CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 MARCH 2018

Consolidated Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2018

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Commissioners, Executive Directors and Advisors

for the year ended 31 March 2018

President:

HRH The Duke of Kent KG GCMG GCVO ADC(P)

Chairman:

The Hon. Gareth Williamson MP (From December 2017)

The Rt Hon. Michael Fallon MP (To December 2017)

Commissioners

Vice-Chairman:

Vice Admiral Sir Tim Laurence KCVO CB ADC(P)

New Zealand

HE The Rt. Hon. Sir Jerry Mateparae, GNZM, QSO, KStJ (From May

HE The Rt. Hon. Sir Lockwood Smith KNZM PhD (To April 2017)

Australian

HE The Hon. George Brandis QC (From May 2018)

HE The Hon. Hon. Alexander Downer AC (To April 2018)

South African

HE Ms Nomatemba Tambo (From March 2018)

HE Mr Obed Thembinkosi Mlaba (To September 2017)

Indian

HE Mr Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha

Canadian

HE Mme Janette Charette

Mr Edward Chaplin CMG OBE

Mr Robert Fox MBE

The Rt. Hon. Kevan Jones MP

The Hon. Mrs Ros Kelly AO

Lieutenant General Sir William Rollo KCB CBE

The Rt. Hon. Keith Simpson MP

Sir Hew Strachan DL, FRSE FRHistS, FBA Air Marshal David Walker CB CBE AFC

Commonwealth War Graves Foundation Trustees

The Hon. Mrs Ros Kelly AO Chair

Brigadier Alastair Bruce KStJ OBE VR

HE Mme Janice Charette

Lady Lucy French

Dame Judith Mayhew Jonas DBE

Sir Adrian Montague CBE

Captain Jay Singh-Sohal

Executive Directors

Victoria Wallace

Director General

Barry Murphy

Director of Operations

Liz Woodfield

Director of Communication & Information

Judith O'Connell

Director of Resources

Julian Evans

Director of International and Community Engagement (From Nov. 2017)

Jamie Redmond

Director of Human Resources (From June 2017) Director of Human Resources (To June 2017)

Steve Luckhurst

Colin Kerr

Director of External Relations (To May 2017)

Sally Andreou

Director of Public Engagement and Development (From Aug. 2017 to Mar.

2018)

Advisors

Artistic Advisor

Peter Inskip MBE

Bankers

HSBC

Independent Auditors Grant Thornton UK LLP

9 The Boulevard

30 Finsbury Square

Crawley

West Sussex RH10 1UT

London EC2A 1AG

Commissioners' report and operating and financial review

for the year ended 31 March 2018

Structure and Governance

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (the Commission) was established by Royal Charter in May 1917 which was amended by a supplemental charter in June 1964. The Commission's status is not that of a charity as its purposes are not exclusively charitable.

The Commission has one subsidiary, the Commonwealth War Graves Foundation (the Foundation) which was registered with the Charity Commission of England and Wales in March 2017 as a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO). The main objectives of the Foundation are to support and publicise the work of the Commission and to fundraise. A branch of the Foundation was registered during the year in Belgium and it is planned that a branch of the Foundation will also be established in France.

The Commissioners comprise "the Board" which governs the organisation in line with the provisions of the Royal Charter, and oversees the Commission's strategic direction. The Chairman is the serving UK Secretary of State for Defence, whilst the Vice-Chairman (the de facto operational Chairman) is customarily a retired senior UK military officer. The Commissioners include the High Commissioners of the five Commonwealth Member Governments, together with two Members of Parliament and other lay members.

The Foundation is governed by a separate Board of Trustees who are appointed by the Commission; the majority of the Foundation's Trustees are not Commissioners.

Induction for new Commissioners includes the provision of a comprehensive briefing pack supported by meetings with the Director General and the head office senior management team.

The Commissioners meet four times a year, with the Director General and various members of the senior management team in attendance.

The Commissioners are currently supported by committees on Finance, Audit, Remuneration, Centenary, and the 1418 Centenary. The Artistic Advisor attends Commission meetings as an Observer.

Objectives

The "core business" of the Commission, as defined in the Royal Charter, is the commemoration "in perpetuity" of almost 1,700,000 members of the Commonwealth forces who gave their lives in the two world wars. This means in practice that the Commission cares for graves and memorials at more than 23,000 locations in over 150 countries and territories and maintains the relevant records.

These men and women are commemorated either on a headstone (where identification was possible) or on a memorial. Memorials are, in this case, those central locations such as the Thiepval Memorial, the Menin Gate and the Runnymede Memorial, where the names of the missing are inscribed. Moreover, where there is a grave of an unidentified casualty (i.e. in Kipling's words, "a soldier of the Great War known unto God"), then that grave, too, is maintained.

The Royal Charter tasks the Commission with "maintaining fit provision" of the graves and memorials. Consequently, the Commission's primary objective is to ensure that each headstone and memorial is well maintained, that the names are legible and that the surrounding infrastructure (i.e. walls, gates, benches) is sound. Also, and in accordance with guidelines laid down in 1918, horticulture (including shrubs and trees) is undertaken on each site in order "to strike the proper note of brightness and life".

There is no charge to the public for visiting our cemeteries.

Commissioners' report and operating and financial review

for the year ended 31 March 2018

Activities and Achievements

Strategy 2016-2021

The Commission has a five year strategic plan, built on the Centenary Committee's vision and long-term trajectory, for the period 2016 to 2021. This strategic plan is the route map for the Commission to move into its second century of operations. The period covered by the plan includes the centenary of the First World War and the Commission's own centenary in 2017. The plan provides for an extension of the Commission's core task, i.e. caring for cemeteries and memorials, to include ensuring that new generations are able to commemorate those who fell in the two world wars, as a result of the Commission's endeavours to engage, inform and encourage more people to visit its sites. The plan's key objectives are to:

- Commemorate the fallen servicemen and women of the two World Wars
- Preserve and maintain the cemeteries and memorials in perpetuity
- Maintain and improve access to records and archives
- Develop an understanding of, and support for, the Commission's mission
- Operate efficiently, offering excellent value for money, and
- Develop and support a skilled team who are proud to work for the Commission and live its values.

During 17 -18 We:

- Supported three separate national events to mark the centenary of the Passchendaele /3rd Battle of Ypres campaign for our member governments during which Commission sites and staff were a focus of significant positive media interest and coverage. We also supported centenary events at Messines, Vimy, Arras, Beersheba and the 75th commemoration event at El Alamein. This required the Commission to work with delivery partners to frame, position, organise and publicise the events, and to ensure the cemeteries and memorials were ready.
- Completed an unprecedented level of global structural contracts costing £4.5m. Our conservation led approach ensured that these projects were undertaken in a way that is appropriate to their heritage value, and that is sustainable. We continue to reduce the level of headstone replacement levels as we focused efforts on conservation minded headstone legibility criteria stressing use of other options including the re-engraving of 15,000 headstones during the year.
- Continued to enhance our horticultural practice which included the piloting of a trial of 35 chemical-free sites in Western Europe and the development of dry sites in water-challenged regions.
- Opened a Visitor Information centre in Ypres in May 2017 which is located adjacent to our Menin Gate memorial. It has received about 13,000 visitors in its first year.
- Marked the Commission's own centenary with a programme of activities which included:
 - > a garden at the Chelsea flower show which received extensive media attention and attracted 157,000 visitors;
 - > a centenary exhibition at Brookwood visited by 5,522;

Commissioners' report and operating and financial review

for the year ended 31 March 2018

- > a service attended by over 1,470, including current and former members of staff and guests, at Westminster Abbey.
- Launched a new website and maintained an active presence on social media sites including Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram, which we use to conduct a wide range of marketing and anniversary-led campaigns.
- Initiated a successful Youth Interns programme funded by the UK Government from LIBOR penalties. Two tranches of 12 interns were deployed over a six month period in welcoming and engaging with visitors at key Commission sites in Belgium and France.
- Officially launched The Commonwealth War Graves Foundation and its supporter scheme which attracted just over 400 members by March 2018. The Foundation has been appointed the education partner to the "There but not There Remembered" project and will benefit from a share of the proceeds from the sale of their merchandise comprising Perspex statues of World War 1 soldiers.
- Doubled our archives' visitor numbers and archival enquiries have also increased; we made significant progress with achieving National Archives Sectoral Standards which we estimate will be achieved within the next two years.
- Successfully recruited the Commission's first ever formal volunteer programme which saw 280 volunteers hosting visitors at two key UK sites:
 - > Brookwood Cemetery, focused around the centenary exhibition, and
 - The Plymouth Naval memorial where we hosted, in partnership with 1418Now the UK government's centenary arts programme, the Poppies Wave which was seen by around 500,000 visitors
- Purchased and installed a new software system to manage our estate in line with our conservation standards; made improvements to our procurement processes; overhauled recruitment and induction systems at Head office and continued to make progress on achieving our long-term targeted reduction in employment costs.

