

ASX RELEASE
23 AUGUST 2018

**APPENDIX 4E
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018**

Results for Announcement to the Market (All comparisons to 30 June 2017)

Key Financial Information	\$'000	up/down	% movement
Revenue from ordinary activities	653,007	Down	5.0%
Net profit from ordinary activities after tax (including significant items)	1,422	Down	98.7%
Net profit from ordinary activities after tax (excluding significant items)	75,271	Down	30.7%

Dividend Information	Amount per share cents	Franked amount per share cents	Tax rate for franking credit
Interim FY2018 dividend per share (paid 12 April 2018)	3.75	3.75	30%
Final FY2018 dividend per share (to be paid 9 October 2018)	4.00	4.00	30%

The dividend reinvestment plan has been suspended and will not apply in respect of the final FY2018 dividend.

Final FY2018 Dividend Dates

Ex-dividend date	7 September 2018
Record date	10 September 2018
Payment date	9 October 2018

	30 Jun 18	30 Jun 17
Net Tangible Assets Per Security	\$(0.27)	\$(0.29)

Additional Appendix 4E disclosure requirements can be found in the directors' report, financial statements and notes to the financial statements contained in the Southern Cross Austereo Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2018. This report is based on the consolidated Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2018 which has been reviewed by PricewaterhouseCoopers with the Independent Auditor's Review Report included in the Financial Report.

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SOUTHERN CROSS AUSTereo

FINANCIAL REPORT

FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

Southern Cross Austereo comprises Southern Cross Media Group Limited and its subsidiaries. Southern Cross Media Limited is a company limited by shares and incorporated and domiciled in Australia. The registered office of Southern Cross Media Group Limited is Level 2, 257 Clarendon Street, South Melbourne, Victoria 3205 Australia. Tel: +61 3 9252 1019.

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The financial statements were authorised for issue by the Directors on 23 August 2018. The Directors have the power to amend and re-issue the financial statements.

Corporate Governance Statement

The statement outlining Southern Cross Media Group Limited's corporate governance framework and practices in the form of a report against the Australian Stock Exchange Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations, 3rd Edition, will be available on the Southern Cross Austereo website, www.southerncrossaustereo.com.au, under the investor relations tab in accordance with listing rule 4.10.3 when the 2018 Annual Report is lodged. The 2018 Corporate Governance Statement is available in the 2018 Annual Report on the website.

Directors' Report

The Directors of Southern Cross Media Group Limited ("the Company") submit the following report for Southern Cross Austereo, being Southern Cross Media Group Limited and its subsidiaries ("the Group") for the year ended 30 June 2018. In order to comply with the provisions of the Corporations Act 2001, the Directors report as follows:

Directors

The following persons were Directors of the Company during the whole of the year, unless otherwise stated, and up to the date of this report:

- Peter Bush (Chairman)
- Leon Pasternak (Deputy Chairman)
- Grant Blackley
- Glen Boreham
- Rob Murray
- Helen Nash
- Melanie Willis

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the Group during the course of the financial year were the creation and broadcasting of content on free-to-air commercial radio (AM, FM and digital), TV and online media platforms across Australia. These media assets are monetised via revenue generated from the development and sale of advertising solutions for clients.

There were no changes in the nature of the Group during the year.

Review and Results of Operations

Operational Review

Group Results

The Group reported revenues of \$653.0 million, down 5.0% on the prior year revenues of \$687.2 million, and Earnings before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortisation ("EBITDA") of \$154.7 million, down 12.8% on prior year EBITDA of \$177.4 million. Net Profit after Tax ('NPAT') of \$1.4 million is down 98.7% on prior year NPAT of \$108.6 million. Current year results included impairment charges against intangible assets and investments of \$104.7 million; excluding this significant item, NPAT of \$75.3 million is down 30.7% on the prior year NPAT of \$108.6 million. The 2018 results have been impacted by the loss of earnings from the Northern New South Wales ('NNSW') Television business that was sold in May 2017 as well as the reinstatement of spectrum licensing fees. The NNSW television licence was sold so SCA could align with selling Nine Network content across the east coast. The 2017 NPAT of \$108.6 million was inclusive of a \$14.8 million deferred tax credit following the disposal of the Northern New South Wales television business.

Net debt has reduced by a further 5.3% to \$304.0 million and net finance costs of \$14.8 million are down 21.2% on the prior year.

Review and Results of Operations (continued)

Significant Items

In 2018, the Group recognised impairment charges against intangible assets and investments of \$104.7 million, which related to an impairment in the carrying value of television licences in the Regional Free-To-Air Broadcasting ("Regional") Cash Generating Unit ("CGU"). There was also a related derecognition of a deferred tax liability in respect of certain brands and licences for \$30.8 million. Refer to notes 6,8,9 and 11 for further information. In respect of the Regional CGU, television markets continue to decline, with a three year compound annual growth rate of (4.5)%. Independent estimates of television industry growth rates over the forecast period show further significant declines which has led to the \$104.7 million impairment in intangible assets and investments.

Segment Profit & Loss

	2018	2017	Variance
	\$'m	\$'m	
Regional	392.3	417.9	(6.1%)
Metro	242.7	247.1	(1.8%)
Corporate	18.0	22.2	(18.9%)
Total Revenue	653.0	687.2	(5.0%)
EBITDA			
Regional	114.6	125.8	(8.9%)
Metro	57.7	60.1	(4.0%)
Corporate	(17.6)	(8.5)	(107.1%)
Total EBITDA	154.7	177.4	(12.8%)
Group NPAT	1.4	108.6	(98.7%)
Group NPAT (excluding significant items)	75.3	108.6	(30.7%)

Regional

The Regional business consists of a number of regional radio and regional television licences. Each regional television licence receives programming from a metropolitan television network affiliate and 2018 was the second year the Group received the majority of its programming from Channel Nine. Throughout 2018, the group also extended its program supply agreement with Channel Seven for the Tasmania and Central Australian licence areas. The combination of two premium programming agreements gives SCA a strong audience share across its TV licence areas and the improved monetisation of this audience has driven Television revenues up 3.6% on a like for like basis.

Regional radio continues to be a strong performer for the Group with advertising revenues of \$172.9 million, up 4.5% on 2017. Revenue from national agency clients was up 15.3%. This growth has been driven by the Groups stated objective of increasing the profile of Regional Radio by conducting audience surveys in many regional markets and working with key agency clients to help them better understand the benefits of Regional Radio advertising. Local revenues have remained flat, partly as a result of national advertising taking an increasing share of the available inventory.

Review and Results of Operations (continued)

Metro

The Metro business consists of two complementary radio brands operating in the Australian capital cities along with the digital assets associated with these two brands. The brands target different audience demographics with the Triple M network skewed towards males in the 25 to 54 age bracket and the Hit Network targeted towards females in the 18 to 49 age bracket.

Overall, the metropolitan free-to-air radio advertising market has performed relatively well throughout 2018, increasing 3.8% on the 2017 financial year. A challenging start to the year resulted in our overall share of this market declining 1.2 points, however it was pleasing to see share improvement in the second half of the year. An improving ratings position and the monetisation of our Digital radio stations resulted in an improved second half performance with revenues up 2.0% on the corresponding prior period.

Metro EBITDA is back 4.0% on the prior year, however the 2017 result was positively impacted by the temporary abolition of licence fees. Excluding the impact of this, our 2018 EBITDA is back 1% and this result includes an increased investment in PodcastOne.

Corporate

The Corporate business comprises the group wide centralised functions of the Group, as well as the results of the Canberra FM radio business in which the group has a 50% shareholding. The 2017 results were impacted by around \$5.0 million of non-recurring credits, including the favourable resolution of the copyright dispute.

Financial position

The financial position of the Group continues to improve with net debt reducing 5.3% on 2017 to finish the year at \$304.0 million. The Group's key debt measures continue to improve with a leverage ratio of 1.79 times, down from 1.81 times in June 2017, and interest cover improving to 12.03 times, up from 10.0 times in June 2017.

Strategic Update

During the 2018 financial year the Group has executed on a number of elements that support the achievement of the Group's medium term strategic objectives of;

1. Optimising key audio assets
2. Ensuring an improved audio experience for our audience
3. Monetising all available audience efficiently with clients
4. Exploring non-audio entertainment in growth markets.

We have continued to improve our radio content offering with the launch of new Drive shows across both the Hit and Triple M networks and an improved breakfast show on 2DayFM. This improved content line up has led to a network wide improvement in ratings with SCA metro radio audience a clear market leader at 5.1m people.

The aggregation of our Digital radio stations into both the Hit and Triple M networks has grown our metro radio audience by 7.2% and enabled us to commercialise these stations with advertising for the first time since their inception. A combination of improvement in ratings and monetisation of our Digital radio stations has driven second half Metro radio revenues up 2%.

Advancements within digital audio are improving the experience for audiences with our suite of digital assets now offering personalised notifications, catch up audio services and integration with key smart speaker platforms.

We have continued to focus on improving the monetisation of all inventory, particularly Regional Radio where we believe National advertising dollars have been under represented. This focus has been rewarded with National regional radio revenues up 15.3% and National TV revenues up 3.8%.

Review and Results of Operations (continued)

2018 Outlook

We expect to build on the growth seen in the second half of 2018 into the new financial year based on the improved Metro ratings performance, monetisation of digital radio and increasing demand for Regional Radio. Further deployment of technology will drive increased efficiencies within back office functions allowing us to control non-revenue related costs.

Material Risks

Business and operational risks that could affect the achievement of the Group's financial prospects include the following risks:

Risk	Mitigation Strategies
Decrease in the size of the free-to-air ("FTA") television market at a faster rate than forecast	<p>The Group has seen a decline in the television market of 3.4% year on year. Although FTA television continues to deliver mass audiences and hence has a key place in media buying strategies, television markets remain challenging due to consistent audience declines. Given continuing declines and independent estimates of television industry growth rates showing further significant declines over the forecast period have led to an impairment loss of \$102.9m in the year ended 30 June 2018. For further information, refer note 9.</p> <p>The Group's five year affiliation agreement with Nine, commenced on 1 July 2016, in Southern NSW, Regional Victoria and Queensland. Nine programming has traditionally delivered a significantly higher audience than Ten across these territories. Following a revenue uplift in the year of transition, revenue in these markets increased by a further 5.7% in 2018 despite the decline in the television market as a whole, with the Group's market share reaching 36.9%.</p> <p>Part of this success is attributable to the Group's sales teams' Regional Development Program to drive incremental marketing in regional markets where there is an underinvestment in media spend on a per capita basis.</p> <p>The Group is a diversified business covering television, radio and online, which provides a degree of protection against individual market weaknesses. As a television affiliate the Group pays a percentage of revenue to the broadcast partners meaning television has a higher variable cost structure than our radio or online businesses, which reduces the profit impact of any potential decline in revenue.</p>
Finding and retaining good on-air talent	<p>Finding and retaining good on-air talent is a key to retaining and growing audience share, and the Group is committed to developing talent across its national network of radio stations.</p> <p>The Group maintains a risk-based (opportunity) approach to unearthing and developing new talent and has implemented 'Hubble', a formal tool that assists to Discover, Document, Develop and Deploy talent at each stage of their career. The nature of the Group's regional and metro radio assets provides an opportunity for developing talent to be moved from smaller to larger markets over time.</p> <p>Contracts are used to lock talent in for certain periods of time. The development of successful off-air teams that help create high quality programming is also important in developing the loyalty of on-air talent to the Group.</p>

Review and Results of Operations (continued)

Material Risks (continued)

Risk	Mitigation Strategies
Decline in or loss of metro audience share leading to a loss of revenue	<p>The Group experienced a decline in metro audience share since last year, with full year market share of 27.8% compared to 29.1% in 2017.</p> <p>The Group has increased its focus on improving audience and commercial share through strategies, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investing in and retaining talent, as described above • Changing its music programming to attract new audiences • Securing sporting rights, including long term agreements with the AFL and NRL • Ongoing investment in On-Air tactics • Developing a commercial proposition for its digital radio stations by aggregating audiences within the Hit and Triple M brands • Development of integrated advertising solutions that provide clients with a strong return on investment
Failure to develop products that benefit from digital distribution and/or loses share to a competitor that successfully introduces new products	<p>With new alternative digital platforms and technologies emerging, there is a risk that the Group loses market share to alternative digital platforms and technologies, or fails to fully exploit the opportunity digital media represents for the business to lock in and grow new audience loyalty, or suffers financial loss due to a transfer of advertising spend to digital media.</p> <p>The Group has employed a team of digital experts, which are now integrated into the Group's day to day operations in order to leverage existing content and sales capabilities.</p> <p>The Group invests in engaging digital audiences through the simulcast of its FM radio stations online and the creation of additional stations on DAB that extends its Hit and Triple M radio brands across broadcast and online platforms. SCA is the number one radio group in the country with a unique digital audience of 1,080,000¹.</p> <p>The Group's digital strategy is to utilise its broadcast, social and website reach to continuously engage audiences around our digital audio offering, driving people to our branded apps on which they can listen either live or on-demand. SCA currently has an installed base of 1.6m² across its branded radio apps.</p> <p>PodcastOne Australia is SCAs podcast network which was launched in 2017 and which SCA aims to make the pre-eminent podcasting network in Australia. Podcast One Australia produces unique original content that is available on demand to listeners and this content is monetised through advertising. From a standing start PodcastOne achieved 40 million downloads in its first year.</p>

¹ Nielsen Digital Panel (Monthly), Figure for June 18

² AppAnnie: All Time Downloads

Distributions and Dividends

Type	Cents per share	Total Amount \$'m	Date of Payment
Final 2017 Ordinary	4.00	30.8	10 October 2017
Interim 2018 Ordinary	3.75	28.8	12 April 2018

Since the end of the financial year the Directors have declared the payment of a final 2018 ordinary dividend of \$30.761 million (4.00 cents per fully paid share) out of Retained profits – 2013 reserve. This dividend will be paid on 9 October 2018 by the Company.

Significant Changes in State of Affairs

In the opinion of the Directors, there were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Group that occurred during the year under review.

Events Occurring After Balance Date

Events occurring after balance date are outlined in note 24 'Events Occurring after Balance Date' to the Financial Statements.

Likely Developments and Expected Results of Operations

Further information on likely developments relating to the operations of the Group in future years and the expected results of those operations have not been included in this report because the Directors of the Company believe it would be likely to result in unreasonable prejudice to the commercial interests of the Group.

Indemnification and Insurance of Officers and Auditors

During the year the Company paid a premium of \$335,205 to insure its officers. So long as the officers of the Company act in accordance with the Constitution and the law, the officers remain indemnified out of the assets of the Company and the Group against any losses incurred while acting on behalf of the Company and the Group. The auditors of the Group are in no way indemnified out of the assets of the Group.

Non-Audit Services

The company may decide to employ the auditor on assignments additional to their statutory audit duties where the auditor's expertise and experience with the Group are important.

Details of the amounts paid or payable to the auditor (PricewaterhouseCoopers Australia) for audit and non-audit services provided during the year are set out in note 21.

The Board has considered the position and, in accordance with advice received from the Audit & Risk Committee, is satisfied that the provision of the non-audit services is compatible with the general standard of independence for auditors imposed by the Corporations Act 2001. The Directors are satisfied that the provision of non-audit services by the auditor did not compromise the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 for the following reasons:

- all non-audit services have been reviewed by the Audit & Risk Committee to ensure they do not impact the impartiality and objectivity of the auditor; and
- none of the services undermine the general principles relating to auditor independence as set out in APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*.

Environmental Regulation

The operations of the Group are not subject to any significant environmental regulations under Australian Commonwealth, State or Territory law. The Directors are not aware of any breaches of any environmental regulations.

Information on Directors

Chairman Peter Bush	<p><i>Appointed 25 February 2015</i></p> <p><i>Most recently elected by shareholders: 29 October 2015</i></p> <p><i>Board Committees: Chairman, Nomination Committee</i></p> <p>Peter Bush had a distinguished career in executive roles spanning the media, FMCG, advertising and consumer products sectors. He also brings considerable and highly respected public company directorship experience to Southern Cross Media Group. Peter is currently Chairman of Inghams Group Limited. He has previously served on the boards of Mantra Group Ltd, Pacific Brands Ltd, Nine Entertainment Holdings, Insurance Australia Group, Miranda Wines, McDonald's Australia Limited and Lion.</p>
Deputy Chairman Leon Pasternak	<p><i>Appointed 26 September 2005</i></p> <p><i>Most recently elected by shareholders: 20 October 2016</i></p> <p><i>Board Committees: Deputy Chairman</i></p> <p>Until July 2010, Leon Pasternak was a senior corporate partner at Freehills (now Herbert Smith Freehills) specialising in mergers and acquisitions, public finance and corporate reorganisations. Until February 2014, Leon held the positions of Vice Chairman and Managing Director with Merrill Lynch Markets (Australia) Pty Limited (a subsidiary of Bank of America) with responsibility for the financial institutions group and mergers and acquisitions.</p>
CEO and Managing Director Grant Blackley	<p><i>Appointed 29 June 2015</i></p> <p><i>Most recently elected by shareholders: 29 October 2015</i></p> <p>Grant Blackley has enjoyed an extensive career with more than 30 years experience in the media and entertainment sectors. Grant joined the Board in June 2015 as Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director and is responsible for leading the strategic and operational performance of the company. Grant is a Director of Commercial Radio Australia and Free TV Australia. He has served in numerous senior leadership roles including at the TEN Network, as CEO from 2005 to 2010. Prior to becoming CEO, Grant held key roles in network sales, digital media and multi-channel program development as well as being responsible for group strategy, acquisitions and executive leadership and development.</p>
Director Glen Boreham AM	<p><i>Appointed 1 September 2014</i></p> <p><i>Most recently elected by shareholders: 20 October 2016</i></p> <p><i>Board Committees: Audit & Risk Committee, People & Culture Committee</i></p> <p>Glen Boreham AM had a distinguished career at IBM culminating in the role of Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director, IBM Australia and New Zealand from 2006 to 2010. Glen was the inaugural Chair of Screen Australia from 2008 to 2014, and also chaired the Australian Government's Convergence Review of the media industry. He is a non-executive director of Cochlear Limited, Link Group Limited and Chair of the Advisory Board at IXUP Limited. Glen was previously Chair of the Industry Advisory Board at the University of Technology Sydney, and Chair of Advance, representing the one million Australians living overseas.</p>

Information on Directors (continued)

Director Robert Murray	<p><i>Appointed 1 September 2014</i></p> <p><i>Most recently elected by shareholders: 24 October 2017</i></p> <p><i>Board Committees: People & Culture Committee, Nomination Committee</i></p> <p>Robert Murray has had a significant and varied career in sales, marketing and general management having served most recently as the CEO of Lion (formerly Lion Nathan), one of Australasia's leading food and beverage companies, including during its acquisition by Kirin Holdings in 2009. Before joining Lion in 2004, Rob worked for Procter & Gamble for 12 years, and then for eight years with Nestlé, firstly as MD of the UK Food business, and from 2000 to 2004 as CEO of Nestlé Oceania. Rob is a board member of the Bestest Foundation and is Chairman of Metcash Ltd.</p>
Director Helen Nash	<p><i>Appointed 23 April 2015</i></p> <p><i>Most recently elected by shareholders: 24 October 2017</i></p> <p><i>Board Committees: Audit & Risk Committee, People & Culture Committee (Chair), Nomination Committee</i></p> <p>Helen Nash has more than 20 years' experience in brands and marketing, including seven years in FMCG at Procter & Gamble, followed by three years in publishing at IPC Media. Helen held a variety of senior executive roles at McDonald's Australia Ltd over a period of nearly ten years, including the position of Chief Operating Officer, overseeing restaurant operations, marketing, menu, insights and research and information technology. Helen is also a non-executive director of Blackmores Ltd, Metcash Ltd and Inghams Group Ltd. She was formerly a non-executive director of Pacific Brands Ltd.</p>
Director Melanie Willis	<p><i>Appointed 26 May 2016</i></p> <p><i>Most recently elected by shareholders: 20 October 2016</i></p> <p><i>Board Committees: Audit & Risk Committee (Chair), People & Culture Committee</i></p> <p>Melanie has extensive experience in corporate finance, strategy and innovation and investments both in Executive and Non-Executive roles in a number of sectors, including accounting and finance, infrastructure, property investment management, and retail services (including tourism and start-up ventures). She has held non-executive director roles on the Boards of tourism and leisure operator Mantra Group, specialist lender Pepper Group and Ardent Leisure. She was CEO of NRMA Investments (and head of strategy and innovation) and CEO of a financial services start up and director of Deutsche Bank, having previously been in corporate finance at Bankers Trust and Westpac. Melanie is currently also a non-executive director of fund manager Challenger Limited.</p>

Information on Company Secretary

General Counsel and Company Secretary Tony Hudson	<p><i>Appointed 7 September 2015</i></p> <p>Tony Hudson has over 20 years' experience in senior legal and governance roles. Tony was General Counsel and Company Secretary at ConnectEast from 2005 until 2015. Before that, Tony was a partner of Blake Dawson Waldron (now Ashurst Australia), working in the firm's Melbourne office and from 1993 until 2000 in its Jakarta associated office. Tony manages the Group's national legal and corporate affairs teams, including responsibility for regulatory affairs and board governance.</p>
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Meetings of Directors

The number of meetings of the Board of Directors and its committees that were held during the year and the number of meetings attended by each director are summarised in the table below.

