

# **AX INVESTMENTS P.L.C.**

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 October 2021

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# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Directors, Officers and Other Information

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*Directors:* Mr Angelo Xuereb - Chairman  
Dr Patrick J. Galea  
Chev Philip A. Ransley  
Mr Michael Warrington  
Mr Michael Sciortino (resigned 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021)  
Mr Josef Formosa Gauci (appointed 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021)

*Secretary:* Dr Ian Vella Galea

*Registered office:* AX Group  
AX Business Centre  
Triq id-Difiza Civili  
Mosta MST 1741  
Malta

*Country of incorporation:* Malta

*Company registration number:* C 27586

*Auditors:* Ernst & Young Malta Limited  
Certified Public Accountants  
Regional Business Centre  
Achille Ferris Street  
Msida MSD 1751  
Malta

*Bankers:* Bank of Valletta p.l.c.  
Labour Avenue  
Naxxar  
Malta

*Legal adviser:* Dr David Wain  
AX Group  
AX Business Centre  
Triq id-Difiza Civili  
Mosta MST 1741  
Malta

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Directors' Report

Year ended 31 October 2021

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### Principal activities

The Company was formed principally to act as a finance and investment company, in particular the financing or re-financing of the funding requirements of related companies within the AX Group p.l.c. Group of Companies.

### Performance review

The Company's rental income is derived from the lease of Palazzo Capua in Sliema. Revenue remained stable in line with previous year results. Administrative expenses were higher than the previous year by EUR13,362, representing an increase in the provision for expected credit losses. The operating profit during the year under review amounted to EUR127,774 (2020: EUR141,136).

Interest income from related parties increased marginally by EUR18,593 from EUR2,759,022 in 2020 to EUR2,777,615 in 2021. On the other hand, finance costs remained constant at EUR2,462,329 in line with previous year.

During the year under review, the Company registered a net profit before taxation of EUR351,042 (2020: a net loss before taxation of EUR1,142,117).

The share of results of associate relate to the holding of 19.91% in Suncrest Hotels p.l.c. In 2020, the Company registered a net loss for the year due to its share of results of the associate. This was the result of a fair valuation of the Investment Property held by Suncrest Hotels p.l.c. whose valuation was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The holding in Suncrest Hotels p.l.c. was sold to a related party during the year.

Following the sale of the investment in Suncrest Hotels p.l.c., the deferred tax liability previously accounted on this investment was released, resulting in a net tax credit of EUR3,444,241 (2020: EUR411,236). Profit for the year amounted to EUR3,795,283 (2020: loss of EUR730,881).

The resulting earnings per share for the year under review increased from a loss of EUR0.15 per share to earnings of EUR0.76 per share. This ratio reflects the profit/(loss) attributable to ordinary shareholders divided by the average number of shares in issue during the year.

The fair value of the investment property as at 31 October 2021 is based on a valuation carried out by an independent architect on 19 December 2020. No changes in fair value were recognized to profit or loss.

An interim dividend of EUR10,000,000 was declared during the year ended 31 October 2021. Total equity decreased by EUR6,204,717 from EUR18,532,512 in 2020 to EUR12,327,795 in 2021, reflecting the deduction of the dividend of EUR10,000,000 and the profit for the year of EUR3,795,283.

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Directors' Report – continued

Year ended 31 October 2021

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### Financial Key Performance Indicators

	2021 EUR	2020 EUR	2019 EUR
Revenue	238,360	238,360	238,360
Operating profit	127,774	78,807	59,380
Net finance income	315,286	296,693	410,588
Net profit/(loss) after tax	3,795,283	(730,881)	668,299
Earnings/(loss) per share	0.76	(0.15)	0.13
Total equity and liabilities	55,129,076	64,643,033	65,886,078

### Going concern

Having made an appropriate assessment of going concern as discussed in Note 2.1 to these financial statements, the Directors, at the time of approving these financial statements, have determined that there is reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue operating for the foreseeable future. For this reason, these financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the Company will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and will meet its financial obligations as and when they fall due.

### Principal risks and uncertainties

The Company is exposed to risks inherent to its operation and can be summarized as follows:

#### 1. Strategy risk

Risk management falls under the responsibility of the Board of Directors. The Board is continuously analysing its risk management strategy to ensure that risk is adequately identified and managed. The Audit Committee regularly reviews the risk profile adopted by the Board of Directors.

#### 2. Operational risks

The Company's revenue is mainly derived from interest charges and rental income charged to related parties and hence the Company is heavily dependent on the performance of the AX Group. The Company regularly reviews the financial performance of the AX Group of Companies to ensure that there is sufficient liquidity to sustain its operations.

#### 3. Legislative risks

The Company is governed by a number of laws and regulations. Failure to comply could have financial and reputational implications and could materially affect the Company's ability to operate. The Company has embedded operating policies and procedures to ensure compliance with existing legislation.

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Directors' Report – continued

Year ended 31 October 2021

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### Financial risk management and exposures

Note 24 to the financial statements provides a detailed analysis of the financial risks to which the Company is exposed.

### Dividend and reserves

The Directors do not recommend the payment of a final dividend and propose to transfer the profit for the year to reserves.

### Directors

The Directors, who served throughout the year, were:

Dr Patrick J. Galea  
Chev Philip A. Ransley  
Mr Michael Warrington  
Mr Angelo Xuereb  
Mr Josef Formosa Gauci (appointed 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021)  
Mr Michael Sciortino (resigned 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021)

In accordance with the Company's articles of association, the present Directors remain in office.

### Auditors

Ernst & Young Malta Limited have expressed their willingness to continue in office and a resolution for their re-appointment will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

**Approved by the board of Directors and signed on its behalf on 15 February 2022 by:**



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**Mr Angelo Xuereb**  
Chairman



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**Mr Michael Warrington**  
Director

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

Year ended 31 October 2021

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The Directors are required by the Companies Act (Chap. 386) to prepare financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company at the end of each financial year and of the profit or loss of the Company for the year then ended. In preparing the financial statements, the Directors should:

- adopt the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business;
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- account for income and charges relating to the accounting period on the accruals basis;
- value separately the components of asset and liability items; and
- report comparative figures corresponding to those of the preceding accounting period.

The Directors are responsible for ensuring that proper accounting records are kept which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and which enable the Directors to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act (Chap. 386). This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. The Directors are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company, and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Corporate Governance – Statement of Compliance

Year ended 31 October 2021

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Pursuant to Listing Rule 5.97 issued by the Malta Financial Services Authority, AX Investments p.l.c. (the Company) is hereby reporting on the extent of its adoption of “the Code of Principles of Good Corporate Governance” (the Code) previously established by the Malta Stock Exchange. The Board has reviewed its Corporate Governance practices and an explanation of how the Principles of Good Governance have been applied is contained in this report.

The Company acts as a finance company to the AX Group p.l.c. Group of Companies and as such has minimal operations emanating from this task. Its primary function is the lending and monitoring of the proceeds of the bonds issued to the public in 2014 by the Company and guaranteed by the parent company; AX Group p.l.c.

### Compliance

Although the adoption of the Code is not mandatory, the Board has considered the principles embodied in the Code and has noted the Code’s recommended practices aimed towards the fulfilment of these same principles. The Board has also taken into account the nature of the Company’s structure, business activities and operations and in the light of such considerations it has formulated the view that the Company was generally in compliance with the Code throughout the period, with the following exception:

The Board does not consider it necessary to institute separate committees such as the remuneration and the nomination committees.

### Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of AX Investments p.l.c. (the Board) is currently made up of five Directors, three of whom are completely independent from the Company or any related Group company. Pursuant to generally accepted practices, as well as the Company’s Articles of Association, the appointment of Directors to the Board is reserved exclusively to the Company’s shareholders.

The present Directors are Mr Angelo Xuereb, Dr Patrick J. Galea LL.D., Chev Philip A. Ransley, Mr Josef Formosa Gauci and Mr Michael Warrington. Messrs Galea, Ransley and Formosa Gauci are independent Directors in that they have no involvement or relationship with the Company or with the majority shareholder.

Mr Angelo Xuereb has been appointed as Chairman of the Board.

The Board acknowledges its statutory mandate to conduct the administration and management of the Company. The Board’s functions are governed by Chapter 5 of the Listing Rule and the Code of Corporate Governance for Listed entities.

The Board is also responsible for ensuring that the Company installs and operates effective internal control and management information systems and that it communicates effectively with the market.

The Board met four times during the year under review. The Board has a formal schedule of matters reserved to it for decision. Directors receive board and committee papers 10 days in advance of meetings and have access to the advice and services of the Company Secretary. Directors may, in the furtherance of their duties, take independent professional advice on any matter at the Company’s expense.

The Company, due to its continuous oversight and communication with its shareholders, has not established a committee chaired by a non-executive Director in order to carry out a performance evaluation of its role.



# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Corporate Governance – Statement of Compliance – continued

Year ended 31 October 2021

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### Audit committee

The Audit Committee held four meetings during the year under review, besides having ongoing consultations with the Board of Directors, in the fulfilment of its task of monitoring and reviewing procedures and internal control systems.

The Committee is chaired by Chev. Philip A. Ransley, and its other members are Dr Patrick J. Galea LL.D. and Mr Josef Formosa Gauci. The audit committee is in compliance with the Listing Rules. All three Directors forming the audit committee are non-executive Directors and are totally independent from the Company or the AX Group of Companies.

The Company Secretary acts as secretary to the committee which also receives the assistance of the Group Chief Executive Officer; Mr Michael Warrington, and the Group Chief Financial Officer; Mr Albert Bonello.

### Dealings by Directors and Senior Officers

Conscious of its responsibility for monitoring dealings by Directors and senior officers in the Company's securities, the Board approved a Code of Conduct for Securities Transactions by Directors, Executives and Employees in compliance with Listing Rules 5.102 to 5.116. The code provides guidance to the Company's officers and serves as a minimum standard of good practice when dealing in the Company's securities.

