Registered number: 1570939

**EMPIRE METALS LIMITED** 

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2021

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# **COMPANY INFORMATION**

**Directors** Neil O'Brien (Non-Executive Chairman)

Shaun Bunn (Executive Director) Gregory Kuenzel (Finance Director) Peter Damouni (Non-Executive Director)

Registered Office Craigmuir Chambers

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VG1110

Company Number 1570939

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## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

2021 marked a significant year for Empire with an expansion of its footprint in Western Australia, a process which has accelerated post period end. I am delighted to see the progress and advancements we have made throughout the year as we advance our strategy to deliver high impact exploration programmes across a portfolio of high value assets in proven and productive regions of Australia.

The year under review began on a positive note having received the approval at the end of 2020 to proceed with the acquisition of Eclipse Exploration Pty Ltd, which holds the Eclipse license ("Eclipse"). This was completed in February 2021 and set in motion the strategic decisions that followed throughout 2021. Since then, encouraging results have been demonstrated from Eclipse and I am confident that this asset will continue to reveal its resource potential as we advance our exploration and development strategy here.

Our activity at Eclipse during the period started promptly with a second phase drilling programme in January 2021. At this point, drilling was concentrated on the Eclipse vein and testing the known mineralised structures parallel to it, which historically yielded attractive intersections. The RC drilling programme was completed in February 2021 at 4,589m of RC drilling over 44 drillholes. The results confirmed the Company's belief that there are multiple parallel veins in addition to the main Eclipse vein, as well as a different stockwork style of near surface mineralisation near Jack's Dream old workings which included an intercept of 24m @ 1.44 g/t gold, and a number of wide quartz veins beyond and below the old workings were intercepted. In conjunction with the programme, Empire's acquisition of the 75% interest in the project was completed.

These encouraging results prompted the advancement of the next drilling phase at Eclipse in March 2021. This third phase drilling programme was completed for a total of 1,893m over 19 holes and 3 PQ core diameter drill holes drilled for 201.1m in July 2021. The diamond drilling ('DD') replicated the intercepts from previous RC drilling, and a different stockwork style of near surface mineralisation near Jack's Dream old workings was identified which indicated complexity and an increased duration of the gold system. Most significantly, the targeted RC drilling identified a newly discovered mineralised lode running sub-parallel to the main Eclipse vein, referred to as the Twin Shafts. The results confirmed the presence of additional mineralised zones and the existence of several parallel veins in addition to the main Eclipse vein, as we previously believed there to be, and extended the scale of Eclipse's mineralised footprint.

In September 2021, the Company received a technical review of the geology of Eclipse which marked a significant turning point in our understanding and confidence in the project: from the review, it was evident that the mineralised system is much larger than we originally anticipated. It indicated that the Eclipse Shaft may connect to the Jack's Dream area, which would mean a total known strike length of 500m and proves multiple parallel mineralised structures. Paired with our drilling results to date, it implied that gold mineralisation likely continues at greater depths than previously thought. With this information, it was clear that Eclipse merited further drilling to test the strike and depth extensions of the multiple gold structures.

In December 2021, we undertook a strategic technical review of Eclipse and revisited all data collected to develop a more advanced understanding of the known mineralisation. The database highlighted the potential for significant additional mineralisation discovery within the licence area as only 20% of the RC holes drilled to date penetrated below the gold depleted regolith zone – meaning that we have only scratched the surface of Eclipse's potential. The design of a larger scale exploration programme was soon underway, and a new series of drilling programmes was scheduled for Q1 2022.

Post-period end, Empire increased its mineralised footprint in the Eclipse area by +200% by entering into a Tribute Agreement giving Empire the rights to explore, develop and mine the Gindalbie Gold Project ('Gindalbie'). By consolidating Eclipse and Gindalbie into the Eclipse-Gindalbie Project Area ('Eclipse-Gindalbie'), Empire successfully furthered its hold in Western Australia with a highly prospective and significant area to explore.

Aside from the developments with Eclipse, the Company was involved in continued discussions with other parties to evaluate potential additional acquisitions. In May 2021, Empire entered into an Option Agreement (the 'Agreement') to acquire a 75% interest in the Central Menzies Gold Project ('Central Menzies'), which consisted of four highly prospective early-stage exploration licences in Western Australia. Empire began exploration activities in June 2021 and undertook an RC drilling campaign for over 2,100m throughout August and September 2021, following the identification of two mineralised corridors known as the Teglio and Nugget Patch prospects. After receiving results in November 2021 that confirmed the prospectivity of Central Menzies, a follow up second phase drilling programme begun in December 2021. The results were received in January 2022 and were generally inconclusive, which prompted the board to finalise their plans to terminate the Option over Central Menzies in order to focus fully on what has now become Eclipse-Gindalbie, which presented a more promising opportunity. Similarly, in February 2021, Empire decided to not extend the agreement to acquire the Munni Munni Palladium Project in Western Australia for the same reason.

As shareholders will be aware, Empire agreed to sell its 50% interest in JSC Georgian Copper and Gold in June 2021 for a total cash consideration of US\$3.3 million. This sale brought this chapter of Empire's history to a close and marked the final transition in strategy to focus on its assets in Australia, together with an injection of capital to execute our exploration plans.

## **Financial Results**

As an exploration and development group which has no revenue we are reporting a loss for the twelve months ended 31 December 2021 of £589,254 (31 December 2020: loss of £572,989).

The Group's cash position at the date of signing this report is £2,700,000.

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

## Corporate

In line with Empire's shift in focus to Australia, Mike Struthers, who held the position of CEO at the Company since January 2018, stepped down in February 2021. Mike remained a key member of the team during this handover period to Shaun Bunn, who joined as Managing Director in June 2021, and Mike continued as a Non-Executive Director of the Company until June 2022. I am extremely grateful to Mike for his time with us, and his dedication to advancing Empire's portfolio, and I know he will continue to support our developments as a valued shareholder of the Company.

We were delighted to report that in May 2021, that Shaun Bunn would be joining the Board as Managing Director effective from 1 June 2021. His impressive 35 years' experience in exploration, mining, processing and project development, including 25 years' experience in the gold mining sector, has proved to be invaluable to Empire over the past year. Furthermore, his origins and networks in the Western Australian mining sector further complements Empire's strategy to find and develop new opportunities, and as we develop Eclipse-Gindalbie and extend our portfolio to new areas and commodities.

In addition, we appointed Ed Baltis as Exploration Consultant and Louisa Stokes as Exploration Geologist in September 2021. The appointment of two highly regarded and experienced professionals represented a significant milestone for Empire as the core exploration team continues to grow in order to support the advancement of its portfolio of assets.

## Outlook

Australia, and Western Australia in particular, has cemented its status as a leading mining jurisdiction over recent years. Having witnessed first-hand the increase in mining activity surrounding our projects, gold exploration and mining has particularly seen a boom. This, alongside the strong gold price performance in recent years, places us in a strong position. With this in mind, Empire has made significant strides in increasing its exploration footprint across the country and has, post period end, expanded its commodity focus to include three copper-gold projects as well.

These projects, the Pitfield Copper-Gold Project, the Walton Copper-Gold Project and the Stavely Copper-Gold Project, are located in mining regions of Western Australia, and in the Stavely Arc region of Victoria in the case of Stavely, all known for world class and significant copper and/or gold discoveries. Along with these assets, which has provided Empire with an exploration landholding of the highest calibre, we also grew the technical and exploration capabilities of our team with the inclusion of the geologists who first identified these prospects.

This is a careful evolution of our strategy whereby Empire now has a significant landholding, across various prospective mineralised terranes, encompassing several potential commodities and with distinct geological signatures. With the application of comprehensive, yet low cost, exploration programmes across this portfolio to inform future drill campaigns, I believe Empire is in an exceptionally strong position to translate this potential into new discoveries and significant future resources.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to our shareholders for their patience and resolve, my colleagues on the board and in our operational teams for their continued guidance and expertise, and on behalf of the whole Empire team, I look forward to providing further regular updates over the coming months.

Neil O'Brien Non-Executive Chairman 23 June 2022

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

The Directors present their Report, together with the Group Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report, for the year ended 31 December 2021.

## **Principal Activities and Business Review**

The principal activity of the Group is to implement its mineral exploration strategy to advance projects towards defining a sufficient in-situ mineral resource to support a detailed feasibility study towards mine development and production.

A detailed review of the business of the Group during the year and an indication of likely future developments may be found in the Chairman's Report on pages 3 and 4.

Principal risks and uncertainties are discussed on pages 6 to 8.

## **Results and Dividends**

The loss of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2021 from continued and discontinued operations amounts to £589,254 (31 December 2020: loss of £572,989).

The Directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend for the year (31 December 2020: £nil).

## **Directors & Directors' Interests**

The Directors who served during the year ended 31 December 2021 had the following beneficial interests in the shares of the Company at year end.

	As at 23 June 2021 31 December 20		mber 2021	2021 31 December 2020		
Director	Ordinary Shares	Options	Ordinary Shares	Options	Ordinary Shares	Options
Gregory Kuenzel	2,597,467	7,650,000	1,597,467	7,650,000	597,467	2,500,000
Peter Damouni	1,209,614	4,075,000	1,209,614	4,075,000	907,500	2,000,000
Neil O'Brien	1,650,000	3,575,000	1,650,000	3,575,000	1,650,000	800,000
Michael Struthers***	950,000	9,700,000	950,000	9,700,000	350,000	2,000,000
Shaun Bunn*	1,000,000	7,500,000	-	-	-	-
David Ajemian**	-	-	-	-	-	-

<sup>\*</sup> Appointed 1 June 2021

Further details on options can be found in Note 17 to the Financial Statements. Directors' remuneration is disclosed in Note 20.

## **Key Performance Indicators ("KPIs")**

The Board monitors the activities and performance of the Group on a regular basis. The Board uses financial indicators based on budget versus actual to assess the performance of the Group. The indicators set out below will be used by the Board to assess performance over the period.

The three main KPIs for the Group are as follows. These allow the Board to monitor costs and plan future exploration and development activities:

	2021	2020
Cash and cash equivalents	£2,210,371	£2,289,638
Administrative expenses as a percentage of total assets	45.0%	27.63%
Exploration costs capitalised	£1,512,430	£31,673

This is the ninth complete year of corporate and exploration activity.

# **Corporate Responsibility**

## Environmental

Empire Metals undertakes its exploration activities in a manner that minimises or eliminates negative environmental impacts and maximises positive impacts of an environmental nature. At present, Empire Metals is a mineral explorer and developer, not a mining company. Hence, the environmental impact associated with its activities is minimal. To ensure proper

<sup>\*\*</sup> Appointed 31 January 2020, resigned 31 January 2021

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Resigned 9 June 2022

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

environmental stewardship on its projects, Empire Metals conducts certified baseline studies prior to all drill programmes and ensures that areas explored are properly maintained and conserved.

## Health and safety

Empire Metals operates a comprehensive health and safety programme to ensure the wellbeing and security of its employees. The control and eventual elimination of all work related hazards requires a dedicated team effort involving the active participation of all employees. A comprehensive health and safety programme is the primary means for delivering best practices in health and safety management. This programme is regularly updated to incorporate employee suggestions, lessons learned from past incidents and new guidelines related to new projects with the aim of identifying areas for further improvement of health and safety management. This results in continuous improvement of the health and safety programme. Employee involvement is recognised as fundamental in recognising and reporting unsafe conditions and avoiding events that may result in injuries and accidents.

The Group has established and published robust corporate health, safety, environmental and community relations policies, and at the operations level have put into place clear safe operating procedures covering a variety of the Group's activities. The active participation of all staff in the development, implementation and further development of these procedures is actively encouraged.

# **Principal Risks and Uncertainties**

The management of the business and the execution of the Group's strategy are subject to a number of risks. The principal business risks affecting the Group are set out below.