The overall legacy of these Centenary year activities has been transformational in converting the Commission to engaging with the public and becoming more open. Our media survey indicates that 11% of the population engaged with one of our events and there has been an 8% increase in the number of people who plan to visit a relative's grave.

Business plan 2018/19

All our activities in 2018-19 will be underpinned by three key themes:

Consolidation, which will build on the good work begun the previous year during our Centenary;

Collaboration, whereby we will build relationships and networks of delivery and co-operation with partners including Member Governments, Flemish and English Heritage, the Royal British Legion; and

Continuation, which is about ensuring that the Commission is seen as the continuing strand and the guardian of commemoration following the end of the national centenary events marking the individual battle campaigns.

In addition to our core tasks of maintaining our cemeteries, memorials and archives, we plan to:

Commissioners' report and operating and financial review

for the year ended 31 March 2018

- Play a major role in delivering the plans of our member governments to commemorate campaigns, battles and significant events, which in 2018/19 include Villers Bretonneux Islay, Salonica, the RAF's centenary and the Armistice;
- Undertake structural contracts with a value of £4.5 m which will include: a visitors' centre at Beaurains; renovation of 6 cemeteries in Flanders; secure the newly listed site at Kariakor in Kenya; create an alternative commemoration for inaccessible Mogadishu casualties in the Commission's cemetery in Nairobi;
- Introduce standard assessment of cemeteries' horticulture using a standardized Performance Quality Management System;
- Complete the second year of a five year project of chemical free trials at a range of cemeteries;
- Rollout the volunteer programme to recruit 120 core volunteers whose activities will be organised by six new part-time regional co-ordinators;
- Run campaigns focussing on the Spanish flu pandemic and prisoners of war and support the Royal British Legion's great pilgrimage;
- Deliver year 2 of the Interns project which will incorporate wider and deeper activities and experiences;
- Develop a clear tourism strategy in partnership with travel trade partners around our most visited sites;
- Create over 200 citizen archivists through the "Lest we forget" project which the Foundation will undertake with funding from the Heritage lottery fund;
- Secure improvements to our support services including a new global HR system, additional project management expertise and support, progress global compliance including GDPR requirements, along with a number of HR initiatives to increase staff engagement.

Remuneration policy for key management personnel

The Commissioners delegate the day to day operations of the Commission to the Director General and the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) who constitute the key management team. The SLT comprises five members who have specific areas of responsibility but work collaboratively to agree levels of remuneration for all employees.

The Commission is committed to the following principles in determining pay for all employees:

- All employees receive equal pay for work of equal value, work rated as equivalent and the same or broadly similar work;
- All roles are evaluated using an internationally recognised global job evaluation system ensuring fairness and consistency;
- Pay bands span from lower quartile to a maxima range, to acknowledge growth of individual skills and performance levels;

Commissioners' report and operating and financial review

for the year ended 31 March 2018

Our policy on setting rates of pay is to follow the median market of benchmarked pay data for the not-for-profit sector.

The Senior Leadership Team's remuneration is determined by the Director General and is overseen by the Commissions Remuneration Committee. Pay for this group is based on the following:

- To be competitive with comparable organisations by independent benchmarking;
- Recognise individual contribution and reward performance;
- To align to forecasted salary increases for the not-for-profit sector.

These principles are also applied by the Commission's Remuneration Committee, acting as a sub–committee of the main board who independently determine the remuneration package for the Director General and annual fee of the Vice-Chairman.

Reserves

The Commission, due to its status and the sources of its funding, does not have a reserves policy but a working capital target of £2m was agreed with the UK Ministry of Defence a number of years ago. Working capital at the year-end, was £5.4M (2017 -£3M) and above the target due mainly to advance receipt of funding for LIBOR financed projects amounting to £2.4M.

Commissioners' report and operating and financial review

for the year ended 31 March 2018

Risk Management

The Commission's most significant risks are outlined below along with the currently identified mitigations:

RISKS	MITIGATIONS
The location of some of the Commission's cemeteries and memorials in territories with ongoing conflicts and instability means some level of risk is inevitable and gives rise to: • Reputational risk; principally arising from the security threat which precludes the Commission from maintaining and/or monitoring standards at some of its sites, e.g. Syria, Iraq, Yemen which may in turn require significant funding when access is restored.	Accurate plans are held to enable restoration, once the security situation permits, ensuring safe access by staff. Where practical, the Commission tries to secure cemetery boundaries or hire local security or watchmen on site. Local diplomatic contacts are deployed where possible. Complex Environment Awareness Training (CEAT) has been provided for travelling supervising staff. The Commission subscribes to "Control Risks" to provide pre-deployment and upto-date security advice while staff are deployed.
Risk of staff death or injury due to conflict or terrorism.	
Risks resulting from severe environmental and climatic change which can impose a significant cost to repair or mitigate the threat of further damage.	Prior to any decision to invest in rebuilding the infrastructure, all possible options are routinely explored (such as alternative commemoration or exhumation). In some cases, regular maintenance of surrounding drainage and contact with municipal councils can minimise the chance of flood recurrence.
Driving risk can lead to fatalities and injuries and increases when staff are driving in unfamiliar locations overseas	Driver profiling awareness and refresher training to be deployed from April 2018. Trauma first aid training has been completed for travelling supervisors
Potential injury to staff, contractors or the public at our sites arising from collapse or failure of our structures or trees The risk of accidents at work causing physical harm to staff and reducing delivery capacity. Potential death and damage at our sites resulting from a terrorist attack Poor project management skills resulting in wasted resources and poorly implemented schemes	Structural conditions surveys of all sites being undertaken as well as visitor risk assessments Health and safety systems are in place and regular training provided to achieve Commission agreed global standard Liaison with local police and increased security measures in place for higher risk locations Project Management expert being recruited to develop methodology and provide training

Commissioners' report and operating and financial review

for the year ended 31 March 2018

The failure of IT systems or wider area network creates significant operational risk	Alternative storage capacity being created and email services now delivered via the cloud
Hacking and phishing activity creates financial and reputational risk	Regularly tested strong firewalls tight information security and staff awareness
Brexit may have financial and operational consequence in respect of cross border movement of staff and goods and continued access for expatriate employees to local education, welfare and healthcare	We are monitoring political developments for potential impacts
Pension scheme funding risk arising from adverse investment conditions and the continued low interest rate environment which have the potential to result in a significant actuarial/funding deficit which in turn could create a significant annual funding commitment.	The scheme was closed to future benefit accrual on 31 March 2016. The most recent triennial valuation resulted in a deficit of £4.6m which will be funded over a period of ten years.

Risk reporting mechanisms are in place which are reported quarterly to the Audit Committee and overseen by the Commissioners.

Financial results for the year ended 31 March 2018

The financial accounts are prepared, in as far as is practicably possible, in line with best practice in the UK Charities sector (Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (the "SORP")).

Total income for the year was £72.6M compared with £70.8M in 2017, an increase of £1.8M. The Commission's funding comes primarily from the six member governments in proportions based upon the number of their graves; to that end, the Member Governments contributed £62.5M an increase of £0.9M over the previous year. The Commission also receives agency funding from these governments for the care of military graves from other periods and for war memorials. Agency income fell by £848K, 13%, in the year as projects relating to first world war commemoration events fell away. A sizeable single legacy of £333K was the main factor in the year on year increase in legacy income.