The Nomination Committee did not meet formally during the year. Members of the Nomination Committee met informally to discuss Board succession issues during the year.

Director	Board		Meetings of Committees			
	Attended	Held	Audit & Risk		People & Culture	
			Attended	Held	Attended	Held
Peter Bush	7	8	*	*	*	*
Leon Pasternak	7	8	*	*	2	2
Grant Blackley	8	8	3*	3	4*	4
Glen Boreham	8	8	3	3	2	2
Rob Murray	8	8	*	*	4	4
Helen Nash	8	8	3	3	4	4
Melanie Willis	8	8	3	3	4	4

Held refers to the number of meetings held during the time the Director held office or was a member of the relevant committee during the year.

* Not a member of the relevant committee during the year.

Remuneration Report

Letter from People & Culture Committee

On behalf of the Board, I am pleased to present the Company's 2018 Remuneration Report. The People & Culture Committee (PCC) assists the Board in its oversight of management activities in developing and implementing strategies to improve the Company's culture and diversity, consistent with our values. An important part of the committee's role is to ensure that the Company's remuneration policies are aligned with the creation of value for shareholders, having regard to applicable governance, legal and regulatory requirements and industry standards.

Executive remuneration includes fixed and variable components, comprising short and long term incentives. The Board has decided that the fixed component of the senior leadership team's remuneration for the new financial year will be the same as in FY2018.

The Company's short term incentive (STI) plan applies a balanced scorecard to assessment of the performance of the senior leadership team and other participants in the STI plan. Performance is measured in three categories: profitability and financial performance (40%), high level operational improvements (40%) and cultural and behavioural influences (20%). This recognises the long term benefits to the organisation of the Company's leaders committing to develop and maintain a strong culture and operational discipline.

The first of these includes group-wide and individual departmental performance measures, with the group-wide measures operating as a gateway to any payment in this category. Financial targets relating to group NPAT, EBITDA and sales were not achieved during the year. As a result, none of the senior leadership team received any payment for the profitability and financial performance component of the STI plan.

With some variations in individual performance, the Board was satisfied that goals relating to operational improvements and cultural and behavioural influences were substantially achieved. This resulted in the senior leadership team receiving between 50% and 60% of their total respective STI opportunities. Details of individual outcomes are provided in the remuneration report that follows this letter.

The Company's long term incentive (LTI) plan partially vested. This was based on the Company's relative total shareholder return (TSR) over the three years ended on 30 June 2018 being ranked in the 71st percentile and the Company's adjusted earnings per share (EPS) over that period growing by a compound annual rate of 3.10%. The Board exercises a discretion about the extent to which particular significant or non-recurring items will be excluded, having regard to the reasons for any particular item. The Board was satisfied that the Company's reported EPS should be adjusted for the purposes of the LTI plan to exclude the impact of the impairment recorded this year against the Company's regional television assets. The rationale for the impairment relates principally to the ongoing decline in the regional free-to-air television market, while the Company increased its share of revenue in its regional television markets.

As shareholders will recall, following a review assisted by an independent expert consultant, Juno Partners, the Board removed relative TSR as a performance condition for grants made under the LTI plan after 30 June 2017. Grants made in FY2018 and the grants to be made in FY2019 have two equally weighted performance hurdles a three-year performance period: EPS and return on invested capital (ROIC).

The vesting range of cumulative annual growth rates (CAGR) from 3% to 8% has been retained for the EPS performance condition in the LTI grants for FY2019. Having regard to the Company's media and entertainment business, the Board considers that this vesting range remains appropriate.

The threshold for vesting of the ROIC performance condition in the LTI grants for FY2019 is 8.8%, which is the ROIC achieved by the Company in FY2018. Although this is lower than the threshold of 10.1% adopted for FY2018 LTI grants, it is based on the same principle that applied for those grants. This is that the vesting threshold for each grant should be the ROIC achieved in the immediately preceding year. This is consistent with the methodology for the EPS vesting condition and is fair to new entrants to the LTI plan each year who will be eligible to be rewarded for consistent growth in ROIC over the performance period of the LTI grant. The upper band of the vesting range for LTI grants in FY2019 is 11.2% (FY2018: 12.5%). As for the grants made in FY2018, this is 2.4 percentage points above the vesting threshold for the ROIC performance condition.

The Board's approval of this vesting range was supported by market analysis conducted by Juno Partners. That analysis indicates that maintaining ROIC performance over three years equates to median historic performance of companies in the consumer discretionary sector and reflects the current market capitalisation of the Company.

Similarly, the upper vesting limit of 11.2% is an ambitious target that would be the equivalent of top quartile ROIC improvement, based on the consumer discretionary sector over the three years to FY2017.

Shareholders will recall that impairments and other significant items incurred during the life of an LTI grant will be added back to operating EBIT and Invested Capital in determining ROIC performance. This means that the impairment of \$104.7 million recorded by the Company at 30 June 2018 will be reversed for the purposes of the ROIC calculation for the LTI grants made in FY2018 (to be tested in FY2020).

Further details of how ROIC is calculated are provided in the description of the LTI Plan in the remuneration report.

During the year, the Company carried out a gender pay analysis, which applies more broadly to ensure that all employees are remunerated fairly for the work that they do. The Company used the Mercer International Position Evaluation (IPE) system to evaluate roles and to compare the remuneration of individuals in similarly rated roles in the business. The Mercer IPE system considers the following factors associated with each role: impact, influence and contribution; communication and decision making; innovation; knowledge; team management; and risk.

A total of 295 roles were identified, evaluated and rated by position class, ranging from position class 67 (CEO) to position class 41 (apprentice). The remuneration of individuals in each of those roles was then compared. The analysis found that remuneration across the business is generally determined by reference to the requirements of each role and the skills and experience of individual employees. There appears to be no systemic gender bias in the Company's remuneration practices.

Pay gaps between males and females in the same role were found to be generally 12% or less. The Company's biggest pay gaps are in one role in which there is a 34% gap in favour of males and another in which there is an 18% gap in favour of females. In most cases where a pay gap exists in favour of one gender or the other, there are reasonable explanations based on location or market factors for particular roles.

Action has already been taken to address some of the identified pay gaps. Other gaps will be progressively addressed in future recruitments and in annual reviews of remuneration. When fully rolled out, the Mercer IPE system will be used to set remuneration bands for similarly rated roles to improve the consistency of remuneration practices throughout the business.

The Board has resolved not to adjust the remuneration of non-executive directors in FY2019, and will commission an independent benchmarking review during the new financial year. The Board most recently commissioned an external review in 2016.

Three of the Company's non-executive directors now hold the minimum shareholding required by the Board's policy. The remaining directors also hold significant shareholdings and will complete their required holding during the next financial year in accordance with the policy.

The PCC is confident that the Company's remuneration framework aligns with the Company's objective of delivering sustainable value for shareholders. We look forward to your feedback and to welcoming you to our 2018 Annual General Meeting.

Yours faithfully,



Helen Nash
Chairman of the People & Culture Committee

1. Overview of FY2018 remuneration

This section provides an overview of the remuneration received by executive KMP and non-executive directors in FY2018. The principles for remuneration of executive KMP are set out in section 2. Details of remuneration paid during the year are provided in sections 3 (Remuneration), 4 (short-term incentives) and 5 (long-term incentives).

1.1. Executive KMP

Name	Year	Total remuneration		Short-term incentive opportunity		Long-term incentive eligible for vesting ¹	
		Amount \$	Performance-related proportion %	Awarded %	Forfeited %	Vested %	Forfeited %
Grant Blackley <i>Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director</i>	2018	2,196,406	46.0	52.0	48.0	-	-
	2017	2,221,055	48.4	87.1	12.9	-	-
Nick McKechnie <i>Chief Financial Officer</i>	2018	890,599	36.6	51.0	49.0	35.93	64.07
	2017	783,042	31.6	92.4	7.6	100	-
John Kelly <i>Chief Operating Officer</i>	2018	844,938	33.3	50.0	50.0	-	-
	2017	773,257	28.6	87.4	12.6	-	-
Brian Gallagher <i>Chief Sales Officer</i>	2018	849,937	35.6	49.0	51.0	-	-
	2017	759,038	29.3	73.7	26.3	-	-
Guy Dobson <i>Chief Content Officer</i>	2018	826,041	17.9	53.0	47.0	35.93	64.07
	2017	785,756	18.1	58.3	41.7	-	100
Rick Lenarcic <i>Head of Regional Media</i>	2018	1,103,924	22.9	55.0	45.0	35.92	64.07
	2017	581,769	25.2	63.6	36.4	-	100
Creina Chapman <i>Head of Regulatory Affairs and Corporate Communications</i>	2018	270,210	19.2	60.0	40.0	-	100
	2017	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total executive KMP	2018	6,982,055	34.0	52.0	48.0	35.93	64.07
	2017	5,903,917	34.4	82.0	18.0	48.0	52.0

¹ The vested and forfeited proportion of LTI entitlements relate only to those LTI entitlements that were eligible for vesting during the year.

² Rick Lenarcic ceased employment with the Company on 22 June 2018.

³ Creina Chapman commenced employment with the Company during 2015. She became a KMP upon joining the senior leadership team on 4 October 2017. She resigned with effect from 17 May 2018. She was not a KMP during FY2017.

1.2. Non-executive directors

The aggregate remuneration of the Company's non-executive directors during the year was \$1,118,438, compared to \$1,167,750 in 2017. The principles for remuneration of non-executive directors are set out in section 2. Details of the remuneration of non-executive directors during the year are provided in section 3.

2. Remuneration principles

2.1 Overview of executive remuneration

The Company aims to ensure remuneration is competitive and appropriate for the results delivered. Executive reward is aligned with the achievement of strategic objectives and the creation of value for shareholders, and is informed by market practice for delivery of reward.

Executive remuneration packages include a mix of fixed and variable remuneration. Variable remuneration includes short and long-term incentives. More senior roles in the organisation have a greater weighting towards variable remuneration.

The table below shows the target remuneration mix for executive KMP in 2018. The STI portion is shown at target levels and the LTI portion is based on the value granted in 2018.

	Fixed remuneration	STI	LTI
Grant Blackley <i>Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director</i>	40%	30%	30%
John Kelly <i>Chief Operating Officer</i>	50%	25%	25%
Nick McKechnie <i>Chief Financial Officer</i>	50%	25%	25%
Brian Gallagher <i>Chief Sales Officer</i>	50%	25%	25%
Guy Dobson <i>Chief Creative Officer</i>	76%	12%	12%
Rick Lenarcic <i>Head of Regional Media</i>	50%	25%	25%
Creina Chapman <i>Head of Regulatory Affairs and Corporate Communications</i>	60%	20%	20%

2.2 Fixed remuneration for executive KMP

Fixed remuneration for executives is structured as a total employment package. Executives receive a combination of base pay, superannuation and prescribed non-financial benefits at the executive's discretion. The Company contributes superannuation on behalf of executives in accordance with the superannuation guarantee legislation.

Fixed remuneration is reviewed annually to ensure the executive's pay is competitive and appropriate for the results delivered. There are no guaranteed fixed remuneration increases included in any executive KMP contracts.

2.3 Variable remuneration for executive KMP

2.3.1 Short-term incentives

The table below outlines details of the Company's short-term incentive plan.

What is the incentive?	The STI is an annual "at risk" bonus designed to reward executives for meeting or exceeding financial and non-financial objectives.
How is each executive's entitlement determined?	Each executive is allocated a dollar value (which may be a fixed percentage of the executive's total remuneration) representing the executive's STI opportunity for the year.
How is the incentive delivered?	STI awards for all executives other than the CEO are paid in cash according to the extent of achievement of the applicable performance measures. No portion of an STI award is subject to deferral. The CEO's STI award is payable partly in cash and partly in equity. The equity component is 25% of the after-tax value of the total STI award.

What are the performance measures and hurdles?

The Board sets the annual KPIs for the CEO near the beginning of each financial year. The KPIs are allocated to three categories having regard to the Company's business strategy: profitability and financial performance (40%), high level operational improvements (40%) and cultural and behavioural influences (20%).

The CEO determines the KPIs for the other members of the senior leadership team in the same three categories and having regard to their areas of responsibility. KPIs for the Chief Creative Officer may allocate up to 40% to creative and content performance instead of profitability and financial performance.

The metrics that applied under the STI plan in 2018 are summarised below.

Profitability and financial performance / Creative and content performance (40%)

- **Group NPAT compared with budget:** Focuses on financial results and collaboration for the overall benefit of the Group. This financial metric applies for the CEO, CFO and COO.
- **Segment EBITDA compared with budget:** Focuses on the performance of segments for which they have direct responsibility. This metric applies for the Head of Regional Media.
- **Sales-related targets:** Focuses on achieving sustainable financial performance from growing top line revenue. This metric applies for the Chief Sales Officer.
- **Ratings targets:** Revenue and financial performance is heavily dependent on ratings on both radio and television. This metric applies for the Chief Creative Officer (for radio).

Profitability and financial performance targets also include targets to ensure non-revenue related costs are closely controlled and to achieve specific corporate strategy projects that improve the asset base.

The Board has discretion to adjust budget targets to take into account acquisitions or divestments or other significant items where appropriate for linking remuneration reward to corporate performance.

Achievements against financial metrics are based on the Company's audited annual financial statements. The Board has discretion to make adjustments to take into account any significant non-cash items (for example impairment losses), acquisitions and divestments and one-off events/abnormal/non-recurring items, where appropriate for linking remuneration reward to corporate performance.

High level operational performance (40%)

- **Strategy:** Focuses on strategic initiatives (such as network strategy, material contracts and diversification of revenue streams) that deliver growth, improved business performance and shareholder value.
- **Operational improvements:** Focuses on effective management of business support functions and infrastructure to sustain and improve long-term earnings performance.

Cultural and behavioural influences (20%)

- **People:** Focuses on maintaining a strong and positive corporate culture, effective leadership and development and retention of talent to sustain and improve long-term earnings performance.
- **External relationships:** Focuses on development and maintenance of constructive relationships with key stakeholders to sustain and improve long-term earnings performance.

Is there a gateway?

At least 95% of an executive's financial metrics relating to NPAT or EBITDA must be achieved before any STI is payable under the profitability and financial performance (40%) component of the STI plan.

Similarly, at least 97.5% of an executive's financial metrics for sales or costs must be achieved before any STI is payable under the profitability and financial performance (40%) component of the STI plan. Where the budget for a financial year is less than the previous year's actual result, the applicable financial metric will be the previous year's actual result (excluding any divested assets or non-recurring items).

There is no gateway for metrics in the high level operational improvements (40%) or cultural and behavioural influences components of the STI plan.

Individual performance must be at a "meets expectations" level before any STI is payable.

What is the maximum amount payable?

The maximum award for non-financial measures under the STI plan is 100% of an executive's STI opportunity for those measures.

The maximum award for financial measures under the STI plan is 100% of an executive's STI opportunity for that measure. In addition, an executive can earn up to 200% of the financial component (40%) of the executive's STI if the Group achieves up to 105% of the Group's NPAT target. An executive's maximum STI opportunity is therefore 140% of target.

Having regard to assumptions underlying the Company's annual budget, the Board considers that achieving 105% of the Group's NPAT target would represent significant outperformance. Any STI award for such outperformance must be self-funding. This means that the outperformance must be achieved after providing for the incremental cost of any STI award.

NPAT / EBITDA	Sales	% of financial STI payable
<95%	<97.5%	0%
95% to 100%	97.5% to 100%	Straight-line between 50% and 100%
100% to 105% NPAT	N/a	Progressive scale between 100% and 200%
>105%	N/a	200%

How is performance assessed?

CEO: At the end of each financial year, with the assistance of the Committee, the Board assesses the actual performance of the Company and the CEO against the applicable KPIs and determines the STI amount payable to the CEO.

Other executive KMP: At the end of the financial year the CEO assesses the actual performance of the Group and the executive KMPs against the applicable KPIs and determines the STI amount payable to each executive. The CEO provides these assessments to the Committee for review.

Cessation of employment

"Bad Leavers" (who resign or are terminated for cause) will forfeit their STI entitlement, unless otherwise determined by the Board or the CEO as appropriate.

The STI payments of executives who cease employment for other reasons are pro-rated for time and performance, unless otherwise determined by the Board.

Change of control	In the event of a change of control before the STI payment date, the STI payment is pro-rated for time and performance, subject to the Board's discretion.
Clawback	The Board may reconsider the level of satisfaction of a performance measure and take steps to reduce the benefit of an STI award to the extent its vesting was affected by fraud, dishonesty, breach of obligation or other action likely to result in long term detriment to the Company.
Other features	<p>Discretionary elements: The Board (for KMP) and the CEO (for other executives) have discretion to grant additional bonuses for special projects or achievements that are not contemplated in the normal course of business or that have a particular strategic impact for the Company, such as acquisitions and divestments, refinancing, or major capital expenditure projects.</p> <p>Minimum employment period: Participants must be employed for at least three months in the performance period to be entitled to receive an STI payment.</p>

2.3.2

Long-term incentives

The table below outlines details of the Company's long-term incentive plan.