Risks are formally reviewed by the Board, and appropriate processes are put in place to monitor and mitigate them. If more than one event occurs, it is possible that the overall effect of such events would compound the possible adverse effects on the Group.

## Operational Risk

The outbreak of the global COVID-19 virus resulted in business disruption and stock market volatility. The Group implemented extensive business continuity procedures and contingency arrangements to ensure they were able to continue to operate. Other risks of an operational nature have been covered in the following paragraphs.

## Environmental risk

The Group's operations are, and will be, subject to environmental regulation (with regular environmental impact assessments and evaluation of operations required before any permits are granted to the Group) in the jurisdiction in which it operates. Further, the Group may fail to obtain the required approval from the relevant authorities necessary for it to undertake activities which are likely to impact the environment. The Group is unable to predict the effect of additional environmental laws and regulations which may be adopted in the future, including whether any such laws or regulations would materially increase the Group's cost of doing business or affect its operations in any area.

While the Group believes that its operations and future projects are currently, and will be, in substantial compliance with all relevant material environmental and health and safety laws and regulations, including relevant international standards, there can be no assurance that new laws and regulations, or amendments to, or stringent enforcement of, existing laws and regulations will not be introduced.

Nevertheless, the Group will continue to vigorously apply international standards to the design and execution of any and all of its activities, including engagement and consultation with local communities, and non-governmental and Governmental organisations to ensure any impacts of current and future activities are minimised and appropriately managed. The Group has established a comprehensive suite of health, safety, environmental and community policies which will underpin all future activities.

# Exploration and mining risks

Whilst the Directors endeavour to apply what they consider to be the latest technology to assess potential projects, the business of exploration for and identification of minerals and metals, in particular gold, is speculative and involves a high degree of risk. The mineral and metal deposits of any projects acquired by the Group may not contain economically recoverable volumes of minerals, base metals, precious metals or hydrocarbons of sufficient quality or quantity. Even if there are economically recoverable deposits, delays in the construction and commissioning of mining projects, risks of non-renewal or extensions of the licences or other technical difficulties may make the deposits difficult to exploit.

The exploration and development of any project may be disrupted, damaged or delayed by a variety of risks and hazards which are beyond the control of the Group. These include (without limitation) geological, geotechnical and seismic factors, environmental hazards, technical failures, adverse weather conditions, acts of God and government regulations or delays.

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

Exploration is also subject to general industrial operating risks, such as equipment failure, explosions, fires and industrial accidents, which may result in potential delays or liabilities, loss of life, injury, environmental damage, damage to or destruction of property and regulatory investigations. The Group may also be liable for the mining activities of previous miners and previous exploration works. Although the Group intends, itself or through its operators, to maintain insurance in accordance with industry practice, no assurance can be given that the Group or the operator of an exploration project will be able to obtain insurance coverage at reasonable rates (or at all), or that any coverage it obtains will be adequate and available to cover any such claims. The Group may elect not to become insured because of high premium costs or may incur a liability to third parties (in excess of any insurance cover) arising from pollution or other damage or injury.

#### Reserve and resource estimates

The Group's reported reserves and resources are only estimates. No assurance can be given that the estimated reserves and resources will be recovered or that they will be recovered at the rates estimated. Mineral and metal reserve and resource estimates are based on limited sampling and, consequently, are uncertain because the samples may not be representative. Mineral and metal reserve and resource estimates may require revision (either up or down) based on actual production experience.

Any future reserve and/or resource figures will be estimates and there can be no assurance that the minerals are present, will be recovered or can be brought into profitable production. Furthermore, a decline in the market price for natural resources that the Group may discover or invest in could render reserves containing relatively lower grades of these resources uneconomic to recover.

In the preparations of resources and reserves the Group uses recognised international estimation methods and reporting standards, such as the Australian JORC Code (2012).

## Volatility of gold, copper and other commodity prices

Historically, commodity prices (including in particular the price of gold and copper) have fluctuated and are affected by numerous factors beyond the Group's control, including global demand and supply, international economic trends, currency exchange fluctuations, expectations for inflation, speculative activity, consumption patterns and global or regional political events. The aggregate effect of these factors is impossible to predict. Fluctuations in commodity prices, over the long term, may adversely impact the returns of the Group's exploration projects.

A significant reduction in global demand for gold, leading to a fall in gold or copper prices, could lead to a significant fall in the cash flow of the Group and/or a delay in exploration and production or even abandonment of a project should it prove uneconomical to develop, which may have a material adverse impact on the operating results and financial condition of the Group.

# Financing

The successful exploration or exploitation of natural resources on any project will require significant capital investment. The only sources of financing currently available to the Group are through the issue of additional equity capital in the Company or through bringing in partners to fund exploration and development costs. The Group's ability to raise further funds will depend on the success of their investment strategy and acquired operations. The Group may not be successful in procuring the requisite funds on terms which are acceptable to it (or at all) and, if such funding is unavailable, the Group may be required to reduce the scope of its investments or anticipated expansion.

## Political, economic and regulatory regime

The licences and operations of the Group are in jurisdictions outside the United Kingdom and accordingly there will be a number of risks which the Group will be unable to control. Whilst the Group will make every effort to ensure it has robust commercial agreements covering its activities, there is a risk that the Group's activities will be adversely affected by economic and political factors such as the imposition of additional taxes and charges, cancellation or suspension of licences and charges to the laws governing mineral exploration and operations.

The Group's activities will be dependent upon the grant of appropriate licences, concessions, leases, permits, and regulatory consents that may be withdrawn or made subject to limitations. There can be no assurance that they will be granted or renewed or if so, on what terms. There is also the possibility that the terms of any licence may be changed other than as represented or expected.

## Dependence on key personnel

The Group is dependent upon its executive management team and various technical consultants. Whilst it has entered into contractual agreements with the aim of securing the services of these personnel, the retention of their services cannot be guaranteed. The development and success of the Group depends on its ability to recruit and retain high quality and experienced staff. The loss of the service of key personnel or the inability to attract additional qualified personnel as the Group grows could have an adverse effect on future business and financial conditions.

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

Nevertheless, through programmes of incentivising staff, appropriate succession planning, and good management these risks can be largely mitigated.

## **Financial Risk Management**

The Group's operations expose it to a variety of financial risks that include the effect of changes in foreign currency exchange rates, funding risk, credit risk, liquidity risk and interest rate risk. The Group has a risk management programme in place that seeks to limit the adverse effects on the financial performance of the Group. The Group does not use derivative financial instruments to manage foreign currency risk and, as such, no hedge accounting is applied.

Details of the Group's financial risk management policies are set out in Note 3 to the Financial Statements.

## **Internal Controls**

The Board recognises the importance of both financial and non-financial controls and has reviewed the Group's control environment and any related shortfalls during the year. Since the Group was established, the Directors are satisfied that, given the current size and activities of the Group, adequate internal controls have been implemented. Whilst they are aware that no system can provide absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss, in light of the current activity and proposed future development of the Group, continuing reviews of internal controls will be undertaken to ensure that they are adequate and effective.

# **Going Concern**

The Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Group has and will have future access to adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and, therefore, continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the Annual Report and Financial Statements. Further details on their assumptions and their conclusion thereon are included in the statement on going concern in Note 2.4 of the Financial Statements.

## **Directors' and Officers' Indemnity Insurance**

During the financial year, the Company maintained insurance cover for its Directors and Officers under a Directors' and Officers' liability insurance policy. The Company has not provided any qualifying indemnity cover for the Directors.

## **Provision of Information to Auditor**

So far as each of the Directors is aware at the time this report is approved:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditor is unaware; and
- the Directors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

## Auditor

PKF Littlejohn LLP has signified its willingness to continue in office as auditor.

This report was approved by the Board on 23 June 2022 and signed on its behalf.

Peter Damouni

Non-Executive Director

## STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with the applicable law and regulations including the AIM Rules for Companies.

The Directors are required to prepare Financial Statements for each financial year. The Directors have elected to prepare the Group's Financial Statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union ("IFRS"). The Directors 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 Group and of the profit or loss of the Group for that period. In preparing these Financial Statements, the Directors are required to:

- · select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable IFRSs have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the Financial Statements:
- prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Group will continue in business.

The Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Group's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Group. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Group, and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Group's website, <a href="https://www.empiremetals.co.uk">www.empiremetals.co.uk</a>. The Group is compliant with AIM Rule 26 regarding the Group's website.

The Directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing these Financial Statements.

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

The Board of Empire Metals Limited have adopted the QCA Corporate Governance Code ("the Code") as its code of corporate governance. The Code is published by the Quoted Companies Alliance ("QCA") and is available at <a href="https://www.theqca.com">www.theqca.com</a>.

## **Corporate Governance Report**

The QCA Code sets out 10 principles that should be applied. These are listed below together with a short explanation of how the Group and Company applies each of the principles:

## **Principle One**

Business Model and Strategy

The Board has concluded that the highest medium and long term value can be delivered to its shareholders by the adoption of a single strategy for the Group. Towards the end of 2021, the Group streamlined its strategy to focus on the Eclipse Gold Project and the Gindalbie project in Western Australia. On an ongoing basis, the Board will evaluate existing and new mineral resource opportunities with a view to potential joint venture arrangements and/or other corporate activities. The Board implements this by focusing investment into the exploration of world-class mineralised domains, establishing strict criteria for project selection, utilising industry recognised methods of exploration and resource development, applying a results-driven approach, actively monitoring operational and financial performance, measured against deliverable targets and budgets and considering alternative commercial options for projects which no longer meet the established criteria of the Group.

#### **Principle Two**

Understanding Shareholder Needs and Expectations

The Board is committed to maintaining good communication and having constructive dialogue with its shareholders. The Company has close ongoing relationships with its private shareholders. Institutional shareholders and analysts have the opportunity to discuss issues and provide feedback at meetings with the Company. In addition, all shareholders are encouraged to attend the Company's Annual General Meeting. Investors also have access to current information on the Company though its website, www.empiremetals.co.uk.

## **Principle Three**

Considering wider stakeholder and social responsibilities

The Board recognises that the long term success of the Company is reliant upon the efforts of the employees of the Company and its contractors, suppliers, regulators and other stakeholders. The Board has put in place a range of processes and systems to ensure that there is close oversight and contact with its key resources and relationships. For example, all employees of the Company participate in a structured Company-wide annual assessment process which is designed to ensure that there is an open and confidential dialogue with each person in the Company to help ensure successful two way communication with agreement on goals, targets and aspirations of the employee and the Company. These feedback processes help to ensure that the Company can respond to new issues and opportunities that arise to further the success of employees and the Company. The Company has close ongoing relationships with a broad range of its stakeholders and provides them with the opportunity to raise issues and provide feedback to the Company.

## **Principle Four**

Risk Management

In addition to its other roles and responsibilities, the Audit Committee is responsible to the Board for ensuring that procedures are in place and are being implemented effectively to identify, evaluate and manage the significant risks faced by the Company. The risk assessment matrix below sets out those risks, and identifies their ownership and the controls that are in place. This matrix is updated as changes arise in the nature of risks or the controls that are implemented to mitigate them. The Audit Committee reviews the risk matrix and the effectiveness of scenario testing on a regular basis. The following principal risks and controls to mitigate them, have been identified:

Activity	Risk	Impact	Control(s)
Environmental Risk	Negative environmental impact of operations.	The ultimate development of any project into a mining operation will inevitably impact considerably on the local landscape and communities.	Vigorously apply international standards to the design and execution of any and all of its activities, including engagement and consultation with local communities, and nongovernmental and Governmental organisations to ensure any impacts of current and future activities are minimised and appropriately managed.