Restricted income reflects income from one-off UK government grants, funded from LIBOR penalties, awarded to: renovate and tend approx. 6,000 Non-World War graves, predominately in the UK; and, to run an interns/youth guides programme scheme at the Commission's key operational sites in France and Belgium. It is a condition of these grants that these monies are treated as a restricted fund for accounting purposes and £636K has been recognised as restricted income in the year.

Expenditure in the year of £69.3M (2016/17 £70.0M) has fallen due mainly to the recovery of sterling resulting in exchange gains of £880K, (2016-17 losses of £643K) the aforementioned reduction in agency activity, and further reductions in headstone production.

Commissioners' report and operating and financial review

for the year ended 31 March 2018

The Commission's reported surplus before actuarial losses was £3.3M (2016-17 - £797K) considerably exceeded the budget target of £722K due to exchange gains, underspend at head office due to changes in the senior leadership team, the deferral of some key projects, the realisation of efficiency savings and accounting adjustments in respect of the pension scheme.

The consolidated statement of financial activities shows a net surplus, after actuarial losses, of £3.2M (2016-17 - £8.7M).

The Commission's working capital at £5.4M demonstrates a significant improvement on the previous year's working capital position of £3M due to advance funding of LIBOR funded projects amounting to £2.4M and the surplus of £3.1M.

Capital expenditure on both tangible and intangible assets in the current year was £2.3M broadly funded by the depreciation charge of £2.1M resulting in the net book value of £15.7M mostly unchanged on the previous year's value of £15.8M. The Commission's overall consolidated balance sheet position has improved with a reported net deficit, of -£8.6M, a £3.2M improvement on the previous year's net deficit position of £11.8M mainly resulting from the current year surplus and favourable exchange movements.

The Commonwealth War Graves Foundation incurred one-off start-up costs on branding and marketing resulting in a loss of £85K in its inaugural year and ended the year with negative net assets of £72K funded by a loan of £98K from its parent the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

The accounting pension deficit as defined by FRS 102 was £23.9M at the year end. The updating of membership information following the triennial valuation and accrued interest have increased the accounting deficit but have been mitigated by a £1M deficit contribution. This FRS102 pension deficit is a long-term liability and cash payments to fund the deficit are determined by the actuarial deficit (which is calculated on a different basis).

The outcome of the triennial actuarial pension valuation at the end of March 2017 was a deficit of £4.6M. A ten year funding plan, entailing future annual payments averaging around £500K by the Commission, has been agreed with the Pension Fund's Trustees to discharge this liability with an initial payment of £1M having been paid in March 2018.

Sir Tim Laurence

Vice-Chairman

Victoria Wallace

Director General

Date: \ \ September 2018

Statement of internal controls

for the year ended 31 March 2018

As Accounting Officer to the UK Ministry of Defence, I am responsible for ensuring that the internal controls of the organisation are fit for purpose and that reliance can be placed on the control of resources used in the Commission.

The corporate governance of these processes centres on the Audit Committee, chaired by Sir Bill Rollo during the year under review, with two other Commissioners. The Committee's terms of reference have been set by the Commissioners and the accountability is to the Commission; all minutes are presented to the Commissioners. The Committee met three times during 2017-18.

The Audit Committee appointed Moore Stephens LLP to undertake internal audit services for the three year period from April 2014. Moore Stephens worked to a three year strategic audit plan approved by the Committee which has been updated and modified during the year. Moore Stephens attended each meeting of the Audit Committee, at which they presented a full report on activities; they also had access to the Committee Chairman. During the year management identified issues arising with the new website and requested Moore Stephens to review the project. Moore Stephens' audit identified significant weaknesses in planning and executing digital projects requiring improvements to the Commission's broader digital strategy and infrastructure: activity is now ongoing to implement Moore Stephens recommended remedial actions.

During the year the services undertaken by Moore Stephens were retendered and with effect from April 2018 Mazars LLP are providing the internal audit and assurance services previously undertaken by Moore Stephens.

Grant Thornton UK LLP were appointed as external auditors by the Commissioners a number of years ago. They attend each meeting of the Audit Committee. Their audit plan for each year is discussed with the Committee and they submit a "management letter" each year, summarising their findings. In line with best practice, Grant Thornton are afforded the opportunity to meet with the Committee at the conclusion of their audit, without the Commission's management being present.

At an operational level, the Director of Resources is responsible for the internal controls of the organisation. An "in-house" audit function is also in place with a remit on internal controls and transactional testing. The team, based in Israel, co-ordinates its activities with the programme of Moore Stephens to ensure delivery of a well-rounded audit function. During the year employment contracts for four employees ceased as a result of internal investigations triggered by anomalies in a number of expense claims, with a total value of just under £20,000. Over 90% in value of the fraudulent claims was recovered. The in-house team attends meetings of, and reports to, the Audit Committee on its activities. A relocation of the in-house function from Israel to Head office at Maidenhead was initiated during the year.

The Audit Committee is responsible for ensuring that the Commission's risk reporting is fit for purpose. The governance related to this is also reviewed regularly by Moore Stephens and reported to the Audit Committee.

Moore Stephens, in their annual report to the Audit Committee, concluded that "There is some risk that the system of internal control, governance and risk management will fail to meet management's objectives – in some areas there are adequate and effective systems of governance, but there are also some specific areas of significant risk. Significant improvements are required in specific areas to improve the adequacy and effectiveness of governance, risk management and internal control".

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Victoria Wallace

Director General

Date & September 2018

Commissioners' responsibilities statement

for the year ended 31 March 2018

The Commissioners are responsible for preparing the annual report and the group's financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. The Group comprises the Commission and its sole wholly owned subsidiary the Commonwealth War Graves Foundation.

The Commission's Royal Charter of Incorporation requires the Commission to prepare financial statements for each financial year. The Commission has elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), applicable to entities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102, to the extent that the SORP is applicable to the Commission, and applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice's legal framework including FRS102). The Foundation due to its status as a Charitable incorporated organisation and its turnover being less than £250,000 is simply required to prepare a receipts and payments statement which will be submitted to the Charity Commission.

Guidance under Company law recommends that the Commissioners must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Commission and the group and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the Group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Commissioners are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP FRS102;
- Make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Commission and its subsidiary will continue in operation.

The Commissioners are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Commission's transactions and to disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Commission and its subsidiary and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the requirements of the Charities SORP FRS102 to the extent that the Charities SORP is applicable to the Commission's legal framework. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Commission and its subsidiary and hence for taking steps for the detection and prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

The Commissioners confirm that:

- So far as each Commissioner is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Commission's auditors are unaware; and
- They have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as Commissioners in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Commission's auditors are aware of that information.

Independent auditor's report to the Commissioners of Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Commonwealth War Graves Commission (the 'Commission') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2018 which comprise the consolidated statement of financial activities, consolidated balance sheet, Commission balance sheet, consolidated cash flow statement and notes to the financial statements, 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 Financial Reporting Standard 102; The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and Commission's affairs as at 31 March 2018 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including the group's income and expenditure for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Basis for opinion

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

Who we are reporting to

This report is made solely to the Commission's Commissioners, as a body, in accordance with our letter of 20th February 2018. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Commission's Commissioners 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 Commission and its Commissioners as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

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 Commissioners' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Commissioners have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the group or the Commission'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 financial statements are authorised for issue.