What is the incentive?	The LTI plan provides executive KMP with grants of performance rights over ordinary shares, for nil consideration. Performance rights granted under the LTI plan are subject to a three year performance period. From 2017, the LTI plan has also been made available to about 20 executives in the next tiers of management.
How is each executive's entitlement determined?	<p>Each executive is allocated a dollar value (which may be a fixed percentage of the executive's total remuneration) representing the executive's maximum LTI opportunity for the year. This dollar value is converted into a number of performance rights in the LTI plan, based on the face value of performance rights at the applicable grant date. The face value of performance rights is calculated as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the weighted average price of the Company's shares for the five trading days commencing seven days after the Company's results for the prior financial year (ended 30 June 2018) are announced to ASX; less the amount of any final dividend per share declared as payable in respect of the prior financial year (ended 30 June 2018). <p>For LTI grants made before 1 July 2017, the dollar value is based on the fair value of performance rights at the applicable grant date. For those grants, the Company engaged Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu (Deloitte) to determine the fair value of the performance rights. In accordance with the applicable accounting standards, AASB 2 "Share-based Payment" and AASB 124 "Related Party Disclosures", Deloitte used a Monte Carlo simulation model for the Relative TSR performance rights and a Black-Scholes-Merton model for the Absolute EPS performance rights.</p>
How is the incentive delivered?	To the extent that the applicable vesting conditions are satisfied at the end of the three year performance period, LTI awards are delivered by allocation to participants of one fully paid ordinary share for each performance right that vests. The Board has discretion to settle vested awards in cash.
What are the performance measures and hurdles?	From 1 July 2017, each grant under the LTI plan has two equally weighted performance hurdles over a three year period: Return on Invested Capital (ROIC) and Absolute Earnings per Share (EPS). ROIC has replaced Relative Total Shareholder Return (TSR), which, together with Absolute EPS, was the performance hurdle used in LTI grants made before 1 July 2017. This change was made following a review of the LTI plan by Juno Partners, an independent consultant. The Company's ROIC Performance is more within management's sphere of influence than is the Company's Relative TSR

Performance, is readily measurable at any time during the performance period of an LTI grant, and therefore provides a more effective incentive for management performance.

Return on Invested Capital Performance hurdle

ROIC measures management's efficiency at allocating the capital under its control to generate profitable returns. To maintain and improve the Company's ROIC, management is required to focus on the quality of earnings and the capital required to deliver improved earnings.

ROIC is calculated as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Operating earnings before interest and tax (EBIT)}}{\text{Invested Capital (Net Debt plus Equity)}}$$

ROIC is defined by reference to factors substantially within management's sphere of influence. Accordingly:

- Operating EBIT is adjusted to exclude the impact of significant or non-recurring items (both income and costs) to provide a fair measure of underlying long-term performance.
- Impairments and other significant items are added back to operating EBIT and Invested Capital. To ensure consistent measurement from year to year, any impairments and other significant items from 1 July 2017 (when ROIC was introduced as a performance condition under the LTI plan) will be added back to the calculation of Invested Capital in each year. (Impairments and significant items before the introduction of ROIC as a measure on 1 July 2017 are not added back).
- Non-cancellable operating leases are included in Invested Capital.
- Returns are measured pre-tax.
- Invested Capital is measured at the end of each month over the final year of an LTI grant and is averaged for the purposes of calculating ROIC.
- Where applicable, items used to calculate ROIC will be rebased to accommodate changes in accounting standards and policies during the life of an LTI grant.

ROIC performance rights will vest if the Company's ROIC performance in the final year of the performance period is at or above a threshold set by the Board at the time of making the relevant LTI grant. ROIC performance rights granted in FY2019 are eligible to vest according to the following schedule:

ROIC Performance in FY2021	% of allocation that vests
Below 8.8%	Nil
8.8%	50%
8.8% - 11.2%	Straight-line vesting between 50% and 100%
At or above 11.2%	100%

Absolute EPS Performance hurdle (50%)

Performance rights will vest if the Company's adjusted EPS performance over the performance period is at or above a 3% Compound Annual Growth Rate (**CAGR**). Adjusted EPS excludes the impact of significant or non-recurring items (both income and costs) and so provides a fair measure of underlying long-term performance. The Board exercises a discretion about the extent to which particular significant or non-recurring items will be excluded, having regard to the reasons for any particular item.

Adjusted EPS is calculated by dividing the adjusted profit after tax attributable to shareholders for relevant reporting period (reported profit after tax, adjusted for the after-tax effect of significant or non-recurring items) by the weighted average number of ordinary shares on issue in the Company over the relevant reporting period.

Absolute EPS Performance	% of allocation that vests
Below 3% CAGR	Nil
3% CAGR	50%
3% - 8% CAGR	Straight-line vesting between 50% and 100%
At or above 8% CAGR	100%

Relative TSR Performance hurdle (for LTI grants made before 1 July 2017)

TSR provides a comparison of relative shareholder returns that is relevant to most of the Company's investors.

The Relative TSR Performance hurdle takes into account share price appreciation plus reinvested dividends, expressed as a percentage of investment and adjusted for changes in the Company's capital structure.

Performance rights will vest if the Company's TSR over the performance period is at or above the 51st percentile against the constituents of the ASX Consumer Discretionary Index at each grant date, excluding News Corporation.

The comparator group represents a range of alternative companies that shareholders could invest in while maintaining portfolio sector balance. News Corporation has been excluded from each comparative group given the extent of its international business operations.

TSR Performance	% of allocation that vests
Below 51 st percentile	Nil
51 st percentile	50%
51 st to 75 th percentile	Straight-line vesting between 50% and 100%
At or above 75 th percentile	100%

Is there a gateway?	<p>The ROIC Performance hurdle will be achieved only if the Company's adjusted ROIC performance in the final year of the performance period is at or above a threshold set by the Board at the time of making the relevant LTI grant. The ROIC Performance hurdle for grants made in FY2019 will be achieved if the Company's adjusted ROIC performance in FY2021 is at or above 8.8%.</p> <p>The Absolute EPS Performance hurdle will be achieved only if the Company's EPS performance over the performance period is at or above 3% CAGR.</p> <p>The Relative TSR Performance hurdle will be achieved only if the Company's relative TSR over the performance period is at or above the 51st percentile of the comparator group.</p>
What is the maximum amount payable?	The maximum award under the LTI plan is 100% of an executive's grant if all vesting conditions are fully satisfied over the performance period.
How is performance assessed?	<p>The Board will calculate the Company's ROIC and EPS Performance at the end of the performance period for each LTI grant by reference to the Company's accounting records and the Company's audited financial reports. The Company may engage an independent consultant to review or carry out these calculations.</p> <p>The Group engages Deloitte to report on the Company's TSR ranking within the comparator group as defined in each of the LTI plans at each relevant vesting date.</p> <p>There is no re-testing of performance hurdles under the LTI plan.</p>
Cessation of employment	<p>"Bad Leavers" (who resign or are terminated for cause) will forfeit any unvested performance rights, unless otherwise determined by the Board.</p> <p>For executives who cease employment for other reasons, the Board has discretion to vest any unvested performance rights on a pro-rata basis taking into account time and the current level of performance against the performance hurdle, or to hold the LTI award to be tested against performance hurdles at the end of the original vesting period.</p>
Change of control	In the event of a change of control before vesting of an LTI award, the Board has discretion as to how to treat the unvested award, including to determine that the award will vest or lapse in whole or in part, or that it will continue subject to the same or different conditions.
Clawback	The Board may reconsider the level of satisfaction of a performance hurdle and take steps to reduce the benefit of an LTI award to the extent its vesting was affected by fraud, dishonesty, breach of obligation or other action likely to result in long term detriment to the Company.
Other features	<p>Treatment of dividends: There are no dividends payable to participants on unvested performance rights. Once performance rights have vested to fully paid ordinary shares, the participant will be entitled to dividends on these shares.</p> <p>Sourcing of shares: The Board has discretion to purchase shares on market or to issue new shares in respect of vested performance rights.</p> <p>Retention of shares: The rules of the LTI plan do not require participants to retain any shares allocated to them upon vesting of performance rights. However, the Company's Senior Executive Shareholding Plan requires Executive KMP to retain 25% of the shares allocated to them upon vesting of performance rights while they remain employed by the Company.</p>

2.4 Consequences of performance on shareholder value

In considering the Group's performance and the benefits for shareholder value, the Board has regard to the following indicators in the current financial year and the preceding four financial years.

	30 June 2018	30 June 2017	30 June 2016	30 June 2015	30 June 2014
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Revenue	653,007	687,244	639,555	611,120	640,834
EBITDA	154,662	177,393	167,722	163,262	179,705
EBITDA %	23.7%	25.8%	26.2%	26.7%	28.0%
Net profit before tax	4,433	127,738	114,177	(265,216)	(279,577)
Net profit after tax ("NPAT")	1,422	108,563	77,243	(284,950)	(296,008)
NPAT %	0.22%	15.8%	12.0%	(46.6%)	(46.2%)
Net profit after tax excluding significant items	75,271	108,563	77,243	64,783	79,629
NPAT % excluding significant items	11.5%	15.8%	12.0%	10.6%	12.4%
EPS (cents) ¹	9.79	12.20	10.12	8.93	11.29
ROIC ²	8.8%	10.1%	9.1%	n/a	n/a
	30 June 2018	30 June 2017	30 June 2016	30 June 2015	30 June 2014
Opening share price	\$1.25	\$1.25	\$0.97	\$1.07	\$1.43
Closing share price	\$1.31	\$1.25	\$1.25	\$0.97	\$1.07
Dividend/Distribution	7.75c	7.25c	6.25c	6.0c	7.5c

¹ EPS is shown after adjustments to exclude the impact of significant or non-recurring items (both income and costs) as approved by the Board for the purposes of the Company's LTI plan.

² ROIC is calculated in accordance with the principles outline in section 2.3.2. It has not been calculated for periods prior to the introduction of the scheme in 2016.

2.5 Executive service contracts

The Company has entered into service contracts setting out the terms of employment of each executive KMP. All service contracts are for an indefinite term, subject to termination by either party on six months' notice (12 weeks' notice in the case of Rick Lenarcic). Each executive service contract provides for the payment of base salary and participation in the Company's STI and LTI plans, along with other prescribed non-monetary benefits.

2.6 Services from remuneration consultants

During 2017, the Board's People & Culture Committee (PCC) engaged Juno Partners as an independent expert consultant to review the Company's LTI plan. This review included recommendations about the performance conditions and vesting range for grants made under the LTI plan. During 2018, management engaged Juno Partners to prepare analysis to inform the PCC's and Board's deliberations in relation to setting the ROIC and EPS performance conditions and vesting range for grants to be made under the LTI plan in FY2019. Juno Partners was paid \$26,792 for its services in 2018.

Deloitte was engaged during the year to assess the performance of the Company's LTI plans as at each vesting date and, for this purpose, to determine the Group's TSR ranking within the comparator group and EPS growth over the applicable performance periods. Deloitte was paid \$9,450 for these services.

During 2016, the PCC engaged KPMG to provide an independent report benchmarking the remuneration of the Company's executive KMP and its non-executive directors. The remuneration of the Company's executive KMP and non-executive directors was adjusted following consideration of that benchmarking report. The PCC did not seek benchmarking advice during 2017 or 2018 but intends to do so in 2019.

2.7 Remuneration of non-executive directors

The Company enters into a letter of appointment with each non-executive director. The letter sets out the Board's expectations for non-executive directors and the remuneration payable to non-executive directors.

The maximum annual aggregate fee pool for non-executive directors is \$1,500,000. This was approved by shareholders at the 2011 Annual General Meeting.

The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman receive a fixed aggregate fee. Other non-executive directors receive a base fee for acting as a director and additional fees for participation as chair or as a member of the Board's committees. Non-executive directors do not receive performance-based fees and are not entitled to retirement benefits as part of their fees.

The table below sets out the fees for non-executive directors that applied in 2017 and 2018 and those that will apply in 2019.

	2017	2018	2019
	\$	\$	\$
Base fees – Annual			
Chairman ¹	265,000	273,000	273,000
Deputy Chairman ¹	171,000	176,000	176,000
Other Non-Executive Directors	132,500	136,500	136,500
Committee fees – Annual			
Audit & Risk Committee – Chairman	22,500	23,000	23,000
Audit & Risk Committee – member	15,000	15,500	15,500
People & Culture Committee ² – Chairman ¹	16,000	16,500	16,500
People & Culture Committee ² – member	10,500	11,000	11,000
Nomination Committee – Chairman ¹	16,000	16,500	16,500
Nomination Committee – member	10,500	11,000	11,000

¹ The Chairman and Deputy Chairman do not receive any additional fees for committee work. Accordingly, the fees set out above for chair of the Nomination Committee were not paid during 2017 or 2018 and will not be paid during 2019. The fees set out above for chair of the People & Culture Committee were not paid during 2017, but have been paid since Helen Nash replaced Leon Pasternak as chair of that Committee from 1 November 2017.

3. Remuneration of executive KMP and directors during the year

3.1 Executive KMP

The table below sets out the nature and amount of each major element of the remuneration of each executive KMP in 2018 and 2017.

Executive	Year	Short-term employee benefits			Post-employ- ment	Long Service Leave ¹	Termination benefits	Share-based payments	Total	Performance -related proportion	
		Salary and fees	STI cash bonus ²	Non- monetary	Total	Super con- tribution		Performance rights ³			
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	%	
Grant Blackley	2018	1,143,627	405,000	4,428	1,553,055	20,049	18,429	-	604,873	2,196,406	46.0
Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director	2017	1,121,884	705,240	4,315	1,831,439	19,616	-	-	370,000	2,221,055	48.4
Nick McKechnie	2018	523,107	140,140	2,799	666,046	20,049	18,344	-	186,160	890,599	36.6
Chief Financial Officer	2017	512,384	163,548	3,494	679,426	19,616	-	-	84,000	783,042	31.6
John Kelly	2018	539,440	140,600	4,428	684,468	20,049	-	-	140,421	844,938	33.3
Chief Operating Officer	2017	528,384	159,942	4,315	692,641	19,616	-	-	61,000	773,257	28.6
Brian Gallagher	2018	523,106	132,860	4,428	660,394	20,049	-	-	169,494	849,937	35.6
Chief Sales Officer	2017	512,384	130,390	4,315	647,089	19,616	-	-	92,333	759,038	29.3
Guy Dobson	2018	633,530	53,333	4,428	691,291	20,049	19,770	-	94,931	826,041	17.9
Chief Content Officer	2017	633,530	58,333	4,315	696,178	19,616	11,629	-	58,333	785,756	18.1
Rick Lenarcic ⁴	2018	389,624	115,500	11,963	517,087	20,049	-	429,100	137,688	1,103,924	22.9
Head of Regional Media	2017	389,384	79,200	25,043	493,627	19,616	1,026	-	67,500	581,769	25.2
Creina Chapman ⁵	2018	200,531	51,900	2,798	255,229	14,981	-	-	-	270,210	19.2
Head of Regulatory Affairs and Corporate Communications	2017	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total executive KMP	2018	3,952,965	1,039,333	35,272	5,027,570	135,275	56,543	429,100	1,333,567	6,982,055	34.0
	2017	3,697,950	1,296,653	45,797	5,040,400	117,696	12,655	-	733,166	5,903,917	34.4

¹ Long service leave relates to amounts accrued during the year.

² The STI bonus is for performance during the year using the criteria set out on page 14. The amount was finally determined by the Board on 22 August 2018 after considering recommendations of the People & Culture Committee.

³ The value of the performance rights granted during the year was determined as the face value of the performance rights at the grant date. The method of calculating the face value of performance rights is explained on page 17. The value disclosed is the portion of the face value of the rights recognised as an expense in each reporting period.

⁴ Rick Lenarcic ceased employment with effect from 22 June 2018.

⁵ Creina Chapman resigned with effect from 17 May 2018. Her former position of Head of Regulatory Affairs and Corporate Communications has not been replaced. She was not an executive KMP in 2017.

3.2 Non-executive directors

The table below sets out the nature and amount of each major element of the remuneration of each non-executive director in 2018 and 2017.

Non-executive director ¹	Year	Short-term employee benefits			Post-employment	Total
		Salary and fees	Non-monetary	Total	Super contribution	
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Peter Bush	2018	252,951	-	252,951	20,049	273,000
<i>Chairman</i>	2017	245,384	-	245,384	19,616	265,000
Leon Pasternak	2018	160,732	-	160,732	15,268	176,000
<i>Deputy Chairman</i>	2017	156,164	-	156,164	14,836	171,000
Peter Harvie ¹	2018	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Non-executive director</i>	2017	97,944	-	97,944	9,306	107,250
Glen Boreham	2018	145,510	-	145,510	13,823	159,333
<i>Non-executive director</i>	2017	134,704	-	134,704	12,796	147,500
Rob Murray	2018	148,186	-	148,186	13,752	161,938
<i>Non-executive director</i>	2017	140,184	-	140,184	13,316	153,500
Helen Nash	2018	162,253	-	162,253	15,414	177,667
<i>Non-executive director</i>	2017	144,292	-	144,292	13,708	158,000
Melanie Willis	2018	155,708	-	155,708	14,792	170,500
<i>Non-executive director</i>	2017	151,140	-	151,140	14,360	165,500
TOTAL	2018	1,025,340	-	1,025,340	93,098	1,118,438
	2017	1,069,812	-	1,069,812	97,938	1,167,750

¹ Peter Harvie resigned on 28 March 2017. His remuneration is only disclosed for the time he was a non-executive director.

4. Analysis of short term incentives included in remuneration

4.1 STI performance outcomes

The table below summaries the KPIs applicable for each KMP for FY2018 and the performance achieved.