During the year under review, there were no transactions in the Company's securities involving Directors or any of the Company's employees in possession of unpublished price-sensitive information.

### Internal control

The Board is ultimately responsible for the Company's system of internal control and for reviewing its effectiveness. However, such a system is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve objectives, and can provide only reasonable, and not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The Audit Committee continued to review the Company's system of internal controls which are monitored by the Group's Finance Department. The main internal controls comprise of the following:

- Regularly monitoring group business operations to ensure that the set objectives and targets are achieved
- Identify, evaluate and effectively manage significant risks satisfactorily
- Ensure compliance with company policy
- Comply with all statutory obligations

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Corporate Governance – Statement of Compliance – continued

Year ended 31 October 2021

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The Board and Audit Committee are satisfied with the effectiveness of the Company's system of internal controls.

A policy is in place, laying down the minimum required reports that should be made available to the Board in order to keep it informed in a structured and systematic manner on the operational and financial performance of the Company.

### General meetings

A general meeting is conducted in conformity with the Memorandum and Articles of Association and is called by giving at least fourteen days' notice in writing to all members. The ordinary business conducted at the general meeting consists of the declaration of dividend, the consideration of the annual financial statements, the election of Directors, the appointment of external auditors and the determination of the remuneration of Directors and the external auditors. All shareholders, auditors and Directors have the right to attend and participate at general meetings. Voting rights are exclusively reserved to the ordinary shareholders. Preference shareholders are entitled to vote if a dividend in their favour is outstanding for more than 6 months. At the time of writing the share capital consisted only of ordinary shares. Every member is entitled to appoint a person to act as proxy. The proxy holder shall enjoy the same rights to speak, vote and ask questions at the general meeting as those the member represented would be entitled to.

### Institutional shareholders

The Company is privately held and has no institutional shareholders.

### Risk identification

Management is responsible for the identification and evaluation of key risks applicable to their areas of business. Risks may be associated with a variety of internal or external sources including control breakdowns, disruption in information systems, competition, natural catastrophe and regulatory requirements.

The Board reviews its risk management policies and strategies and oversees their implementation to ensure that identified operational risks are properly assessed and managed.

### Directors' remuneration

The Board determines the remuneration of the Directors. The Directors' annual remuneration for the financial year under review, as previously approved by the Board, was as follows:

	EUR
Mr Angelo Xuereb	25,000
Dr Patrick J. Galea	5,000*
Chev. Philip A. Ransley	5,000*
Mr Michael Warrington	3,000
Mr Josef Formosa Gauci (appointed 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2021)	833*
Mr Michael Sciortino (resigned 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2021)	4,167*

\*includes the audit committee fee

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Corporate Governance – Statement of Compliance – continued

Year ended 31 October 2021

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### Directors' remuneration – continued

Mr Angelo Xuereb indirectly, through AX Group p.l.c., holds a controlling interest in the Company. Mr Michael Warrington holds the position of Group Chief Executive Officer with the majority corporate shareholder; AX Group p.l.c.

### Commitment to maintain an informed market

The Company recognises the importance of maintaining a dialogue with its stakeholders to ensure that its strategies and performance are understood. The Company communicates with bondholders by way of the Annual Report and Financial Statements and by publishing its results on a six-monthly basis during the year, and through company announcements to the market in general.

The Board has also implemented an Investor Relations Program, which aims at giving Bondholders rewards to be used within the Group to foster loyalty. This program, which is managed by AX Group p.l.c. executives, includes the issue of the AX Investments Platinum Card and the periodic dissemination of the AX Investments Newsletter.

### Corporate social responsibility

The Company is conscious of its responsibility towards the society in which it operates. It promotes environmentally friendly measures such as the reduction in the Company's carbon footprint as well as encourages its employees to lead a healthy and active lifestyle.

Furthermore, the AX Foundation, which is the charitable arm of the Group, is devoted to supporting people living with invisible disabilities, with its primary focus being on the autism spectrum. AX Foundation was originally founded in 2006 to provide support to people who are going through social, mental, or physical difficulties. Along the years AX Foundation has supported numerous other NGOs.

The information as provided above is a fair summary of the AX Investments p.l.c. adoption of the Code of Good Corporate Governance. Overall, the Company has broadly implemented the Code where the Board believes that it would add value to the stakeholders. In certain areas, it was felt that the Code was more suited to companies who held equity on the Malta Stock Exchange and therefore its implementation would not be useful for a limited operating company like AX Investments p.l.c.


The Board will continue to monitor the Code in future years and will decide on an annual basis if the position stated above will apply.

**Approved by the Board of Directors on 15 February 2022 and signed on its behalf by:**



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**Mr Angelo Xuereb**  
Chairman



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**Mr Michael Warrington**  
Director

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

to the Shareholders of AX Investments p.l.c.

### **Report on the audit of the financial statements**

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#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of AX Investments p.l.c. (the "Company"), set on pages 18 to 53, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 October 2021, and the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company as at 31 October 2021, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU ("IFRS") and the Companies Act, Cap. 386 of the Laws of Malta (the "Companies Act").

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#### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) and the Companies Act. Our responsibilities under those standards and under the Companies Act are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the *International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards)* as issued by the *International Ethics Standards Board of Accountants (IESBA Code)* together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in accordance with the *Accountancy Profession (Code of Ethics for Warrant Holders) Directive issued in terms of the Accountancy Profession Act, Cap. 281 of the Laws of Malta*, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the Shareholders of AX Investments p.l.c.

### Report on the audit of the financial statements

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#### **Key audit matters incorporating the most significant risks of material misstatements, including assessed risk of material misstatements due to fraud.**

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. 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. For each matter below, our description of how our audit addressed the matter is provided in that context.

We have fulfilled the responsibilities described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report, including in relation to these matters. Accordingly, our audit included the performance of procedures designed to respond to our assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements. The results of our audit procedures, including the procedures performed to address the matters below, provide the basis for our audit opinion on the accompanying financial statements.

#### *Recoverability of loans and receivables*

Loans and receivables from parent and related parties, as disclosed in note 13, represent 81.6% of the Company's total assets as of 31 October 2021. Loans and receivables which are classified as financial assets at amortised cost as described in note 3.8, are measured using the effective interest method and are subject to impairment. The Company recognises an allowance for expected credit losses based on the cash flows that the Company expects to receive. The recoverability assessment of loans and receivables considers the financial position and performance of the parent and related party borrowers for the reporting period, as well as the cash flow projections of AX Group p.l.c. ("AX Group") of which the Company is a subsidiary. AX Group p.l.c. is the guarantor of the Company's bond.

Due to the significance of the balances of loans and receivables from parent and related parties, and the dependency of the Company on the performance and recoverability of such loans and receivables to meet its ongoing obligations, we have considered the recoverability of loans and receivables as a key audit matter.

Our audit procedures over the recoverability of the loans and receivables from parent and related parties included amongst others:

- inspecting the loan and receivable agreements, agreeing terms and conditions with parent and related parties, and analysing whether the performance of the loans and receivables is in line with the relevant agreements;
- confirming the outstanding balances with parent and related parties; and
- evaluating the Company's assessment of the recoverability of loans and receivables by analysing the cash flow projections for the AX Group, as well as the financial position and performance of the parent and respective related party borrowers for the reporting period. Our procedures focused on considering the main inputs and assumptions used in the projections, such as operational cash flows, inflows from sales of property, capital expenditures, debt financing and other funding availability against our understanding of the business and industry developments, historical data and any other available information. We also focused on updates made to respond to the continued impacts and uncertainties around COVID-19 developments and performed an independent sensitivity analysis, stress testing key inputs, assumptions and contingency plan to assess whether the liquidity headroom calculations are reasonable. The analysis of the financial position and performance of the parent and related party borrowers was also a key procedure to assess any significant increase in credit risk.

We have also assessed the relevance and adequacy of disclosures relating to loans and receivables from parent and related parties presented in notes 3.8, 4 and 13 to the financial statements.

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

to the Shareholders of AX Investments p.l.c.

### **Report on the audit of the financial statements**

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#### **Key audit matters incorporating the most significant risks of material misstatements, including assessed risk of material misstatements due to fraud – continued**

##### *Valuation of investment property*

The Company's investment property, which is being further described in notes 3.11, 4 and 12 in the financial statements, accounts for 16% of total assets as at 31 October 2021.

The investment property is fair valued by a professionally qualified architect on the basis of an assessment in accordance with international valuations standards (IVS) and best practice. A valuation was not obtained at 31 October 2021. However, management verified all major inputs to the latest independent valuation report, assessed any property valuation movements when compared to the previous valuation report and held discussions with the independent valuer, as necessary.

The valuation of the investment property at fair value is highly dependent on estimates and assumptions such as the estimated land value and going rates for construction, finishing, services and fittings under the replacement cost approach. Therefore, due to the significance of the balance and estimation uncertainty involved in the fair valuation of investment property, we have considered the valuation of investment property as a key audit matter.

Our audit procedures over the valuation of investment property included amongst others:

- evaluating the design and implementation of key controls over the Company's investment property valuation process by inquiring with the valuation process owners;
- performing enquiries on management's reviews over the investment property valuation and inspecting minutes of meetings of the board and audit committee where such valuation was discussed;
- obtaining an understanding of the scope of work of the professional valuer by reviewing the available valuation report and considered the independence and expertise thereof; and
- including a valuation specialist on our team to assist us in assessing the appropriateness of the valuation approach applied, as well as evaluating the reasonability and validity of key assumptions and estimates used in the valuation by comparing to independent sources and real estate market data and conditions.

We also assessed the relevance and adequacy of disclosures relating to the Company's valuation of investment property presented in notes 3.11, 4 and 12 to the financial statements.

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

to the Shareholders of AX Investments p.l.c.

### **Report on the audit of the financial statements**

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#### **Other information**

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon other than our reporting on other legal and regulatory requirements.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, 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.