Independent auditor's report to the Commissioners of Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Other information

The Commissioners are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Commissioners' Annual Report, set out on pages 2 to 11 other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the 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 financial statements 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 this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Commissioners for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Commissioners' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 11, the Commissioners are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Commissioners determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

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

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Grant Thornton UK LLP Statutory Auditor, Chartered Accountants London

Date: 12 September 2018

Consolidated statement of financial activities

for the year ended 31 March 2018

	Note	General Purposes 2018	Agency Purposes 2018	Restricted Funds 2018	Total 2018	Total 2017
Incoming resources	note	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Funds received from Member						
Governments	1	62,510	_	_	62,510	61,583
Funds received for agency	_	0 –, 0 10			02,020	01,500
purposes	2	_	5,783	_	5,783	6,632
Grant funds from government &			•		-	-,
charitable activities	3	912	<u></u>	_	912	83
Investment income	4	1,102	-	_	1,102	952
Other incoming resources	5/6	1,648		636	2,284	1,505
Total incoming resources		66,172	5,783	636	72,591	70,754
Resources expended						
Expenditure in respect of	7	(1.0(0			(4.060	(4.4.44
general activities Expenditure in respect of agency	7	61,262	-	-	61,262	61,141
purposes	9		5,783		5,783	6.62
Expenditure in respect of grant	9	_	3,763	_	5,763	6,632
& charitable activities	10	1,378			1,378	313
Net exchange (gain)/loss	11	(880)	_	_	(880)	643
Other resources expended	12/13	1,079	-	636	1,715	1,229
Total resources expended						
		62,839	5,783	636	69,258	69,957
Net incoming resources for the year before other recognised gains and losses		3,333	-	-	3,333	797
Other recognised gains and losses						
Actuarial loss on defined benefit p	pension					
scheme	22	(174)	-	-	(174)	(9,487)
Net movement in funds		3,159			3,159	(8,690)
Reconciliation of funds		3,137				(0,070)
Total funds brought forward	24	(11,730)	(106)	35	(11,801)	(3,111)
· ·		•	(100)	55		` '
Net movement in funds	24	3,159	-	-	3,159	(8,690)

Total funds carried forward	24	(8,571)	(106)	35	(8,642)	

All incoming resources and resources expended in the general purpose fund have been derived from continuing activities.

Consolidated balance sheet

as at 31 March 2018

as at 31 Maich 2010	Note	General Purposes 2018 £'000	Agency Purposes 2018 £'000	Restricted Funds 2018 £'000	Total 2018 £'000	Total 2017 £'000
Intangible assets Software systems Fixed assets	16	580	-	-	580	772
Tangible assets	17	15,092		_	15,092	15,019
Current assets		15,672			15,672	15,791
Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	19	3,034 23,727	864	240 2,637	4,138 26,364	4,320 10,190
		26,761	864	2,877	30,502	14,510
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	20	(21,332)	(970)	(2,842)	(25,144)	(11,462)
Net current assets/(liabilities)		5,429	(106)	35	5,358	3,048
Total assets less current liabilities		21,101	(106)	35	21,030	18,839
Provisions for liabilities and charges	21	(5,735)			(5,735)	(6,492)
Total assets excluding pension scheme liability	ı	15,366	(106)	35	15,295	12,347
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	22	(23,937)	_	_	(23,937)	(24,148)
Net liabilities including pensic scheme liability	on	(8,571)	(106)	35	(8,642)	(11,801)
Funds of the Commission General purposes Revaluation reserve Fixed asset reserve Thiepval reserve Pension reserve	24 24 24 24 24	6,019 6,036 1,311 2,000 (23,937)	(106) - - - -	35	5,948 6,036 1,311 2,000 (23,937)	5,630 6,036 681 - (24,148)
		(8,571)	(106)	35	(8,642)	(11,801)

The financial statements were approved by the Commission on 12 September 2018.

Sir Tim Laurence Vice-Chairman

2018

Victoria Wallace

Director General

2018

Commission balance sheet

as at 31 March 2018

Total 2:11	Note	General Purposes 2018 £'000	Agency Purposes 2018 £'000	Restricted Funds 2018 £'000	Total 2018 £'000	Total 2017 £'000
Intangible assets Software systems Fixed assets	16	580	-	-	580	772
Tangible assets	17	15,092			15,092	15,019
Current assets		15,672			15,672	15,791
Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	19	3,126 23,694	864	240 2,637	4,230 26,331	4,320 10,190
		26,820	864	2,877	30,561	14,510
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	20	(21,319)	(970)	(2,842)	(25,131)	(11,462)
Net current assets/(liabilities)		5,501	(106)	35	5,430	3,048
Total assets less current liabilities		21,173	(106)	35	21,102	18,839
Provisions for liabilities and charges	21	(5,735)			(5,735)	(6,492)
Total assets excluding pension scheme liability	1	15,438	(106)	35	15,367	12,347
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	22	(23,937)			(23,937)	(24,148)
Net liabilities including pension scheme liability	on	(8,499)	(106)	35	(8,570)	(11,801)
Funds of the Commission General purposes Revaluation reserve Fixed asset reserve Thiepval Reserve Pension reserve	24 24 24 24 24	6,091 6,036 1,311 2,000 (23,937)	(106) - - - -	35 - - - -	6,020 6,036 1,311 2,000 (23,937)	5,630 6,036 681 - (24,148)
		(8,499)	(106)	35	(8,570)	(11,801)

The financial statements were approved by the Commission on 12 September 2018.

Sir Tim Laurence Vice-Chairman

2018

Victoria Wallace Director General

2018

Consolidated cash flow Statement

for the year ended 31 March 2018

	General Purposes 2018 £'000	Agency Purposes 2018 £'000	Restricted Funds 2018 £'000	Total 2018 £'000	Total 2017 £'000
Net cash inflow from operating	~	~	~	~	~
activities					
Net incoming resources	3,333	_	-	3,333	797
Pension scheme adjustment	(385)	-	-	(385)	391
Depreciation	2,148	_	-	2,148	1,981
Profit on sale of fixed assets	(128)	-	-	(128)	(48)
(Increase)/Decrease in inventory					
prepayments	85	-	-	85	373
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	179	51	(132)	98	308
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	12,774	(51)	959	13,682	(10,513)
Increase in termination indemnities	421	-	-	421	1,115
Termination indemnities exchange					
revaluation	(365)	-	-	(365)	297
Disbursement of termination	, ,				
indemnities	(657)	_	-	(657)	(207)
(Decrease)/Increase in other				, ,	, ,
provisions	(156)	_	_	(156)	46
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	17,249		827	18,076	(5,460)
Cash flows from investing activities					
Payments to acquire tangible and intangible fixed assets	(2,336)	<u>-</u> -	-	(2,336)	(2,259)
Receipts from sales of tangible fixed assets	434			434	92
	(1,902)			(1,902)	(2,167)
Increase/(Decrease) in cash	15,347	-	827	16,174	(7,627)
Reconciliation of net cash flow to	movement	t in cash an	d cash equiva	alents	
				2018	2017
				£'000	£'000
Movement in cash and cash equivalents				16,174	17,817
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April			-	10,190	(7,627
				26,364	10,190

Principal accounting policies

for the year ended 31 March 2018

Basis of Accounting

The Commissioners' Report and accompanying consolidated financial statements have been produced in accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), applicable to entities preparing their financial statements in accordance with FRS102, to the extent that the SORP is applicable to the Commission, and applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP) including FRS102). The Commission meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. The functional currency is sterling.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission is the sole member of the Commonwealth War Graves Foundation (Registered charity number 1171947) and as the Foundation's solitary member exercises control over the Foundation by virtue of it being solely able to amend the Foundation's constitution, merge the entity and wind it up. The financial statements therefore consolidate the results of the Commission and its wholly owned subsidiary, the Foundation, on a line by line basis. Transactions and balances between the Commission and its subsidiary have been eliminated from the consolidated financial statements. Balances between the two entities are disclosed in the notes to the Commission's balance sheet.

Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The Commission's financial statements are in a net liability position of £8.6m at 31 March 2018 (£11.8m net liability at 31 March 2017) due to the deficit of £23.9m at that date (£24.1m at 31 March 2017) in the UK based pension scheme. The UK based pension scheme is a long-term liability and its deficit position is continually under review. The deficit in the scheme does not impact the assessment of going concern, as the liability is not going to unwind for a number of years and there are no issues with the Commission meeting the agreed deficit payments and the annual running costs of the scheme for the foreseeable future. In addition, in terms of future funding of the Commission, a governmental commitment has been made in the UK Parliament to provide inflation adjusted funding; the UK Government contributes in excess of 78% of the Commission's core funding. The Commission also expects its other income to both continue and grow over the medium term, as the Group increases it ability to both identify and attract new sources of grant, agency and charitable funding. On this basis, the Commission is considered to be a going concern.