KMP	Profitability and financial performance		High level operational improvements		Cultural and behavioural influences	
	40%		40%		20%	
	Measure	Performance	Measure	Performance	Measure	Performance
Grant Blackley	Group NPAT Group costs	Not Achieved Achieved 0% awarded because of failure of NPAT target	Deliver corporate strategy, including PodcastOne, Quik Entertainment, technology investment and digital radio brand roll-out.	32 % achieved	Lead action plans from culture audit; enhance reputation with investors, financiers and other influencers; develop succession plan including to monitor diversity	20 % achieved
Nick McKechnie	Group NPAT Group costs	Not achieved Achieved 0% awarded because of failure of NPAT target	Effective capital deployment to realise investment benefits; refinance senior debt on optimal terms.	31 % achieved	Lead action plans from culture audit; enhance reputation with investors, financiers and other influencers; develop succession plan including to monitor diversity.	20 % achieved
John Kelly	Group NPAT Non-revenue related costs	Not achieved Achieved 0% awarded because of failure of NPAT target	Lead implementation of corporate strategy; develop PodcastOne and Quik Entertainment; lead projects to improve audience audio experience	30 % achieved	Effectively communicate corporate strategy in the business; lead action plans from culture audit; develop succession plan including to monitor diversity.	20 % achieved

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KMP	Profitability and financial performance		High level operational improvements		Cultural and behavioural influences	
	40%		40%		20%	
	Measure	Performance	Measure	Performance	Measure	Performance
Brian Gallagher	Group EBITDA	Not achieved	Regional media growth strategy; Metro radio power ratio; digital radio strategy; monetise sporting rights.	32 % achieved	Effectively communicate corporate strategy in the business; lead action plans from culture audit; develop succession plan including to monitor diversity.	17 % achieved
	Group revenue	Not achieved				
	Sales dept costs	Achieved 0% awarded because of failure of EBITDA target				
Guy Dobson	Group EBITDA	Not achieved	2DayFM breakfast performance; grow Triple M male 25-54 audience; grow podcast and app usage; growth in digital radio audience	33 % achieved	Effectively communicate corporate strategy in the business; lead action plans from culture audit; develop succession plan including to monitor diversity.	20 % achieved
	Metro radio costs	Achieved 0% awarded because of failure of EBITDA target				
Rick Lenarcic	Group EBITDA	Not achieved	Regional radio and TV revenue growth; improve efficiency through technology investment; mentor and develop direct reports	40 % achieved	Effectively communicate corporate strategy in the business; lead action plans from culture audit.	15 % achieved
	Regional sales budget	Not achieved				
	Non-revenue regional costs	Achieved 0% awarded because of failure of EBITDA target				
Creina Chapman ¹	Group EBITDA	Not achieved	Representation on industry and regulatory bodies; promote PodcastOne; media communications; strategies for improved audience audio experience	40 % achieved	Effectively communicate corporate strategy in the business; lead action plans from culture audit.	20 % achieved
	Media reform package	Achieved 0% awarded because of failure of EBITDA target				

- ¹ Although Creina Chapman resigned with effect from 17 May 2018 and was liable to forfeit any STI entitlement, the Board exercised its discretion to approve payment of her STI bonus. This reflected her contributions during the year and the cooperative circumstances under which she had given notice and agreed to an earlier departure date.

4.2 Vesting of STI awards

The table below sets out details of the short-term incentive bonus payments awarded as remuneration to executive KMP for the year.

KMP	Short-term incentive bonus				
	Included in remuneration ¹ \$	% achieved in year			% forfeited in year ²
		Profitability and financial performance ⁴	High level operational improvements	Cultural and behavioural influences	
Grant Blackley	405,000	0%	32%	20%	48%
Nick McKechnie	140,140	0%	31%	20%	49%
John Kelly	140,600	0%	30%	20%	50%
Brian Gallagher	132,860	0%	32%	17%	51%
Guy Dobson ³	53,333	0%	33%	20%	47%
Rick Lenarcic	115,500	0%	40%	15%	45%
Creina Chapman ⁵	51,900	0%	40%	20%	40%

- ¹ Amounts included in remuneration for the year represent the amounts related to the year based on achievement of corporate and personal goals for each executive. These amounts were approved by the Board on 22 August 2018.

- ² The amounts forfeited are due to corporate and personal goals not being achieved in the year.

- ³ The first performance measure was based on Creative and Content performance for Guy Dobson.

- ⁴ Because budget targets were not achieved, the Board did not award any of the stretch opportunity of up to 105% available for the profitability and financial performance component of the STI plan.

- ⁵ Despite Creina Chapman resigning before the end of the financial year, the Board exercised its discretion to approve payment of her STI bonus for 2018. This reflected her contributions during the year and the cooperative circumstances under which she had given notice and agreed to an earlier departure date.

5. Share-based incentive payments

All references to rights in this section are to performance rights over fully paid ordinary shares in the Company issued under the Company's LTI plan. Rights are convertible into fully paid ordinary shares in the Company on a one-for-one basis upon vesting in accordance with the Company's LTI plan. There are no options on issue under the Company's LTI plan.

5.1 Rights granted as remuneration during the year

The tables below set out details of the rights over shares granted as remuneration to each KMP under the Company's LTI plan during the year. (Creina Chapman was not an executive KMP at the time of the grant of rights to her.)

KMP	Number of rights granted
Grant Blackley	660,993
Nick McKechnie	217,149
John Kelly	223,513
Brian Gallagher	217,149
Guy Dobson	79,542
Rick Lenarcic	167,038
Creina Chapman	56,475

Details for all rights granted in financial year

	Relative TSR	Absolute EPS
Grant Date	15 September 2017	15 September 2017
Face value at grant date	\$1.2572	\$1.2572
Vesting date	30 June 2020	30 June 2020

All rights expire on the earlier of their vesting date or termination of the executive's employment on a pro-rata basis. The rights vest at the end of the third financial year after their grant. This is 30 June 2020 for all rights granted in the year. In addition to a continuing employment condition, vesting is conditional on the Group achieving specified performance hurdles. Details of the performance hurdles are included in the discussion of the LTI plan on page 17.

5.2 Details of equity incentives affecting current and future remuneration

The table below sets out the vesting profiles of rights held by each KMP as at 30 June 2018 and details of rights that vested during the year. At the end of the year, there were no rights that had vested and which had not been exercised by conversion to fully paid ordinary shares.

Name	Grant Date	Vesting Date	No. of Perf Rights Granted	Value of Perf Rights at Grant Date ¹ \$	No. of Perf Rights Vested and Exercised During the Year	Vested and Exercised %	No. of Perf Rights Forfeited During the Year ⁴	Forfeited % ²	No. of Perf Rights Remaining at Year End	Value of Perf Rights yet to Vest \$
Grant Blackley	FY18 Plan	01/07/2020	660,993	831,000	-	-	-	-	660,993	831,000
	FY17 Plan	01/07/2019	764,151	810,000	-	-	-	-	764,151	810,000
	FY16 Plan	01/07/2018	491,803	300,000	-	-	-	-	491,803	300,000
	Total		1,916,947	1,941,000	-	-	-	-	1,916,947	1,941,000
Nick McKechnie	FY18 Plan	01/07/2020	217,149	273,000	-	-	-	-	217,149	273,000
	FY17 Plan	01/07/2019	166,981	177,000	-	-	-	-	166,981	177,000
	FY16 Plan	01/07/2018	245,902	150,000	-	-	-	-	245,902	150,000
	FY15 Plan	01/07/2017	192,704	150,000	69,231	35.93%	123,473	64.07%	-	-
	Total		822,736	750,000	69,231	35.93%	123,473	64.07%	630,032	600,000
John Kelly	FY18 Plan	01/07/2020	223,513	281,000	-	-	-	-	223,513	281,000
	FY17 Plan	01/07/2019	172,642	183,000	-	-	-	-	172,642	183,000
	Total		396,155	464,000	-	-	-	-	396,155	464,000
Brian Gallagher	FY18 Plan	01/07/2020	217,149	273,000	-	-	-	-	217,149	273,000
	FY17 Plan	01/07/2019	166,981	177,000	-	-	-	-	166,981	177,000
	FY16 Plan	01/07/2018	163,934	100,000	-	-	-	-	163,934	100,000
	Total		548,064	550,000	-	-	-	-	548,064	550,000
Guy Dobson	FY18 Plan	01/07/2020	79,542	100,000	-	-	-	-	79,542	100,000
	FY17 Plan	01/07/2019	94,340	100,000	-	-	-	-	94,340	100,000
	FY16 Plan	01/07/2018	163,934	100,000	-	-	-	-	163,934	100,000
	FY15 Plan	01/07/2017	128,469	100,000	46,154	35.93%	82,315	64.07%	-	-
	FY14 Plan	01/07/2017	32,359	33,330	-	-	32,359	100.0%	-	-
	Total		498,644	433,330	46,154	35.9%	114,674	64.1%	337,816	300,000
Rick Lenarcic	FY18 Plan	01/07/2020	167,038	210,000	-	-	108,056	64.69%	58,982	74,152
	FY17 Plan	01/07/2019	127,358	135,000	-	-	39,894	31.32%	87,464	92,712
	FY16 Plan	01/07/2018	163,934	100,000	-	-	-	-	163,934	100,000
	FY15 Plan	01/07/2017	128,469	100,000	46,154	35.93	82,315	64.07%	-	-
	FY14 Plan	01/07/2017	22,651	23,333	-	-	22,651	100.0%	-	-
	Total		609,450	568,333	46,154	35.93%	252,916	64.07%	310,380	266,864

Creina Chapman ³	FY18 Plan	01/07/2020	56,475	71,000	-	-	56,475	100.0%	-	-
	FY17 Plan	01/07/2019	65,094	69,000	-	-	65,094	100.0%	-	-
	Total		121,569	140,000			121,569	100.0%	-	-

¹ The value of rights granted is the face value of rights (for grants made on or after 1 July 2017) or the fair value of rights (for grants made before 1 July 2017) calculated at the grant date. The total value of rights granted in the table is allocated to remuneration over the vesting period.

² The number and percentage of rights forfeited during the year is the reduction from the maximum number of rights available to vest due to the performance criteria not being satisfied.

³ Creina Chapman resigned with effect from 31 May 2018. All of her unvested rights were forfeited at that date.

5.3 Vesting of rights during the year (as at 1 July 2017)

Performance rights granted under Tranche 4 of the FY2014 plan were tested in August 2017, following approval of the Company's financial report for the year ended 30 June 2017. The only performance condition for these rights was the Company's relative TSR performance against companies in the comparator group over the performance period. The Company received a report from its independent consultant, Deloitte, showing that the Company's TSR performance ranked in the 35th percentile over the performance period. This was below the 50th percentile vesting gateway and, as a result, none of these rights vested.

Performance rights granted under the FY2015 plan were also tested in August 2017, following approval of the Company's financial report for the year ended 30 June 2017. There were two equally-weighted performance conditions for these rights: the Company's relative TSR performance against companies in the comparator group over the performance period and the Company's EPS performance over the performance period. A report provided by Deloitte confirmed that the Company's relative TSR performance exceeded the 50th percentile vesting gateway, resulting in partial vesting. The EPS performance condition was not satisfied because the Company's EPS grew at a CAGR of 2.6%, which was below the vesting gateway of 3%. These outcomes are shown below.

FY2015 LTI plan	TSR percentile ranking / EPS CAGR	% vested	50% weighting
Relative TSR performance	56 th percentile	60%	35.93 ¹ %
Absolute EPS performance	2.6%	0%	0%
Total			35.93%

¹ Based on the fair value at the grant date of these performance rights, the fair value of the relative TSR rights was greater than the fair value of the absolute EPS performance rights.

5.4 Vesting of rights as at 1 July 2018

Performance rights granted under the FY2016 plan were tested in August 2018, following approval of the Company's financial report for the year ended 30 June 2018. There were two equally-weighted performance conditions for these rights: the Company's relative TSR performance against companies in the comparator group over the performance period and the Company's EPS performance over the performance period. A report provided by Deloitte confirmed that the Company's relative TSR performance exceeded the 50th percentile vesting gateway, resulting in partial vesting. The Company's adjusted EPS grew at a CAGR of 3.10% (from 8.93 cents in FY2015 to 9.79 cents in FY2018) over the performance period, which was above the vesting gateway of 3%. These outcomes are shown below.

The grants that have vested will be included in the remuneration of participating executives in 2019.

FY2016 LTI plan	TSR percentile ranking / EPS CAGR	% vested	50% weighting
Relative TSR performance	71 st percentile	92%	46%
Absolute EPS performance	3.10%	51%	25.5%
Total			71.5%

6. Payments to executives before taking office

There were no payments made during the year to any person as part of the consideration for the person taking office.

7. Transactions with KMP

7.1 Loans to KMP

There were no significant loans made to KMP or their related parties during the year.

7.2 Other transactions and balances with KMP

There were no other transactions with KMP or their related parties during the year.

8. KMP shareholdings

The table below sets out the movements in shares held directly or indirectly by KMP during the year.

	Balance at start of year	Received during the year on exercise of performance rights	Other changes during the year	Balance at end of year
Non-executive directors				
Peter Bush	60,000	-	70,000	130,000
Leon Pasternak	1,185,215	-	-	1,185,215
Glen Boreham	95,000	-	28,500	123,500
Rob Murray	50,000	-	37,248	87,248
Helen Nash	52,573	-	45,751	98,324
Melanie Willis	34,670	-	60,000	94,670
	1,477,458		241,499	1,718,957
Executives				
Grant Blackley	-	-	71,700	71,700
Nick McKechnie	76,378	69,231	(35,000)	110,609
John Kelly	-	-	-	-
Brian Gallagher	-	-	-	-
Guy Dobson	-	46,154	-	46,154
Rick Lenarcic ¹	-	46,154	-	46,154
	76,378	161,539	36,700	274,617

¹ Rick Lenarcic's holdings shown as at the date of cessation of employment on 22 June 2018.

Auditor's independence declaration

A copy of the Auditor's Independence Declaration, as required under s307C of the *Corporations Act 2001*, is set out on page 34.

This report is signed in accordance with resolutions of the directors of Southern Cross Media Group Limited.



Peter Bush
Chairman
Southern Cross Media Group Limited
Sydney, Australia
23 August 2018



Leon Pasternak
Deputy Chairman
Southern Cross Media Group Limited
Sydney, Australia
23 August 2018



Auditor's Independence Declaration

As lead auditor for the audit of Southern Cross Media Group Limited for the year ended 30 June 2018, I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- (a) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- (b) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

This declaration is in respect of Southern Cross Media Group Limited and the entities it controlled during the period.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Loble'.

Sam Loble
Partner
PricewaterhouseCoopers

Melbourne
23 August 2018

Statement of Comprehensive Income

	Note	Consolidated	
		2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
Revenue from continuing operations	3	653,007	687,244
Broadcast and production costs		(126,393)	(131,394)
Employee expenses		(202,243)	(200,514)
Selling costs		(78,955)	(83,034)
Occupancy costs		(27,533)	(31,702)
Promotions and marketing		(18,455)	(19,584)
Administration costs		(46,987)	(47,692)
Other Income	5	1,069	3,559
Share of net profit/(losses) of investments accounted for using the equity method	18	1,152	510
Profit before depreciation, amortisation, interest, impairment, fair value movements on financial derivatives and income tax expenses for the year from continuing operations		154,662	177,393
Depreciation and amortisation expense		(30,718)	(30,870)
Impairment of intangibles and investments	4	(104,708)	-
Interest expense and other borrowing costs	16	(15,609)	(19,510)
Interest revenue		806	725
Profit before income tax expense for the year from continuing operations		4,433	127,738
Income tax expense from continuing operations	6	(3,011)	(19,175)
Profit from continuing operations after income tax expense for the year		1,422	108,563
<i>Other comprehensive income that may be reclassified to profit or loss:</i>			
Changes to fair value of cash flow hedges, net of tax		826	472
Total comprehensive profit for the year attributable to shareholders		2,248	109,035
Earnings per share attributable to the ordinary equity holders of the Company:			
Basic earnings per share (cents)	14	0.19	14.12
Diluted earnings per share (cents)	14	0.19	14.07

The above Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Financial Position

		Consolidated	
	Note	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		56,052	48,978
Receivables	11	136,714	158,010
Total current assets		192,766	206,988
Non-current assets			
Receivables	11	1,617	2,964
Investments accounted for using the equity method	18	7,740	5,167
Property, plant and equipment	7	130,607	136,178
Intangible assets	8	1,144,744	1,248,955
Total non-current assets		1,284,708	1,393,264
Total assets		1,477,474	1,600,252
Current liabilities			
Payables	11	66,640	81,042
Deferred Income	11	8,553	9,477
Provisions	11	18,138	19,730
Borrowings	16	19	86
Current tax liabilities		2,476	3,942
Derivative financial instruments	17	-	1,651
Total current liabilities		95,826	115,928
Non-current liabilities			
Deferred Income	11	88,609	91,945
Provisions	11	7,966	10,134
Borrowings	16	357,601	368,762
Deferred tax liability	6	331,492	361,438
Derivative financial instruments	17	1,419	948
Total non-current liabilities		787,087	833,227
Total liabilities		882,913	949,155
Net assets		594,561	651,097
Equity			
Contributed equity	15	1,379,736	1,379,736
Reserves		5,601	3,851
Other equity transaction	15	(77,406)	(77,406)
Accumulated losses		(713,668)	(655,382)
Equity attributable to equity holders		594,263	650,799
Non-controlling interest		298	298
Total equity		594,561	651,097

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Changes in Equity

2018

	Contributed equity \$'000	Share-based payment reserve \$'000	Hedge reserve \$'000	Other equity transactions \$'000	(Accumulated losses) /retained profits \$'000	Total \$'000	Non- controlling interest \$'000	Total equity \$'000
Total equity at 1 July 2017	1,379,736	5,671	(1,820)	(77,406)	(655,382)	650,799	298	651,097
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	1,422	1,422	-	1,422
Other comprehensive income	-	-	826	-	-	826	-	826
Total comprehensive income	-	-	826	-	1,422	2,248	-	2,248
Transactions with equity holders in their capacity as equity holders:								
Employee share entitlements	-	1,102	-	-	-	1,102	-	1,102
Payments on maturity of Long Term Incentive Plan		(178)	-	-	(109)	(287)	-	(287)
Dividends paid					(59,599)	(59,599)	-	(59,599)
	-	924	-	-	(59,708)	(58,784)	-	(58,784)
Total equity at 30 June 2018	1,379,736	6,595	(994)	(77,406)	(713,668)	594,263	298	594,561

2017

	Contributed equity \$'000	Share-based payment reserve \$'000	Hedge reserve \$'000	Other equity transactions \$'000	(Accumulated losses) /retained profits \$'000	Total \$'000	Non- controlling interest \$'000	Total equity \$'000
Total equity at 1 July 2016	1,379,386	4,754	(2,292)	(77,406)	(708,192)	596,250	298	596,548
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	108,563	108,563	-	108,563
Other comprehensive income	-	-	472	-	-	472	-	472
Total comprehensive income	-	-	472	-	108,563	109,035	-	109,035
Transactions with equity holders in their capacity as equity holders:								
Employee share entitlements	-	917	-	-	-	917	-	917
Shares issued, net of transaction costs	350	-	-	-	-	350	-	350
Dividends paid	-	-	-	-	(55,753)	(55,753)	-	(55,753)
	350	917	-	-	(55,753)	(54,486)	-	(54,486)
Total equity at 30 June 2017	1,379,736	5,671	(1,820)	(77,406)	(655,382)	650,799	298	651,097

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Cash Flows

	Note	Consolidated	
		2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from customers		720,825	741,340
Payments to suppliers and employees		(574,967)	(589,401)
Interest received from external parties		806	725
Tax paid		(34,777)	(36,423)
Net cash inflows from operating activities	10	111,887	116,241
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for purchase of property, plant and equipment		(24,828)	(30,086)
Payments for purchase of intangibles		(116)	(7,196)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		1,144	1,088
Proceeds from sale of operations and assets		11,069	53,817
Payments for purchase of investments		(1,729)	(1,000)
Net cash flows used in investing activities		(14,460)	16,623
Cash flows from financing activities			
Dividends paid to security holders		(59,599)	(55,753)
Net repayment of receivables financing facility		-	(36,801)
Payments for debt financing		(1,828)	-
Repayment of borrowings from external parties		(10,000)	(65,000)
Interest paid to external parties		(18,717)	(20,937)
Payments for finance leases		(209)	(171)
Net cash flows used in financing activities		(90,353)	(178,662)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		7,074	(45,798)
Cash assets at the beginning of the year		48,978	94,776
Cash assets at the end of the year		56,052	48,978

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Notes to the Financial Statements

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Key Numbers

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these consolidated financial statements are set out below. In addition, significant and other accounting policies that summarise the measurement basis used and that are relevant to an understanding of the financial statements are provided throughout the notes to the financial statements. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated. The financial statements are for the consolidated entity consisting of Southern Cross Media Group Limited ("the Company") and its subsidiaries ("the Group").

