year of account	Cyber & executive risk $m	Marine $m	Political, accident and contingency $m	Property $m	Reinsurance $m	Specialty lines $m	Unallocated $m	Total $m
Gross premiums written	97.2	61.1	28.1	84.2	46.2	128.4	–	445.2
Outward reinsurance premiums	(17.7)	(11.1)	(5.1)	(15.4)	(8.4)	(23.5)	–	(81.2)
Net earned premiums	79.5	50.0	23.0	68.8	37.8	104.9	–	364.0
Net claims	(43.6)	(29.1)	(8.1)	(65.2)	(30.1)	(67.6)	–	(243.7)
Operating expenses	(27.8)	(22.4)	(10.5)	(30.8)	(10.1)	(46.1)	–	(147.7)
Technical result before investment income	8.1	(1.5)	4.4	(27.2)	(2.4)	(8.8)	–	(27.4)
Investment income	–	–	–	–	–	–	18.5	18.5
Balance on technical account	**8.1**	**(1.5)**	**4.4**	**(27.2)**	**(2.4)**	**(8.8)**	**18.5**	**(8.9)**
Claims ratio	55%	58%	35%	95%	80%	64%	–	67%
Expense ratio	35%	45%	46%	45%	27%	44%	–	41%
Combined ratio	90%	103%	81%	140%	107%	108%	–	108%

The above teams are classified in Schedule 3 of the Companies Act 2006 as:

- Cyber & executive risk – cyber and management liability
- Marine – marine, aviation and transport;
- Political, accident and contingency – pecuniary loss;
- Property – fire and other damage to property;
- Reinsurance – reinsurance; and
- Specialty lines – third party liability.

All business was underwritten in the UK.

4 Reinsurance to close premiums received

	2017 year of account $m
Gross reinsurance to close premiums received	397.2
Reinsurance recoveries anticipated	(99.8)
Reinsurance to close premiums received, from 2016 and earlier, net of reinsurance	**297.3**

5 Reinsurance to close premiums payable

	2017 year of account $m
Gross reinsurance to close premiums payable	433.4
Reinsurance recoveries anticipated	(108.8)
Foreign exchange	(2.9)
Reinsurance to close premiums payable to 2018 net of reinsurance	**321.7**

	Reported $m	IBNR $m	Total $m
Reinsurance to close premium payable	166.2	265.3	431.5
Reinsurance recoveries anticipated	(35.9)	(73.9)	(109.8)
Reinsurance to close premiums payable, net of reinsurance	**130.3**	**191.4**	**321.7**

Notes to the syndicate underwriting year accounts *continued*

6 Analysis of the 2017 year of account result

	2017 year of account $m
Amount attributable to business allocated to the 2017 year of account	(18.2)
Surplus on the reinsurance to close for the 2016 year of account	8.7
	(9.5)

7 Net operating expenses

	2017 year of account $m
Acquisition costs	119.4
Members' standard personal expenses	9.5
Administrative expenses	18.8
	147.7

Administrative expenses include:

	$m
Audit services	0.1

8 Investment expenses and charges

	2017 year of account $m
Investment management expenses	1.0
	1.0

9 Financial assets

Financial assets at fair value	2017 year of account $m
Fixed and floating debt securities	195.5
Equity linked funds	6.2
Hedge funds	22.1
Illiquid credit assets	1.3
Rights under derivative contracts	0.2
	225.4

10 Debtors

	2017 year of account $m
Net amounts due from other related entities	25.1
Other debtors	72.3
	97.4

These balances are due within one year.

11 Amounts due to members

	2017 year of account $m
Loss for the 2017 closed year of account	–
Members standard personal expenses	(9.5)
Amounts due from members at 31 December 2019	**(9.5)**

12 Creditors

	2017 year of account $m
Profit commission payable	–
Net amounts due to other related entities	17.7
Other creditors	3.0
	20.7

The above balances are payable within one year.

13 Related party transactions

Please refer to page 52 for further details of related party transactions for the 2017 year of account.