# **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT**

Exploration and Mining Risk	The mineral and metal deposits of any projects acquired by the Group may not contain economically recoverable volumes of minerals, base metals, precious metals or hydrocarbons of sufficient quality or quantity.	The ongoing economic viability of the Company.	Ongoing monitoring of results, assessment by independent experts on recoverable volumes, geological, geotechnical and seismic factors, environmental hazards, technical failures, adverse weather conditions, acts of God and government regulations or delays.
Exploration Permit Renewal	The Company's Exploration permits are not all renewed.	The loss of the right to explore the key assets could affect the ability of the Group to continue as a going concern.	Proactive engagement with Government at all levels.
Reserve and resource estimates	Mineral and metal reserve and resource estimates are based on limited sampling and, consequently, are uncertain because the samples may not be representative.	Any future reserve and/or resource figures will be estimates and there can be no assurance that the minerals are present, will be recovered or can be brought into profitable production.	In the preparations of resources and reserves the Group uses recognised international estimation methods and reporting standards, such as the Australian JORC Code (2012) and CIM (2010).
Volatility of gold, copper and other commodity prices	Fluctuations in commodity prices, over the long term, may adversely impact the returns of the Group's exploration projects.	A significant reduction in global demand for gold, leading to a fall in gold or copper prices, could lead to a significant fall in the cash flow of the Group and/or a delay in exploration and production or even abandonment of a project should it prove uneconomical to develop, which may have a material adverse impact on the operating results and financial condition of the Group.	Ongoing monitoring of economic events and markets.
Strategic	Market downturn.  Failure to deliver	Change in Macro economic conditions.	Ongoing monitoring of economic events and markets.
	commerciality.	Inability to secure offtake agreements.	Active marketing and experienced management.
Financial	Misappropriation of funds.	Fraudulent activity and loss of funds.	Robust financial controls and split of duties.
	IT Security.	Loss of critical financial data.	Regular back up of data online and locally.
	Ability to raise further capital.	The Group may be required to reduce the scope of its investments or anticipated expansion.	Ongoing monitoring of economic events and markets.

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

Political, economic and regulatory regime	The licences and operations of the Group are in jurisdictions outside the United Kingdom and accordingly there will be a number of risks which the Group will be unable to control.	The Group's activities will be adversely affected by economic and political factors such as the imposition of additional taxes and charges, cancellation or suspension of licences and changes to the laws governing mineral exploration and operations.	Proactive engagement with Government at all levels.
Operational	COVID-19 outbreak. Russia's invasion of Ukraine.	Change in Macro economic conditions.  Ability of key staff and contractors to undertake their duties safely and effectively.	Ongoing monitoring of economic events and markets.  Business continuity plans.

The Directors have established procedures, as represented by this statement, for the purpose of providing a system of internal control. An internal audit function is not considered necessary or practical due to the size of the Company and the close day to day control exercised by the executive directors. However, the Board will continue to monitor the need for an internal audit function. The Board works closely with and has regular ongoing dialogue with the Finance Director and the outsourced finance function and has established appropriate reporting and control mechanisms to ensure the effectiveness of its control systems.

#### **Principle Five**

A Well Functioning Board of Directors

As at the date hereof the Board comprised, the Chairman Neil O'Brien, Managing Director Shaun Bunn, Finance Director Gregory Kuenzel and Non-Executive Director Peter Damouni. Details of the current Directors are set out within Principle Six below. The letters of appointment of all Directors are available for inspection at the Company's registered office during normal business hours.

The Board meets at least twice per annum. It has established an Audit Committee, Remuneration Committee and AIM Compliance Committee, particulars of which appear hereafter. The Board has agreed that appointments to the Board are made by the Board as a whole and so has not created a Nominations Committee. The Board considers that this is appropriate given the Company's current stage of operations. It shall continue to monitor the need to match resources to its operational performance and costs and the matter will be kept under review going forward. Peter Damouni and Neil O'Brien are considered to be Independent Directors. The Board shall review further appointments as scale and complexity grows.

The Company shall report annually on the number of Board and committee meetings held during the year and the attendance record of individual Directors. In order to be efficient, the Directors meet formally and informally both in person and by telephone. To date there have been at least bi-monthly meetings of the Board, and the volume and frequency of such meetings is expected to continue at this rate. The formal board meetings held and attended during the year are detailed below:

	Meetings Attended	Meetings eligible to attend
Michael Struthers	11	11
Neil O'Brien	11	11
Gregory Kuenzel	11	11
Peter Damouni	11	11
Shaun Bunn*	3	3
David Ajemian**	0	0

<sup>\*</sup>appointed 1 June 2021

# **Principle Six**

Appropriate Skills and Experience of the Directors

The Board consists of four Directors and, in addition, the Company has employed the services of Gregory Kuenzel to act as the Company Secretary. The Company is satisfied that given its size and stage of development, between the Directors, it has

<sup>\*\*</sup>resigned 31 January 2021

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

an effective and appropriate balance of skills and experience across technical, commercial and financial disciplines. The Director's experience and skills are listed on the Company's website, <a href="https://www.empiremetals.co.uk">www.empiremetals.co.uk</a>.

The Board shall review annually the appropriateness and opportunity for continuing professional development whether formal or informal.

#### Neil O'Brien

Non-executive Chairman

Member of the Audit, Remuneration and AIM Compliance Committees.

#### Shaun Bunn

Managing Director

## **Gregory Kuenzel**

Finance Director and Company Secretary

## **Peter Damouni**

Non-executive Director

Chairman of the Remuneration Committee, AIM Compliance Committee and the Audit Committee.

## **Principle Seven**

Evaluation of Board Performance

Internal evaluation of the Board, the Committees and individual Directors is to be undertaken on an annual basis in the form of peer appraisal and discussions to determine the effectiveness and performance of the various governance components, as well as the Directors' continued independence.

The results and recommendations that come out of the appraisals for the directors shall identify the key corporate and financial targets that are relevant to each Director and their personal targets in terms of career development and training. Progress against previous targets shall also be assessed where relevant.

## **Principle Eight**

Corporate Culture

The Board recognises that their decisions regarding strategy and risk will impact the corporate culture of the Company as a whole and that this will impact the performance of the Company. The Board is very aware that the tone and culture set by the Board will greatly impact all aspects of the Company as a whole and the way that employees behave. The corporate governance arrangements that the Board has adopted are designed to ensure that the Company delivers long term value to its shareholders and that shareholders have the opportunity to express their views and expectations for the Company in a manner that encourages open dialogue with the Board. A large part of the Company's activities are centred upon what needs to be an open and respectful dialogue with employees, clients and other stakeholders.

Therefore, the importance of sound ethical values and behaviours is crucial to the ability of the Company to successfully achieve its corporate objectives. The Board places great import on this aspect of corporate life and seeks to ensure that this flows through all that the Company does. The directors consider that at present the Company has an open culture facilitating comprehensive dialogue and feedback and enabling positive and constructive challenge. The Company has adopted, with effect from the date on which its shares were admitted to AIM, a code for Directors' and employees' dealings in securities which is appropriate for a company whose securities are traded on AIM and is in accordance with the requirements of the Market Abuse Regulation which came into effect in 2016.

# **Principle Nine**

Maintenance of Governance Structures and Processes

Ultimate authority for all aspects of the Company's activities rests with the Board, the respective responsibilities of the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer arising as a consequence of delegation by the Board. The Board has adopted appropriate delegations of authority which set out matters which are reserved to the Board. The Chairman is responsible for the effectiveness of the Board, while management of the Company's business and primary contact with shareholders has been delegated by the Board to the Managing Director.

## Audit Committee

The Audit Committee comprises Neil O'Brien and Peter Damouni who chairs this committee. This committee has primary responsibility for monitoring the quality of internal controls and ensuring that the financial performance of the Company is properly measured and reported. It receives reports from the executive management and auditors relating to the interim and annual accounts and the accounting and internal control systems in use throughout the Company. The Audit Committee shall meet not less than twice in each financial year and it has unrestricted access to the Company's auditors.

There were no Audit Committee meetings held during the year due to no significant events occurring which would require the attention of the Audit Committee.

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

## Remuneration Committee

The Remuneration Committee comprises Neil O'Brien and Peter Damouni chairs this committee. The Remuneration Committee reviews the performance of the executive directors and employees and makes recommendations to the Board on matters relating to their remuneration and terms of employment. The Remuneration Committee also considers and approves the granting of share options pursuant to the share option plan and the award of shares in lieu of bonuses pursuant to the Company's Remuneration Policy.

There were no Remuneration Committee meetings held during the year due to the Company's reduced spending measures.

#### AIM Compliance Committee

The AIM Compliance Committee comprises Neil O'Brien and Peter Damouni who chairs this committee. The AIM Compliance Committee is responsible for the coordinating and monitoring the Company's regulatory responsibilities including liaising with the Nomad and the London Stock Exchange as necessary. The purpose of the AIM compliance committee is to designate responsibility of ensuring best practice and application of the defined corporate governance procedures. No AIM Compliance Committee meetings were held during the year due to no significant changes to AIM Rules and no significant events requiring consideration by the committee.

## Nominations Committee

The Board has agreed that appointments to the Board will be made by the Board as a whole and so has not created a Nominations Committee.

### Non-Executive Directors

The Board has adopted guidelines for the appointment of Non-Executive Directors which have been in place and which have been observed throughout the year. These provide for the orderly and constructive succession and rotation of the Chairman and non-executive directors insofar as both the Chairman and non-executive directors will be appointed for an initial term of three years and may, at the Board's discretion believing it to be in the best interests of the Company, be appointed for subsequent terms. The Chairman may serve as a Non-Executive Director before commencing a first term as Chairman.

In accordance with the Companies Act 2006, the Board complies with: a duty to act within their powers; a duty to promote the success of the Company; a duty to exercise independent judgement; a duty to exercise reasonable care, skill and diligence; a duty to avoid conflicts of interest; a duty not to accept benefits from third parties and a duty to declare any interest in a proposed transaction or arrangement.

## **Principle Ten**

Shareholder Communication

The Board is committed to maintaining good communication and having constructive dialogue with its shareholders. The Company has close ongoing relationships with its private shareholders. Institutional shareholders and analysts have the opportunity to discuss issues and provide feedback at meetings with the Company. In addition, all shareholders are encouraged to attend the Company's Annual General Meeting.

Investors also have access to current information on the Company though its website, www.empiremetals.co.uk.

The Company shall include, when relevant, in its annual report, any matters of note arising from the audit or remuneration committees.

## Peter Damouni

Non-Executive Director

23 June 2022

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

## Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Empire Metals Ltd

## **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Empire Metals Limited (the 'group') for the year ended 31 December 2021 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position, the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Consolidated Statement of Changes in Shareholders' Equity, the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to the Financial Statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's affairs as at 31 December 2021 and of its loss for the year then
  ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with IFRSs as adopted by the European Union.

## **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 in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard as applied to listed entities, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the director's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate. Our evaluation of the directors' assessment of the group's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting included obtaining management's assessment of going concern and associated cash flow forecasts for 12 months from the date of approval of the financial statements. We have reviewed the mathematical accuracy of the forecasts and discussed significant assumptions with management, comparing these with current year and post year end performance. We have also reviewed the latest available post year general ledgers, bank statements, regulatory announcements, board minutes and assessed any external industry wide factors which might affect the group.

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

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

## Our application of materiality

The scope of our audit was influenced by our application of materiality. The quantitative and qualitative thresholds for materiality determine the scope of our audit and the nature, timing and extent of our audit procedures. The materiality applied to the group financial statements was set at £91,000 (2020: £73,000), with performance materiality set at £72,800 (2020: £58,400).

Materiality has been calculated as 2% of the benchmark of net assets at the year-end (2020: 2% of net assets), which we have determined, in our professional judgement, to be the principal benchmark within the financial statements relevant to members of the group in assessing financial performance. A benchmark of 80% performance materiality was applied during our audit of the group as we believed this would give sufficient coverage of significant and residual risks within the financial statements.