Basis of preparation

This general purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Act 2001 (where applicable). The Group is a for-profit entity for the purpose of preparing the financial statements.

Information in respect of the parent entity in this financial report relates to Southern Cross Media Group Limited.

i) *Compliance with IFRS*

Compliance with Australian Accounting Standards ensures that the financial statements and notes of the Group comply with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB"). Consequently this financial report has also been prepared in accordance with and complies with IFRS as issued by the IASB.

ii) *Historical cost convention*

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities (including derivative instruments) at fair value through profit or loss. All amounts are presented in Australian dollars, unless otherwise noted.

iii) *Comparative figures*

Where necessary, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation in the current year.

a) **Principles of consolidation**

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the assets and liabilities of all subsidiaries of the Company as at 30 June 2018 and the results of all subsidiaries for the year then ended. Subsidiaries are all entities over which the Group has control. The Group controls an entity when the Group is exposed to, or has rights to, variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power to direct the activities of the entity. Subsidiaries are fully consolidated from the date on which control is transferred to the Group. The effects of all transactions between entities in the Group are eliminated in full.

The purchase method of accounting is used to account for the acquisition of subsidiaries by the Group except as follows:

- At the time of Initial Public Offering ("IPO") Southern Cross Media Australia Holdings Pty Limited ("SCMAHL") was deemed to be the accounting acquirer of both Southern Cross Media Group Limited ("SCMGL") and Southern Cross Media Trust ("SCMT"), which was neither the legal parent nor legal acquirer; and
- This reflects the requirements of AASB 3 that in situations where an existing entity (SCMAHL) arranges to be acquired by a smaller entity (SCMGL) for the purposes of a stock exchange listing, the existing entity SCMAHL should be deemed to be the acquirer, subject to consideration of other factors such as management of the entities involved in the transaction and relative fair values of the entities involved in the transaction. This is commonly referred to as a reverse acquisition.

At the time of IPO, in November 2005, the reverse acquisition guidance of AASB 3 was applied to the Group and the cost of the Business Combination was deemed to be paid by SCMAHL to acquire SCMGL and SCMT. The cost was determined by reference to the fair value of the net assets of SCMGL and SCMT immediately prior to the Business Combination. The investment made by the legal parent SCMGL in SCMAHL to legally acquire the existing radio assets is eliminated on consolidation. In applying the guidance of AASB 3, this elimination results in a debit of \$77.4 million to other equity transactions. This does not affect the Group's distributable profits.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Rounding of amounts

The company is of a kind referred to in ASIC Legislative Instrument 2016/191, relating to the 'rounding off' of amounts in the Directors' Report and Financial Report. Amounts have been rounded off in accordance with the Instrument to the nearest thousand dollars, unless otherwise indicated.

Critical accounting estimates and judgement

The preparation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise judgement in the process of applying the accounting policies. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial impact on the entity and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Management believes the estimates used in the preparation of the financial report are reasonable. Actual results in the future may differ from those reported. Judgements and estimates which are material to the financial report are found in the following notes:

Note 8	Non-Current Assets – Intangible Assets
Note 9	Impairment

Notes to the financial statements

Notes relating to individual line items in the financial statements now include accounting policy information where it is considered relevant to an understanding of these items, as well as information about critical accounting estimates and judgements. Details of the impact of new accounting policies and all other accounting policy information are disclosed at the end of the financial report in note 26.

2. Segment Information

AASB 8 requires operating segments to be identified on the basis of internal reports about components of the Group that are regularly reviewed by the chief operating decision maker in order to allocate resources to the segments and to assess their performance.

Management has determined operating segments based on the information reported to the Group CEO and the Company Board of Directors. Management has determined that the Group has two operating segments being the Regional free-to-air commercial radio and television broadcasting segment and the Metro free-to-air radio broadcasting segment.

	Metro		Regional		Corporate		Consolidated	
	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Segment Revenue	242,707	247,163	392,325	417,890	17,975	22,191	653,007	687,244
EBITDA / Segment Result	57,714	60,070	114,607	125,857	(17,659)	(8,534)	154,662	177,393
EBITDA % of Revenue	23.8%	24.3%	29.2%	30.1%	(98.2)%	(38.5%)	23.7%	25.8%
Impairment of intangibles and investments	-	-	(104,708)	-	-	-	(104,708)	-
Depreciation and Amortisation	(6,560)	(6,515)	(14,230)	(14,213)	(9,928)	(10,142)	(30,718)	(30,870)
Statutory EBIT / Segment Result	51,154	53,555	(4,331)	111,644	(27,587)	(18,676)	19,236	146,523
Financing costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	(14,803)	(18,785)
Income tax expense	-	-	-	-	-	-	(3,011)	(19,175)
(Loss)/Profit for the year attributable to shareholders	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,422	108,563

3. Revenue

The profit before income tax from continuing operations included the following specific items of revenue:

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Revenue from continuing operations		
Sales revenue	649,145	681,283
Rental revenue	3,862	5,961
Total revenue from continuing operations	653,007	687,244

Recognition and Measurement

Revenues are recognised at fair value of the consideration received or receivable net of the amount of GST payable to the relevant taxation authority.

Sales revenue

Revenue represents revenue earned primarily from the sale of television, radio and digital advertising airtime and related activities, including sponsorship and promotions. Revenue is recorded when the service is provided, being primarily when the advertisement is aired. Commissions payable to media agencies are recognised as selling costs. Other regular sources of operating revenue are derived from commercial production for advertisers, including facility sharing revenue and program sharing revenue. Revenue from commercial production is recognised on invoice, at the time of completion of the commercial.

4. Significant Items

The net profit after tax includes the following items whose disclosure is relevant in explaining the financial performance of the Group. Significant items are those items of such a nature or size that separate disclosure will assist users to understand the financial statements.

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Impairment of intangibles and investments (refer notes 8, 9 and 11)	(104,708)	-
Derecognition of deferred tax liability on impairment (refer note 6)	30,859	-
Total significant items included in net loss after tax	(73,849)	-

5. Other Income

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Net gain from disposal of operations and assets	1,069	3,559
Total other income	1,069	3,559

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Net assets disposed	(939)	(59,568)
Gross cash consideration	2,008	53,007
Gross deferred consideration	-	10,120
Net gain from disposal of operations and assets before tax	1,069	3,559

In 2017 the Group completed the sale of its Northern NSW television operation to the WIN Television Network and the sale of 45 transmission sites to Axicom Pty Ltd.

6. Income Tax Expense

The income tax expense for the financial year differs from the amount calculated on the net result from continuing operations. The differences are reconciled as follows:

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Income tax expense		
Current tax		
Current tax on profits for the year	31,282	36,207
Adjustments for current tax of prior periods	2,029	(4,590)
Total current tax expense	33,311	31,617
Deferred income tax		
Decrease in net deferred tax assets	(28,030)	(12,171)
Adjustments for deferred tax of prior periods	(2,270)	(271)
Total deferred tax expense	(30,300)	(12,442)
Reconciliation of income tax expense to prima facie tax payable		
Profit before income tax expense	4,433	127,738
Tax at the Australian tax rate of 30%	1,330	38,321
Tax effect of amounts which are not deductible/(taxable) in calculating taxable income		
Disposal of indefinite lived intangibles	-	(14,723)
Impairment of investments	553	-
Share of net profits of associates	(454)	(247)
Non deductible entertainment expenses	1,259	1,213
Other (deductible expenses)/(non-assessable income)/non-deductible expenses	564	(528)
Adjustments recognised in the current year in relation to prior years	(241)	(4,861)
Income tax expense	3,011	19,175

6. Income Tax Expense (continued)

Deferred Taxes	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
The balance comprises temporary differences attributable to:		
Licences and brands	(341,272)	(372,131)
Employee benefits	5,974	5,925
Provisions	1,794	2,660
Interest rate swaps	426	780
Other	1,586	1,328
Net balance disclosed as deferred tax liability	(331,492)	(361,438)

For the year ended 30 June 2018, the Company had \$0.4 million of income tax expense (2017: \$0.2 million expense) recognised directly in equity in relation to cash flow hedges, with a corresponding deferred tax liability (2017: liability) being recognised. There are \$58.800 million available unused tax losses on the capital account for which no deferred tax asset has been recognised (2017: \$70.917 million). There are no other unused tax losses for which no deferred tax asset has been recognised.

Recognition and Measurement

Income Tax

Income tax amounts recognised in the Group's financial statements relate to tax paying entities within the Group and have been recognised in accordance with Group policy.

The income tax expense (or revenue) for the year is the tax payable on the current year's taxable income based on the applicable tax rate for each jurisdiction adjusted by changes in deferred tax assets and liabilities attributable to temporary differences between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements, and adjusted by changes to unused tax losses.

Deferred Taxes

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognised for temporary differences at the tax rates expected to apply when the assets are recovered or liabilities are settled, based on those tax rates which are enacted or substantively enacted for each jurisdiction. The relevant tax rates are applied to the cumulative amounts of deductible and taxable temporary differences to measure the deferred tax asset or liability.

Deferred tax assets are recognised for deductible temporary differences and unused tax losses only if it is probable that future taxable amounts will be available to utilise those temporary differences and losses.

In determining the extent of temporary differences of assets, the carrying amount of assets is assumed to be recovered through use.

Tax Consolidated Group

The Company is the head entity of the tax consolidated group. For further information, refer note 20.

7. Non-Current Assets – Property, Plant and Equipment

Consolidated	Land and Buildings	Leasehold Improvements	Plant and Equipment	Assets under construction	Total
2018	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Cost	33,208	41,390	357,897	10,767	443,262
Accumulated depreciation expense	(10,628)	(24,225)	(277,802)	-	(312,655)
Net carrying amount	22,580	17,165	80,095	10,767	130,607

Movement

Net carrying amount at beginning of year	23,847	16,956	86,755	8,620	136,178
Additions	723	2,643	10,637	10,227	24,230
Disposals	(827)	(1)	(316)	-	(1,144)
Depreciation expense	(1,163)	(2,433)	(25,061)	-	(28,657)
Transfers	-	-	8,080	(8,080)	-
Net carrying amount at end of year	22,580	17,165	80,095	10,767	130,607

Consolidated	Land and Buildings	Leasehold Improvements	Plant and Equipment	Assets under construction	Total
2017	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Cost	33,652	38,887	350,645	8,620	431,804
Accumulated depreciation expense	(9,805)	(21,931)	(263,890)	-	(295,626)
Net carrying amount	23,847	16,956	86,755	8,620	136,178

Movement

Net carrying amount at beginning of year	27,522	13,668	95,411	8,648	145,249
Additions	283	6,333	15,066	6,411	28,093
Disposals	(1,098)	(11)	21	-	(1,088)
Disposal of operations and assets	(1,789)	(239)	(4,556)	-	(6,584)
Depreciation expense	(1,071)	(2,319)	(26,102)	-	(29,492)
Transfers	-	(476)	6,915	(6,439)	-
Net carrying amount at end of year	23,847	16,956	86,755	8,620	136,178

Recognition and Measurement

Property, Plant and Equipment at Cost

Property, plant and equipment is recorded at cost less accumulated depreciation and cumulative impairment charges. Cost includes those costs directly attributable to bringing the assets into the location and working condition necessary for the asset to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management. The estimated cost of dismantling and removing infrastructure items and restoring the site on which the assets are located is only included in the cost of the asset to the extent that the Group has an obligation to restore the site and the cost of restoration is not recoverable from third parties. Additions, renewals and improvements are capitalised, while maintenance and repairs are expensed.

The carrying values of property, plant and equipment are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amounts may not be recoverable. An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

7. Non-Current Assets – Property, Plant and Equipment (continued)

Recognition and Measurement (continued)

Depreciation

Land is not depreciated. Depreciation on other assets is calculated on a straight-line basis to write off the cost of the asset over its estimated useful life.

Estimates of remaining useful life are made on a regular basis for all assets, with annual reassessments for major items. The expected useful life of property, plant and equipment is as follows:

Buildings	25 – 50 years
Leasehold improvements	3 – 16 years
Network equipment	2 – 10 years
Communication equipment	3 – 5 years
Other plant and equipment	2 – 20 years
Leased plant and equipment	2 – 20 years

8. Non-Current Assets – Intangible Assets

Consolidated	Goodwill	Broadcasting Licences	Brands and Tradenames	Customer Contracts	Total
2018	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Cost	352,129	1,483,224	89,816	2,240	1,927,409
Accumulated impairment expense	(352,129)	(403,448)	(24,848)	-	(780,425)
Accumulated amortisation expense	-	-	-	(2,240)	(2,240)
Net carrying amount	-	1,079,776	64,968	-	1,144,744

Movement

Net carrying amount at beginning of year

	-	1,182,641	64,852	1,462	1,248,955
Additions	-	-	116	-	116
Amortisation expense	-	-	-	(1,462)	(1,462)
Impairment expense	-	(102,865)	-	-	(102,865)
Net carrying amount at end of year	-	1,079,776	64,968	-	1,144,744

Consolidated	Goodwill	Broadcasting Licences	Brands and Tradenames	Customer Contracts	Total
2017	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Cost	352,129	1,483,224	89,700	2,240	1,927,293
Accumulated impairment expense	(352,129)	(300,583)	(24,848)	-	(677,560)
Accumulated amortisation expense	-	-	-	(778)	(778)
Net carrying amount	-	1,182,641	64,852	1,462	1,248,955

Movement

Net carrying amount at beginning of year

	-	1,224,773	64,736	-	1,289,509
Additions	-	6,940	116	2,240	9,296
Amortisation expense	-	-	-	(778)	(778)
Disposal of operations and assets	-	(49,072)	-	-	(49,072)
Net carrying amount at end of year	-	1,182,641	64,852	1,462	1,248,955

8. Non-Current Assets – Intangible Assets (continued)

Goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite useful lives

The Group tests at least annually whether goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite useful lives have suffered any impairment, and when there is an indication of impairment. The tests incorporate assumptions regarding future events which may or may not occur, resulting in the need for future revisions of estimates. There are also judgements involved in determination of cash generating units.

Key Judgement

Useful Life

A summary of the useful lives of intangible assets is as follows:

Commercial Television/Radio Broadcasting Licences	Indefinite
Brands and Tradenames	Indefinite

Licences

Television and radio licences are initially recognised at cost. Analogue licences are renewable for a minimal cost every five years under provisions within the Broadcasting Services Act. Digital licences attach to the analogue licences and renew automatically. The Directors understand that the revocation of a commercial television or radio licence has never occurred in Australia and have no reason to believe the licences have a finite life. The Directors have given regard to the impairment of the television licences in the Regional CGU. However, in the Directors view, this does not impact the useful life of the licences. As a result, the free-to-air commercial television and radio broadcasting licences have been assessed to have indefinite useful lives.

Brands

Brands are initially recognised at cost. The brands have been assessed to have indefinite useful lives. The Group's brands operate in established markets with limited restrictions and are expected to continue to complement the Group's media initiatives. On this basis, the Directors have determined that brands have indefinite lives as there is no foreseeable limit to the period over which the assets are expected to generate net cash inflows.

9. Impairment

a) Impairment tests for licences, tradenames, brands and goodwill

The value of licences, tradenames, brands and goodwill is allocated to the Group's cash generating units ("CGUs"), identified as Regional, being, Regional free-to-air commercial radio and television broadcasting, and Metro, being, Metro free-to-air commercial radio broadcasting.

The recoverable amount of Regional and Metro at 30 June 2018 and 30 June 2017 was determined based on a value in use discounted cash flow ("DCF") model.

Allocation of goodwill and other intangible assets

Consolidated	Regional CGU	Metro CGU	Total
2018	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Goodwill allocated to CGU	-	-	-
Indefinite lived intangible assets allocated to CGU	525,706	619,038	1,144,744
Total goodwill and indefinite lived intangible assets	525,706	619,038	1,144,744

9. Impairment (continued)

a) Impairment tests for licences, tradenames, brands and goodwill (continued)

Key Judgement	Regional CGU %	Metro CGU %
Value in use assumptions (see part (b))		
Revenue growth – Forecast Period	(1.6)	4.6
Cost growth – Forecast Period	(0.7)	2.2
Long-term growth rate – terminal value		
Radio	2.0	2.0
Television	(5.9)	N/A
Discount rate (pre-tax)	13.5	12.3

Consolidated	Regional CGU	Metro CGU	Total
2017	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Goodwill allocated to CGU	-	-	-
Indefinite lived intangible assets allocated to CGU	628,571	618,922	1,247,493
Finite lived intangible assets allocated to CGU	-	1,462	1,462
Total goodwill and indefinite lived intangible assets	628,571	620,384	1,248,955

Key Judgement	%	%
Value in use assumptions (see part (b))		
Revenue growth – Forecast Period	(0.3)	2.9
Cost growth – Forecast Period	0.2	2.1
Long-term growth rate – terminal value		
Radio	2.3	2.3
Television	(1.0)	N/A
Discount rate (pre-tax)	12.7	12.2

b) Key assumptions used for value in use calculations

The value in use calculations use cash flow projections based on the 2019 Board approved financial budgets extended over the subsequent four year period ("Forecast Period") and applies a terminal value calculation using estimated growth rates approved by the Board for the business relevant to each CGU. In determining appropriate growth rates to apply to the Forecast Period and to the terminal calculation, the Group considered forecast reports from independent media experts as well as internal company data and assumptions. In respect to each CGU the market growth rates did not exceed the independent forecast reports. The discount rate used reflects specific risks relating to the relevant segments and the economies in which they operate.

9. Impairment (continued)

c) Impact of a reasonably possible change in key assumptions

Regional CGU

Impairment

At 30 June 2018, an impairment loss of \$102.9m was recorded against television licences in the Regional CGU. The estimated recoverable amount of the Regional CGU, based on value in use, equals its carrying amount. The impairment reflects a continuing decline in the free-to-air television markets: with a decline of 3.4% this financial year; independent estimates of television industry growth rates showing further significant declines over the forecast period; and in line with the independent estimates, a reduction in the television terminal growth rate to (5.9)% from (1.0)% last year.