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#### **Responsibilities of the directors and those charged with governance for the financial statements**

The directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with IFRS and the requirements of the Companies Act and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Company's financial reporting process.

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#### **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 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.

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

to the Shareholders of AX Investments p.l.c.

### **Report on the audit of the financial statements**

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#### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements - continued**

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control;
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors;
- conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern;
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation;

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with those charged with governance, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.



## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

to the Shareholders of AX Investments p.l.c.

### **Report on other legal and regulatory requirements**

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#### **Matters on which we are required to report by the Companies Act**

##### *Directors' report*

We are required to express an opinion as to whether the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with the applicable legal requirements. In our opinion the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act.

In addition, in the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we are required to report if we have identified material misstatements in the Directors' report. We have nothing to report in this regard.

##### *Other requirements*

We also have responsibilities under the Companies Act to report if in our opinion:

- proper accounting records have not been kept;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records;
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

We have nothing to report to you in respect of these responsibilities.

##### *Appointment*

We were appointed as the statutory auditor by the General Meeting of Shareholders of the Company on 28 October 2020. The total uninterrupted engagement period as statutory auditor, including previous renewals and reappointments amounts to 2 years.

##### *Consistency with the additional report to the audit committee*

Our audit opinion on the financial statements expressed herein is consistent with the additional report to the audit committee of the Company, which was issued on the same date as this report.

##### *Non-audit services*

No prohibited non-audit services referred to in Article 18A(1) of the Accountancy Profession Act, Cap. 281 of the Laws of Malta were provided by us to the Company and we remain independent of the Company as described in the Basis for opinion section of our report.

No other services besides statutory audit services and services disclosed in the annual report and in the financial statements, were provided by us to the Company.

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

to the Shareholders of AX Investments p.l.c.

### **Report on other legal and regulatory requirements**

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#### **Matters on which we are required to report by the Listing rules**

##### *Corporate governance statement*

The Listing Rules issued by the Malta Listing Authority require the directors to prepare and include in their annual report a statement of compliance providing an explanation of the extent to which they have adopted the Code of Principles of Good Corporate Governance and the effective measures that they have taken to ensure compliance throughout the accounting period with those Principles.

The Listing Rules also require the auditor to include a report on the statement of compliance prepared by the directors. We are also required to express an opinion as to whether, in the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have identified material misstatements with respect to the information referred to in Listing Rules 5.97.4 and 5.97.5.

We read the statement of compliance and consider the implication for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements included in the annual report. Our responsibilities do not extend to considering whether this statement is consistent with the other information included in the annual report.

We are not required to, and we do not, consider whether the Board's statements on internal control included in the statement of compliance cover all risks and controls, or form an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's governance procedures or its risk and control procedures.

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

to the Shareholders of AX Investments p.l.c.

### **Report on other legal and regulatory requirements**

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#### **Matters on which we are required to report by the Listing rules – continued**

In our opinion:

- the corporate governance statement set out on pages 6 to 9 has been properly prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Listing Rules issued by the Malta Listing Authority
- in the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit the information referred to in Listing Rules 5.97.4 and 5.97.5 are free from material misstatement.

Under the Listing Rules we also have the responsibility to:

- review the statement made by the Directors, set out on page 3, that the business is a going concern, together with supporting assumptions or qualifications as necessary.

We have nothing to report to you in respect of these responsibilities.



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*The partner in charge of the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is  
Christopher Balzan for and on behalf of*

Ernst & Young Malta Limited  
Certified Public Accountants

15 February 2022

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 31 October 2021

	Note	2021 EUR	2020 EUR
<b>Revenue</b>	5	<b>238,360</b>	238,360
Administrative expenses	8	<b>(110,586)</b>	(97,224)
<b>Operating profit</b>		<b>127,774</b>	141,136
Finance income	6	<b>2,777,615</b>	2,759,022
Finance costs	7	<b>(2,462,329)</b>	(2,462,329)
Share of results of associate	13	<b>(19,320)</b>	(1,579,946)
Loss on disposal of investment in associate	13	<b>(72,698)</b>	-
<b>Profit / (loss) before taxation</b>		<b>351,042</b>	(1,142,117)
Income tax	9	<b>3,444,241</b>	411,236
<b>Profit / (loss) for the year</b>		<b>3,795,283</b>	(730,881)
<b>Other comprehensive income for the year</b>		-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income / (loss) for the year</b>		<b>3,795,283</b>	(730,881)
<b>Earnings / (loss) per share</b>	10	<b>0.76</b>	(0.15)

*The notes on pages 22 to 53 form an integral part of these financial statements.*

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Statement of Financial Position

As at 31 October 2021

	Note	2021 EUR	2020 EUR
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	11	2,551	3,757
Investment property	12	9,025,157	9,025,157
Investment in associated undertaking	13	-	12,793,101
Loans and receivables	13	45,002,078	42,327,973
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>54,029,786</b>	<b>64,149,988</b>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Trade and other receivables	14	1,098,803	485,797
Cash and cash equivalents	15	487	7,248
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>1,099,290</b>	<b>493,045</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>55,129,076</b>	<b>64,643,033</b>
<b>EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Capital and reserves</b>			
Called up issued share capital	16	5,000,000	5,000,000
Retained earnings	17	6,479,715	12,684,432
Fair value reserve	17	848,080	848,080
<b>Total equity</b>		<b>12,327,795</b>	<b>18,532,512</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Debt securities in issue	18	39,851,606	39,789,277
Deferred taxation	19	877,186	4,467,339
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>40,728,792</b>	<b>44,256,616</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	20	502,216	283,632
Debt securities in issue	18	1,570,273	1,570,273
Current tax liability	21	-	-
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>2,072,489</b>	<b>1,853,905</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>42,801,281</b>	<b>46,110,521</b>
<b>Total equity and liabilities</b>		<b>55,129,076</b>	<b>64,643,033</b>

The notes on pages 22 to 53 form an integral part of these financial statements.

These financial statements were approved by the board of Directors, authorised for issue on 15 February 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr Angelo Xuereb  
Chairman



Mr Michael Warrington  
Director

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Statement of Changes in Equity

For the year ended 31 October 2021

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	Called up issued share capital EUR	Retained earnings EUR	Fair value reserve EUR	Total EUR
<b>At 1 November 2019</b>	5,000,000	13,415,313	848,080	19,263,393
Loss for the year	-	(730,881)	-	(730,881)
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive loss	-	(730,881)	-	(730,881)
<b>At 31 October 2020</b>	<b>5,000,000</b>	<b>12,684,432</b>	<b>848,080</b>	<b>18,532,512</b>
<b>At 1 November 2020</b>	5,000,000	12,684,432	848,080	18,532,512
Profit for the year	-	3,795,283	-	3,795,283
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income	-	3,795,283	-	3,795,283
Dividends paid (Note 17)	-	(10,000,000)	-	(10,000,000)
<b>At 31 October 2021</b>	<b>5,000,000</b>	<b>6,479,715</b>	<b>848,080</b>	<b>12,327,795</b>

*The notes on pages 22 to 53 form an integral part of these financial statements.*

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 October 2021

	Note	2021 EUR	2020 EUR
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Profit / (loss) before taxation		351,042	(1,142,117)
<i>Adjustments for:</i>			
Movement in allowance of credit losses		5,297	-
Depreciation		1,206	6,529
Bond issue costs amortisation for the year		62,329	62,329
Interest expense		2,400,000	2,400,000
Interest income		(2,777,615)	(2,759,022)
Share of results of associate		19,320	1,579,946
Loss on disposal of investment in associate		72,698	-
<b>Operating profit before working capital movements</b>		134,277	147,665
Movement in trade and other payables		72,508	11,977
Movement in trade and other receivables		(613,819)	(15,970)
<b>Cash flows from operations</b>		(407,034)	143,672
Interest paid		(2,400,000)	(2,400,000)
Interest received		2,777,615	2,759,022
Taxation paid		-	(175,226)
<b>Net cash (used in)/from operating activities</b>		(29,419)	327,468
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Additional loans to related parties		(4,378,120)	(2,539,603)
Proceeds from loans to related parties		4,400,778	2,863,743
<b>Net cash from/(used in) investing activities</b>		22,658	(324,140)
<b>Net movement in cash and cash equivalents</b>		(6,761)	3,328
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 November 2020		7,248	3,920
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 October 2021	15	487	7,248

The Company engaged in the following significant non-cash investing and financing activities during the year:

### Non-cash investing activities

Consideration for disposal of investment in associate (note 13a) 12,701,084 -

### Non-cash financing activities

Dividend declared to parent (note 13b) 10,000,000 -

*The notes on pages 22 to 53 form an integral part of these financial statements.*

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

31 October 2021

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### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

AX Investments p.l.c. (“the Company”) is a limited liability company incorporated in Malta. Its registered office is provided on page 1. The Company’s principal activity, which is unchanged since last year, is that of financing or re-financing of the funding requirements of related companies.

### 2. BASIS OF PREPARATION

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the EU and the requirements of the Companies Act, Cap. 386 of the Laws of Malta.

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis, except for investment property which is stated at fair value.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRSs as adopted by the EU requires the use of certain accounting estimates. It also requires the Directors to exercise their judgement in the process of applying the Company’s accounting policies. Significant accounting policies are disclosed in Note 3 and accounting estimates are disclosed in Note 4.

These financial statements are presented in Euro (EUR) which is the Company’s functional currency. The accounting policies set out below have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements.

#### 2.1 Going concern

During the year ended 31 October 2021, the Company recorded a profit before tax of EUR 351,042 (2020: loss before tax of EUR 1,142,117) and as at reporting date, the Company’s current liabilities exceeded its current assets by EUR 973,199 (2020: EUR 1,360,860).