For each component in the scope of our group audit, we allocated a materiality that was less than our overall group materiality. We agreed with the Audit Committee that we would report to them misstatements identified during our audit above £4,550 at group level (2020: £3,650).

We applied the concept of materiality both in planning and performing the audit, and in evaluating the effect of misstatement.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

## Our approach to the audit

In designing our audit, we determined materiality and assessed the risk of material misstatement in the financial statements. In particular, we looked at areas involving significant accounting estimates and judgement by the directors and considered future events that are inherently uncertain, including the impairment assessment of intangible exploration assets and valuation of share based payments. We also addressed the risk of management override of internal controls, including among other matters consideration of whether there was evidence of bias that represented a risk of material misstatement due to fraud.

Of the six reporting components of the group, a full scope audit was performed on the complete financial information of two components and, for the other components, a limited scope review was performed because they were not material to the group.

The audit of the of the group were principally performed in London, conducted by PKF Littlejohn LLP using a team with specific experience of auditing mining exploration entities and publicly listed entities.

# Key audit matters

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

Key Audit Matter	How our scope addressed this matter
Carrying value of intangible exploration assets, investments and receivables from subsidiaries (refer to note 10)	
The Group has intangible assets totalling £1,952,419 (2020: £31,673) at the year end, in relation to capitalised exploration costs in respect of its projects. There is the risk that these assets have been incorrectly capitalised in accordance with IFRS 6 and that there are indicators of impairment as at 31 December 2021.  Particularly for early stage exploration projects where the calculation of recoverable amount via value in use calculations is not possible, management's assessment of impairment under IFRS 6 requires estimation and judgement.  The Company also has significant receivable balances with its subsidiaries. There is a risk that if the underlying exploration project is not viable, these assets will not be recoverable.	<ul> <li>Confirming that the Group has good title to the applicable licences of each of its projects;</li> <li>Testing additions to the capitalised costs to supporting documentation and including consideration of appropriateness for capitalisation under IFRS 6.</li> <li>Reviewing management's assessment of the carrying value of the exploration projects and discussing their impairment assessments on each of the projects;</li> <li>Obtaining copies of third-party documents and use these to corroborate management's impairment assessment where available;</li> <li>Challenging all key assumptions and sensitivities in management's impairment assessment to ensure reasonable.</li> </ul>

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Accounting for the	acquisition	of the	<b>Eclipse</b>
Project (refer to not	te 10)		

During the year, the Company completed the acquisition of a 75% interest in the Eclipse Project licences in Australia. These licences have been acquired and transferred into a special purpose Australian entity, Eclipse Exploration Pty Ltd, over which the Group owns 100% of the shareholding.

Eclipse is a material subsidiary having a significant financial impact. There is a risk that the project acquisition has been incorrectly accounted for.

Our work in this area included the following:

- Reviewing the acquisition documents to assess the appropriate accounting treatment of the transaction and whether it constituted an asset acquisition or business combination;
- Reviewing the consideration payable per the underlying agreements to ensure all consideration was appropriately included in the asset value;
- Obtaining documentation to prove ownership of the subsidiary and licences; and
- Considering the appropriateness of the disclosures made for the asset acquisition.

Accounting for the disposal of the Georgian exploration assets (refer to note 23)

During the year, the Group completed the sale of its wholly owned subsidiary GMC Investments Limited ('GMCIL'), which held its Georgian exploration assets previously shown as held for sale assets totalling £425,562 as at 31 December 2020.

The Company disposed of the Georgian assets for a cash consideration of US\$3.3 million.

There is a risk that the disposal was incorrectly accounted for.

Our work in this area included the following:

- Obtaining and reviewing the sale and purchase agreement to ascertain the consideration payable and other terms;
- Reviewing the accounting treatment adopted by management to account for the disposal and ensuring in line with the requirements of IFRS.
- Reviewing the calculation for the gain on disposal to ensure in line with the underlying agreements and IFRS; and
- Considering the appropriateness of the disclosures made.

# Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the group financial statements does not cover the other information and, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

## Responsibilities of directors

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

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

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

## Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

- We obtained an understanding of the group and the sector in which they operate to identify laws and regulations that
  could reasonably be expected to have a direct effect on the financial statements. We obtained our understanding in
  this regard through discussions with management about potential instances of non-compliance with laws and
  regulations both in the UK and in overseas subsidiaries. We also selected a specific audit team based on experience
  with auditing entities within this industry and of a similar size.
- We determined the principal laws and regulations relevant to the group in this regard to be those arising from:
  - o AIM Rules
  - o British Virgin Islands law and company reporting requirements;
  - Local industry regulations in Austria and Australia where exploration activity took place in the year; and
  - Local tax and employment law
- We designed our audit procedures to ensure the audit team considered whether there were any indications of noncompliance by the group and its subsidiaries with those laws and regulations. These procedures included, but were not limited to:
  - o Making enquiries of management
  - Review of board minutes
  - Review of RNS announcements
  - Review of relevant accounting ledgers
- We also identified the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud. Aside from the non-rebuttable presumption of a risk arising from management override of controls, we did not identify any significant fraud risks.
- As in all of our audits, we addressed the risk of fraud arising from management override of controls by performing audit procedures which included, but were not limited to: testing over all journals on a risk based approach to identify any unusual transactions that could be indicative of fraud; reviewing accounting estimates for evidence of bias; evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business; and reviewing transactions through the bank statements to identify potentially large or unusual transactions that do not appear to be in line with our understanding of business operations.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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

# **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

# Use of our report

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with our engagement letter dated 28/2/2022. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone, other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Adam Humphreys (Engagement Partner) For and on behalf of PKF Littlejohn LLP Registered Auditor 15 Westferry Circus Canary Wharf London E14 4HD

23 June 2022

# **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION As at 31 December 2021**

		Group		
Registered number: 1570939	Note	2021	2020	
		£	£	
Non-Current Assets				
Property, plant and equipment	9	-	1,423	
Intangible assets	10	1,952,419	31,673	
Total Non-current assets		1,952,419	33,096	
Current Assets				
Trade and other receivables	11	87,198	294,366	
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	12	-	427,314	
Cash and cash equivalents	13	2,210,371	2,289,638	
Assets classified as held for sale	23	-	425,562	
Total current assets		2,297,569	3,436,880	
Total Assets		4,249,988	3,469,976	
Current Liabilities				
Trade and other payables	14	124,543	82,340	
Total Current Liabilities		124,543	82,340	
Total Liabilities		124,543	82,340	
Net Assets		4,125,445	3,387,636	
Equity attributable to owners of the Parent				
Share capital	15	-	-	
Share premium	15	43,836,855	43,065,981	
Reverse acquisition reserve		(18,845,147)	(18,845,147)	
Other reserves	16	520,293	152,793	
Accumulated losses		(21,386,556)	(20,985,991)	
Total equity attributable to owners of the Parent		4,125,445	3,387,636	
Total Equity		4,125,445	3,387,636	

The Financial Statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 23 June 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:

Gregory Kuenzel Finance Director

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME Year ended 31 December 2021

		Grou	ıp
	Note	Year ended 31 December 2021	Year ended 31 December 2020
Continuing Operations		£	£
Revenue	6	-	1,204
Cost of sales		-	-
Gross profit		-	1,204
Administration expenses	7	(1,912,498)	(958,694)
Other losses	18	(417,138)	3,721
Operating loss before taxation		(2,329,636)	(953,769)
Income tax	8	(11,154)	(1,555)
Loss for the year from continuing operations		(2,340,790)	(955,324)
(Loss)/profit from discontinued operations (attributable to equity holders of the Company)	23	1,751,536	382,335
Loss for the year		(589,254)	(572,989)
Loss attributable to:			
- owners of the Parent		(589,254)	(572,989)
		(589,254)	(572,989)
Other Comprehensive Income:  Items that may be subsequently reclassified to profit or loss  Exchange differences on translating foreign operations		(8,056)	661
Total Comprehensive Income		(597,310)	(572,328)
Attributable to:			
- owners of the Parent		(597,310)	(572,328)
Total Comprehensive Income		(597,310)	(572,328)
<ul> <li>Total comprehensive income attributable to discontinued operations</li> </ul>		1,751,536	382,335
Total comprehensive income attributable to continuing operations		(2,349,326)	(954,663)
Earnings per share (pence) from continuing operations attributable to owners of the Parent – Basic & Diluted	21	(0.706)	(0.456)
Earnings per share (pence) from discontinued operations attributable to owners of the Parent – Basic & Diluted	21	0.528	0.183

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY For the year ended 31 December 2021

	Share premium	Reverse acquisition reserve	Other reserves	Retained losses	Total equity
	£	£	£	£	£
As at 1 January 2020	39,265,637	(18,845,147)	138,014	(20,413,002)	145,502
Loss for the year	-	-	-	(572,989)	(572,989)
Other comprehensive income					
Exchange differences on translating foreign operations	-	-	661	-	661
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	-	661	(572,990)	(572,328)
Transactions with owners					
Issue of ordinary shares	4,014,288	-	_	_	4,014,288
Share issue charge	(213,944)	-	_	-	(213,944)
Share option charge	-	-	14,118	-	14,118
Total transactions with owners	3,800,344	-	14,118	-	3,814,462
As at 31 December 2020	43,065,981	(18,845,147)	152,793	(20,985,991)	3,387,636
As at 1 January 2021	43,065,981	(18,845,147)	152,793	(20,985,991)	3,387,636
Loss for the year	-	-	-	(589,254)	(589,254)
Other comprehensive income					
Exchange differences on translating foreign operations	-	-	(8,056)	-	(8,056)
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	-	(8,056)	(589,254)	(597,310)
Transactions with owners					
Issue of ordinary shares	770,874	-	_	_	770,874
Share option charge	-	-	564,245	-	564,245
Expiry of Share Options			(188,689)	188,689	
Total transactions with owners	770,874	-	375,556	188,689	1,335,119
As at 31 December 2021	43,836,855	(18,845,147)	520,293	(21,386,556)	4,125,445

# CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT For the year ended 31 December 2021

		Group	
	Note	2021	2020
		£	£
Cash flows from operating activities			
Loss after taxation including discontinued operations		(589,254)	(572,989)
Adjustments for:			
Services satisfied by issue of shares		438,059	82,144
Services satisfied by issue of warrants		-	14,118
Share based payment		473,336	-
Share of loss/ (profit) on joint venture – discontinued operations		23,593	(382,335)
Net finance income		(71)	-
Impairment of investments in joint venture		417,138	-
Loss/(gain) on sale of property, plant and equipment		-	(12,724)
Gain on sale of investment – discontinued operations		(1,775,129)	
Tax expense		11,154	1,555
Depreciation and amortisation		1,423	9,183
Decrease in trade and other receivables		(22,071)	(7,158)
Increase/(Decrease) in trade and other payables		31,281	(8,595)
Net cash used in operating activities		(990,541)	(876,801)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Loans granted to subsidiaries and joint venture partners – discontinued operations		(22,240)	(44,164)
Purchase of financial asset		-	(345,170)
Additions to exploration and evaluation intangible asset		(1,512,430)	(31,673)
Sale of property, plant and equipment		-	20,000
Sale of investment in joint venture – discontinued operations		2,327,944	-
Net cash used in investing activities		793,274	(401,007)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Proceeds from issue of shares		118,000	3,730,550
Cost of share issue		-	(213,944)
Net cash generated from financing activities		118,000	3,516,606
Net Increase/decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(79,267)	2,238,798
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		2,289,638	50,840
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	13	2,210,371	2,289,638
Non-cash investing and financing activities		_	164,288
Purchase of financial asset – share based payment <sup>1</sup>		-	104,200
Acquisition of exploration license – share based payment <sup>2</sup>		332,185	-
Advisory fees settled in shares <sup>3</sup>		438,059	-
Share options and warrants issued in respect of services	17	473,336	-
Acquisition of exploration license – issue of warrants	17	90,909	-

# **CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT**For the year ended 31 December 2021

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Comprised of 4,693,954 shares at 1.75p in respect of consideration payable and 4,693,954 shares at 1.75p in respect of finders' fees related to the Eclipse Option.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Comprised of 7,095,512 shares at 3.91p in respect of consideration payable to acquire the remaining 75% of the Eclipse Option and 1,921,068 shares at 2.85p in respect of consideration payable to acquire the remaining 75% of the Central Menzies license.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Comprised of 3,995,238 shares at 2.65p to settle invoices for advisory services, 7,095,512 shares at 3.91p in respect of finders' fees related to the Eclipse Option and 1,921,068 shares at 2.85p in respect of finders' fees related to the Central Menzies Option.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

## **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### 1. General Information

The principal activity of Empire Metals Limited ("the Company") and its subsidiaries (together "the Group") is to implement its mineral exploration strategy to advance projects towards defining a sufficient in-situ mineral resource to support a detailed feasibility study towards mine development and production.