Sensitivity

Any variation in the key assumptions used to determine the value-in-use would result in a change of the recoverable amount of the Regional CGU. Negative variances may cause impairment in future periods. The following changes in key assumptions would have the following approximate impact on recoverable amount and carrying value for the Regional CGU:

Sensitivity	Change in variable in perpetuity	Impact of change on Regional CGU carrying value
	%	\$ million
Revenue	+1%	54.0
	-1%	(52.6)
Expenses	+1%	(35.0)
	-1%	34.1
Post tax discount rate	+0.5%	(28.7)
	-0.5%	31.9
Terminal growth rate	+0.5%	22.9
	-0.5%	(20.6)

Metro CGU

Sensitivity

A variation in certain key assumptions used to determine the value in use would result in a change in the recoverable amount of the Metro CGU. The following reasonably possible changes in key assumptions would result in a recoverable amount lower than the carrying value to the extent shown below:

Sensitivity	Change in variable	Impact of change on Metro CGU carrying value
	%	\$ million
Reduction in Metro market share estimates in the final forecast year from 32.0% to 30.0%	(2.0)%	(65.5)
Reduction in market growth in forecast period from 2.0% to 1.0%	(1.0)%	(34.6)
Reduction in terminal growth rate from 2.0% to 1.0%	(1.0)%	(19.9)

10. Cash flow information

a) Reconciliation of Profit after Income Tax to Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Profit after income tax	1,422	108,563
Impairment of intangibles and investments	104,708	-
Depreciation and amortisation	30,718	30,870
Net gain from disposal of operations and assets	(1,069)	(3,559)
Share of associate profit	(1,152)	(510)
Interest expense and other borrowing costs included in financing activities	15,609	19,510
Share-based payments	924	2,000
Change in operating assets and liabilities:		
Decrease/(increase) in receivables	10,799	(7,717)
Decrease in deferred taxes (net of tax movement in hedge reserve)	(30,300)	(12,442)
Decrease in payables (excluding interest expense classified as financing activities)	(10,397)	(6,064)
Decrease in deferred income	(4,260)	(6,446)
Decrease in provision for income tax	(1,466)	(4,951)
Decrease in provisions	(3,649)	(3,013)
Net cash inflows from operating activities	111,887	116,241

b) Net debt reconciliation

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Cash and liquid investments	56,052	48,978
Borrowings – repayable within one year	(19)	(86)
Borrowings – repayable after one year	(360,000)	(370,030)
Net debt	(303,967)	(321,138)
Cash and liquid investments	56,052	48,978
Gross debt – fixed interest rates	(360,019)	(370,116)
Net debt	(303,967)	(321,138)

11. Receivables, Payables, Deferred Income and Provisions

a) Receivables

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
Trade receivables	126,341	131,744
Provision for doubtful debts	(807)	(703)
Prepayments	8,545	12,795
Other ¹	2,635	14,174
	136,714	158,010

¹ Included in Other in 2017 is \$10.120 million of deferred consideration due in connection with the disposal of operations and assets.

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Non-current		
Refundable deposits	147	138
Related parties	515	1,543
Other	955	1,283
	1,617	2,964

The carrying amounts of the non-current receivables approximate their fair value.

Ageing analysis of assets

The tables below summarise the ageing analysis of assets past due but not impaired and impaired assets as at 30 June.

Consolidated	Current -	Past due -	Past due -	Past due -	
As at 30 June 2018	not past due	up to 60 days	60 – 90 days	>90 days	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Trade receivables	112,598	8,531	2,105	3,107	126,341
Provision for doubtful debts	-	-	-	(807)	(807)

Consolidated	Current -	Past due -	Past due -	Past due -	
As at 30 June 2017	not past due	up to 60 days	60 – 90 days	>90 days	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Trade receivables	113,877	11,854	3,098	2,915	131,744
Provision for doubtful debts	-	-	-	(703)	(703)

The Group has recognised expenses in respect of bad and doubtful trade receivables during the year ended 30 June 2018 of \$717,602 (2017: expense of \$1,130,603). This provision is based on known bad debts and past experience for receipt of trade receivables. A provision for doubtful debts is established when there is objective evidence that the Group will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivable. The amount of the provision is recognised in profit or loss. Where a debt is known to be uncollectible, it is considered a bad debt and written off.

11. Receivables, Payables, Deferred Income and Provisions (continued)

a) Receivables (continued)

Recognition and Measurement

Trade Receivables

Trade receivables are recognised at fair value, being the original invoice amount and subsequently measured at amortised cost less provision for doubtful debts. Generally credit terms are for 30 days from date of invoice or 45 days for an accredited agency.

b) Payables

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
Trade creditors	12,732	11,523
GST payable	3,565	4,132
Accruals and other payables	50,343	65,387
	66,640	81,042

Recognition and Measurement

Trade Creditors, Accruals and Other Payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Group prior to the end of the financial year and which are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 60 days of recognition.

11. Receivables, Payables, Deferred Income and Provisions (continued)

c) Deferred Income

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
Deferred income	8,553	9,477
	8,553	9,477

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Non-current		
Deferred income	88,609	91,945
	88,609	91,945

Recognition and Measurement

Deferred Income

In 2016, the Group entered into a long-term contract with Australian Traffic Network (ATN) for it to provide traffic reports for broadcast on Southern Cross Austereo (SCA) radio stations. SCA received payment of \$100 million from ATN in return for its stations broadcasting advertising tags provided by ATN attached to news and traffic reports. The contract has a term of 20 years, with an option for ATN to extend it by a further 10 years. The \$100 million payment has been recorded on the balance sheet under "Deferred Income" and will be released to the Income Statement over a 30 year period, unless the contract ends after 20 years at which point the remaining balance will be recognised as revenue in year 20. This treatment will match the receipt of future broadcasting services, airtime and traffic management services that the Group is required to provide over the life of the contract.

In addition to the payment received from ATN, deferred income represents government grants received. Grants from the government relating to costs are deferred and recognised in profit or loss over the period necessary to match them with the costs that they are intended to compensate.

Government grants relating to the purchase of property, plant and equipment are deferred and recognised in profit or loss on a straight-line basis over the expected useful lives of the related assets.

11. Receivables, Payables, Deferred Income and Provisions (continued)

d) Provisions

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
Employee benefits	17,800	17,766
Onerous contracts	-	1,195
Lease provisions	338	769
	18,138	19,730

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Non-current		
Employee benefits	2,295	2,142
Onerous contracts	-	1,381
Lease provisions	5,671	6,611
	7,966	10,134

Movements in current and non-current provisions, other than provisions for employee benefits, are set out below:

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Balance at the beginning of the financial year	9,956	11,864
Additional provisions made in the period, including increases to existing provisions	778	602
Amounts used during the period	(2,053)	(1,695)
Unused amounts reversed during the period	(2,672)	(815)
Balance at the end of the financial year	6,009	9,956

11. Receivables, Payables, Deferred Income and Provisions (continued)

d) Provisions (continued)

Recognition and Measurement

Provisions

A provision is recognised when there is a legal, equitable or constructive obligation as a result of a past event and it is probable that a future sacrifice of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation, the timing or amount of which is uncertain.

Where there are a number of similar obligations, the likelihood that an outflow will be required in settlement is determined by considering the class of obligations as a whole. A provision is recognised even if the likelihood of an outflow with respect to any one item included in the same class of obligations may be small.

Provisions are measured at the present value of management's best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation at the balance sheet date. The discount rate used to determine the present value reflects current market estimates of the time value of money and the risks specific to the liability. The increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognised as interest expense.

Wages and salaries, leave and other entitlements

Liabilities for unpaid salaries, salary related costs and provisions for annual leave are recorded in the Statement of Financial Position at the salary rates which are expected to be paid when the liability is settled. Provisions for long service leave and other long-term benefits are recognised at the present value of expected future payments to be made. In determining this amount, consideration is given to expected future salary levels and employee service histories. Expected future payments are discounted to their net present value using high quality corporate bond rates with terms that match as closely as possible to the expected future cash flows.

Onerous Contracts

A provision for onerous contracts is recognised when the expected benefits to be derived by the Group from a contract are lower than the unavoidable costs of meeting the obligation under the contract. The provision is measured at the lower of the cost of fulfilling the contract and any compensation or penalties arising from the failure to fulfil it.

Lease Provisions

The lease provision covers lease arrangements to enable the lease expenses to be recognised on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease. The provision also comprises of makegood provisions included in lease agreements for which the Group has a legal or constructive obligation. The present value of the estimated costs of dismantling and removing the asset and restoring the site is recognised as a provision. At each reporting date, the liability is remeasured in line with changes in discount rates, estimated cash flows and the timing of those cashflows.

Capital Management

12. Capital Management Objectives

The Group's objectives when managing capital are to safeguard the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, so that it can continue to provide appropriate returns for shareholders and benefits for other stakeholders and to maintain an optimal capital structure to reduce the cost of capital.

In order to maintain or adjust the capital structure, the Group may adjust the amount of dividends paid to shareholders, maintain a fully underwritten dividend reinvestment plan, return capital to shareholders, issue new shares, buy back existing shares or sell assets to reduce debt. The Group has taken measures to reduce net debt and has achieved its stated objective of reaching a leverage ratio of below 2.5 times. The following outlines the capital management policies that are currently in place for the Group:

Dividend Policy

Dividend Payout Ratio

The Group amended its dividend payout ratio during the year. The Group intends to distribute between 65-85% of underlying financial year Net Profit After Tax.

Dividend Reinvestment Plan ("DRP")

The Group operates a DRP whereby shareholders can elect to receive their dividends by way of receiving shares in the Company instead of cash. The Company can elect to either issue new shares, or to buy shares on market. The DRP has been suspended since the 2016 interim dividend following the successful reduction in the Group's leverage ratio.

Further details on the Group's dividends are outlined in note 13.

Debt Facilities

Syndicated Debt Facility

During the year, the Group successfully renegotiated its Syndicated Facility Agreement ("SFA"). At 30 June 2018 the Group had a \$500 million (2017: \$470 million) revolving 3 year SFA expiring on 8 January 2021. This facility is used as core debt for the Group, and may be paid down and redrawn in accordance with the SFA.

Covenants

For the duration of the SFA the Banking Group, being Southern Cross Austereo Pty Ltd and its subsidiaries has a maximum leverage ratio covenant of 3.5 times and a minimum interest cover ratio of 3.0 times. As at 30 June 2018, the leverage ratio was 1.79 times and the interest cover ratio was 12.03 times.

Further details on the Group's debt facilities are outlined in note 16.

Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangibles

The capital expenditure for 2018 was \$24.230 million (2017: \$28.613 million).

Further details on the Group's fixed assets are outlined in note 7.

13. Dividends Paid and Proposed

The dividends were paid as follows:

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
The dividends were paid as follows:		
Interim dividend paid for the half year ended 31 December 2017/2016 - fully franked at the tax rate of 30%	28,838	28,838
Final dividend paid for the year ended 30 June 2017/2016 – fully franked at the tax rate of 30%	30,761	26,915
	59,599	55,753
Dividends paid in cash or satisfied by the issue of shares under the dividend reinvestment plan were as follows:		
Paid in cash	59,599	55,753
	59,599	55,753
	Cents per share	Cents per share
Interim dividend paid for the half year ended 31 December	3.75	3.75
Final dividend paid for the year ended 30 June	4.00	3.50
	7.75	7.25

The Group has \$144.9 million of franking credits at 30 June 2018 (2017: \$135.3 million).

Provision is made for the amount of any dividend declared, being appropriately authorised and no longer at the discretion of the Company, on or before the end of the financial year but not distributed at the end of the reporting period.

Since the end of the financial year the Directors have declared the payment of a final 2018 ordinary dividend of \$30.761 million (4.00 cents per fully paid share) out of Retained profits – 2013 reserve. This dividend will be paid on 9 October 2018 by the Company.

14. Earnings per Share

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
Continuing Operations		
Profit attributable to shareholders from continuing operations (\$'000)	1,422	108,563
Profit attributable to shareholders from continuing operations excluding significant items (\$'000)	75,271	108,563
Weighted average number of shares used as the denominator in calculating basic earnings per share (shares, '000)	769,014	769,005
Weighted average number of ordinary shares and potential ordinary shares used as the denominator in calculating diluted earnings per share (shares, '000)	772,763	771,676
Basic earnings per share (cents per share)	0.19	14.12
Diluted earnings per share (cents per share)	0.19	14.07
Excluding significant items (refer note 4)		
Basic earnings per share excluding significant items (cents per share)	9.79	14.12
Diluted earnings per share excluding significant items (cents per share)	9.74	14.07
Dividends paid/proposed for the year as a % of NPAT¹	79.2%	54.9%

¹ In 2017 profit attributable to shareholders from continuing operations included a \$14.7 million non-cash credit within deferred tax following the disposal of indefinite lived intangibles. Excluding this item the dividends paid/proposed for the year as a % of NPAT is 63.5%.

Recognition and Measurement

Basic earnings per share

Basic earnings per share is calculated by dividing the profit or loss attributable to equity holders of the Company, excluding any costs of servicing equity other than ordinary shares, by the weighted average number of shares outstanding during the financial year.

Diluted earnings per share

Diluted earnings per share adjusts the figures used in the determination of basic earnings per share to take into account the after income tax effect of interest and other financing costs associated with dilutive potential shares and the weighted average number of shares assumed to have been issued for no consideration in relation to dilutive potential shares.

15. Contributed Equity and Reserves

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Ordinary shares	1,379,736	1,379,736
Contributed equity	1,379,736	1,379,736

15. Contributed Equity and Reserves (continued)

	Consolidated		Consolidated	
	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000	2018 Number of securities '000	2017 Number of securities '000
On issue at the beginning of the financial year	1,379,736	1,379,386	769,014	768,727
Shares issued for equity component in talent contracts	-	350	-	287
On issue at the end of the financial year	1,379,736	1,379,736	769,014	769,014

Ordinary shares in Southern Cross Media Group Limited

Ordinary shares entitle the holder to participate in distributions and the proceeds on winding up of the Company in proportion to the number of and amounts paid on the shares held.

On a show of hands, each shareholder present in person and each other person present as a proxy has one vote and upon a poll, each share is entitled to one vote.

Ordinary shares have no par value and the company does not have a limited amount of authorised capital.

Employee share entitlements

The Group operates an LTI plan for its senior executives. Information relating to the employee share entitlements, including details of shares issued under the scheme, is set out in the Remuneration Report.

Nature and purpose of reserves

a) Share-based payments reserve

The share-based payments reserve is used to recognise the fair value of future potential shares to be issued to employees for no consideration in respect of performance rights offered under the Long Term Incentive Plan. During the year 918,166 performance rights have vested (2017: 219,872) and 2,242,074 (2017: 2,245,096) performance rights have been granted. In the current year \$1,102,410 (2017: \$917,018) has been recognised as an expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income as the fair value of potential shares to be issued.

b) Hedge reserve

The hedge reserve is used to record gains or losses on a hedging instrument in a cash flow hedge that are recognised in Other Comprehensive Income. Amounts are reclassified to the Statement of Comprehensive Income when the associated hedged transaction affects profit or loss.

c) Reverse Acquisition Reserve

As described in note 1(a), there is a reverse acquisition reserve of \$77.406 million (2017: \$77.406 million) in connection with the IPO of the Group.

16. Borrowings

a) Total interest bearing liabilities

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Current secured borrowings		
Lease liabilities	19	86
Total secured current interest bearing liabilities	19	86

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Non-current secured borrowings		
Bank facilities	360,000	370,000
Borrowing costs	(2,399)	(1,268)
Lease liabilities	-	30
Total secured non-current interest bearing liabilities	357,601	368,762
Total current and non-current borrowings	357,620	368,848

For all non-current borrowings, the carrying amount approximates fair value in the balance sheet. Of the \$2.399 million of borrowing costs, \$0.923 million (2017: \$0.828 million) will unwind during the year ending 30 June 2019.

b) Interest expense

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Interest expense and other borrowing costs		
External banks	14,912	18,537
Amortisation of borrowing costs	697	973
Total interest expense and other borrowing costs	15,609	19,510

c) Bank facilities and assets pledged as security

The \$500 million debt facilities (2017: \$470 million) of the Banking Group are secured by a fixed and floating charge over the assets and undertakings of the Banking Group and its wholly-owned subsidiaries and also by a mortgage over shares in Southern Cross Austereo Pty Ltd. The facility matures on 8 January 2021 and has an average variable interest rate of 3.51% (2017: 3.53%). The facility is denominated in Australian dollars.

There are certain financial and non-financial covenants which are required to be met by subsidiaries in the Group. One of these covenants is an undertaking that the subsidiary is in compliance with the requirements of the facility before any amount may be distributed to the benefit of the ultimate parent entity, Southern Cross Media Group Limited. Covenant testing dates fall at 30 June and 31 December each year until the facility maturity date.

16. Borrowings (continued)

c) Bank facilities and assets pledged as security (continued)

The carrying amounts of assets pledged as security by Southern Cross Austereo Pty Ltd for current and non-current borrowings are:

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Current assets		
<i>Floating charge</i>		
Cash and cash equivalents	56,046	48,972
Receivables	136,027	157,441
Total current assets pledged as security	192,073	206,413
Non-current assets		
<i>Floating charge</i>		
Receivables	1,617	2,824
Investments accounted for using the equity method	4,932	4,088
Property, plant and equipment	130,607	136,178
Intangible assets	1,144,744	1,248,955
Total non-current assets pledged as security	1,281,900	1,392,045
Total assets pledged as security	1,473,973	1,598,458

Recognition and Measurement

Borrowings

Borrowings are initially recognised at fair value, net of transaction costs incurred. Transaction costs that have been paid or accrued for prior to the drawdown of debt are classified as prepayments. Borrowings are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Any difference between the proceeds (net of transaction costs) and the redemption amount is recognised in profit or loss over the period of the borrowings using the effective interest method. Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the Group has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the balance sheet date.

Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs are expensed over the life of the facility to which they relate.

17. Financial Risk Management

The Group's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks: market risk (the Group's main exposure to market risk is interest rate risk), liquidity risk and cash flow interest rate risk. There is a relatively low level of credit risk on receivables that is managed by careful business practices (refer note 11). The Group's overall risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the Group. The Group uses derivative financial instruments such as interest rate swaps to hedge certain risk exposures.

The Risk Management Policy is carried out by management under policies approved by the Board. Senior management of the Group identify, quantify and qualify financial risks as part of developing and implementing the risk management process. The Risk Management Policy is a written document approved by the Board that outlines the financial risk management process to be adopted by management. Specific financial risks that have been identified by the Group are interest rate risk and liquidity risk.

17. Financial Risk Management (continued)

a) Interest rate risk

Nature of interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the Group's exposure to the risk that interest rates move in a way that adversely affects the ability of the Group to pay its interest rate commitments. The Group's interest rate risk arises from long-term borrowings which are taken out at variable interest rates and therefore expose the Group to a cash flow risk.