Fund accounting

General purposes reserves are unrestricted funds that are available for use at the Commissioners' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the Commission.

Restricted funds are subject to specific restrictions imposed by the donors of the relevant investments.

In accordance with FRS102 – "Retirement benefits", a pension reserve is included within unrestricted funds representing the pension deficit.

A fixed asset reserve, established to assist in financing fixed assets which are not separately funded, has been brought forward from the prior year.

A designated fund has been created from the above budget surplus arising in 2017-18 to fund conservation projects including stage two of the Thiepval memorial renovations.

Incoming resources

Income, including funding from Member Governments, investment income and income due from the Trustees of the Imperial War Graves Endowment Fund, is recognised in the period in which the Group is entitled to receive the funds and where the amount can be measured with reasonable clarity.

Principal accounting policies

for the year ended 31 March 2018

Grant Funding

UK Government funding from LIBOR receipts are treated as restricted funds and shown separately in the consolidated statement of financial activities as this is mandated by these grant agreements. The income is recognised on a cost of completion basis. Other grants, such as the Belgian government funding subsidies in respect of Flanders Walls are included within general purpose funding because the grantor has not applied prescriptive statutory reporting conditions and the funding is granted in arrears.

The Flemish government also provides grant funding in relation to structural work activities in Belgium. This grant funding is recognised on a cost of completion basis which is subject to regular and ongoing inspection and review by the Flemish authorities and formally signed off once a year.

Resources expended

The Commission's expenditure is analysed between Royal Charter activities and agency activities.

Costs are included in the consolidated statement of financial activities on an accruals basis.

Governance costs

Governance costs represent direct expenditure incurred by, or on behalf of, the Commissioners, and internal audit as well as external audit costs.

Allocation and apportionment

All of the Commission's costs are allocated to general purposes, other than costs directly attributable to agency work (for example, memorials or non-world war cemeteries) and costs apportioned to agency work (for non-world war or agency government headstones, situated within wider Commission world war cemeteries) and some of the grant-funded projects which are designated as restricted activities.

The Foundation's costs have all been allocated to charitable activities.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £5k are capitalised and included at cost, including any incidental costs of acquisition. For IT procurement, the provisions of "grouped assets" apply to all items of equipment forming part of the Commission's IT infrastructure. Investment in software is classified as an intangible asset.

Freehold land and building are included in the financial statements at their deemed carrying value at 1 April 2014, consistent with the transition provisions of FRS 102 and as adjusted for subsequent disposals. With effect from 1 April 2014, the Commission has been making provision for depreciation on its freehold buildings. This approach dispenses with any requirement to undertake regular revaluations of the Commission's freehold assets.

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost by equal annual instalments, on a straight line basis, over their expected useful economic lives as follows:

- Freehold land Not depreciated

Freehold buildings 50 years on initial costs; 25 years on refurbishment

- Vehicles 5 years
- Trucks 10 years
- Machinery 5 years

- Machinery 5 years
- Computer infrastructure 3 years

- Information systems Between 3 & 7 years

Principal accounting policies

for the year ended 31 March 2018

Inventory

Stocks of uninscribed headstones and other consumables are included in debtors as prepayments. They are valued at cost and charged to the consolidated statement of financial activities subsequent to being engraved.

Provisions

Provisions for future liabilities are recognised when the Group has a legal or constructive financial obligation that can be readily estimated and for which there is a reasonable expectation that payment will be made.

Foreign currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at fixed internal rates of exchange set before the beginning of the financial year. For each foreign currency in which the Group has material expenditure, these are the floor rates at which budgeted cash flows in these currencies have been set for the ensuing year. Balances at year-end are re-translated at the equivalent fixed rates of exchange set for the ensuing year. The net exchange gain or loss arising on foreign currency transactions is shown as a separate item within expenditure in respect of general purposes activities.

Pension schemes

Until 31 March 2016 the Group operated a defined benefit pension scheme in the UK and for overseas based staff contracted in the UK whose employment with the Commission commenced prior to 1 January 2013. Following the closure of the scheme to future accrual, UK-contracted staff accrue pension benefits under a defined contribution arrangement which was established in January 2013 for members of UK staff who were not eligible to join the defined benefit scheme. In most European countries, the Group complies with local schemes which are mandated legally. Across the rest of the countries in which the Group operates, a range of termination indemnity schemes are in place, some of which are mandated legally and some of which have been established voluntarily by the Group.

The defined benefit pension scheme is accounted for in accordance with FRS102. Scheme assets are measured at fair values and quoted securities are measured at bid price. Scheme liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method and are discounted at appropriate high quality bond rates. The net surplus or deficit is presented separately from other net assets on the consolidated balance sheet. A net surplus is recognised only to the extent that it is considered recoverable under the terms of FRS102 by the Commission.

The current service cost and costs from settlements and curtailments are charged against net incoming resources. Past service costs are spread over the period until the benefit increases vest. Interest on the scheme liabilities and the expected return on scheme assets are included net of support costs. Actuarial gains and losses are reported within other recognised gains/(losses) in the consolidated statement of financial activities.

Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the consolidated statement of financial activities as incurred, on a straight line basis, over the term of the lease.

Heritage assets

The Commission holds a large number of cemeteries and memorials, none of which has been recognised in the consolidated balance sheet as the assets are held in perpetuity on behalf of the Member Governments and there is therefore no question of disposal for commercial gain.

Principal accounting policies

for the year ended 31 March 2018

UK Value Added Tax (VAT)

Until March 2011, all UK VAT costs incurred by the Commission were reimbursed in full by the UK Ministry of Defence. In 2011-12 the amount reimbursed was limited to £850k. VAT reimbursed in the current year was £900k (2016/17 £ 859k). Unrecovered Commission only VAT amounted to £164k (2016/17 £193k).

The funding received from the UK Ministry of Defence is shown separately within other incoming resources and the VAT incurred by the Group is shown separately within other resources expended.

Restricted funds

The Commission's financial statements include one restricted funds, reflecting capital that was donated independently of Member Governments, although the income can be used for the Commission's general activities, see note 24.2

Significant estimates and judgements

Where contractual revenue and costs cannot be allocated with certainty, but are related to the current financial period, an estimate of the income or liability is booked within the financial statements based on the accruals principle. Income and costs for operational or specific activities are estimated (accrued) using principally a calculation for the percentage cost of work completed.

The projected life of refurbishments, equipment and IT systems, and their replacement timescale, is the driver for estimating the depreciation policy.

Maintaining a presence in over 150 countries and territories presents challenges with regards to employment and retirement contracts/schemes. In place of a pension scheme, it is the Commission's policy in a number of countries outside of the UK and European Union to provide for termination indemnities (see note 21). The Commission has a number of different statutory/legal or contractual arrangements in place where the liability is estimated based on the specific country or employee contract arrangements. On cessation of an employee's contract, the termination indemnity payment is made.

The holiday pay accrual is calculated based on local legislation and employee contractual arrangements.

Judgement and estimates are required in making pay and taxation accruals for those countries where pay awards are linked to government scales which may result in the backdating of pay awards. These are calculated based on the most up-to-date information as at the balance sheet date.

The final area of cost where judgement is required relates to the highly sensitive assumptions used in calculating the obligations of the Commission's defined benefit pension scheme, details of which are provided in Note 22.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2018

1 Incoming resources from Member Governments

The value and percentage of contributions being made by Member Governments is as follows:

	Percentage contribution	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
United Kingdom	78.40%	49,009	48,225
Canada	10.03%	6,272	6,261
Australia	6.05%	3,781	3,720
New Zealand	2.14%	1,338	1,317
South Africa	2.12%	1,325	1,320
India	1.26%	785	740
	100.00%	62,510	61,583

Apart from exchange rate rounding, the percentage basis of contributions has remained unchanged since 2007 and is reviewed annually by the Commission.

2 Incoming resources for agency purposes

The value of the funds received/receivable for agency purposes by government and other associations is as follows:

	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Canada	1,583	2,703
United Kingdom	1,954	1,796
Germany	694	813
Australia	1,220	629
South Africa	138	161
New Zealand	45	45
Other	149	484
	5,783	6,631

3 Grant Funds from Governments & charitable activities

The value of the funds received/receivable for activities funding through grants by government and other associations is as follows.