AX Investments p.l.c. is a finance entity within AX Group p.l.c. (“AX Group” or “the Group”). It has raised finance through bond issued on the Malta Stock Exchange which it lends to subsidiaries of the AX Group in order to finance projects and developments. As such the Company is reliant on AX Group and its subsidiaries for the payment of interest due on the bond as well as the repayment of the bond at maturity. In this regard, AX Group p.l.c. has in terms of the offering memorandum of the “6% AX Investments p.l.c. 2024 Bond”, given a parent company guarantee to support this commitment. The guarantee was previously provided by AX Holdings Limited. AX Holdings Limited was merged into AX Group p.l.c. as of 24 March 2021 and consequently, AX Group p.l.c. absorbed all the assets, rights, liabilities and obligations of AX Holdings Limited, which, in turn, ceased to exist.

Management of AX Group p.l.c. has prepared an eighteen-month forecast for the Group in order to assess the impact of the current situation on the businesses, as described below, and has concluded that as a result of the strength of the Group’s financial position and the measures being taken by to address and mitigate the impact of the COVID–19 pandemic, the Group will be able to sustain its operations over the foreseeable future in a manner that is cash flow positive.

Accordingly, based on information available at the time of approving these financial statements, the Directors have reasonable expectation that the Company will meet all its obligations as and when they fall due over the foreseeable future and therefore, that the going concern basis adopted for the preparation of these financial statements is appropriate.



## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

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### 2. BASIS OF PREPARATION – continued

#### 2.1 Going concern – continued

##### *Business update*

2021 was another year characterised by various disruptions brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Group's main operating divisions have on various levels continued to suffer from the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic. The AX Group is a diversified group of companies with its main activities in the Care, Construction, Development and Hospitality sectors. This diversification is a key strength of the Group since if a particular market suffers a setback, the other business sectors may help compensate for that loss. This was in fact the case in 2020 and 2021.

Notwithstanding the negative impact, the Hospitality sector remains the largest business sector within the AX Group. The closure of restaurants and non-essential shops imposed by the local authorities on the 5 March 2021 continued to negatively impact the performance of the Group's hospitality division. In May 2021, following the rapid vaccination programme, the local health authorities announced that Malta had achieved herd immunity which in turn led to the gradual easing of a number of restrictions. Throughout the summer months, the hotels experienced a steady but gradual increase in both turnover and profitability when compared to 2020. This trajectory continued throughout all of 2021 although in December 2021, the performance was dampened by the surge in cases following the new Omicron variant.

##### *Liquidity*

The Group took various steps to retain a high level of liquidity in line with Group policy.

As at reporting date, the Group had aggregate banking facilities of EUR 27,412,974 (2020: EUR 29,079,844) of which EUR 6,011,835 (2020: EUR 15,880,407) were undrawn banking facilities. During the financial year, the Group has availed itself of various bank loan repayment moratoriums with its' bankers.

Despite the increase in gearing, the Group still retains a low gearing ratio of 30.8% as at reporting date. This places the Group in a good position should it need to raise further funding through bank loans or the issue of debt securities. In addition, should it be necessary, the Group has identified certain non-operating immovable property that can be disposed of in order to ensure sufficient liquidity within the Group.

##### *Cashflow forecast*

Management has prepared an eighteen-month forecast for the Group in order to assess the impact of the current situation on the businesses. The assumptions modelled are based on the estimated potential impact of COVID-19 restrictions and regulations, encompassing a gradual recovery following the vaccine booster roll-out and expected easing of restrictions by the local authorities. The base case scenario contemplates the benefits of actions already taken by management to mitigate the trading downsides brought by COVID-19, and cash inflows from the disposal of an investment property. Management is in advanced discussions with an interested third-party buyer and expects the asset to be realised through sale within the forecast period. The forecast includes the curtailment of capital expenditure within the hospitality and care divisions whereby only essential capital expenditure is planned. In addition to the Suncrest and Verdala projects which will be financed through the raising of funds by AX Real Estate plc, the Group plans to continue with the development of a limited number of projects that are key to its long-term strategy.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

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### 2. BASIS OF PREPARATION – continued

#### 2.1 Going concern – continued

*Cashflow forecast – continued*

Management has also considered a stress tested scenario, in which the economy recovers at a slower pace than forecasted in the base case, with current restrictions remaining in place for a longer period. Under all scenarios tested, the Group is expected to continue to have sufficient liquidity relative to the funding available to it. Management also notes that several of the Group's properties are unencumbered and could potentially be used as a guarantee in obtaining additional financing from banks should the need arise.

The Group has also identified a contingency plan should the expected economic recovery prolong or take a downturn. The Group has earmarked other immovable property that can be disposed of, as well as the postponement of renovation works related to an immovable property that the Group is expected to acquire in 2022.

### 3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

#### 3.1 Standards, interpretations and amendments to published standards endorsed by the European Union effective in the current year

The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous financial year, except for the following amendments to IFRS effective during the year:

- Amendments to IFRS 16 Leases: Covid-19- Related Rent Concessions beyond 30 June 2021 (issued on 31 March 2021)
- Amendments to IFRS 9, IAS 39, IFRS 7, IFRS 4 and IFRS 16 Interest Rate Benchmark Reform – Phase 2 (issued on 27 August 2020)
- Amendments to IFRS 4 Insurance Contracts – deferral of IFRS19 (issued on 25 June 2020)

These amendments and interpretations do not have an impact on the financial statements of the Company. The Company has not early adopted any standard, interpretations or amendments that have been issued but are not yet effective.

#### 3.2 Standards, interpretations and amendments to published standards as adopted by the EU which are not yet effective

Up to date of approval of these financial statements, certain new standards, amendments and interpretations to existing standards have been published but which are not yet effective for the current reporting year and which the Company has not early adopted but plans to adopt upon their effective date. The new and amended standards follow:

- IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts (issued on 18 May 2017); including Amendments to IFRS 17 (issued on 25 June 2020) (effective for financial year beginning on or after 1 January 2023)
- Amendments to IFRS 3 Business Combinations; IAS 16 Property, Plant and Equipment; IAS 37 Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets; and Annual Improvements 2018-2020 (All issued 14 May 2020) (effective for financial year beginning on or after 1 January 2022)

The changes resulting from these standards, interpretations and amendments are not expected to have a material effect on the financial statements of the Company.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

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### 3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

#### 3.3 Standards, interpretations and amendments that are not yet endorsed by the European Union

These are as follows:

- Amendments to IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements: Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current and Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current - Deferral of Effective Date (issued on 23 January 2020 and 15 July 2020 respectively)
- Amendments to IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements and IFRS Practice Statement 2: Disclosure of Accounting policies (issued on 12 February 2021)
- Amendments to IAS 8 Accounting policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors: Definition of Accounting Estimates (issued on 12 February 2021)
- Amendments to IAS 12 Income Taxes: Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction (issued on 7 May 2021)
- Amendments to IFRS 17 Insurance contracts: Initial Application of IFRS 17 and IFRS 9 – Comparative Information (issued on 9 December 2021)

The Company is still assessing the impact that these new standards will have on the financial statements.

#### 3.4 Leases

The Company assesses at contract inception whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. That is, if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration.

##### *Company as lessor*

Leases in which the Company does not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of an asset are classified as operating leases. Rental income arising is accounted for on a straight-line basis over the lease terms and is included in revenue in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income due to its operating nature. Initial direct costs incurred in negotiating and arranging an operating lease are added to the carrying amount of the leased asset and recognized over the lease term on the same basis as rental income.

#### 3.5 Taxation

##### i. Current income tax

Current income tax assets and liabilities are measured at the amount expected to be recovered from or paid to the taxation authorities. The tax rates and tax laws used to compute the amount are those that are enacted or substantially enacted at the reporting date in the country where the Company operates and generates taxable income.

Current income tax is charged or credited to profit or loss. Current income tax relating to items realized directly in equity is realized in equity and not in the statement of profit or loss. Management periodically evaluates positions taken in the tax returns with respect to situations in which applicable tax regulations are subject to interpretation and establishes provisions where appropriate.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

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### 3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

#### 3.5 Taxation – continued

##### i. Current income tax – continued

The charge for current tax is based on the taxable result for the period. The taxable result for the period differs from the result as reported in profit or loss because it excludes items which are non-assessable or disallowed and it further excludes items that are taxable or deductible in other periods.

##### ii. Deferred income tax

Deferred tax is accounted for using the balance sheet liability method in respect of temporary differences arising from differences between the carrying amount of assets and liabilities in the financial statements and the corresponding tax bases used in the computation of taxable profit.

Deferred tax is measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply to the period when the asset is realized or the liability is settled, based on tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date.

Deferred tax liabilities are realized for all taxable temporary differences and deferred tax assets are realized to the extent that it is probable that taxable profits will be available against which the deductible temporary differences can be realized.

Deferred tax assets are reviewed at each reporting date and are reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that the related tax benefit will be realized.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset when the Company has a legally enforceable right to settle its current tax assets and liabilities on a net basis.

#### 3.6 Fair value measurement

The Company measures non-financial assets such as investment properties, at fair value at each balance sheet date.

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value measurement is based on the presumption that the transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability takes place either:

- In the principal market for the asset or liability, or
- In the absence of a principal market, in the most advantageous market for the asset or liability

The principal or the most advantageous market must be accessible by the Company.

The fair value of an asset or a liability is measured using the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, assuming that market participants act in their economic best interest.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

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### 3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

#### 3.6 Fair value measurement – continued

A fair value measurement of a non-financial asset takes into account a market participant's ability to generate economic benefits by using the asset in its highest and best use or by selling it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

The Company uses valuation techniques that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data are available to measure fair value, maximising the use of relevant observable inputs and minimising the use of unobservable inputs.

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorised within the fair value hierarchy, described as follows, based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole:

- Level 1: Quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities
- Level 2: Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is directly or indirectly observable
- Level 3: Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is unobservable

For assets and liabilities that are recognised in the financial statements at fair value on a recurring basis, the Company determines whether transfers have occurred between levels in the hierarchy by re-assessing categorisation (based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole) at the end of each reporting period.