Interest rate risk management

The Group does not have a formal policy to fix rates on its borrowings but manages its cash flow interest rate risk by using variable to fixed interest rate swaps. Such interest rate swaps have the economic effect of converting borrowings from variable rates to fixed rates. Generally, the Group raises long-term borrowings at variable rates and swaps them into fixed rates that are lower than those available if the Group borrowed at fixed rates directly. Under the interest rate swaps, the Group agrees with other parties to exchange, at specified intervals (quarterly), the difference between fixed contract rates and variable rate interest amounts calculated by reference to the agreed notional principal amounts.

Exposure and sensitivity to interest rate risk

External borrowings of the Group currently bear an average variable interest rate of 3.51% (2017: 3.53%). In 2015 the Group entered into \$320 million of interest rate swap contracts under which it was obliged to receive interest at variable rates and to pay interest at fixed rates at an average fixed rate of 2.5% (2017: 2.5%). These interest rate swap contracts expired in January 2018. In 2017 the Group entered into \$200 million of interest rate swap contracts under which it is obliged to receive interest at variable rates and pay interest at fixed rates starting in January 2018 at an average fixed rate of 2.4%. These interest rate swap contracts will expire in January 2021. Later in 2017 the Group entered into a further \$100 million of interest rate swap contracts under which it is obliged to receive interest at variable rates and pay interest at fixed rates starting in January 2018 at an average fixed rate of 2.25%. These interest rate swap contracts will expire in January 2022. Details on how the Group accounts for the interest rate swap contracts as cashflow hedges is disclosed in note 26.

Derivative financial instruments

	Consolidated	
	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
Interest rate swap contracts – current liability	-	1,651
Interest rate swap contracts – non current liability	1,419	948
Total derivative financial instruments	1,419	2,599

Interest rate swap contracts

The contracts require settlement of net interest receivable or payable and are timed to coincide with the approximate dates on which interest is payable on the underlying debt.

These interest rate swaps are cash flow hedges as they satisfy the requirements for hedge accounting. Any change in fair value of the interest rate swaps is taken to the hedge reserve in equity.

In assessing interest rate risk, management has assumed a +/- 25 basis points movement (2017: +/- 25 basis points) in the relevant interest rates at 30 June 2018 for financial assets and liabilities denominated in Australian Dollars ("AUD"). The following table illustrates the impact on profit or loss with no impact directly on equity for the Group.

17. Financial Risk Management (continued)

a) Interest rate risk (continued)

Consolidated AUD exposures	Carrying Value \$'000	Impact on post-tax profits Increase/(decrease) +/- 25 basis points		Impact on reserves Increase/(decrease) +/- 25 basis points	
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2018		+25	-25	+25	-25
Cash at bank	56,052	98	(98)	-	-
Interest rate swaps	(1,419)	525	(525)	2,059	(2,074)
Borrowings	(360,000)	(630)	630	-	-
2017		+25	-25	+25	-25
Cash at bank	48,978	86	(86)	-	-
Interest rate swaps	(2,599)	461	(461)	2,036	(2,051)
Borrowings	(370,000)	(648)	648	-	-

b) Liquidity risk

Nature of liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk of an entity encountering difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities.

Liquidity risk management

Prudent liquidity risk management implies maintaining sufficient cash, the availability of funding through an adequate amount of committed credit facilities and the ability to close out market positions. The Group and Company have a prudent liquidity management policy which manages liquidity risk by monitoring the stability of funding, surplus cash or near cash assets, anticipated cash in and outflows and exposure to connected parties.

Exposure and sensitivity

Financing arrangements

Unrestricted access was available at balance date to the following lines of credit:

Consolidated	Bank facilities	Working capital facility	Non-recourse receivables financing facility	Total facilities
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
As at 30 June 2018				
Line of credit value	500,000	5,000	-	505,000
Used at balance date	(360,000)	(4,524)	-	(364,524)
Unused at balance date	140,000	476	-	140,476

Consolidated	Bank facilities	Working capital facility	Non-recourse receivables financing facility	Total facilities
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
As at 30 June 2017				
Line of credit value	470,000	5,000	-	475,000
Used at balance date	(370,000)	(4,168)	-	(374,168)
Unused at balance date	100,000	832	-	100,832

17. Financial Risk Management (continued)

b) Liquidity risk (continued)

The \$500 million debt facility for the Group matures on 8 January 2021. The Group's bank facilities are denominated in Australian dollars as at 30 June 2018 and 30 June 2017.

Undiscounted future cash flows

The tables below summarise the maturity profile of the financial liabilities as at 30 June based on contractual undiscounted repayment obligations. Repayments which are subject to notice are treated as if notice were given immediately.

Consolidated As at 30 June 2018	Less than 1 year \$'000	1-2 years \$'000	2-3 years \$'000	3-5 years \$'000	Greater than 5 years \$'000
Lease liabilities	19	-	-	-	-
Borrowings – Principal	-	-	360,000	-	-
Interest cashflows ¹	14,299	14,338	7,593	79	-
Derivative financial instruments ²	-	-	1,409	10	-
Payables ³	59,878	-	-	-	-
Total	74,196	14,338	369,002	89	-

Consolidated As at 30 June 2017	Less than 1 year \$'000	1-2 years \$'000	2-3 years \$'000	3-5 years \$'000	Greater than 5 years \$'000
Lease liabilities	90	21	3	3	4
Borrowings – Principal	-	370,000	-	-	-
Interest cashflows ¹	15,079	8,373	1,360	1,360	-
Derivative financial instruments ²	1,651	-	-	948	-
Payables ³	69,908	-	-	-	-
Total	86,728	378,394	1,363	2,311	4

¹ Calculated using a weighted average variable interest rate. Interest cashflows includes interest on principal borrowings, swap interest and the commitment fee on the Syndicated Facility Agreement.

² The fair value of financial instruments that are not traded in an active market is determined using valuation techniques. The Group uses a variety of methods and makes assumptions that are based on market conditions existing at the end of each reporting period. The fair value of interest rate swaps are calculated as the present value of the estimated future cash flows and are included in level 2 under derivative financial instruments. The total fair value of derivatives used for hedging is \$1.419 million (2017: \$2.599 million).

³ The payables balance excludes interest payable as the cashflows are included in 'Interest cashflows' above and excludes GST payable as this is not a financial liability.

Group Structure

18. Non-Current Assets – Investments Accounted for Using the Equity Method

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Carrying amount at the beginning of the financial year	5,167	3,657
Share of profit/(losses) after income tax	1,152	510
Acquisition of associates and joint ventures	1,729	1,000
Decrease in associates and joint ventures	(308)	-
Carrying amount at the end of the financial year	7,740	5,167

19. Subsidiaries

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the assets, liabilities and results of the following subsidiaries:

Name of entity	Country of incorporation	Class of shares/units	Effective ownership interest 2018	Effective ownership interest 2017
SCM No 1 Limited (SCM1)	Australia	Ordinary	100%	100%
Southern Cross Media Australia Holdings Pty Limited (SCMAHL)	Australia	Ordinary	100%	100%
Southern Cross Media Group Investments Pty Ltd (SCMGI)	Australia	Ordinary	100%	100%
Southern Cross Austereo Pty Limited (SCAPL) and controlled entities	Australia	Ordinary	100%	100%

The proportion of ownership interest is equal to the proportion of voting power held unless otherwise indicated.

Recognition and Measurement

Subsidiaries

Subsidiaries are those entities over which the Group has the power to govern the financial and operating policies, generally accompanying a shareholding of more than one-half of voting rights. Subsidiaries are fully consolidated from the date on which control is transferred to the Group. The existence and effect of potential voting rights that are currently exercisable or convertible are considered when assessing whether the Group controls another entity.

The purchase method of accounting is used to account for the acquisition of subsidiaries by the Group. Where control of an entity is obtained during a financial year, its results are included in the Statement of Comprehensive Income from the date on which control commences. Where control of an entity ceases during a financial year, its results are included for that part of the year during which control existed.

Intercompany transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between Group companies are eliminated.

Non-controlling interests in the results and equity of subsidiaries are shown separately in the consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income and Statements of Financial Position respectively.

20. Parent Entity Financial Information

a) Summary financial information

The following aggregate amounts are disclosed in respect of the parent entity, Southern Cross Media Group Limited:

	Southern Cross Media Group Limited	
	2018	2017
Statement of Financial Position	\$'000	\$'000
Current assets	693	575
Non-current assets	972,784	966,576
Total assets	973,477	967,151
Current liabilities	5,539	2,080
Total liabilities	5,539	2,080
Net assets	967,938	965,071
Issued capital	1,282,148	1,282,148
Reserves	6,595	5,671
Retained profits – 2013 reserve	45,040	45,040
Accumulated losses – 2014 reserve	(96,805)	(96,805)
Retained profits – 2015 H1 interim reserve	22,761	22,761
Accumulated losses – 2015 H2 reserve	(323,833)	(323,833)
Retained profits – 2016 reserve	27,555	27,555
Retained profits – 2017 reserve	2,534	2,534
Retained profits – 2018 reserve	1,943	-
Total equity	967,938	965,071
Profit for the year	61,651	58,987
Total comprehensive income	61,651	58,987

The comparatives in respect of the Retained profits – 2013 reserve and Retained profits – 2016 reserve have been adjusted by \$(22,608) million and \$22,608 million respectively to better reflect the underlying nature of historical transactions. The adjustment has no impact on reported profit or net assets.

b) Guarantees entered into by the parent entity

The parent entity has not provided any financial guarantees in respect of bank overdrafts and loans of subsidiaries as at 30 June 2018 (2017: nil). The parent entity has not given any unsecured guarantees at 30 June 2018 (2017: nil).

c) Contingent liabilities of the parent entity

The parent entity did not have any contingent liabilities as at 30 June 2018 (30 June 2017: nil).

d) Contractual commitments for the acquisition of property, plant or equipment

As at 30 June 2018, the parent entity had no contractual commitments (30 June 2017: nil).

20. Parent Entity Financial Information (continued)

Recognition and Measurement

Parent entity financial information

The financial information for the parent entity has been prepared on the same basis as the consolidated financial statements, except as set out on the following page.

i) *Investments in subsidiaries, associates and joint venture entities*

Investments in subsidiaries are accounted for at cost in the financial statements of the Company, less any impairment charges.

ii) *Tax consolidation legislation*

The Company and its wholly-owned Australian controlled entities have implemented the tax consolidation legislation as of 23 November 2005.

The Company is the head entity of the tax consolidated group. Members of the group have entered into a tax sharing agreement in order to allocate income tax expense to the wholly owned subsidiaries on a stand-alone basis. The tax sharing arrangement provides for the allocation of income tax liabilities between the entities should the head entity default on its tax payment obligations. The possibility of such a default is considered remote at the date of this report.

Members of the tax consolidated group have entered into a tax funding agreement. The group has applied the group allocation approach in determining the appropriate amount of current taxes to allocate to members of the tax consolidated group. The tax funding agreement provides for each member of the tax consolidated group to pay a tax equivalent amount to or from the parent in accordance with their notional current tax liability or current tax asset. Such amounts are reflected in amounts receivable from or payable to the parent company in their accounts and are settled as soon as practicable after lodgement of the consolidated return and payment of the tax liability.

Other

21. Share-Based Payments

The company operates a long term incentive plan for Executive KMP and certain senior executives. The share-based payment expense for the year ended 30 June 2018 was \$1,102,410 (2017: \$917,018).

The following table reconciles the performance rights outstanding at the beginning and end of the year:

Number of performance rights	2018	2017
Balance at beginning of the year	3,749,123	2,075,763
Granted during the year	2,242,074	2,245,096
Exercised during the year	-	-
Forfeited during the year	(671,461)	(571,736)
Balance at end of year	5,319,736	3,749,123
Vested and exercisable at end of the year	918,166	219,872

Recognition and Measurement

Share-based compensation benefits are provided to employees via certain Employee Agreements. Information relating to these Agreements is set out in the Remuneration Report. The fair value of entitlements granted are recognised as an employee benefit expense with a corresponding increase in equity. The fair value is measured at grant date and recognised as an expense over the period during which the employees become unconditionally entitled to the shares.

The fair value of the performance rights issued during 2018 was determined using a Black-Scholes-Merton model for the ROIC and the EPS performance rights, with the following inputs:

	ROIC	Absolute EPS
Grant date	19 September 2017	19 September 2017
Grant date share price	\$1.27	\$1.27
Fair value at grant date	\$1.07	\$1.07
Exercise price	Nil	Nil
Dividend yield	6.08%	6.08%
Risk free interest rate	2.21%	2.21%
Expected volatility	39.61%	39.61%

The fair value at grant date of the securities granted is adjusted to reflect market vesting conditions, but excludes the impact of any non-market vesting conditions (for example, profitability and sales growth targets). Non-market vesting conditions are included in assumptions about the number of shares that are expected to be issued. At each balance sheet date, the entity revises its estimate of the number of shares that are expected to be issued. The employee benefit expense recognised each period takes into account the most recent estimate. The impact of the revision to original estimates, if any, is recognised in profit or loss with a corresponding adjustment to equity. Where the terms of the share-based payment entitlement are modified in the favour of the employee, the changes are reflected when determining the impact on profit or loss.

22. Remuneration of Auditors

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$	\$
(a) Audit and other assurance services		
PricewaterhouseCoopers Australian firm:		
Statutory audit and review of financial reports	555,900	594,500
Other assurance services	215,000	50,000
Regulatory returns	15,965	27,000
Total remuneration for audit and other assurance services	786,865	671,500
(b) Taxation services		
PricewaterhouseCoopers Australian firm:		
Tax services	-	-
Total remuneration for taxation services	-	-
(c) Other services		
PricewaterhouseCoopers Australian firm:		
Debt advisory	165,000	12,000
Legal services	32,000	-
Total remuneration for other services	197,000	12,000
Total	983,865	683,500

The Group may decide to employ the auditor on assignments additional to their statutory audit duties where the auditor's expertise and experience with the Company and/or the Group are important.

The Board has considered the position and, in accordance with the advice received from the Audit & Risk Committee, is satisfied that the provision of the non-audit services is compatible with the general standard of independence for auditors imposed by the *Corporations Act 2001*. The Directors are satisfied that the provision of non-audit services by the auditor did not compromise the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* for the following reasons:

- all non-audit services have been reviewed by the Audit & Risk Committee to ensure they do not impact the impartiality and objectivity of the auditor; and
- none of the services undermine the general principles relating to auditor independence as set out in APES 110: *Code of Ethics* for Professional Accountants, including reviewing or auditing the auditor's own work, acting in a management or a decision-making capacity for the Company, acting as advocate for the Company or jointly sharing economic risk and rewards.

23. Related Party Disclosures

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

a) KMP

During the year, no KMP of the Company or the Group has received or become entitled to receive any benefit because of a contract made by the Group with a KMP or with a firm of which a KMP is a member, or with an entity in which the KMP has a substantial interest except on terms set out in the governing documents of the Group or as disclosed in this financial report.

The aggregate compensation of KMP of the Group is set out below:

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Short-term employee benefits	6,052,910	6,110,212
Post-employment benefits	228,373	215,634
Other long-term benefits	56,543	12,655
Termination payments	429,100	-
Share-based payments	1,333,567	733,166
	8,100,493	7,071,667

Note: Changes to KMP during the year can be found in the Remuneration Report.

The number of ordinary shares in the Company held during the financial year by KMP of the Company and Group, including their personally related parties, are set out in the Remuneration Report in the Directors' Report. There were no loans made to or other transactions with KMP during the year (2017: nil).

b) Subsidiaries and Associates

Ownership interests in subsidiaries are set out in note 19. Details of interests in associates and distributions received from associates are disclosed in note 18. Details of loans due from associates are disclosed in note 11.

24. Leases and Other Commitments

	Consolidated	
	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Capital commitments		
Commitments for the acquisition of plant and equipment contracted for at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities are payable as follows:		
Within one year	4,302	1,085
	4,302	1,085
Operating leases		
Commitments for minimum lease payments in relation to non-cancellable operating leases are payable as follows:		
Within one year	21,708	20,192
Later than one year but not later than 5 years	45,923	53,701
Later than 5 years	21,748	20,603
	89,379	94,496
Finance lease payment commitments		
Finance lease commitments are payable as follows:		
Within one year	19	90
Later than one year but not later than 5 years	-	27
Later than five years	-	4
	19	121
Less: Future lease finance charges	-	(5)
	19	116
Lease liabilities provided for in the financial statements:		
Current	19	86
Non-current	-	30
Total lease liability	19	116

Leases

Leases of property, plant and equipment where the Group, as lessee, has substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are classified as finance leases. Finance leases are capitalised at the lease's inception at the lower of the fair value of the leased property and the present value of the minimum lease payments. The corresponding rental obligations, net of finance charges, are included in other long-term payables.

Leases in which a significant portion of the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Payments made under operating leases (net of any incentives received from the lessor) are charged to profit or loss on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

The Group sub-leases buildings under an operating lease and rent revenue is recorded as income in the profit or loss on a straight-line basis.

Rental expense relating to operating leases - included in occupancy costs is \$25.1 million (2017: \$26.9 million).

25. Events Occurring after Balance Date

Other than matters outlined elsewhere in this report, no matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year that have significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the operations, results of operations or state of affairs of the Group in subsequent accounting periods.

26. Other Accounting Policies

Defined contribution scheme

The Group operates a defined contribution scheme. The defined contribution scheme comprises fixed contributions made by the Group with the Group's legal or constructive obligation being limited to these contributions.

Contributions to the defined contribution scheme are recognised as an expense as they become payable. Prepaid contributions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in the future payments is available. The defined contribution plan expense for the year was \$14.9 million (2017: \$14.4 million) and is included in employee expenses.

Derivative financial instruments

The Group enters into interest rate swap agreements to manage its financial risks. Derivatives are initially recognised at fair value at the date a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently remeasured to their fair value. The method of recognising the resulting gain or loss depends on whether the derivative is designated as a hedging instrument and if so, the nature of the item being hedged. The Group may have derivative financial instruments which are economic hedges, but do not satisfy the requirements of hedge accounting. Gains or losses from changes in fair value of these economic hedges are taken through profit or loss.

If the derivative financial instrument meets the hedge accounting requirements, the Group designates the derivatives as either (1) hedges of the fair value of recognised assets or liabilities or a firm commitment (fair value hedge); or (2) hedges of highly probable forecast transactions (cash flow hedge). The Group documents at the inception of the transaction the relationship between hedging instruments and hedged items, as well as its risk management objective and strategy for undertaking various hedge transactions. The Group also documents its assessments, both at hedge inception and on an ongoing basis, of whether the derivatives that are used in hedging transactions have been and will continue to be highly effective in offsetting changes in fair values or cash flows of hedged items.

The fair values of over-the-counter derivatives are determined using valuation techniques adopted by the Directors with assumptions that are based on market conditions existing at each balance sheet date. The fair values of interest rate swaps are calculated as the present values of the estimated future cash flows.

26. Other Accounting Policies (continued)

Hedge accounting

The Group designated interest rates swaps held as at 1 July 2011 as cash flow hedges and has applied hedge accounting from this date.