The Company's shares are traded on AIM, a market operated by the London Stock Exchange. The Company is incorporated in the British Virgin Islands and domiciled in the United Kingdom. The Company changed its name to Empire Metals Limited on 10 February 2020.

The address of its registered office is Craigmuir Chambers, PO Box 71, Road Town, Tortola, BVI.

# 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these Financial Statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the periods presented, unless otherwise stated.

## 2.1 Basis of Preparation of Financial Statements

The Group Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and IFRS Interpretations Committee (IFRS IC) interpretations as adopted by the European Union. The Group Financial Statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, unless stated otherwise.

The Financial Statements are presented in UK Pounds Sterling rounded to the nearest pound.

The preparation of Financial Statements in conformity with IFRSs requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Group's Accounting Policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the Financial Statements, are disclosed in Note 4.

## 2.2 Changes in accounting policy and disclosures

(a) New and amended standards mandatory for the first time for the financial periods beginning on or after 1 January 2021

The International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) issued various amendments and revisions to International Financial Reporting Standards and IFRIC interpretations. The amendments and revisions were applicable for the period ended 31 December 2021 but did not result in any material changes to the Financial Statements of the Group.

b) New standards, amendments and interpretations in issue but not yet effective or not yet endorsed and not early adopted

Standards, amendments and interpretations that are not yet effective and have not been early adopted are as follows:

Standard	Impact on initial application	Effective date
IFRS 16 (Amendments)	Property, plant, and equipment	*1 January 2022
IAS 1 (Amendments)	Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-Current	t. 1 January 2022
Annual improvements	2018-2020 Cycle	1 January 2022
IAS 37 (Amendments)	Provisions, contingent liabilities and contingent asset	ts*1 January 2022
IAS 8 (Amendments)	Accounting estimates	1 January 2023

<sup>\*</sup>Subject to endorsement

The Group is evaluating the impact of the new and amended standards above which are not expected to have a material impact on future Group Financial Statements.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

## 2.3 Basis of Consolidation

The Group Financial Statements consolidate the Financial Statements of Empire Metals Limited and the Financial Statements of all of its subsidiary undertakings made up to 31 December 2021.

Subsidiaries are entities over which the Group has control. The Group controls an entity when the Group is exposed to, or has rights to, variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power over the entity. Where an entity does not have returns, the Group's power over the investee is assessed as to whether control is held. Subsidiaries are fully consolidated from the date on which control is transferred to the Group. They are deconsolidated from the date that control ceases.

Below is a summary of subsidiaries of the Group:

Name of subsidiary	Place of business	Parent company	Registered capital	Share capital held	Principal activities
Kibe Investments No.2 Limited	British Virgin Islands	Empire Metals Ltd	Ordinary shares US\$12	100%	Dormant
Noricum Gold AT GmbH	Austria	Kibe Investments No.2 Limited	Ordinary shares €35,000	100%	Exploration
GMC Investments Limited	British Virgin Islands	Empire Metals Ltd	Ordinary shares US\$1	100%	Dormant
European Mining Services Limited	United Kingdom	Empire Metals Ltd	Ordinary shares £1	100%	Mining Services
Eclipse Exploration Pty Ltd	Australia	Empire Metals Ltd	Ordinary Shares AUD\$1	100%	Exploration

Inter-company transactions, balances, income and expenses on transactions between group companies are eliminated. Profits and losses resulting from intercompany transactions that are recognised in assets are also eliminated. Accounting policies of subsidiaries have been changed where necessary to ensure consistency with the policies adopted by the Group.

## 2.4 Going Concern

The Group's business activities, together with the factors likely to affect its future development, performance and position, are set out in the Chairman's Report from page 3. In addition, Note 3 to the Financial Statements includes the Group's objectives, policies and processes for managing its capital; its financial risk management objectives; and details of its exposure to credit and liquidity risk.

The Financial Statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. Although the Group's assets are not generating steady revenue streams, an operating loss has been reported and an operating loss is expected in the 12 months to 31 December 2022, the Directors believe that the Group will have sufficient funds to meet its immediate working capital requirements and undertake its targeted operating activities over the next 12 months from the date of approval of these Financial Statements. As at the balance sheet date, the Group has cash and cash equivalents of £2,210,372 which is foreseen to adequately cover forecast working capital requirements.

Post year end, the Parent Company successfully raised gross proceeds of £1,700,000 via the issue of 85,000,000 new ordinary shares, providing the Group with additional liquidity.

The Directors have, in the light of all the above circumstances, a reasonable expectation that the Group has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the Group Financial Statements.

## 2.5 Segment Reporting

Operating segments are reported in a manner consistent with the internal reporting provided to the chief operating decision-maker. The chief operating decision-maker, who is responsible for allocating resources and assessing performance of the operating segments, has been identified as the Board of Directors that makes strategic decisions.

Segment results, include items directly attributable to a segment as well as those that can be allocated on a reasonable basis.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

## 2.6 Foreign Currencies

## (a) Functional and presentation currency

Items included in the Financial Statements of the Group's entities are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the entity operates (the 'functional currency'). The functional currency of the Company is Sterling, the functional currency of the BVI subsidiaries is US Dollars, the functional currency of the Austrian subsidiary is Euros and the functional currency of the Australian subsidiary is AUD Dollars. The Financial Statements are presented in Pounds Sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

## (b) Transactions and balances

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions or valuation where such items are re-measured. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation at year-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the Income Statement.

## (c) Group companies

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

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

On consolidation, exchange differences arising from the translation of the net investment in foreign entities, and of monetary items receivable from foreign subsidiaries for which settlement is neither planned nor likely to occur in the foreseeable future, are taken to other comprehensive income. When a foreign operation is sold, such exchange differences are recognised in the income statement as part of the gain or loss on sale.

# 2.7 Intangible Assets

Exploration and evaluation assets

The Group recognises expenditure as exploration and evaluation assets when it determines that those assets will be successful in finding specific mineral resources. Expenditure included in the initial measurement of exploration and evaluation assets and which are classified as intangible assets, relate to the acquisition of rights to explore, topographical, geological, geochemical and geophysical studies, exploratory drilling, trenching, sampling and activities to evaluate the technical feasibility and commercial viability of extracting a mineral resource. Capitalisation of pre-production expenditure ceases when the mining property is capable of commercial production.

Exploration and evaluation assets are recorded and held at cost.

Exploration and evaluation assets are assessed for impairment annually or when facts and circumstances suggest that the carrying amount of an asset may exceed its recoverable amount. The assessment is carried out by allocating exploration and evaluation assets to cash generating units, which are based on specific projects or geographical areas. IFRS 6 permits impairments of exploration and evaluation expenditure to be reversed should the conditions which led to the impairment improve. The Group continually monitors the position of the projects capitalised and impaired.

Whenever the exploration for and evaluation of mineral resources in cash generating units does not lead to the discovery of commercially viable quantities of mineral resources and the Group has decided to discontinue such activities of that unit, the associated expenditures are written off to the Income Statement.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

# 2.8 Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment is stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Depreciation is provided on all property, plant and equipment to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful economic life on a straight-line basis at the following annual rates:

Computer equipment – 20 to 50% straight line Field equipment - 20 to 50% straight line Vehicles – 20% straight line

All assets are subject to annual impairment reviews. An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Group and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. The carrying amount of the replacement part is derecognised. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the Income Statement during the financial period in which they are incurred.

The asset's residual value and useful economic lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

Gains and losses on disposal are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount and are recognised within 'Other net gains / (losses)' in the income statement.

## 2.9 Impairment of non-financial assets

Assets that have an indefinite useful life, for example, intangible assets not ready to use, are not subject to amortisation and are tested annually for impairment. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use. For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash flows (cash generating units).

Non-financial assets that suffered impairment (except goodwill) are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date.

## 2.10 Assets classified as held for sale

Assets are classified as held for sale if their carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use and a sale is considered highly probable. They are measured at the lower of their carrying value and fair value less costs to sell. An impairment loss is recognised for any subsequent write-down of the asset to fair value less costs to sell.

## 2.11 Financial Assets

## (a) Classification

The Group classifies its financial assets in the following categories: at amortised cost including trade receivables and other financial assets at amortised cost, at fair value through other comprehensive income and at fair value through profit or loss, loans and receivables, and available-for-sale. The classification depends on the purpose for which the financial assets were acquired. Management determines the classification of its financial assets at initial recognition.

# (b) Recognition and measurement

## Amortised cost

Trade and other receivables are recognised initially at the amount of consideration that is unconditional, unless they contain significant financing components, in which case they are recognised at fair value. The group holds the trade and other receivables with the objective of collecting the contractual cash flows, and so it measures them subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The group classifies its financial assets as at amortised cost only if both of the following criteria are met:

- · the asset is held within a business model whose objective is to collect the contractual cash flows; and
- the contractual terms give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principle and interest.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

## (c) Impairment of financial assets

The Group recognises an allowance for expected credit losses (ECLs) for all debt instruments not held at fair value through profit or loss. ECLs are based on the difference between the contractual cash flows due in accordance with the contract and all the cash flows that the Group expects to receive, discounted at an approximation of the original EIR. The expected cash flows will include cash flows from the sale of collateral held or other credit enhancements that are integral to the contractual terms.

ECLs are recognised in two stages. For credit exposures for which there has not been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, ECLs are provided for credit losses that result from default events that are possible within the next 12-months (a 12-month ECL). For those credit exposures for which there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, a loss allowance is required for credit losses expected over the remaining life of the exposure, irrespective of the timing of the default (a lifetime ECL).

For trade receivables (not subject to provisional pricing) and other receivables due in less than 12 months, the Group applies the simplified approach in calculating ECLs, as permitted by IFRS 9. Therefore, the Group does not track changes in credit risk, but instead, recognises a loss allowance based on the financial asset's lifetime ECL at each reporting date.

The Group considers a financial asset in default when contractual payments are 90 days past due. However, in certain cases, the Group may also consider a financial asset to be in default when internal or external information indicates that the Group is unlikely to receive the outstanding contractual amounts in full before taking into account any credit enhancements held by the Group. A financial asset is written off when there is no reasonable expectation of recovering the contractual cash flows and usually occurs when past due for more than one year and not subject to enforcement activity.

At each reporting date, the Group assesses whether financial assets carried at amortised cost are credit impaired. A financial asset is credit-impaired when one or more events that have a detrimental impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset have occurred.

## (d) Derecognition

The Group derecognises a financial asset only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire, or when it transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the asset to another entity.

On derecognition of a financial asset measured at amortised cost, the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the sum of the consideration received and receivable is recognised in profit or loss. This is the same treatment for a financial asset measured at FVTPL.

## 2.12 Financial Liabilities

Financial liabilities are classified, at initial recognition, as financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss, loans and borrowings, payables, or as derivatives designated as hedging instruments in an effective hedge, as appropriate. All financial liabilities are recognised initially at fair value and, in the case of loans and borrowings and payables, net of directly attributable transaction costs. The Group's financial liabilities include trade and other payables.