Seven-year summary of closed year results

at 31 December 2019

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
Syndicate allocated capacity – £'000	304,482	257,277	230,252	242,760	224,698	214,167	214,841
Syndicate allocated capacity – $'000	408,005	403,924	393,730	368,995	352,775	325,533	337,300
Capacity utilised	88%	79%	76%	79%	84%	84%	86%
Aggregate net premiums – $'000	278,651	251,561	230,828	235,380	234,093	204,582	223,392
Underwriting profit as a percentage of gross premiums	0.2%	19.3%	25.5%	27.9%	23.5%	31.3%	20.3%
Return on capacity	(2.4%)	8.7%	15.5%	18.6%	10.8%	13.6%	10.3%
Results for an illustrative £10,000 share							
Gross premiums	11,820	12,464	12,958	11,957	13,189	13,092	12,805
Net premiums	9,152	9,778	10,025	9,696	10,418	9,909	9,584
Reinsurance to close from an earlier account	9,766	12,034	13,560	13,216	14,561	16,181	16,422
Net claims	(7,108)	(6,692)	(6,335)	(5,755)	(6,545)	(6,199)	(7,215)
Reinsurance to close the year of account	(10,660)	(11,656)	(13,242)	(13,106)	(14,576)	(15,698)	(16,021)
Underwriting profit	1,150	3,464	4,008	4,051	3,858	4,193	2,770
(Loss)/profit on foreign exchange	(15)	(136)	(40)	326	22	(38)	(49)
Syndicate operating expenses	(1,866)	(2,102)	(1,843)	(1,890)	(1,984)	(1,923)	(756)
Balance on technical account	(731)	1,226	2,125	2,487	1,896	2,232	1,965
Gross investment return	609	356	582	494	337	528	310
Profit before personal expenses	(122)	1,582	2,707	2,981	2,233	2,760	2,275
Illustrative personal expenses							
Illustrative personal expenses	(189)	(246)	(233)	(190)	(214)	(188)	(220)
Managing agent's profit commission	–	(230)	(411)	(427)	(383)	(449)	(352)
(Loss) / Profit after illustrative profit commission and personal expenses ($)	(311)	1,106	2,063	2,364	1,636	2,123	1,703
(Loss) / Profit after illustrative profit commission and personal expenses (£)	(236)	866	1,548	1,862	1,083	1,360	1,026

Notes:
1 The illustrative profit commission and personal expenses are estimates of amounts which might be charged on an illustrative share of £10,000. The agency agreements for 1991 and subsequent years of account only provide for the deduction of fees and profit commission on behalf of the managing agent.
2 The effect of any minimum charges on personal expenses or deficit clauses on profit commission have been ignored.
3 Internal claims settlement expenses have been included in 'net claims'.
4 The above figures are stated before members' agents' fees.
5 Profit after illustrative profit commission and personal expenses is shown in dollars and converted to sterling at the closing rate.
6 Gross and net premium amounts shown above are net of brokerage expenses.

Managing agent corporate information

Beazley Furlonge Limited has been the managing agent of syndicate 623 throughout the period covered by this report and the registered office is Plantation Place South, 60 Great Tower Street, London EC3R 5AD.

Directors

D L Roberts[1] – chairman
M R Bernacki (resigned 30/04/2019)
G P Blunden[1]
M L Bride – resigned 27/06/2019
S M Lake (appointed 14/06/2019)
A P Cox – appointed active underwriter
A Crawford-Ingle[1] (resigned 31/05/2019)
N H Furlonge[1]
D A Horton – chief executive officer
R Stuchbery[1]
K W Wilkins[1]
C C W Jones (finance director – appointed 27/06/2019)
A S Pryde (appointed 11/06/2019)
A J Reizenstein[1] (appointed 09/04/2019)
I Fantozzi (appointed 13/03/2019)

1 Non-executive director.

Company secretary

C P Oldridge

Managing agent's registered office

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EC3R 5AD
United Kingdom

Registered number

01893407

Auditor

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25 Churchill Place
London
E14 5EY

Banker

Deutsche Bank AG
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