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
UK -DCMS Funding – Somme/Historian costs UK -DCLG Funding	1 -	61 50
Belgium-Flanders Walls Grant	911	(28)
	912	83

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2018

4 Investment income- General purposes		
	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Income from the Imperial War Graves Endowment Fund	1,040	910
Interest on bank deposits and investment income	62	42
	1,102	952
5 Other incoming resources		
£103k of the income relates to the Commission's charitable foundation ('C donations and £17k supporter scheme income and other event sales	WGF'), comprising £86	ők of
	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
		056
	900	859
Legacies and donations	625	382
Legacies and donations		
Legacies and donations Supporter scheme income & other event sales	625 17	382
Legacies and donations Supporter scheme income & other event sales Other income, equipment sales etc.	625 17 106	382 80
Legacies and donations Supporter scheme income & other event sales Other income, equipment sales etc.	625 17 106 1,648	382
Legacies and donations Supporter scheme income & other event sales Other income, equipment sales etc.	625 17 106	382 80
	625 17 106 1,648	382 86 1,327 2017

636

178

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2018

7 Expenditure in respect of general & charitable activities	! \$	
	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Employee and staff costs (note 14)	38,915	39,018
Termination indemnity provision charge (note 21)	428	361
Retirement indemnity provision in France (note 21)	149	781
Termination indemnity state payments	165	158
Staff support	2,921	1,928
Supplies and equipment	6,041	5,736
Contract costs	8,160	7,467
Travel costs	2,790	3,009
Transport costs	2,016	2,039
Facilities costs - rent, rates and insurance	1,262	1,113
Maintenance	738	636
Depreciation	2,148	1,981
Restructuring	589	435
Legal costs and provisions	(3)	13
Net financial (income)/charge on pension scheme liabilities (note 22)	(385)	391
Professional fees	1,159	1,249
Governance costs (note 8)	348	318
Marketing and publications	360	360
Communications	435	491
IT	757	735
Other administrative expenses	66	44
	69,059	68,263
Less: Recoverable costs incurred for agency purposes (note 9)	(5,783)	(6,631)
Less: Recoverable costs incurred for grant funding (note 13)	(636)	(178)
Less: Recoverable costs incurred for grant restricted purposes (note 10)	(1,378)	(313)
	61,262	61,141

In the current year £61.2m, (2017 £61.1m) of the total expenditure relates to funds received from member governments for general purposes and £96k (2017 £nil) for CWGF charitable activities.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2018

8 Governance costs		
	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Internal audit fees & other services	22	29
Commission internal audit costs	184	150
Commissioners' costs and expenses (note 15)	73	71
External auditors fees for statutory audit	59	53
External auditors other fees for taxation advice	-	16
External audit – provided by firms other than the Commission's auditor		
	348	319
9 Expenditure in respect of agency purposes		
	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Indirect staff and staff support cost	1,570	1,571
Indirect non-staff costs	1,116	1,122
Direct staff costs	771	829
Direct non-staff costs	1,648	2,346
	5,105	5,868
Management charges	678	763
	5,783	6,631
In the current and prior year the total expenditure wholly relates to funds received from agency contract funders for agency purposes.		
10 Expenditure in respect of grant funding		
	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
UK -DCMS Funding – Somme/Historian costs	-	11
UK -DCMS Funding – Big Ideas	-	50
UK- DCLG Funding – Big Ideas	4.050	50
Belgium-Flanders Walls Grant	1,378	202
	1,378	313

In the current year £1.3m, (2017 £0.3k) of the total expenditure wholly relates to funds received from grant funders for general purposes.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2018

11 Exchange loss /(gain)		
	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Balance sheet revaluation	(35)	(61)
Termination indemnity revaluation	(364)	297
Bank accounts exchange loss/(gain)	53	(49)
Net exchange loss in year (gain)/loss	(534)	456
	(880)	643
12 Other resources expended		
	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
UK input VAT	1,079	1,051

In the current year £1,065k (2017 £1,051k) of the total expenditure balance relates to general activities and £14k (2017 £nil) for CWGF charitable activities.

13 Expenditure in respect of grant restricted purposes

	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Indirect staff and staff support cost	154	86
Indirect non-staff costs	64	43
Direct staff costs	179	26
Direct non-staff costs	156	11
	553	156
Management charges	83	22
	636	178

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2018

14 Employees and staff costs		
	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Wages and salaries	29,846	29,587
Less: Governance allocation	(129)	(125)
Social security costs	6,350	6,462
Less: Governance allocation	(25)	(25)
Staff allowances	1,119	1,197
Casual labour costs	346	597
Pension – defined contribution scheme	1,408	1,325
	38,915	39,018
Governance attributable to wages & salaries	154	150
Restructuring	589	435
Termination indemnity	428	361
Retirement indemnity	114	781
	40,200	40,745

The number of staff employed by the Commission as at 31st March, including contracted part-time staff on a head count basis, was:

Western European Area 609 620 United Kingdom and Northern Europe Area 108 109 Asia, Africa & Pacific Area 183 192 Mediterranean Area 237 240 Canada 10 10 Headstone production unit 4 7 Head office – United Kingdom 100 101		2018	2017
United Kingdom and Northern Europe Area 108 109 Asia, Africa & Pacific Area 183 192 Mediterranean Area 237 240 Canada 10 10 Headstone production unit 4 7 Head office – United Kingdom 100 101		Number	Number*
United Kingdom and Northern Europe Area 108 109 Asia, Africa & Pacific Area 183 192 Mediterranean Area 237 240 Canada 10 10 Headstone production unit 4 7 Head office – United Kingdom 100 101		700	(20
Asia, Africa & Pacific Area 183 192 Mediterranean Area 237 240 Canada 10 10 Headstone production unit 4 7 Head office – United Kingdom 100 101	Western European Area	= = *	
Asia, Africa & Pacific Area 183 192 Mediterranean Area 237 240 Canada 10 10 Headstone production unit 4 7 Head office – United Kingdom 100 101	United Kingdom and Northern Europe Area	108	109
Canada Headstone production unit Head office – United Kingdom 10 10 4 7 Head office – United Kingdom 100 101		183	192
Head stone production unit Head office – United Kingdom 4 7 Head office – United Kingdom	Mediterranean Area	237	240
Head office – United Kingdom 100 101	Canada	10	10
Tieau office – Office Ringuoni	Headstone production unit	4	7
1.251 1.279	Head office – United Kingdom	100	101
1.251 1.279			
1,101		1,251	1,279

The numbers for 2017 have been amended to head count to accord with disclosure for 2018.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2018

Emoluments include salary, accommodation and other allowances arising in relation to overseas postings and relocations, taxable benefits in kind and other payments to employees. The table below includes emoluments of 15 employees who received allowances and payments in relation to their overseas employment (2017: 13). The emoluments (excluding overseas allowances) of 12 of these employees would otherwise have fallen below the reporting threshold (2017: 11). 5 out of 6 of the Commission's employees falling within the top four pay ranges were based overseas (2017: 4 out of 5).

The table below shows the number of higher-paid staff with emoluments, excluding pension contributions, falling in the following ranges:

	2018	2017
	Number	Number*
(60,000 to (60,000	14	2
£60,000 to £69,999	14	2
£70,000 to £79,999	4	6
£80,000 to £89,999	6	7
£90,000 to £99,999	3	1
£100,000 to £109,999	1	1
£110,000 to £119,999	1	2
£120,000 to £129,999	-	-
£130,000 to £139,999	1	-
£140,000 to £149,999	-	1
£160,000 to £169,999	1	1

The numbers for 2017 have been amended to include redundancy and similar payments to accord with disclosure for 2018.

The remuneration, including allowances, of the Senior Leadership Team, comprising the Director General and 8 (2017 - 7) Executive Directors, amounted to £712k (2017 - £611k).

15 Commissioners' and Director General expenses

The Vice-Chairman of the Commission receives a salary of £50,400 (2017: £49,900). No other Commissioner receives remuneration for his/her services. Directly incurred expenditure of the Commissioners borne by the Commission and expenses reimbursed directly to the 15 (2017: 14) Commissioners amounted to £22,254 (2017: £21,318).