Subsequent measurement

The measurement of financial liabilities depends on their classification, as described below:

Trade and other payables

After initial recognition, trade and other payables are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the EIR method. Gains and losses are recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income when the liabilities are derecognised, as well as through the EIR amortisation process.

Amortised cost is calculated by considering any discount or premium on acquisition and fees or costs that are an integral part of the EIR. The EIR amortisation is included as finance costs in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

## Derecognition

A financial liability is derecognised when the associated obligation is discharged or cancelled or expires.

When an existing financial liability is replaced by another from the same lender on substantially different terms, or the terms of an existing liability are substantially modified, such an exchange or modification is treated as the derecognition of the original liability and the recognition of a new liability. The difference in the respective carrying amounts is recognised in profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

Fair value

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the consolidated Financial Statements are categorised within the fair value hierarchy. The fair value hierarchy prioritises the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The Group uses the following hierarchy for determining and disclosing the fair value of financial instruments and other assets and liabilities for which the fair value was used:

- level 1: quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;
- level 2: inputs other than quoted prices included in level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (as prices) or indirectly (derived from prices); and
- level 3: inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

## 2.13 Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and in hand.

## 2.14 Taxation

Tax for the period comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in the income statement, except to the extent that it relates to items recognised directly in equity. In this case the tax is also recognised directly in other comprehensive income or directly in equity, respectively.

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

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

Deferred income tax assets are recognised only to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be available against which the temporary differences can be utilised.

Deferred income tax liabilities are provided on taxable temporary differences arising from investments in subsidiaries, associates and joint arrangements, except for deferred income tax liability where the timing of the reversal of the temporary difference is controlled by the group and it is probable that the temporary difference will not reverse in the foreseeable future. Generally the group is unable to control the reversal of the temporary difference for associates. Only where there is an agreement in place that gives the group the ability to control the reversal of the temporary difference not recognised.

Deferred income tax assets are recognised on deductible temporary differences arising from investments in subsidiaries, associates and joint arrangements only to the extent that it is probable the temporary difference will reverse in the future and there is sufficient taxable profit available against which the temporary difference can be utilised.

Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to offset current tax assets against current tax liabilities, and when the deferred income tax assets and liabilities relate to income taxes levied by the same taxation authority on either the taxable entity or different taxable entities where there is an intention to settle the balances on a net basis.

There has been no tax credit or expense for the period relating to current or deferred tax.

## 2.15 Share Capital, share premium and other reserves

Ordinary shares are classified as equity. Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of new shares or options are shown in equity, as a deduction, net of tax, from the proceeds provided there is sufficient premium available. Should sufficient premium not be available placing costs are recognised in the Income Statement.

Other reserves consist of the share option reserve and the foreign exchange translation reserve. See Note 16 for further detail.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

## 2.16 Reverse acquisition reserve

The reverse acquisition reserve arose on the acquisition of Kibe Investments No. 2 Limited in 2010. There has been no movement in the reserve since that date.

## 2.17 Share Based Payments

The Group operates a number of equity-settled share-based schemes, under which the entity receives services from employees or third-party suppliers as consideration for equity instruments (shares, options and warrants) of the Group. The Group may also issue warrants to share subscribers as part of a share placing. The fair value of the equity-settled share based payments is recognised as an expense in the income statement or charged to equity depending on the nature of the service provided or instrument issued. The total amount to be expensed or charged in the case of options is determined by reference to the fair value of the options or warrants granted:

- including any market performance conditions;
- excluding the impact of any service and non-market performance vesting conditions (for example, profitability or sales growth targets, or remaining an employee of the entity over a specified time period); and
- including the impact of any non-vesting conditions (for example, the requirement for employees to save).

In the case of shares and warrants the amount charged to the share premium account is determined by reference to the fair value of the services received if available. If the fair value of the services received is not determinable the shares are valued by reference to the market price and the warrants are valued by reference to the fair value of the warrants granted as described previously.

Non-market vesting conditions are included in assumptions about the number of options or warrants that are expected to vest. The total expense or charge is recognised over the vesting period, which is the period over which all of the specified vesting conditions are to be satisfied. At the end of each reporting period, the entity revises its estimates of the number of options that are expected to vest based on the non-market vesting conditions. It recognises the impact of the revision to original estimates, if any, in the income statement or equity as appropriate, with a corresponding adjustment to another reserve in equity.

When the warrants or options are exercised, the Company issues new shares. The proceeds received, net of any directly attributable transaction costs, are credited to share capital (nominal value) and share premium when the warrants or options are exercised.

## 2.18 Operating Leases

Leases of assets under which the short-term exemption under IFRS 16 has been taken and which a significant amount of the risks and benefits of ownership are effectively retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Operating lease payments are charged to the income statement on a straight-line basis over the period of the respective leases.

# 2.19 Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognised in respect of amounts recharged to project strategic partners in accordance with their contractual terms. Revenue is also generated from management and consulting services to third parties.

The Group derives revenue from the transfer of services overtime and at a point in time in the service lines detailed below. Revenues from external customers come from consulting services.

The Group provides management services to subsidiary undertakings and joint venture entities for a fixed monthly fee. Revenue from providing services is recognised in the accounting period in which the services are rendered. Efforts to satisfy the performance obligation are expended evenly throughout the performance period and so the performance obligation is considered to be satisfied evenly over time.

## 2.20 Finance Income

Finance income consists of bank interest on cash and cash equivalents which is recognised using the effective interest rate method.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

## 2.21 Discontinued Operations

A discontinued operation is a component of the Group's business, the operations and cash flows of which can be clearly distinguished from the rest of the Group and which:

- represents a separate major line of business or geographic area of operations;
- is part of a single co-ordinated plan to dispose of a separate major line of business or geographic area of operations; or
- is a subsidiary acquired exclusively with a view to resale. Classification as a discontinued operation occurs at the earlier of disposal or when the operation meets the criteria to be classified as held-for-sale.

When an operation is classified as a discontinued operation, the comparative statement of profit or loss and OCI is represented as if the operation had been discontinued from the start of the comparative year.

## 3. Financial Risk Management

## 3.1 Financial Risk Factors

The Group's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks being market risk (including, interest rate risk, currency risk and price risk), credit risk and liquidity risk. The Group's overall risk management programme focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the Group's financial performance.

# Market Risk

## (a) Foreign currency risks

The Group operates internationally and is exposed to foreign exchange risk arising from various currency exposures, primarily with respect to the USD and Euros against the UK pound. Foreign exchange risk arises from future commercial transactions, recognised assets and liabilities and net investments in foreign operations. The Group negotiates all material contracts for activities in relation to its subsidiary in USD and Euros. The Directors will continue to assess the effect of movements in exchange rates on the Group's financial operations and initiate suitable risk management measures where necessary.

# (b) Price risk

The Group is not exposed to commodity price risk as a result of its operations, which are still in the exploration phase. Other than insignificant consulting revenue, the only revenue relates to revenue charged to the joint venture JSC Georgian Copper & Gold. The Directors will revisit the appropriateness of this policy should the Group's operations change in size or nature.

The Group has no exposure to equity securities price risk, as it has no listed equity investments.

## (c) Interest rate risk

As the Group has no borrowings, it is not exposed to interest rate risk on financial liabilities. The Group's interest rate risk arises from its cash held on short-term deposit, which is not significant.

## Credit Risk

Credit risk arises from cash and cash equivalents as well as outstanding receivables. Management does not expect any losses from non-performance of these receivables.

The amount of exposure to any individual counter party is subject to a limit, which is assessed by the Board. No credit limits were exceeded during the reporting period, and management does not expect any losses from non-performance by these counterparties.

The Group considers the credit ratings of banks in which it holds funds in order to reduce exposure to credit risk.

## Liquidity Risk

In keeping with similar sized mineral exploration groups, the Group's continued future operations depend on the ability to raise sufficient working capital through the issue of equity share capital. The Directors are confident that adequate funding will be forthcoming with which to finance operations. Controls over expenditure are carefully managed. In April 2022, the Company raised net proceeds of £1.7m. See note 2.4 for further details on going concern and liquidity.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

## 3.2 Capital Risk Management

The Group's objectives when managing capital are to safeguard the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, in order to provide returns for shareholders and to enable the Group to continue its exploration and evaluation activities. The Group has no debt at 31 December 2021 and defines capital based on the total equity of the Company being £4.1m. The Group monitors its level of cash resources available against future planned exploration and evaluation activities and may issue new shares in order to raise further funds from time to time.

# 4. Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements

The preparation of the Group Financial Statements in conformity with IFRSs requires Management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the Financial Statements and the reported amount of expenses during the year. Actual results may vary from the estimates used to produce these Financial Statements.

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Significant items subject to such estimates and assumptions include, but are not limited to:

## Fair Value Financial Instruments through Profit and Loss

The fair value of financial instruments that are not traded in an active market is determined using valuation techniques. The group uses its judgement to select a variety of methods and make assumptions that are mainly based on market conditions existing at the end of each reporting period. The Financial Instrument held at FVPL was reclassified to intangible assets during the current period as the conditions to exercise the option were exercised.

## Impairment of exploration and evaluation costs

Exploration and evaluation costs have a carrying value at 31 December 2021 of £1,952,419 (2020: £31,673): refer to Note 10 for more information. The Group has a right to renew exploration permits and the asset is only depreciated once extraction of the resource commences. Management tests annually whether exploration projects have future economic value in accordance with the accounting policy stated in Note 2.7. Each exploration project is subject to an annual review by either a consultant or senior company geologist to determine if the exploration results returned during the year warrant further exploration expenditure and have the potential to result in an economic discovery. This review takes into consideration the expected costs of extraction, long term metal prices, anticipated resource volumes and supply and demand outlook. In the event that a project does not represent an economic exploration target and results indicate there is no additional upside, a decision will be made to discontinue exploration.

Towards the end of 2021, management had doubts over the viability of Central Menzies. These were confirmed shortly after the year end with the publication of the results of a second phase of RC drilling which focused on testing the Nugget Patch gold trend to confirm if there was higher grade mineralisation sitting at depth below a supergene gold enriched zone and to confirm historic high grade gold intersections closely associated with the main workings at Teglio. The results were generally inconclusive, with no obvious continuity along strike and no significant high-grade intercepts. In February 2022, the Directors formally announced that it would not take up the Option over the Central Menzies Gold Project. As such, management believe there were conditions at the year end to suggest that Central Menzies exploration asset was impaired and it was written off in full.

## Share based payment transactions

The Group has made awards of options and warrants over its unissued share capital to certain Directors and employees as part of their remuneration package. Certain warrants have also been issued to shareholders as part of their subscription for shares and to suppliers for various services received.

The valuation of these options and warrants involves making a number of critical estimates relating to price volatility, future dividend yields, expected life of the options and forfeiture rates. These assumptions have been described in more detail in Note 17.

## 5. Segmental Information

As at 31 December 2021, the Group operates in three geographical areas, the UK, Austria and Australia. The Company operates in one geographical area, the UK. Activities in the UK are mainly administrative in nature whilst activities in Austria and Australia relate to exploration and evaluation work. The reports used by the chief operating decision maker are based on these geographical segments.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

The Group generated no revenue during the year ended 31 December 2021 (2020: £1,204).

2021	Australia	Austria £	UK £	Total £
Revenue	_	_	_	_
Administrative expenses	(493,695)	(16,090)	(1,402,713)	(1,912,498)
Other gains/(losses)	(417,138)	-	-	(417,138)
Operating loss from continued operations per reportable segment	(910,833)	(16,090)	(1,402,713)	(2,329,636)
Additions to non-current assets	1,915,069	24,675	-	1,939,744
Reportable segment assets	1,959,947	61,506	2,228,535	4,249,988
Reportable segment liabilities	77,538	3,207	43,798	124,543

Segment assets and liabilities are allocated based on geographical location.