#### 3.7 Investment in associated undertaking

An associate is an entity over which the Company has significant influence. Significant influence is the power to participate in the financial and operating policy decisions of the investee but is not control or joint control over those policies.

Investments in associated undertakings are accounted for under the equity method. Under the equity method, the investment in an associate is initially recognised at cost. The carrying amount of the investment is adjusted to recognise changes in the Company's share of net assets of the associate since the acquisition date. Goodwill relating to the associate is included in the carrying amount of the investment and is not tested for impairment separately.

The statement of profit or loss reflects the Company's share of the results of operations of the associate. The Company's share of losses in excess of its interest in that associate is not recognized, unless the Company has incurred obligations or made payments on behalf of the associated undertaking. Any change in OCI of the investee is presented as part of the Company's OCI. In addition, when there has been a change recognised directly in the equity of the associate, the Company recognises its share of any changes, when applicable, in the statement of changes in equity.

The financial statements of the associate are prepared for the same reporting period as the Company. When necessary, adjustments are made to bring the accounting policies in line with those of the Company.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

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### 3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

#### 3.7 Investment in associated undertaking – continued

After application of the equity method, the Company determines whether it is necessary to recognise an impairment loss on its investment in its associate. At each reporting date, the Company determines whether there is objective evidence that the investment in the associate is impaired. If there is such evidence, the Company calculates the amount of impairment as the difference between the recoverable amount of the associate and its carrying value, and then recognises the loss within 'Share of results of associate' in the statement of profit or loss.

Upon loss of significant influence over the associate, the Company measures and recognises any retained investment at its fair value. Any difference between the carrying amount of the associate upon loss of significant influence and the fair value of the retained investment and proceeds from disposal is recognised in profit or loss.

#### 3.8 Financial instruments

A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity.

##### i. Financial assets

###### *Initial recognition and measurement*

Financial assets are classified, at initial recognition, as subsequently measured at amortised cost, fair value through other comprehensive income (OCI), and fair value through profit or loss.

The classification of financial assets at initial recognition depends on the financial asset's contractual cash flow characteristics and the Company's business model for managing them. With the exception of trade receivables that do not contain a significant financing component or for which the Company has applied the practical expedient, the Company initially measures a financial asset at its fair value plus, in the case of a financial asset not at fair value through profit or loss, transaction costs.

In order for a financial asset to be classified and measured at amortised cost or fair value through OCI, it needs to give rise to cash flows that are 'solely payments of principal and interest (SPPI)' on the principal amount outstanding. This assessment is referred to as the SPPI test and is performed at an instrument level.

###### *Subsequent measurement*

For purposes of subsequent measurement, financial assets are classified in four categories:

- ii. Financial assets at amortised cost (debt instruments)
- iii. Financial assets at fair value through OCI with recycling of cumulative gains and losses (debt instruments)
- iv. Financial assets designated at fair value through OCI with no recycling of cumulative gains and losses upon derecognition (equity instruments)
- v. Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

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### 3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

#### 3.8 Financial instruments – continued

##### i. Financial assets – continued

*Subsequent measurement – continued*

#### **Financial assets at amortised cost (debt instruments)**

Financial assets at amortised cost (debt instruments) are the most relevant to the Company. The Company measures financial assets at amortised cost if both of the following conditions are met:

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

Financial assets at amortised cost are subsequently measured using the effective interest rate (EIR) method and are subject to impairment. Gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss when the asset is derecognised, modified or impaired.

The Company's debt instruments at amortised cost includes loans and receivables, trade and other receivables and cash and cash equivalents which are classified under this category.

#### **Financial assets at fair value through OCI with recycling of cumulative gains and losses (debt instruments)**

The Company measures debt instruments at fair value through OCI if both of the following conditions are met:

- The financial asset is held within a business model whose objective is achieved by both collecting contractual cash flows and selling the financial assets; and
- The contractual terms of the financial asset give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

For debt instruments at fair value through OCI, interest income, foreign exchange revaluation and impairment losses or reversals are recognised in the statement of profit or loss and computed in the same manner as for financial assets measured at amortised cost. The remaining fair value changes are recognised in OCI. Upon derecognition, the cumulative fair value change recognised in OCI is recycled to profit or loss.

The Company holds no financial assets in this category.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

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### 3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

#### 3.8 Financial instruments – continued

- i. Financial assets – continued

*Subsequent measurement – continued*

##### **Financial assets at fair value through OCI (equity instruments)**

Upon initial recognition, the Company can elect to classify irrevocably its equity investments as equity instruments designated at fair value through OCI when they meet the definition of equity under IAS 32 Financial Instruments: Presentation and are not held for trading. The classification is determined on an instrument by instrument basis.

Gains and losses on these financial assets are never recycled to profit or loss. Dividends are recognised as other income in the statement of profit or loss when the right of payment has been established, except when the Company benefits from such proceeds as a recovery of part of the cost of the financial asset, in which case, such gains are recorded in OCI. Equity instruments designated at fair value through OCI are not subject to impairment assessment.

The Company holds no financial assets in this category.

##### **Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss**

Financial assets that do not meet the criteria for being measured at amortised cost or FVTOCI are measured at fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL). Specifically:

- Investments in equity instruments are classified as at FVTPL. However, a Company may designate an equity investment that is neither held for trading nor a contingent consideration arising from a business combination as at FVTOCI on initial recognition.
- Debt instruments that do not meet the amortised cost criteria or the FVTOCI criteria are classified as at FVTPL.

In addition, debt instruments that meet either the amortised cost criteria or the FVTOCI criteria may be designated as at FVTPL upon initial recognition if such designation eliminates or significantly reduces a measurement or recognition inconsistency that would arise from measuring assets or liabilities or recognising the gains and losses on them on different bases.

Financial assets measured at FVTPL are subsequently measured at fair value at the end of each reporting period, with any fair value gains or losses including foreign exchange gains and losses, recognised in profit or loss.

Where applicable, dividend income is recognised with other dividend income, if any, arising on other financial assets within the line item 'Investment income'. Where applicable, interest income is disclosed within the line item 'Investment income'. Fair value gains and losses are recognised within the line items 'Investment income' and 'Investment losses' respectively.

The Company holds no financial assets in this category.



## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

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### 3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

#### 3.8 Financial instruments – continued

##### i. Financial assets – continued

###### *Derecognition*

A financial asset (or, where applicable, a part of a financial asset or part of a group of similar financial assets) is primarily derecognised when:

- The rights to receive cash flows from the asset have expired, or
- The Company has transferred its rights to receive cash flows from the asset or has assumed an obligation to pay the received cash flows in full without material delay to a third party under a 'pass-through' arrangement; and either (a) the Company has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset, or (b) the Company has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset, but has transferred control of the asset.

When the Company has transferred its rights to receive cash flows from an asset or has entered into a pass-through arrangement, it evaluates if, and to what extent, it has retained the risks and rewards of ownership. When it has neither transferred nor retained substantially all of the risks and rewards of the asset, nor transferred control of the asset, the Company continues to recognise the transferred asset to the extent of its continuing involvement.

##### ii. Financial liabilities

###### *Initial recognition and measurement*

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 Company's financial liabilities include loans and borrowings and trade and other payables.

###### *Subsequent measurement*

For purposes of subsequent measurement, financial liabilities are classified in two categories:

- Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss
- Financial liabilities at amortised cost (loans and borrowings)

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

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### 3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

#### 3.8 Financial instruments – continued

##### ii. Financial liabilities – continued

#### **Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss**

Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss include financial liabilities held for trading and financial liabilities designated upon initial recognition as at fair value through profit or loss.

Financial liabilities are classified as held for trading if they are incurred for the purpose of repurchasing in the near term. This category also includes derivative financial instruments entered into by the Company that are not designated as hedging instruments in hedge relationships as defined by IFRS 9. Separated embedded derivatives are also classified as held for trading unless they are designated as effective hedging instruments.

Gains or losses on liabilities held for trading are recognised in the statement of profit or loss. Financial liabilities designated upon initial recognition at fair value through profit or loss are designated at the initial date of recognition, and only if the criteria in IFRS 9 are satisfied. The Company has not designated any financial liability as at fair value through profit or loss.

#### **Financial liabilities at amortised cost (loans and borrowings)**

After initial recognition, interest-bearing loans and borrowings are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the EIR method. Gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss when the liabilities are derecognised as well as through the EIR amortisation process.

Amortised cost is calculated by taking into account 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.

#### *Derecognition*

A financial liability is derecognised when the obligation under the liability 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 the statement of profit or loss.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

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### 3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

#### 3.8 Financial instruments – continued

##### iii. Impairment of financial assets

The Company assesses at each reporting date whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset or group of financial assets is impaired. A financial asset or a group of financial assets is deemed to be impaired if, there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more events that has occurred since the initial recognition of the asset (an incurred 'loss event') and that loss event has an impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset or the group of financial assets that can be reliably estimated.

Evidence of impairment may include indications that a debtor or a group of debtors is experiencing significant financial difficulty, default or delinquency in interest or principal payments, the probability that they will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganisation and observable data indicating that there is a measurable decrease in the estimated future cash flows, such as changes in arrears or economic conditions that correlate with defaults.

#### General approach

Under the general approach, the Company 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 Company expects to receive, discounted at an approximation of the original effective interest rate. 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). The assessment of whether lifetime ECL should be recognised is based on significant increases in the likelihood or risk of a default occurring since initial recognition rather than on evidence of a financial asset being credit-impaired at the reporting date or an actual default occurring.

Lifetime ECL represents the ECLs that will result from all possible default events over the expected life of a financial instrument. In contrast, 12-month ECL represents the portion of lifetime ECL that is expected to result from default events on a financial instrument that are possible within 12 months after the reporting date.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

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### 3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

#### 3.8 Financial instruments – continued

##### iii. Impairment of financial assets - continued

##### **General approach – continued**

The 12-month ECL is calculated by multiplying the 12-month Probability of Default (PD), Loss Given Default (LGD), and Exposure at Default (EAD). Lifetime ECL is calculated on a similar basis for the residual life of the exposure.