The total emoluments of the Director General for the year were £164,237 (2017: £161,800). Employer contributions to her pension fund totalled £15,688 (2017: £14,562). In addition, the directly incurred expenses of the Director General in the year were £14,976 (2017: £32,652).

The most significant element of the Commissioners' and Director General's expenses is the cost of visits to overseas sites.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2018

16 Intangible assets

The Commission now actively encourages public access to its documentary and photographic archives, allied with the need to engage and communicate electronically across a range of digital platforms globally, which has necessitated significant investment in software systems.

Group and Commission

	Software systems £'000	Assets in course of construction £'000	Total £'000
Cost			
At 1 April 2017	936	248	1,184
Additions	95	57	152
Transfer	245	(245)	
At 31 March 2018	1,276	60	1,336
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2017	412	-	412
Charge for year	344		344
At 31 March 2018	756	M	756
Net Book Value			
At 31 March 2018	520	60	580
At 31 March 2017	524	248	772

All intangible fixed assets are used for the general purposes of the Commission. The assets in course of construction relate to the next stage costs of the Commission's website upgrade, which is carried over into 2018-19.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2018

17	Tangible	fixed	assets
Group and	l Commiss	sion	

	Freehold & leasehold property	Machinery £'000	Motor vehicles £'000	Computer & office equipment & comms.	Assets in course of construction	Total £'000
Cost						
At 1 April						
2017	11,670	5,837	2,832	3,884	329	24,552
Additions	198	763	468	294	510	2,233
Transfer	4	32	65	175	(276)	-
Impairment	_	_	-	-	(52)	(52)
Disposals	(299)	(34)	(155)	(9)	<u> </u>	(497)
At 31 March	44 550	< #00				
2018	11,573	6,598	3,210	4,344	511	26,236
Depreciation At 1 April 2017	734	4,351	1,940	2,508	-	9,533
Charge for year Eliminated on	281	606	301	616	-	1,804
disposals At 31 March	(15)	(29)	(145)	(4)		(193)
2018	1,000	4,928	2,096	3,120		11,144
Net Book Value At 31 March 2018	10,573	1,670	1 114	1 224	£44	15 002
2010	10,573	1,070	1,114	1,224	511	15,092
At 31 March 2017	10,936	1,486	892	1,376	329	15,019

All tangible fixed assets are used for the general purposes of the Commission and agency activity.

The majority of the planned capital projects were completed within the year. The land purchase payment for the Beaurains office site, in France, remains under the assets in the course of construction heading whilst the demining operation is completed.

The Commission's freehold land and building are included in the accounts at their carrying value at 1 April 2014 as was permitted under the transition provisions on the adoption of FRS102 and as adjusted by subsequent additions and disposals. The deemed cost for land was £2.7m and for freehold buildings was £7.9m

There is also expenditure, not yet completed or operational, that relates to refurbishment of the lift at Head Office, relocation of the office in Cyprus, IT and plant & machinery equipment not yet in use.

Disposals, relate to the sale of a property in Ieper, in Belgium, and the continuing activity to dispose of vehicles which are replaced by new lease contracts or alternatively in some countries, such as Germany, are purchased outright.

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2018

18 Subsidiary undertakings

The Commission has one wholly owned subsidiary, The Commonwealth War Graves Foundation ("the Foundation"). The Foundation is a charity registered in England and Wales, registration number 1171947. For the 13 month period ended 31 March 2018, the results of the Foundation, consolidated in these financial statements are as follows:

	Period ended 31 March 2018 £'000
Income Expenditure	94 (179)
Deficit for the period	(85)
	31 March 2018 £'000
Assets Liabilities	33 (105)
	(72)
Reserves	(72)

19 Debtors

19.1 Group

	General	Agency	Restricted		
	purposes	purposes	purposes	Total	Total
	2018	2018	2018	2018	2017
	€,'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Amounts falling due within one year					
Recoverable taxes	365	-	-	365	609
Accrued income from Member			_		
Governments and other agencies	380	864		1,244	1,299
Accrued legacy income	333	-	_	333	-
Headstones	637	-	-	637	722
Restricted Grant income		-	240	240	108
Staff advances	119	_	_	119	114
Short-term funding of agency and		-	-		
restricted activities	532			532	547
Other debtors and prepayments	668	-		668	921
Total debtors	3,034	864	240	4,138	4,320

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2018

40.0	<u> </u>
19.2	Commission
1/,4	Commission

	General purposes 2018	Agency purposes 2018	Restricted purposes 2018 £'000	Total 2018 £'000	Total 2017 £'000
Amounts falling due within one year					
Recoverable taxes	365	_	_	365	609
Accrued income from Member					
Governments and other agencies	380	864	-	1,244	1,299
Accrued legacy income	333	_	-	333	-
Headstones	637	-	_	637	722
Restricted Grant income	-	-	240	240	108
Staff advances	119	_	-	119	114
Short-term funding of agency and					
restricted activities	532	-	_	532	547
Amounts owed by subsidiary					
undertakings	92	_	_	92	-
Other debtors and prepayments	668		_	668	921
Total debtors	3,126	864	240	4,230	4,320

20 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

20.1 Group

	General purposes 2018 £'000	Agency purposes 2018 £'000	Restricted purposes 2018 £'000	Total 2018 £'000	Total 2017 £'000
Member Government funding					
received in advance	12,694	571	2,637	15,902	2,228
Trade creditors	1,936	-	-	1,936	2,408
Trade accruals	2,477	-	-	2,477	1,985
Social security and other taxes	1,060	-	-	1,060	970
Holiday pay & other staff cost accruals	3,141	-	-	3,141	3,172
Short-term obligations of agency & restricted activities	_	327	205	532	547
Other creditors	24	72	-	96	152
	21,332	970	2,842	25,144	11,462

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2018

20.2 Commission					
	General purposes 2018 £'000	Agency purposes 2018 £'000	Restricted purposes 2018	Total 2018 £'000	Total 2017 £'000
Member Government funding					
received in advance	12,694	571	2,637	15,902	2,228
Trade creditors	1,936	-	_	1,936	2,408
Trade accruals	2,464	-	-	2,464	1,985
Social security and other taxes	1,060	-	-	1,060	970
Holiday pay & other staff cost accruals	3,141	-		3,141	3,172
Short-term obligations of agency & restricted activities	_	327	205	532	547
Other creditors	24	72	-	96	152
	21,319	970	2,842	25,131	11,462

^{£1,330}k of the advance LIBOR funding for restricted purposes relates to funding associated with commitments forecast after more than one year (2017: £1,587).

21 Provisions for liabilities and charges

Group and Commission

•	Restructuring provision £'000	Provision for legal costs £'000	Taxation & services £'000	Termination indemnities £'000	Retirement indemnities £'000s	Total £'000
At 1 April 2017	200	60	577	4,874	781	6,492
Paid	(166)	(33)	(3)	(657)	(69)	(928)
Released/transferred	(34)	(27)	(37)	-	(30)	(128)
Exchange rate revaluation Charge in year for prior	-	-	(63)	(365)	-	(428)
year	-	_	_	_	61	61
Charged during the year	86	48	23	421	88	666
At 31 March 2018	86	48	497	4,273	831	5,735

£782k of the retirement indemnity relates to provisions for liabilities due after more than one year (2017: £756k).

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2018

The termination indemnity provision relates to both mandatory and voluntary schemes which the Commission has in place outside the UK to provide for staff benefits on cessation of employment/retirement.

22 Retirement benefits

The Commission operated a defined benefit pension scheme for the benefit of its employees holding UK contracts of employment, which was closed to future benefit accrual at 31 March 2016.

The assets of the pension scheme are held separately from those of the Commission and are administered by the Trustees of the Superannuation Fund. The pension cost was determined on the advice of independent qualified actuaries.

A deficit payment of £1,000k (2017: £100k) was made by the Commission during the year.

The most recent full actuarial valuation was carried out for the Trustees of the Superannuation Fund as at 31 March 2017 and was used by the actuaries for the disclosure requirements of FRS102 as at 31 March 2018.