2020	Austria £	UK £	Total £
Revenue	-	1,204	1,204
Administrative expenses	(41,781)	(916,913)	(958,694)
Other gains/(losses)	164	3,557	3,721
Operating loss from continued operations per reportable segment	(41,617)	(912,152)	(953,769)
Additions to non-current assets	31,673	-	31,673
Reportable segment assets	41,155	3,428,821	3,469,976
Reportable segment liabilities	6,867	75,473	82,340

# 6. Revenue

	2021	2020
	£	£
Operational services	-	1,204
	_	1,204

Operational services are recharged by European Mining Services which include salaries, sample preparation and assay costs and consulting fees. No such recharges were made during the year.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

# 7. Expenses by Nature

	2021	2020
	£	£
Directors' fees (note 20)	233,849	249,824
Employee Expenses	23,522	-
Fees payable to the Company's auditors for the audit of the Parent Company and group financial statements	30,955	30,180
Professional, legal and consulting fees	362,808	283,815
Accounting related services	26,471	16,425
Insurance	19,830	23,797
Office and administrative expenses	89,985	39,542
Depreciation	1,423	9,183
Travel and subsistence	19,354	8,156
AIM related costs including investor relations	182,446	154,083
Share option expense	473,336	14,118
Fees paid in shares	438,059	-
Operations related costs	-	129,571
Other expenses	10,460	-
Total administrative expenses	1,912,498	958,694

## 8. Taxation

The tax on the Group's loss differs from the theoretical amount that would arise using the weighted average tax rate applicable to the losses of the consolidated entities as follows:

	Group		
	2021	2020	
	£	£	
Profit/Loss before tax from continued operations	(2,340,790)	(571,434)	
Tax at the weighted average rate of 23.3% (2020: 19%)	(545,404)	(108,868)	
Expenditure not deductible for tax purposes	111,184	(2,360)	
Effect of differing tax rates across juristictions	26,984	-	
Net tax effect of losses carried forward on which no deferred tax asset is recognised	418,390	109,673	
Income tax for the year	11,154	1,555	

No charge to taxation arises due to the losses incurred.

The weighted average applicable tax rate of 23.3% (2020: 19.08%) used is a combination of the 19% standard rate of corporation tax in the UK, 25% Austrian corporation tax and 26% Australian corporation tax.

The Group has accumulated tax losses of approximately £6,965,000 (2020: £6,547,000) available to carry forward against future taxable profits. A deferred tax asset has not been recognised because of uncertainty over future taxable profits against which the losses may be utilised.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

## 9. Property, Plant and Equipment

	Field equipment	Computer equipment	Total £
	£	£	
Cost			
As at 31 December 2020	10,229	25,545	35,774
As at 1 January 2021	10,229	25,545	35,774
Exchange differences	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2021	10,229	25,545	35,774
Depreciation			
As at 31 December 2020	9,674	24,677	34,351
Charge for the year	555	868	1,423
As at 31 December 2021	10,229	25,545	35,774
Net book value as at 31 December 2020	555	868	1,423
Net book value as at 31 December 2021	-	-	-

### 10. Intangible Assets

	2021	2020
Exploration & Evaluation Assets at Cost and Net Book Value	£	£
Balance as at 1 January	31,673	-
Additions	1,512,430	31,673
Transfer from financial asset	427,314	-
Foreign exchange differences	(18,998)	-
As at 31 December	1,952,419	31,673

The brought forward Exploration & Evaluation balance relates to work performed at the Company's Rotguelden licence area in Austria. The Austrian licences were renewed in December 2020 for an additional 5 years.

The additions in the year relate to two drilling program areas; Eclipse Gold Project and Gindalbie Gold Project.

### **Eclipse Gold Project**

In 2020 the Group acquired an option to purchase 75% of the Eclipse Gold license. The option was exercised in February 2021 for a consideration of AUD\$1,000,000 (approximately £550,000) in cash and AUD\$500,000 (£277,750) settled via the issue of 7,095,510 new ordinary shares of no-par value at a price of 3.91p.

The Group has completed four exploratory drilling programmes at Eclipse - 118 RC drill holes for a total of 10,081 metres and nine diamond drill holes for a total of 1,200 metres. Drilling has confirmed the presence of parallel veins to the Eclipse lode at Twin Shaft and also proven wide strike extensions at Jack's Dream. Further drilling is planned to commence in June 2022 following successful structural mapping along the Eclipse shear.

In accordance with IFRS 6, the Directors undertook an assessment of the following areas and circumstances which could indicate the existence of impairment:

- · The Group's right to explore in an area has expired or will expire in the near future without renewal.
- No further exploration or evaluation is planned or budgeted for.
- A decision has been taken by the Board to discontinue exploration and evaluation in an area due to the absence of a commercial level of reserves.
- Sufficient data exists to indicate that the book value may not be fully recovered from future development and production.

The Directors do not consider the assets to be impaired.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

## 11. Trade and Other Receivables

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade receivables	2,862	108,284
VAT receivable	59,523	34,519
Prepayments	11,481	16,762
Other receivables	13,332	134,801
	87,198	294,366

Trade and other receivables are all due within one year. The fair value of all receivables is the same as their carrying values stated above. These assets, excluding prepayments, are the only form of financial asset within the Group, together with cash and cash equivalents.

The carrying amounts of the Group's trade and other receivables are denominated in the following currencies:

	2021	2020
	£	£
UK Pounds	67,049	290,103
Euros	304	4,263
Australian Dollars	19,845	-
	87,198	294,366

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date is the carrying value of each class of receivable mentioned above. The Group does not hold any collateral as security. All trade and other receivables are considered fully recoverable and performing.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

## 12. Financial Assets At Fair Value Through Profit or Loss

	2021	2020
	£	£
Balance as at 1 January	427,314	-
Additions	416,547	427,314
Impairment	(416,547)	-
Transferred to Exploration and Evaluation assets	(427,314)	-
As at 31 December	-	427,314

On 12 August 2020, the Company entered into an Option Agreement to acquire a 75% interest in the Eclipse Gold Project. The Company paid AUD\$100,000 (£55,000) in cash and AUD\$150,000 (£82,144) settled via the issue of 4,693,954 new ordinary shares of no-par value at a price of 1.75p and the issue of 4,693,954 warrants exercisable at 3p for two years. As part of the terms of the arrangement, the Company agreed to spend AUD\$300,000 on exploration at Eclipse within the 6 month option period. Approximately AUD\$615,000 was spent in the period including the cost of the Option.

During December 2020, the Company signed an agreement to exercise the option to acquire a 75% interest in the Eclipse project, pending certain regulatory approvals.

On 22 February 2021, the Company announced that it had successfully completed the Eclipse acquisition and owned 75% of the project and license. The cost of the option has been transferred to Exploration and Evaluation assets in line with IFRS 6.

In May 2021, the Group purchased an option to acquire a 75% interest in four exploration licences which comprise the Central Menzies Gold project. The Group committed to spend AUD\$500,000 on exploration at Central Menzies within the 9-month option period.

At the year-end management did not have plans to spend further funds on the Central Menzies license area and the minimum spend commitment had been met. Shortly after the period end, the Company announced that it would not exercise the option to acquire the 75% interest in the project. Given the existence of impairment indicators at the year end, management took the view to impair the Central Menzies exploration asset in full.

## 13. Cash and Cash Equivalents

2021
2021 £

### 14. Trade and Other Payables

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade payables	86,665	44,307
Other payables	4,478	2,091
Accrued expenses	33,400	35,942
	124,543	82,340

The carrying amounts of the Group's trade and other receivables are denominated in the following currencies:

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
UK Pounds	44,516	290,103
Euros	5,441	4,263
Australian Dollars	74,586	-
	124,543	294,366

## 15. Share Capital and Share Premium

On 15 December 2010 the shareholders approved the removal of the Company's authorised share capital and so there is no limit on the number of shares the Company is authorised to issue. On that date the shareholders also approved the removal of the nominal value of the shares, as permitted under local company legislation. As such all amounts raised are considered to be share premium.

#### Issued share capital

Group	Number of shares	Share premium	Total
		£	£
At 1 January 2020	133,756,991	39,265,637	39,265,637
Issue of Ordinary Shares – 28 February 2020 <sup>2</sup>	60,000,000	570,700	570,700
Issue of Ordinary Shares – 12 August 2020	9,387,908	164,288	164,288
Issue of Ordinary Shares – 10 September 2020 <sup>3</sup>	50,000,000	1,179,131	1,179,131
Issue of Ordinary Shares – 24 November 2020 <sup>4</sup>	61,538,462	1,886,225	1,886,225
At 31 December 2020	314,683,361	43,065,981	43,065,981
Issue of Ordinary Shares – 22 February 2021	7,095,510	277,434	277,434
Issue of Ordinary Shares – 22 February 2021	7,095,510	277,434	277,434
Issue of Ordinary Shares – 20 May 2021	1,921,068	54,750	54,750
Issue of Ordinary Shares – 20 May 2021	1,921,068	54,750	54,750
Issue of Ordinary Shares – 10 June 2021	3,995,238	106,506	106,506
At 31 December 2021	336,711,755	43,836,855	43,836,855

- (1) Net of issue costs of £18,700
- (2) Net of issues costs of £29,300
- (3) Net of issue costs of £70,869
- (4) Net of issue costs of £113,775

On 28 February 2020, the Company issued and allotted 60,000,000 new Ordinary Shares at a price of 1 pence per share for gross proceeds of £600,000.

On 12 August 2020, the Company issued and allotted 4,693,954 new Ordinary Shares at a price of 1.75 pence per share as consideration for the purchase of the 75% Eclipse option. The Company issued and allotted a further 4,693,954 new Ordinary shares at the same price as payment of a finder's fee in respect of the Eclipse transaction.

On 10 September 2020, the Company issued and allotted 50,000,000 new Ordinary Shares at a price of 2.5 pence per share for gross proceeds of £1,250,000.

On 24 November 2020, the Company issued and allotted 61,538,462 new Ordinary Shares at a price of 3.25 pence per share for gross proceeds of £2,000,000.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

On 22 February 2021, the Company issued and allotted 7,095,510 new Ordinary Shares at a price of 3.9 pence per share as consideration for the purchase of 75% of the equity of Eclipse Exploration Pty. The Company issued and allotted a further 7,095,510 new Ordinary Shares at the same price as payment of a finder's fee in respect of the Eclipse transaction.

On 20 May 2021, the Company issued and allotted 1,921,068 new Ordinary Shares at a price of 2.85 pence per share as consideration for the purchase of 75% of the equity of Central Menzies. The Company issued and allotted a further 1,921,068 new Ordinary Shares at the same price as payment of a finder's fee in respect of the Central Menzies transaction.

On 10 June 2021, pursuant to the advisory agreement, a fee of US\$150,000 settled via the issue of 3,995,238 new ordinary shares in the Company at a price of 2.65p were allotted to the Company's Georgian advisor.

#### 16. Other reserves

	2021	2020
	£	£
Foreign currency translation reserve	(239,077)	(231,021)
Share option Reserve	759,370	383,814
	520,293	152,793

Foreign currency translation reserve – the foreign currency translation reserve represents the effect of changes in exchange rates arising from translating the Financial Statements of subsidiary undertakings into the Company's presentation currency.

Share option reserve – the share option reserve represents the fair value of share options and warrants in issue. The amounts included are recycled to share premium on exercise or recycled to retained earnings on expiry. Note 17 outlines the share based payments made in the year.