The Company considers a financial asset to be in default when contractual payments are 90 days past due. However, in certain cases, the Company may also consider a financial asset to be in default when internal or external information indicates that the Company is unlikely to receive the outstanding contractual amounts in full before taking into account any credit enhancements held by the Company. A financial asset is written off when there is no reasonable expectation of recovering the contractual cash flows.

For financial assets for which the Company has no reasonable expectations of recovering either the entire outstanding amount, or a proportion thereof, the gross carrying amount of the financial asset is impaired.

##### **Simplified approach**

For trade receivables and contract assets, the Company applies a simplified approach in calculating ECLs. Therefore, the Company does not track changes in credit risk, but instead recognises a loss allowance based on lifetime ECLs at each reporting date. The Company has established a provision matrix that is based on its historical credit loss experience, adjusted for forward-looking factors specific to the debtors and the economic environment.

##### iv. Offsetting of financial instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset and the net amount is reported in the statement of financial position if there is a currently enforceable legal right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis, to realise the assets and settle the liabilities simultaneously.

#### 3.9 Impairment of non-financial assets

All other assets are tested for impairment in terms of this accounting policy except for financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss, equity instruments designated as at FVTOCI, inventories, deferred tax assets, and investment property measured at fair value.

At the end of each reporting period, the carrying amount of assets, including cash-generating units, is reviewed to determine whether there is any indication or objective evidence of impairment, as appropriate, and if any such indication or objective evidence exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated.

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

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### 3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

#### 3.9 Impairment of non-financial assets – continued

An impairment loss is the amount by which the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of fair value (which is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date) less costs of disposal and value in use (which is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived, discounted using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessment of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset). Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount, as calculated.

Impairment losses are recognised immediately in profit or loss, unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case, the impairment loss is recognised in other comprehensive income to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that asset.

Impairment losses recognised in prior periods are assessed at each reporting date for any indications that the loss has decreased or no longer exists. An impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount. An impairment loss is reversed only to the extent that the asset's carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss has been recognised.

#### 3.10 Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment other than land and buildings are initially recorded at cost. They are subsequently stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses, if any. Cost includes purchase price and any directly attributable cost of preparing the asset for its intended use.

Property, plant and equipment are derecognised on disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected from their use or disposal. Gains or losses arising from derecognition represent the difference between the net disposal proceeds, if any, and the carrying amount, and are included in profit or loss in the period of derecognition.

Depreciation is provided on all items of property, plant and equipment, except freehold land, at rates intended to write down the cost less residual value of the assets over their expected useful lives. The annual rates used, which are consistent with those applied in the previous year, are as follows:

Improvements	10% per annum
Furniture and fittings	10% per annum
Computer equipment	20% per annum
Plant and machinery	20% per annum

Gains and losses on disposal of property, plant and equipment are determined by reference to their carrying amount and are taken into consideration in determining the operating profit. The residual and useful lives of the assets are reviewed and adjusted as appropriate, at each financial reporting date. The carrying amount of an asset is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the carrying amount of the asset is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

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### 3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

#### 3.10 Property, plant and equipment - continued

Subsequent costs are included in the carrying amount of the asset or recognized as separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Company during the financial period in which they are incurred.

#### 3.11 Investment property

Investment property is property held to earn rentals or for capital appreciation or both. Investment property is recognized as an asset when it is probable that the future economic benefits that are associated with the investment property will flow to the entity and the cost can be measured reliably.

Investment properties are initially measured at cost, including transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, investment property is stated at fair value, which reflects market conditions at the reporting date. Gains or losses arising from changes in fair values of investment properties are included in profit and loss in the period in which they arise, including the corresponding tax effect. Fair values are determined by a professionally qualified architect/surveyor on the basis of market values.

Investment properties are derecognized either when they have been disposed of (i.e. at the date the recipient obtains control) or when they are permanently withdrawn from use and no future economic benefit is expected from their disposal. The difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset is recognized in profit and loss in the period of derecognition. The amount of consideration to be included in the gain or loss arising from the derecognition of investment property is determined in accordance with the requirements for determining the transaction price in IFRS 15.

Transfers are made to (or from) investment property only when there is a change in use. For transfer from investment property to owner-occupied property, the deemed cost for subsequent accounting is the fair value at the date of change in use. If owner-occupied property becomes an investment property, the Company accounts for such property in accordance with the policy stated under property, plant and equipment up to the date of change in use.

#### 3.12 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash in hand and at banks and short-term deposits repayable on demand are carried at cost.

#### 3.13 Provisions

Provisions are recognized when the Company has a present obligation as a result of a past event, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Provisions are measured at management's best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation at the financial reporting date. If the effect of the time value of money is material, provisions are determined by discounting the expected future cash flows at a pre-tax rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and, where appropriate, the risks specific to the liability. Provisions are not recognized for future operating losses.

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

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### 3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued

#### 3.14 Ordinary shares

Ordinary shares are classified as equity. Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of ordinary shares are recognized as a deduction from equity, net of any tax effects.

#### 3.15 Dividends

Dividends payable on ordinary shares are recognized in the period in which they are approved by the Board of Directors.

#### 3.16 Related parties

Parties are considered to be related if one party has the ability, directly or indirectly, to control the other party or exercise significant influence over the other party in making financial and operating decisions. Parties are also considered to be related if they are subject to common control or common significant influence. Related parties may be individuals or corporate entities. Related party accounts are carried at cost, net of any impairment charge.

### 4. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS, ESTIMATES AND ASSUMPTIONS

In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect reported income, expenses, assets, liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Use of available information and application of judgement are inherent in the formation of estimates. Actual results in the future could differ from such estimates and the differences may be material to the financial statements. These estimates are reviewed on a regular basis and, if a change is needed, it is accounted for in the year the changes become known.

Except for the below, in the opinion of the Directors, the accounting estimates, assumptions and judgements made in the course of preparing these financial statements are not difficult, subjective or complex to a degree which would warrant their description as significant in terms of the requirements of IAS 1 (revised) – ‘Presentation of financial statements’.

#### Judgements

In the process of applying the Company’s accounting policies, the Directors have made the following judgements:

##### *Determination as to whether the Company has significant influence*

The investment in associated undertaking related to a 19.91% participating interest in a company whose other (majority) shareholder was AX Group p.l.c., the immediate parent company of AX Investments p.l.c. This participating interest was being accounted for as an investment in associated undertaking, since the Company has determined that it had significant influence over Suncrest Hotels p.l.c. through Mr Angelo Xuereb being a common Director for both entities. This investment was sold to another related party on 15 October 2021.

#### Estimates

The key assumptions concerning the future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next financial year, are described below.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

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### 4. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS, ESTIMATES AND ASSUMPTIONS – continued

#### Estimates – continued

##### *Fair value of investment property*

The Company uses the services of professional valuers to determine the fair value of investment property. The professional valuers take into account the market participant's ability to generate economic benefits by using the asset in its highest and best use or by selling it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

The highest and best use of a non-financial asset takes into account the use of the asset that is physically possible, legally permissible and financially feasible, as follows:

- A use that is physically possible, takes into account the physical characteristics of the asset that market participants would take into account when pricing the asset (e.g. the location or size of a property).
- A use that is legally permissible takes into account any legal restrictions on the use of the asset that market participants would take into account when pricing the asset (e.g. the zoning regulations applicable to a property).
- A use that is financially feasible takes into account whether a use of the asset that is physically possible and legally permissible generates adequate income or cash flows (taking into account the costs of converting the asset to that use) to produce an investment return that market participants would require from an investment in that asset put to that use.

The Company uses valuation techniques that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data is available to measure fair value, maximizing the use of relevant observable inputs and minimising the use of unobservable inputs.

The Company's investment property consists of a unique nineteenth century villa situated in Sliema, which was restored and converted to its current state and use back in 1997. The property is unique in both form and function in the area. Its structure is of marked importance, and the building is part of a prominent list of architectural gems forming the local wealthy list of built-up heritage.

In determining fair value, the valuer has considered the unique characteristics of the property and its historical value, assuming limited possibility of extensive intervention or additions and excluding total redevelopment. In line with International Valuation Standards (IVS) issued by the International Valuation Standards Council, the replacement cost approach should be used when the asset is not directly income generating and the unique nature of the asset makes using an income approach or market comparable approach unfeasible. Accordingly, fair value was determined using the replacement cost approach, applying relevant going rates for construction and restoration and a multiplication factor to consider that the property under valuation is a historical building. Further detail on the significant methods and assumptions used by the valuer in estimating the fair value of investment property are set out in Note 12.

##### *Recoverability of loans receivable*

The Directors have assessed the recoverability of loans receivable by reference to the financial position and performance of the parent entity and other related parties for the reporting period, as well as the cashflow projections of AX Group p.l.c. ("the Group") of which the Company is a subsidiary. AX Group p.l.c. is the guarantor of the Company's bond. As described further in Note 2.1 to these financial statements, management of the Group has prepared an eighteen-month forecast for the Group in order to assess the impact of the current situation on the businesses. The assumptions modelled are based on the estimated potential impact of COVID-19 restrictions and regulations, encompassing a gradual recovery following the vaccine booster roll-out and expected easing of restrictions by the local authorities. The base case scenario contemplates the benefits of actions already taken by management to mitigate the trading downsides brought by COVID-19, and cash inflows from the disposal of an investment property. Management has also considered a stress tested scenario and identified a contingency plan should the expected economic recovery prolong or take a downturn.



# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

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### 5. REVENUE

	<b>2021</b> <b>EUR</b>	2020 EUR
Rental income from investment property	<b>163,360</b>	163,360
Rental income from moveable property	<b>75,000</b>	75,000
	<u><b>238,360</b></u>	<u>238,360</u>

Rental income is accounted for on a straight-line basis over the lease terms and is included in revenue in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income due to its operating nature. There are no direct operating costs associated with investment property.