The assumptions used in determining the overall expected return of the scheme's assets have been set with reference to yields available on government bonds and appropriate risk margins and, where relevant, with consideration to the Bank of England base rate.

The tables below state the FRS102 actuarial assumptions upon which the valuation of the scheme was based.

	2018	2017
	%	%
D'		
Discount rate	2.60	2.60
Rate of increase in salaries	n/a	n/a
Rate of increase in pensions	2.30	2.40
Expected long-term rate of return on scheme assets	6.60	6.60
Inflation – CPI assumption	2.30	2.40
Inflation – RPI assumption	3.45	3.40

The underlying mortality assumption adopted imply the following life expectancies at 65 years old:

	Male	Male	Female	Female
	2018	2017	2018	2017
	years	years	years	years
Current pensioner aged 65 Future retiree upon reaching 65	22 23	21.9 23.0	24 25.2	23.7 25.0

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2018

The assets of the pension scheme are identifiable	by category.			
	2018 %	2018 £'000	2017 %	2017 £'000
Cash at bank	1.2	1,082	0.2	206
Standard Life Global Absolute Fund	29.1	25,649	32.8	29,544
Schroder Life Diversified Growth Fund	35.3	31,161	33.5	30,230
Investec Diversified Growth Fund	12.6	11,135	12.1	10,913
SSSF Sterling Liquidity	-	_	8.9	8,013
Schroder LDI Portfolio	21.8	19,250	12.5	11,243
Fair value of pension scheme assets	100.0	88,277	100.0	90,149
The amounts recognised in the consolidated balar	ace sheet are as f	ollows:		
			2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Present value of pension scheme liabilities			(112,215)	(114,297)
Fair value of pension scheme assets			88,278	90,149
Net pension deficit at 31 March			(23,937)	(24,148)
The amounts to be recognised in the consolidated March 2018 are as follows:	l statement of fin	nancial activitie	es for the year e	nded 31
			2018	2017
Included within resources expended			£'000	£'000
The amounts recognised in the financial state	ement			
Service cost – including current service costs,				(4.0.0)
settlements and curtailments plus annual funding			(1,000)	(100)
Net interest on the defined benefit liability			615	491
Total (credit)/expense			(385)	391
Other recognised (gains)/losses:				,
Actuarial (gains)/losses on pension scheme liability	ties		(188)	18,806
			362	(9,319)
Return on assets, excluding interest income				

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2018

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation are as fe	follows:	
	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Opening defined benefit obligation	114,297	96,601
Employee contributions	-	43
Interest cost	2,910	3,258
Benefits paid	(4,804)	(4,411)
Actuarial (gain)/loss	(188)	18,806
	112,215	114,297
Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:		
	2018	2017
	£'000	£'000
Opening fair value of scheme assets	90,149	82,331
Interest income on scheme assets	2,295	2,767
Expected return	(362)	9,319
Employer contributions	1,000	100
Employee contributions	-	43
Benefits paid	(4,804)	(4,411)
Closing fair value of scheme assets	88,278	90,149
The history of experience gains and losses is as follows:		
, 1	2018	2017
	€,'000	€,'000
Experience adjustments on scheme	~	~
liabilities	188	(18,806)
As a percentage of scheme liabilities	0.17%	(16.45%)
Experience adjustments on scheme assets	(362)	9,319
As a percentage of scheme assets	(0.41%)	10.34%

The cumulative amount of actuarial gains and losses recognised in the consolidated statement of financial activities since 1 April 2009 is a £29.639m loss (2017: £29.465m loss).

23 Commitments

23.1 Capital commitment

Capital commitments at 31 March 2018 amounted to £65k (2017: £265k) and include costs for additional work on the website

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2018

23.2 Leasing commitments

In 2017/18, 30 new vehicles were leased. (2016/17 -47) and 9 new non-vehicles (2016/17 – nil) were leased. At 31 March 2018 the Commission had commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

Group and Commission		
	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Within one year		
Accommodation & office equipment Vehicles	153 1,073	127 815
Between 2 and 5 years	•	015
Accommodation & office equipment Vehicles	246 1,456	157 1,649
More than five years	•	1,012
Accommodation & office equipment	50	-
		* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
	2,978	2,748
	=	
O4 Befoired fronts		
24 Retained funds		,
Group		
	2018	2017
	€'000	£'000
Unrestricted fund (note 24.1)	(8,677)	(11,836)
Restricted funds (note 24.2)	35	35
	(8,642)	(11,801)
Commission		
Commission		
	2018	2017 £'000
	£'000	£ 000
Unrestricted fund (note 24.1)	(8,605) 35	(11,836) 35
Restricted funds (note 24.2)		
	(8,570)	(11,801)

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2018

24.1 Unrestricte	d funds						
a) Group	General purposes £'000	Agency purposes £'000	Fixed asset reserve £'000	Revaluation reserve £'000	Pension reserve £'000	Thiepval reserve £' 000	Total £'000
Funds at 1 April 2017 Net movement in	5,701	(106)	681	6,036	(24,148)	-	(11,836
funds for year	318	-	630	-	211	2,000	3,159
Funds at 31 March 2018	6,019	(106)	1,311	6,036	(23,937)	2,000	(8,677
b) Commission	General purposes £'000	Agency purposes £'000	Fixed asset reserve £'000	Revaluation reserve £'000	Pension reserve £'000	Thiepval reserve £' 000	Total £'000
Funds at 1 April 2017 Net movement in funds for year	5,701 390	(106)	681 630	6,036	(24,148) 211	- 2,000	(11,836)
Funds at 31 March 2018	6,091	(106)	1,311	6,036	(23,937)	2,000	(8,605

A £2m designated reserve has been created to cover future conservation costs, including the anticipated costs of stage two of the Thiepval memorial renovation. There is a net movement on the fixed asset reserve of £630k, comprising £220k of expenditure on projects carried forward from 2017 with an increase to the reserve in 2018 of £850k.

24.2 Restricted funds

Group and Commission	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
Cash Investments held for:		
The special purposes fund (see 24.3)	35	35
	35	35

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 31 March 2018

24.3 The Special Purposes Fund

The capital of this fund is held on behalf of the individuals and organisations that originally endowed the value of the fund and is therefore shown on the consolidated balance sheet as restricted funds, and as cash, post the dis-investment.

LIBOR funded awards from the UK government totalling £3.3m received in prior years were granted to: renovate and tend approximately 6,000 non-world war graves; support an interns/youth-guides programme and to develop a visitor centre adjacent to the Commission's site in Arras. These funds are refundable if not expended on the projects for which they were granted.

25 Related party transactions

A new charity, the Commonwealth War Graves Foundation, was registered at the Charity Commission on 8th March 2017, and the Commission is its sole member. Material transactions with the Foundation comprised:

- -A recharge by The Commonwealth War Graves Commission of salary, and other direct costs amounting to £18k during the year
- -A grant of £70k from The Commonwealth War Graves Foundation to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to fund the Commission's centenary garden at Chelsea Flower show
- -The Commonwealth War Graves Foundation owed the Commonwealth War Graves Commission £98k at the year-end
- -Back office support and services were also provided by the Commission to the Foundation free of charge to support the Foundation in its initial start-up period. .

Funds received from the Imperial War Graves Endowment Fund, and the charges incurred by the Commissioners are disclosed in note 15 to the financial statements. The amount due from the Endowment Fund to the Commission at the year-end was £377k (£2017 - £318k).

Lady Lucy French a trustee of the Commonwealth War Graves Foundation, is also a trustee of the "Never such Innocence" Charity. "Never such Innocence" has charged the Commission £2,500 to assist and support the Commission's community engagement activities in Greece, focussed around commemoration events at the Commission's Cemetery at Doiran. This funding arrangement predated the creation of the Foundation.

Marianna Fox Ockinga, wife of Commissioner Robert Fox, was paid £800 for drawings and watercolours of the Commission's centenary garden at Chelsea which were subsequently used for publicity, social media and the Commission's Christmas card.

26 Post Balance Sheet Events

There were no significant post balance sheet events.