# 17. Share Based Payments

Warrants and options outstanding at 31 December 2021 have the following expiry dates and exercise prices:

			Nu	mber
Grant date Expiry date	Exercise price in £ per share	2021	2020	
20 July 2016	20 July 2021	0.1400	-	5,000,000
30 January 2017	3 March 2022	0.1200	1,900,000	1,900,000
22 June 2017	21 July 2022	0.1825	3,300,000	3,300,000
30 July 2018	26 July 2023	0.1400	1,000,000	1,000,000
30 July 2018	26 July 2023	0.2000	1,000,000	1,000,000
1 July 2019	30 June 2024	0.0130	3,376,553	3,376,553
12 August 2020	12 August 2022	0.0300	9,387,908	9,387,908
1 February 2021	31 January 2025	0.0400	10,500,000	-
1 February 2021	31 January 2025	0.0550	10,500,000	-
18 February 2021	22 February 2023	0.0470	14,191,020	-
			55,155,481	24,964,461

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

	2017 Warrants	2017 Warrants	2016 Warrants
Granted on:	30/01/2017	22/06/2017	20/07/2016
Life (years)	5.2 years	5 years	5 years
Share price on grant date	8.8p	17.7p	16p
Risk free rate	0.57%	0.57%	0.5%
Expected volatility	27.06%	34.43%	23.29%
Expected dividend yield	-	-	-
Exercise price	12p	18.25p	14p
Marketability discount	20%	20%	20%
Total fair value (£)	20,225	140,043	188,690
	2018 Warrants	2018 Warrants	2019 Warrants
Granted on:	30/07/2018	30/07/2018	1/7/2019
Life (years)	5 years	5 years	5 years
Share price on grant date	9.35p	9.35p	1.05p
Risk free rate	0.75%	0.75%	0.42%
Expected volatility	27.06%	27.06%	40.97%
Expected dividend yield	-		-
Exercise price	20p	14p	1.3p
Marketability discount	20%	20%	20%
Total fair value (£)	3,575	8,871	8,292
Total fall value (£)	3,373	0,071	0,292
	2020 Warrants	2021 Options	2021 Options
Granted on:	12/08/2020	01/02/2021	01/02/2021
Life (years)	2 years	4 years	4 years
Share price on grant date	2.25p	3.45p	3.45p
Risk free rate	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%
Expected volatility	36.72%	98,49%	98,49%
Expected dividend yield	-	-	-
Exercise price	3p	4p	5.5p
Marketability discount	20%	20%	20%
Total fair value (£)	14,118	192,016	176,292
	2021 Warrants		
Granted on:	18/02/2021	_	
Life (years)	2 years		
Share price on grant date	3.7p		
Risk free rate	1.75%		
ו זוסת ווכב ומוב	1.7370		
Exported valatility	02 470/		
Expected volatility	92.17%		
Expected dividend yield	-		
Expected dividend yield Exercise price	- 4.7p		
Expected dividend yield	-		

The risk free rate of return is based on zero yield government bonds for a term consistent with the warrant and option life.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

The movement of options and warrants for the year to 31 December 2021 is shown below:

	2021		2020	
	Number	Weighted average exercise price (£)	Number	Weighted average exercise price (£)
As at 1 January	24,964,461	0.09	15,576,533	0.12
Granted	35,191,020	0.04	9,387,908	0.03
Exercised	-	-	-	-
Expired	(5,000,000)	-	-	-
Outstanding as at 31 December	55,155,481	0.06	24,964,461	0.09
Exercisable at 31 December	55,155,481	0.06	24,964,461	0.09

		20	21			202	0	
Range of exercise prices (£)	Weighted average exercise price (£)	Number of shares	Weighted average remaining life expected (years)	Weighted average remaining life contracted (years)	Weighted average exercise price (£)	Number of shares	Weighted average remaining life expected (years)	Weighted average remaining life contracted (years)
0.04-0.6	0.06	55,155,481	3	3	0.09	24,964,461	1.741	1.741

The total fair value charged to the statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 31 December 2021 and included in administrative expenses was £473,059 (2020: £14,118).

# 18. Other (losses)/gains - Net

	Group		
	2021	2020	
	£	£	
Net foreign exchange gains / (losses)	-	(9,006)	
Profit on sale of property, plant and equipment	-	12,724	
Other gains/losses	-	3	
Impairments of financial assets	(417,138)		
	(417,138)	3,721	

# 19. Employees

	Group	
	2021	2020
Staff costs (excluding Directors)	£	£
Salaries and wages	11,937	4,841
Social security costs	-	5,243
Pensions	1,194	2,688
	13,131	12,772

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 1 (2020: 1).

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

# 20. Directors' Remuneration

# For the year ended 31 December 2021

	Short term benefits	Post-Employment benefits	Share based payment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Executive Directors				
Michael Struthers	65,000	-	135,045	200,046
Gregory Kuenzel	68,000	2,040	107,862	177,902
Non-executive Directors				
Neil O'Brien	30,000	-	53,931	83,931
Peter Damouni	24,000	44	53,931	77,975
David Ajemian	1,000	14	-	1,014
Shaun Bunn	43,750	-	-	43,750
	231,750	2,099	350,769	584,618

# For the year ended 31 December 2020

		,		
	Short term benefits	Post-Employment benefits	Share based payment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Executive Directors				
Michael Struthers	99,824	-	-	99,824
Gregory Kuenzel	40,000	1,200	-	41,200
Non-executive Directors				
Neil O'Brien	35,000	-	-	35,000
Peter Damouni	35,000	444	-	35,444
David Ajemian	40,000	1,044	-	41,044
Laurence Mutch	-	-	-	-
	249,824	2,688	-	252,512

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

# 21. Earnings per Share

## **Continuing operations**

The calculation of the total basic losses per share of 0.706 pence (2020: loss 0.456 pence) is based on the losses attributable to equity owners of the group of £2,340,790 (2020: £955,324) and on the weighted average number of ordinary shares of 331,475,515 (2020: 209,429,917) in issue during the period.

In accordance with IAS 33, basic and diluted earnings per share are identical as the effect of the exercise of share options or warrants would be to decrease the loss per share.

## **Discontinued operations**

The calculation of the total basic and diluted earnings per share of 0.528 pence (2020: 0.183 pence) is based on the profit attributable to equity owners of the group of £1,751,536 (2020: £382,335) and on the weighted average number of ordinary shares of 331,475,515 (2020: 209,429,917) in issue during the period.

#### 22. Commitments

#### (a) Work programme commitment

The Eclipse Mining Licence has an annual minimum expenditure commitment of AUD\$30,300.

#### (b) Royalty agreements

As part of the contractual arrangement with Kibe No.1 Investments Limited the Group has agreed to pay a royalty on revenue from gold sales arising from gold mines developed by Noricum Gold AT GmbH and covered by licenses acquired by Kibe No.1 Investments Limited. Under the terms of the Royalty Agreement between Kibe No.1 Investments Limited and Noricum Gold AT GmbH, the Group shall pay royalties, based on total ounces of gold sold, equal to US\$1 for every US\$250 of the sale price per ounce.

# (c) Lease agreements

During the period Eclipse entered into a 12 month office lease of AUD\$17,160 per annum. At the year end the commitment amounted to AUD\$3,900. Additionnaly, Empire entered into a 12 month office lease of £18,000 per annum. The year end commitment amounted to £12,000.

The lease payments in respect of the two leases have been expensed to the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income in line with IFRS 16 for commitments spanning less than 12 months from the year end date.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

# 23. Assets held for sale and discontinued operations

On 10<sup>th</sup> June 2021, the Company announced that it had sold its 50% interest in GCG to its joint venture partner for cash consideration of \$3.3million (£2,327,944).

	As at 31 December 2021
	£
Consideration received	2,327,944
Total assets of disposal group held for sale	(552,815)
Gain on sale of asset held for sale	1,775,129

The financial performance and cash flow information of the joint venture presented is for the year ended 31 December 2020.

	2021	2020		
	£	£		
Share of (loss)/ profit from joint venture	(23,593)	382,335		
Profit on disposal of investment	1,775,129	-		
Profit from discontinued operations	1,751,536	382,335		
Net cash flows from operating activities	-			
Net cash flows from financing activities	(22,240)	(44,164)		
Net cash flows from investment activities	-	-		
Net decrease in cash generated from disposal group	(22,240)	(44,164)		

The following assets were reclassified as held for sale in relation to the discontinued operation prior to disposal:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Loan receivable	194,073	43,227
Investment in joint venture	358,742	382,335
Total assets of disposal group	552,815	425,562

## 24. Financial instruments

Financial instruments measured at fair value

The fair value hierarchy of financial instruments measured at fair value is provided below. The different levels have been defined as follows:

- Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1),
- Inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly (level 2),
- Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (that is, unobservable inputs) (level 3).

Cost may be an appropriate estimation of fair value at the measurement date only in limited circumstances, such as for a prerevenue entity when there is no catalyst for change in fair value, or the transaction date is relatively close to the measurement date. The financial asset relates to costs incurred with the acquisition of an option to invest in a 75% holding of Eclipse Exploration PTY. Further detail can be found in note 12.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

#### Group

There were no assets held at fair value as at 31 December 2021.

31 December 2020	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total £'000
Financial assets (fair value through the profit or loss)	-	-	427,314	427,314

427,314

427,314

### 25. Related Party Transactions

### Services provided by European Mining Services Limited to JSC Georgian Copper & Gold

During the year European Mining Services Limited provided geological, technical and other professional services with a total value of £Nil (2020: £1,204) to JSC Georgian Copper and Gold, the joint venture entity.

#### Loans provided by Parent Company

As at 31 December 2021 there were amounts receivable of £8,958 (2020: £7,454) from Kibe No.2 Investments Limited. No interest was charged on the loans.

As at 31 December 2021 there were amounts receivable of £696,186 (2020: £694,186) from European Mining Services Limited.

As at 31 December 2021 there were amounts receivable of £2,737,475 (2020: £Nil) from Eclipse Exploration Pty Ltd.

# Loans provided by Kibe No.2 Investments Limited

As at 31 December 2021 there were amounts receivable of £754,517 (2020: £754,517) from Noricum AT GmbH.

As at 31 December 2021 there were amounts receivable of £119,704 (2020: £74,126) from Noricum AT GmbH

All intra-group transactions are eliminated on consolidation.

### **Other Transactions**

Westend Corporate LLP, an entity in which Gregory Kuenzel is a partner, was paid a fee of £69,640 (2020: £46,800) for accounting services to the Group. At the year-end there was an outstanding balance of £7,053 (2020: £7,208).

Michael Struthers received £65,000 (2020: £99,824) through his service company, MS Mining Consulting LDA, as disclosed in Note 20.

## 26. Ultimate Controlling Party

The Directors believe there to be no ultimate controlling party.

# 27. Events after the Reporting Date

On 26 January 2022 the Group agreed Heads of Terms to enter into a Tribute Agreement with Maher Mining Contractors Pty Ltd, giving Empire the right to explore, develop and mine within a granted area on Maher Mining's 100% owned mining lease M27/158 ('Gindalbie Gold Project').

On 8 February 2022 the Group announced that it will focus on advanced exploration opportunities at the Eclipse and Gindalbie Gold Project, resulting in the termination of the option on Central Menzies Gold Project.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2021

On 6 April 2022 Eclipse acquired a 70% interest in three highly prospective Australian-based copper-gold projects from Century Minerals Pty Ltd for total consideration of AUD\$100,000 in cash and the issue of 16,835,588 new ordinary shares in the Company.

On 20 April 2022 the Company issued 7,500,000 options over ordinary shares of no par value in the capital of the Company to the Managing Director.

On 28 April 2022 the Company completed a placing to raise £1,700,000 before expenses by way of a placing of 85,000,000 new ordinary shares of no par value in the capital.

In February 2022 Russia invaded Ukraine, in a major escalation of the Russo-Ukrainian War. Whilst this has had a huge geopolitical impact across the world, Empire has not seen a direct impact to its organisation including employees and the ability to carry out its core strategy. Empire continues to monitor the situation as it evolves.

On 13 June 2022 the Company announced the resignation of Mr Michael Struthers from the Board of Directors.