### 6. FINANCE INCOME

	<b>2021</b> <b>EUR</b>	2020 EUR
Interest income from loans and receivables (note 13b)	<b>2,777,615</b>	2,759,022
	<u><b>2,777,615</b></u>	<u>2,759,022</u>

### 7. FINANCE COSTS

	<b>2021</b> <b>EUR</b>	2020 EUR
Interest on debt securities in issue	<b>2,400,000</b>	2,400,000
Amortisation of bond issue costs (note 18)	<b>62,329</b>	62,329
	<u><b>2,462,329</b></u>	<u>2,462,329</u>

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

### 8. EXPENSES BY NATURE

	2021 EUR	2020 EUR
Auditors' remuneration:		
For audit services	10,000	7,000
For other non-audit services	400	400
Directors' remuneration	43,000	43,000
Depreciation charge	1,206	6,529
Movement in expected credit losses	5,297	-
Other professional fees (i)	50,683	40,295
	<u>110,586</u>	<u>97,224</u>

(i) Other professional fees mainly relate to annual register fees and listing fees.

#### *Staff costs*

The Company did not have any employees during the year ended 31 October 2021 (2020: same)

### 9. INCOME TAX

	2021 EUR	2020 EUR
Current tax charge		
- for the year	-	-
- losses surrendered by parent company	(145,912)	(143,587)
Deferred tax credit	3,590,153	554,823
	<u>3,444,241</u>	<u>411,236</u>

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

### 9. INCOME TAX – continued

The accounting profit and the tax credit for the year are reconciled as follows:

	<b>2021</b> <b>EUR</b>	2020 EUR
Profit / (loss) before tax	<b>351,042</b>	(1,142,117)
Tax thereon at 35%	<b>(122,865)</b>	399,741
<i>Tax effect of:</i>		
Rent maintenance allowance	<b>11,435</b>	11,495
Tax effect of permanent differences	-	-
Disposal of associate not subject to tax (note 13a, 19)	<b>3,555,671</b>	-
Income tax credit for the year	<b>3,444,241</b>	441,236

### 10. EARNINGS PER SHARE

The earnings per share has been calculated on the profit for the year of EUR3,795,283 (2020: loss of EUR730,881) divided by the weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the year.

	<b>2021</b>	2020
Weighted average number of shares in issue	<b>5,000,000</b>	5,000,000
	<b>EUR</b>	EUR
Earnings/(loss) per share	<b>0.76</b>	(0.15)

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

### 11. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	Improvements EUR	Furniture and Fittings EUR	Computer equipment EUR	Plant and machinery EUR	Total EUR
<b>Cost</b>					
At 1 November 2019	29,333	221,403	8,239	46,581	305,556
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 October 2020	29,333	221,403	8,239	46,581	305,556
At 1 November 2020	29,333	221,403	8,239	46,581	305,556
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
<b>At 31 October 2021</b>	<b>29,333</b>	<b>221,403</b>	<b>8,239</b>	<b>46,581</b>	<b>305,556</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>					
At 1 November 2019	24,930	220,842	2,917	46,581	295,270
Charge for the year	4,403	561	1,565	-	6,529
At 31 October 2020	29,333	221,403	4,482	46,581	301,799
At 1 November 2020	29,333	221,403	4,482	46,581	301,799
Charge for the year	-	-	1,206	-	1,206
<b>At 31 October 2021</b>	<b>29,333</b>	<b>221,403</b>	<b>5,688</b>	<b>46,581</b>	<b>303,005</b>
<b>Net book value</b>					
<b>At 31 October 2021</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,551</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,551</b>
At 31 October 2020	-	-	3,757	-	3,757

At 31 October 2021, cost of fully depreciated assets still in use amounted to EUR297,317 (2020: EUR297,317).

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

### 12. INVESTMENT PROPERTY

<b>Fair value</b>	<b>EUR</b>
At 31 October 2020/At 31 October 2021	<b><u>9,025,157</u></b>

#### *Valuation process*

The Company's land and buildings are classified as either property, plant and equipment or investment property depending on their intended use. The investment property is revalued by professionally qualified architects or surveyors on the basis of assessment of the fair value of the property in accordance with international valuations standards and professional practice.

In the years where a valuation is not obtained, management verifies all major inputs to the independent valuation report, assesses any property valuation movements when compared to the prior year valuation report and holds discussions with the independent valuer, as necessary.

The fair value of the investment property as at 31 October 2021 is based on a valuation carried out by an independent architect on 19 December 2020 as discussed in Note 4. The architect is qualified and has experience in the valuation of properties.

The current use of the property does not equate to its highest and best use considering unique characteristics of the property and its historical value. The Company has no restrictions on the realisability of its investment property and no contractual obligations to purchase, construct or develop investment properties or for repairs, maintenance and enhancements.

The Company's property has been determined to fall within Level 3 of the fair valuation hierarchy.

The different levels in the fair value hierarchy are defined in Note 3.6. Details of the investment property and information about the fair value hierarchy as at the end of the year is as follows:

<b>Type of property</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>EUR</b>	<b>EUR</b>
Commercial property	9,025,157	9,025,157
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,025,157</b>	<b>9,025,157</b>

The Company's policy is to recognize transfers into and out of fair value hierarchy levels as of the date of the event or change in circumstances that caused the transfer. There were no transfers between levels during the year.

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

### 12. INVESTMENT PROPERTY – continued

*Description of valuation techniques used and key inputs to valuation of the investment property*

For investment property categorized under Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy, the following approaches and inputs were used as described also in Note 4:

Type of property	Valuation technique	Inputs	Sensitivity
Commercial property	Replacement cost approach	This method takes into account the actual physical building fabric constituting the facility, together with an estimated land value. The valuation relies on estimated going rates of the various components of the existing building to which a multiplication factor was applied to factor-in the property's unique characteristics. The main inputs used were EUR250/sqm for shell construction, EUR200/sqm for building services, EUR200/sqm to EUR250/sqm for finishings depending on the area.	The higher the rates for construction, finishings, services and fittings, the higher the fair value.

During the year, the Company used the same valuation technique used in the previous year.

### 13. FINANCIAL ASSETS

#### a) Investment in associated undertaking

	EUR
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
At 1 November 2019	14,373,047
Share of results of associate	(1,579,946)
	<hr/>
<b>At 31 October 2020</b>	<b>12,793,101</b>
Share of results of associate (up until the date of disposal)	(19,320)
Consideration for sale of investment	(12,701,083)
Loss on disposal of investment in associate	(72,698)
	<hr/>
<b>At 31 October 2021</b>	<b>-</b>
	<hr/>

Company	Registered address	Class	Shares held percentage	
			2021	2020
Suncrest Hotels p.l.c.	AX Group, AX Business Centre, Triq id-Difiza Civili, Mosta MST1741 Malta	Ordinary	-	19.91%

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

### 13. FINANCIAL ASSETS – continued

The investment in associated undertaking related to a 19.91% participating interest in a company whose other (majority) shareholder was AX Group p.l.c., the immediate parent company of AX Investments p.l.c. This participating interest was being accounted for as an investment in associated undertaking, since the Company had determined that it had significant influence over Suncrest Hotels p.l.c. Mr Angelo Xuereb is a common Director of both entities.

On 15<sup>th</sup> October 2021, the Company sold its entire holding in Suncrest Hotels p.l.c. to a related party, at a consideration amounting to EUR12,701,083. The carrying amount as at the date of disposal amounted to EUR12,773,781.

Suncrest Hotels p.l.c. is a limited liability company incorporated in Malta, with its registered office at AX Group, AX Business Centre, Triq id-Difiza Civili, Mosta MST1741, Malta. Suncrest Hotels p.l.c. owns an investment property which is leased to a related party. Summarised financial information of the associate at 31 October 2020 was as follows:

	2020
	EUR
Non-current assets	77,574,471
Current assets	1,246,807
Total assets	78,821,278
Non-current liabilities	8,484,732
Current liabilities	3,679,550
Total liabilities	12,164,282
Revenue	1,898,550
Loss after tax	(7,933,094)
Total comprehensive loss	(7,933,094)

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

### 13. FINANCIAL ASSETS – continued

#### b) Loans and receivables

	Loan to parent EUR	Loans to other related parties EUR	Total EUR
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 November 2019	20,230,189	22,312,032	42,542,221
Additional loans	2,717,304	-	2,717,304
Proceeds from loans	-	(2,863,743)	(2,863,743)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 1 November 2020	22,947,493	19,448,289	42,395,782
Additional loans	4,378,120	-	4,378,120
Proceeds from loans	-	(4,400,789)	(4,400,789)
Receivable from disposal of associate	12,701,084	-	12,701,084
Dividend declared	(10,000,000)	-	(10,000,000)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>At 31 October 2021</b>	<b>30,026,697</b>	<b>15,047,500</b>	<b>45,074,197</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Expected credit loss allowance</b>			
At 1 November 2019	32,368	36,194	68,562
Charge for the year	4,348	(5,101)	(753)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 1 November 2020	36,716	31,093	67,809
Charge for the year	11,327	(7,017)	4,310
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>At 31 October 2021</b>	<b>48,043</b>	<b>24,076</b>	<b>72,119</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net book value</b>			
<b>At 31 October 2021</b>	<b>29,978,654</b>	<b>15,023,424</b>	<b>45,002,078</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 October 2020	22,910,777	19,417,196	42,327,973
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Loans to parent and related parties (note 23) are unsecured and have no fixed date of repayment but are expected to be repaid between 2024-2034 and have an annual average interest rate of 6.6% (2020: 6.7%). The Company determines the expected credit loss allowance on these loans based on a probability of default of 0.16% and a loss given default of 100%.

Consideration of the estimation uncertainty around the recoverability of loans and receivables is described in Notes 2.1 and Note 4 to the financial statements.



# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

### 14. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	2021 EUR	2020 EUR
<b>Current</b>		
Trade receivables (i)	-	759
Amounts owed by other related parties (ii)	1,086,055	469,826
Prepayments	12,748	15,212
	<u>1,098,803</u>	<u>485,797</u>

- (i) Trade receivables are non-interest bearing and are generally on a 60-day term.
- (ii) Amounts owed by other related parties are unsecured, interest-free and have no fixed date of repayment (note 23). The balance is net of expected credit losses of EUR1,740 (2020: EUR753).

### 15. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents included in the cash flow statement comprise the following:

	2021 EUR	2020 EUR
Cash at bank	<u>487</u>	<u>7,248</u>

### 16. CALLED UP ISSUED SHARE CAPITAL

	2021 EUR	2020 EUR
<b>Authorised</b>		
5,000,000 ordinary shares of EUR1 each	<u>5,000,000</u>	<u>5,000,000</u>
<b>Called up issued and fully paid up</b>		
5,000,000 ordinary shares of EUR1 each	<u>5,000,000</u>	<u>5,000,000</u>

Each ordinary share gives the right to one vote, participates equally in profits distributed by the Company and carries equal rights upon the distribution of assets by the Company in the event of a winding up.

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

### 17. RESERVES

#### *Fair value reserve*

The Company's fair value reserve arises on the fair valuation of investment property. When the property is sold, the portion of the fair value reserve that relates to that asset, and is effectively realised, is transferred directly to retained earnings.

#### *Retained earnings*

The reserve represents accumulated retained profits that are available for distribution to the Company's shareholders.

#### *Dividend paid*

Dividend of EUR2 per share was declared and paid during the year ended 31 October 2021.

### 18. DEBT SECURITIES IN ISSUE

	<b>2021</b>	2020
	<b>EUR</b>	EUR
At beginning of year	<b>39,789,277</b>	39,726,948
Bond issue costs amortisation for the year	<b>62,329</b>	62,329
	<b>39,851,606</b>	39,789,277
Accrued interest	<b>1,570,273</b>	1,570,273
At end of year	<b>41,421,879</b>	41,359,550
Current	<b>1,570,273</b>	1,570,273
Non-current	<b>39,851,606</b>	39,789,277
	<b>41,421,879</b>	41,359,550

During 2014, the Company issued an aggregate principal amount of EUR40,000,000 bonds (2014 -2024), having a nominal value of EUR100 each, bearing interest at the rate of 6% per annum. These bonds are unsecured and subject to the terms and conditions in the prospectus dated 3 February 2014. The bonds are listed on the Official Companies List of the Malta Stock Exchange. The quoted market price as at 31 October 2021 for the 6% bonds (2014 – 2024) was EUR104 (2020: EUR104). The fair value of the loan as at 31 October 2021 amounted to EUR41,600,000 (2020: EUR41,600,000).

As at year end, the Company had a balance of EUR39,851,606 from this bond issue. The amount is made up of the bond issue of EUR40,000,000 net of the bond issue costs which are being amortised over the lifetime of the bonds. Interest on the bonds is due and payable annually in arrears on 6 March at the above-mentioned rate.

The parent company, AX Group p.l.c., has provided a corporate guarantee in favor of the bondholders to affect the due and punctual performance of all payment obligations undertaken by the subsidiary under the bonds if it fails to do so.

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

### 19. DEFERRED TAXATION

	2021 EUR	2020 EUR
<i>Arising on:</i>		
Fair valuation of investment property	902,516	902,516
Movement in value of investment in associate (i)	-	3,589,850
On other temporary differences	(25,330)	(25,027)
	<u>877,186</u>	<u>4,467,339</u>

- (i) This amount relates to the reversal of deferred tax upon the disposal of the investment in associate to a related party, which was exempt from tax under article 5(9) of the Income Tax Act, Cap. 123 of the Laws of Malta.

### 20. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	2021 EUR	2020 EUR
<b>Current</b>		
Trade payables (i)	2,806	20,438
Indirect taxes	7,061	7,151
Accruals	21,109	24,385
Other payables (ii)	130,329	88,071
Amount due to related parties (iii)	340,911	143,587
	<u>502,216</u>	<u>283,632</u>

- (i) Trade payables are non-interest bearing and are generally on a 60-day credit term.  
(ii) Other payables relate to interest due to bondholders which remains unclaimed.  
(iii) Amounts owed to related parties are interest-free and have no fixed date of repayment (note 23).

### 21. CURRENT INCOME TAX PAYABLE

	2021 EUR	2020 EUR
Balance at beginning of year	-	175,226
Settlement tax paid	-	(175,226)
Provision for the year	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

### 22. LEASES

#### Company as a lessor

The operating lease relating to the investment property owned by the Company has a 10-year term. The lessee does not have the option to purchase the property at the expiry of the lease period. The income earned under the operating lease amounted to EUR238,360 (2020: EUR238,360).

At the end of the reporting period, the lessee had outstanding commitments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2021 EUR	2020 EUR
Within one year	238,360	238,360
Between two and five years	953,440	953,440
Over five years	715,080	953,440
	<u>1,906,880</u>	<u>2,145,240</u>

### 23. RELATED PARTIES

The parent company of AX Investments p.l.c. is AX Group p.l.c., a limited liability company, which is incorporated in Malta. The individual financial statements of the Company are incorporated in the consolidated financial statements of AX Group p.l.c., the registered addresses of which is AX Group, AX Business Centre, Triq id-Difiza Civili, Mosta MST 1741, Malta. The ultimate controlling party is Mr Angelo Xuereb, who holds a controlling interest in the equity of the parent company.

All companies owned by AX Group p.l.c. are deemed to be related parties in these financial statements, and are referred to as other related parties in these financial statements.

#### Transactions with related parties

During the year, the Company entered into transactions with related parties, as follows:

	2021 EUR	2020 EUR
<b>Interest receivable</b>		
Parent company	1,838,092	1,686,021
Other related parties	939,523	1,073,001
	<u>2,777,615</u>	<u>2,759,022</u>
<b>Rent receivable</b>		
Other related parties	238,360	238,360
	<u>238,360</u>	<u>238,360</u>
<b>Interest payable</b>		
Other related parties	-	22,579
	<u>-</u>	<u>22,579</u>
<b>Receivable related to disposal of investment in associate</b>		
Parent company	12,701,083	-
	<u>12,701,083</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Dividend paid</b>		
Parent company	10,000,000	-
	<u>10,000,000</u>	<u>-</u>

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

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### 23. RELATED PARTIES - continued

#### Balances with related parties

Outstanding balances with related parties at year-end are disclosed in Note 13, Note 14 and Note 20 to these financial statements.

### 24. RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

The Company is exposed to credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk through its use of financial instruments which result from its operating and investing activities. The Company's risk management is coordinated by the Directors and focuses on actively securing the Company's short term to medium term cash flows by minimising the exposure to financial risks.

The most significant financial risks to which the Company is exposed to are described below.

#### *Credit risk*

The Company's credit risk is limited to the carrying amount of financial assets recognised at the date of the Statement of Financial Position, which are disclosed in Notes 13, Note 14 and Note 15.

The Company continuously monitors defaults of customers and other counterparties and incorporates this information into its credit risk controls. The Company's policy is to deal only with creditworthy counterparties.

None of the Company's financial assets is secured by collateral or other credit enhancements.

The credit risk for liquid funds is considered to be negligible, since the counterparties are reputable institutions with high quality external credit ratings.

#### *Liquidity risk*

The Company's exposure to liquidity risk arises from its obligations to meet financial liabilities, which comprise debt securities, trade and other payables and other financial liabilities. Prudent liquidity risk management includes maintaining sufficient cash and committed credit facilities to ensure the availability of an adequate amount of funding to meet the Company's obligations when they become due.

At 31 October 2021 and 31 October 2020, the contractual maturities on the financial liabilities of the Company were as summarized below. Contractual maturities reflect gross cash flows, which may differ from the carrying values of financial liabilities at the date of the Statement of Financial Position.

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

### 24. RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES – continued

#### *Liquidity risk – continued*

	Within 1 year EUR	Between 1-5 years EUR	Total EUR
<b>At 31 October 2021</b>			
Debt securities in issue	2,400,000	43,228,493	45,628,493
Trade and other payables	157,909	-	157,909
	Within 1 year EUR	Between 1-5 years EUR	Total EUR
<b>At 31 October 2020</b>			
Debt securities in issue	2,400,000	45,628,493	48,028,493
Trade and other payables	140,045	-	140,045

#### *Foreign currency risk*

Foreign exchange risk arises from future commercial transactions and recognised assets and liabilities which are denominated in a currency that is not the entity's functional currency. Since most of the Company's transactions are carried out in Euro, the directors consider foreign exchange risk exposure to not be material and accordingly a sensitivity analysis disclosing how profit or loss and other comprehensive income would change as a result of a reasonable possible shift in foreign exchange rates, is not considered necessary.

#### *Interest rate risk*

The Company's exposure to interest rate risk is limited to the variable interest rates on borrowings. Based on observations of current market conditions, the Directors consider an upward or downward movement in interest of 1% to be reasonably possible. However, the potential impact of such a movement is considered immaterial.

### 25. CAPITAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Company's capital management objectives are to ensure its ability to continue as a going concern and to provide an adequate return to shareholders by pricing commensurately with the level of risk and maintaining an optimal capital structure to reduce the cost of capital. The Company monitors the level of debt, which includes debt securities, trade and other payables and other financial liabilities less cash and cash equivalents, against total capital on an ongoing basis.

# AX Investments p.l.c.

## Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

31 October 2021

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### 26. PRIOR PERIOD RECLASSIFICATIONS AND RESTATEMENTS

Certain amounts within the comparative statement of financial position have been reclassified to achieve better comparability with the current period. In this respect, EUR1,570,273 which relates to interest accrued on bonds payable was reclassified from trade and other payables to debt securities in issue within current liabilities.

### 27. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

There were no events subsequent to reporting date.