The Group documents the relationship between hedging instruments and hedged items, as well as its risk management objective and strategy for undertaking the hedge transactions. The Group also documents its assessment, both at hedge inception and on an ongoing basis, of whether the derivatives that are used in hedging transactions have been and will continue to be highly effective in offsetting changes in cash flows of hedged items.

The fair values of derivative financial instruments used for hedging purposes are presented within the balance sheet. Movements in the hedging reserve are shown within the Statement of Changes in Equity. The full fair value of a hedging derivative is classified as a non-current asset or liability when the remaining maturity of the hedged item is more than 12 months; it is classified as a current asset or liability when the remaining maturity of the hedged item is less than 12 months.

Cash flow hedge

The effective portion of changes in the fair value of derivatives that are designated and qualify as cash flow hedges is recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in reserves in equity. The gain or loss relating to the ineffective portion is recognised immediately in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Amounts accumulated in equity are reclassified to profit or loss in the periods when the hedged item affects profit or loss (for instance when the forecast sale that is hedged takes place). The gain or loss relating to the effective portion of interest rate swaps hedging variable rate borrowings is recognised in profit or loss within "interest expense and other borrowing costs". When a hedging instrument expires or is sold or terminated, or when a hedge no longer meets the criteria for hedge accounting, any cumulative gain or loss existing in equity at that time remains in equity and is recognised when the forecast transaction is ultimately recognised in profit or loss. When a forecast transaction is no longer expected to occur, the cumulative gain or loss that was reported in equity is immediately reclassified to profit or loss.

Fair value estimation

The fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities must be estimated for recognition and measurement or for disclosure purposes.

The Group has adopted AASB 7 *Financial Instruments: Disclosures* which requires disclosure of fair value measurements by level of the following fair value measurement hierarchy:

Level 1 - quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;

Level 2 - inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (as prices) or indirectly (derived from prices); and

Level 3 - inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

The fair value of financial instruments that are not traded in an active market (for example, unlisted convertible notes) is determined using valuation techniques. The Group uses a variety of methods and makes assumptions that are based on market conditions existing at each balance date. Other techniques, such as estimated discounted cash flows, are used to determine fair value for the remaining financial instruments. The fair value of interest rate swaps is calculated as the present value of the estimated future cash flows.

The nominal value less estimated credit adjustments of trade receivables and payables are assumed to approximate their fair values. The fair value of financial liabilities for disclosure purposes is estimated by discounting the future contractual cash flows at the current market interest rate that is available to the Group for similar financial instruments.

Impact of new accounting policies

The year end financial statements have been prepared on a basis of accounting policies consistent with those applied in the 30 June 2017 Annual Report. The group adopted certain accounting standards, amendments, and interpretations during the financial year which did not result in changes in accounting policies nor an adjustment to the amounts recognised in the financial statements. They also do not significantly affect the disclosures in the Notes to the financial statements.

26. Other Accounting Policies (continued)

Impact of standards issued but not yet applied

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for 30 June 2018 reporting periods and have not been early adopted by the Group. The Group's assessment of the impact of these new standards and interpretations is set out below:

Title of standard	Nature of change	Impact	Mandatory application date/ Date of adoption by Group
AASB 9 <i>Financial Instruments</i>	AASB 9 includes guidance on the classification and measurement of financial instruments, including a new expected credit loss model for calculation of impairment of financial assets, including trade receivables, and new general hedge accounting requirements. AASB 9 replaces AASB 139 <i>Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement</i>	<p>Management has reviewed the new standard and considers there will be no material impact on the Group's financials, other than some presentation changes and expanded disclosures required.</p> <p>The accounting for the Group's debt under the Syndicated Facility Agreement will remain unchanged.</p> <p>The new hedging rules align hedge accounting more closely with the Group's risk management practices. The Group applies hedge accounting to the Group's interest rate swaps and this will remain unchanged.</p> <p>The result of the change to the expected credit loss model will be the earlier recognition of credit losses, however this will not have a material impact on the Group's financial report as credit losses are not significant.</p>	<p>Mandatory for financial years commencing on or after 1 January 2018.</p> <p>The Group will adopt AASB 9 from 1 July 2018.</p>

26. Other Accounting Policies (continued)

Impact of standards issued but not yet applied (continued)

Title of standard	Nature of change	Impact	Mandatory application date/ Date of adoption by Group																																				
AASB 15 <i>Revenue from contracts with customers</i>	<p>The core principal of AASB 15 is that an entity recognises revenue related to the transfer of promised goods or services when control of those goods or services passes to the customer.</p> <p>The amount of revenue should reflect the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods and services.</p> <p>AASB 15 replaces AASB 118 which covers contracts for goods and services and AASB 111 which covers construction contracts.</p> <p>The standard permits either a full retrospective or a modified retrospective approach for adoption. Under the modified retrospective approach entities will recognise transitional adjustments in retained earnings on the date of initial application (e.g. 1 July 2018), without restating the comparative period. Under this approach entities will only need to apply the new rules to contracts that are not completed as of the date of initial application.</p>	<p>Management has reviewed a representative sample of contracts to identify potential changes in the timing of revenue recognition, measurement of the amount of revenue and note disclosures.</p> <p>It has been identified that there will not be a material change to the majority of the Group's revenue, however the exception to this is revenue recognised from the ATN contract (refer note 11 (c)).</p> <p>Management has reviewed the available methods of adoption and is expected to apply the full retrospective approach.</p> <p><i>ATN Contract</i></p> <p>Management has identified that a significant financing component exists within the ATN contract. The Group will be required to separate the underlying revenue from the implied financing component and associated interest expense.</p> <p>The effect on the Group's Income Statement in FY2019 and FY2018 comparative will be:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th>Revenue</th><th>Interest Expense</th><th>Net Profit before Tax</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>FY19</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Current (\$m)</td><td>3.3</td><td>-</td><td>3.3</td></tr> <tr> <td>AASB 15 (\$m)</td><td>7.1</td><td>(5.6)</td><td>1.5</td></tr> <tr> <td>Impact (\$m)</td><td>3.8</td><td>(5.6)</td><td>(1.8)</td></tr> <tr> <td>FY18</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Current (\$m)</td><td>3.3</td><td>-</td><td>3.3</td></tr> <tr> <td>AASB 15 (\$m)</td><td>7.1</td><td>(5.7)</td><td>1.4</td></tr> <tr> <td>Impact (\$m)</td><td>3.8</td><td>(5.7)</td><td>(1.9)</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Additionally under the full retrospective approach the contract is accounted for as if AASB 15 was in place at the date the ATN contract became effective. This will give rise to a reduction in opening retained earnings of approximately \$4.7 million with a corresponding increase in the deferred income balance.</p>		Revenue	Interest Expense	Net Profit before Tax	FY19				Current (\$m)	3.3	-	3.3	AASB 15 (\$m)	7.1	(5.6)	1.5	Impact (\$m)	3.8	(5.6)	(1.8)	FY18				Current (\$m)	3.3	-	3.3	AASB 15 (\$m)	7.1	(5.7)	1.4	Impact (\$m)	3.8	(5.7)	(1.9)	<p>Mandatory for financial years commencing on or after 1 January 2018.</p> <p>The Group will adopt AASB 15 from 1 July 2018</p>
	Revenue	Interest Expense	Net Profit before Tax																																				
FY19																																							
Current (\$m)	3.3	-	3.3																																				
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26. Other Accounting Policies (continued)

Impact of standards issued but not yet applied (continued)

Title of standard	Nature of change	Impact	Mandatory application date/ Date of adoption by Group
AASB 15 <i>Revenue from contracts with customers</i> <i>(continued)</i>		<p><i>Production Revenue</i></p> <p>Under AASB 15, production revenue from the creation of advertising would be treated as a separate performance obligation to the advertising airtime provided. Revenue would need to be brought to account in the Income Statement when the production performance obligation has been completed and not when the advertising is aired. Whilst some production revenue for the Group may be required to be recognised earlier, the impact to the financial report is not material.</p> <p><i>Bonus Spots</i></p> <p>Advertising revenue is made up of both paid spots at the contracted rate and bonus spots at zero value. Bonus spots are spread evenly in proportion to paid spots. Under AASB 15, the bonus spots are to have a value attributed to them and the relevant revenue accounted for when the bonus spot has been aired. Similarly, paid spots are to have a lower value attributed to them. Given paid and unpaid spots are evenly spread throughout the length of an advertising campaign, the mixture of both paid and bonus spots being aired results in a blended rate which should be recognised under AASB 15. Any financial impact over a reporting period end is not expected to be material however the Group is still finalising its analysis.</p> <p><i>Agency Commission</i></p> <p>Under AASB 15, when a third party is involved in providing goods or services to a customer, the entity must determine if it is a principal or agent with AASB 15 having more definitive guidance than AASB 118. Where it has been determined the entity is a principal, the revenue and costs are recorded on a gross basis and where it has been determined the entity is an agent, the revenue is recorded net of agency commission. Where SCA commences a contract between an agency and end customer, the Group has determined that it is the principal and that the advertiser is its customer rather than the agency and will therefore continue to record revenue and agency commission on a gross basis.</p>	

26. Other Accounting Policies (continued)

Impact of standards issued but not yet applied (continued)

Title of standard	Nature of change	Impact	Mandatory application date/ Date of adoption by Group
AASB 16 <i>Leases</i>	<p>The AASB has issued a new standard for lease accounting. AASB 16 will replace AASB 17. The standard removes the distinction between operating and finance lease.</p> <p>Lessee accounting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lessees are required to recognise assets and liabilities for all leases with a term of more than 12 months, unless the underlying asset is of low value. A lessee measures right-of-use assets similarly to other non-financial assets and lease liabilities similarly to other financial liabilities. Assets and liabilities arising from a lease are initially measured on a present value basis. The measurement includes non-cancellable lease payments (including inflation-linked payments), and also includes payments to be made in optional periods if the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise an option to extend the lease. AASB 16 includes disclosure requirements for lessees. <p>Lessor accounting will not change significantly.</p>	<p>The Group has classified its leases into four main portfolios – Transmission sites, Premises, Equipment and Other.</p> <p>It is not practicable to calculate the implicit rate in the leases, therefore, each portfolio will be evaluated to determine the applicable incremental borrowing rate to calculate the present value of outstanding commitments. The incremental borrowing rate will take into account the duration of the lease, the economic environment and other relevant factors.</p> <p>As at the reporting date, the Group had non-cancellable leases of \$89.4 million (refer note 24).</p> <p>The Group has not finalised its quantification of the effect of the new standard, however the following impacts are expected:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A decrease in operating costs due to the reduction in operating lease expenditure. An initial reduction in net profit for each lease due to the increase in depreciation on the right-of-use lease asset and an increase in interest expense on the lease liabilities. This is expected to reverse over time as the portfolio of leases matures. A gross-up of the balance sheet to account for the new right-of-use lease assets and related lease liabilities. Operating cash flow will increase under AASB 16 as the element of cash paid attributable to the repayment of principal will be included in financing cash flow. The net increase/decrease in cash and cash equivalents will remain the same. <p>Leases with a term of less than 12 month or which have a low value will continue to be accounted for in the Income Statement as lease expenses are incurred.</p>	<p>Mandatory for financial years commencing on or after 1 January 2019.</p> <p>The Group expects to adopt AASB 16 from 1 July 2019.</p>

		The standard must be implemented using either a full retrospective approach or a modified retrospective approach. Under the modified retrospective approach entities will recognise transitional adjustments in retained earnings on the date of initial application (e.g. 1 July 2019), without restating the comparative period. The Group currently expects to use the modified retrospective approach for adoption.	
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Directors' Declaration

The Directors of the Company declare that:


1. in the Directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable;
2. in the Directors' opinion, the financial statements and notes as set out on pages 35 to 79 are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including compliance with accounting standards and giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Company and the consolidated entity; and
3. the Directors have been given the declarations required by section 295A of the Corporations Act 2001.
4. Note 1(i) confirms that the financial statements also comply with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors made pursuant to section 295(5) of the Corporations Act.

On behalf of the Directors



Peter Bush
Chairman
Sydney, Australia
23 August 2018



Leon Pasternak
Deputy Chairman
Sydney, Australia
23 August 2018

Independent auditor's report

To the members of Southern Cross Media Group Limited

Report on the audit of the financial report

Our opinion

In our opinion:

The accompanying financial report of Southern Cross Media Group Limited (the Company) and its controlled entities (together the Group or Southern Cross Austereo) is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the Group's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of its financial performance for the year then ended
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

What we have audited

The Group financial report comprises:

- the consolidated statement of financial position as at 30 June 2018
- the consolidated statement of comprehensive income for the year then ended
- the consolidated statement of changes in equity for the year then ended
- the consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended
- the notes to the consolidated financial statements, which include a summary of significant accounting policies
- the directors' declaration.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report* section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence

We are independent of the Group in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

Our audit approach

An audit is designed to provide reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement. Misstatements may arise due to fraud or error. They are considered material if individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

We tailored the scope of our audit to ensure that we performed enough work to be able to give an opinion on the financial report as a whole, taking into account the geographic and management structure of the Group, its accounting processes and controls and the industry in which it operates.



Materiality

- For the purpose of our audit we used overall Group materiality of \$5.45 million, which represents approximately 5% of the Group's profit adjusted for impairment.
- We applied this threshold, together with qualitative considerations, to determine the scope of our audit and the nature, timing and extent of our audit procedures and to evaluate the effect of misstatements on the financial report as a whole.
- We chose Group profit before tax because, in our view, it is the metric against which the performance of the Group is most commonly measured and is a generally accepted benchmark. We adjusted for impairment as it is an unusual or infrequently occurring item impacting the statement of comprehensive income.
- We utilised a 5% threshold based on our professional judgement, noting it is within the range of commonly acceptable profit related thresholds.

Audit Scope

- Our audit focused on where the Group made subjective judgements for example, significant accounting estimates involving assumptions and inherently uncertain future events.
- The Group operates in Australia and the audit is conducted by one engagement team.

Key audit matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the financial report for the current period. The key audit matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the financial report as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters. Further, any commentary on the outcomes of a particular audit procedure is made in that context. We communicated the key audit matters to the Audit and Risk Committee.

Key audit matter	How our audit addressed the key audit matter
<p>Impairment assessment for licences, tradenames and brands (refer to note 9)</p> <p>The Group has significant indefinite lived intangible assets totalling \$1.15 billion as at 30 June 2018, which under Australian Accounting Standards are required to be tested at least annually for impairment.</p> <p>The Directors' impairment assessment shows an impairment of \$102.9m in the Regional CGU. No impairment has been identified in the Metro CGU.</p> <p>This continues to be a key audit matter because of the size of the indefinite lived intangible assets and on the basis the impairment assessment involves estimates of future earnings and cash flows for both Regional and Metro cash generating units (CGUs).</p> <p>Judgements made in determining whether an impairment is required include assumptions about internal and external factors such as industry growth rates, future market share estimates and the forecast financial performance of the Group. In particular, the media industry in Australia experienced considerable regulatory reform during the year which is likely to drive changes in the competitive environment in which Southern Cross Austereo operates.</p>	<p>In designing our audit approach for the key audit matter we considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • whether the Directors' determination of CGUs was consistent with our understanding of the nature of the Group's operations • recent independent Radio and Television ratings and market share data and the relative impact on financial performance of the Group • the market capitalisation of the Group in comparison to the carrying value of the assets and the impact on the impairment assessment • regulatory, economic and market developments during the year that could impact the discount rate and the long term growth rate calculations. <p>To evaluate the cash flow forecasts prepared for the Directors' impairment assessment we performed the following procedures, amongst others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • obtained the value-in-use discounted cash flow model (the model) used for impairment testing and agreed the Regional CGU impairment to the amount calculated by the model. We also performed mathematical accuracy checks, evaluated the terminal value methodology and assessed the appropriateness of the discount rate incorporated in the model • compared the FY2019 forecasted cash flows used in the model with the FY2019 budget formally

Key audit matter

How our audit addressed the key audit matter

approved by the Board and evaluated the Directors' ability to forecast future cash flows by considering the historical accuracy of budgeted cash flows and actual performance for July 2018

- considered whether the model's allocation of corporate costs between CGUs was reasonable and reflective of actual costs incurred
- assessed key growth assumptions within the model with specific focus on forecast revenue comparing to readily available market information.

We performed sensitivity analysis over key assumptions in the model to ascertain the extent of change in those assumptions that, either individually or collectively, would result in the assets being impaired and we also assessed the likelihood of such a movement in those key assumptions arising. We satisfied ourselves that this was appropriately highlighted within the disclosures in note 9.

Indefinite lives classification of intangible assets

(refer to note 8)

On at least an annual basis, the Directors review its portfolio of intangible assets to determine whether they should be classified as amortising intangible assets with finite lives or non-amortising intangibles with indefinite lives. As of 30 June 2018, Southern Cross Austereo has intangible assets totalling \$1.15 billion, consisting of brands and licences, classified as non-amortising indefinite lived.

This was a key audit matter because determination of whether or not intangibles are indefinite lived involves significant judgements over multiple sources of externally and internally generated information. The determination has an impact on the financial statements as it affects whether amortisation is recorded in the statement of comprehensive income.

In assessing the indefinite useful life of intangible assets we performed the following procedures, amongst others:

- considered regulatory developments in the year which may change the licence renewal process or use of brands
- assessed whether there had been any revocation of television or radio licences by Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) in the year
- considered market share data related to new industry participants not subject to the same regulatory and licence framework
- evaluated strategic plans for the Directors' intended use of the related media assets
- considered the useful life of TV broadcasting licenses

Key audit matter

How our audit addressed the key audit matter

in light of the negative long term growth assumptions utilised by the Directors in the Regional CGU impairment assessment.

We also benchmarked the assumptions and conclusion made by the Directors against a selection of similar assets held by other industry participants in the radio and television advertising market. In addition, we considered the significant accounting policy disclosed in note 8 for consistency with Australian Accounting Standards.

Revenue recognition

(refer to note 3 and 26)

We have considered revenue recognition a key audit matter given the significance of revenue to the Group's Statement of Comprehensive Income and because revenue is an important metric by which the Group's performance is measured.

In designing our audit approach for revenue recognition we have performed the following procedures, amongst others:

- obtained an understanding of the customer contracts, invoicing and cash receipting process
- considered the Directors' assessment of the accounting treatment of material revenue streams.
- performed risk-based targeted substantive procedures over revenue transactions
- performed controls testing over revenue systems to identify the correct airing of advertising spots
- used data assurance software to analyse revenue transactions
- confirmed year end accounts receivable balances directly with customers or via subsequent receipts of cash
- assessed the appropriateness of the Directors' disclosure of the expected impact from adoption of the of AASB 15 *Revenue from contracts with customers*.

Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Group's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2018, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon. Prior to the date of this auditor's report, the other information we obtained included the Director's Report. We expect the remaining other information to be made available to us after the date of this auditor's report, including: Chairman's Statement, CEO's Report, Corporate Governance Statement, Additional Stock Exchange Information, Corporate Directory, Board of Directors overview, and other operational highlights including Statistics Snapshot, Winning Aspiration, SCA engages with Australia, The leaders in audio, Our people, values and partners and Philanthropy.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and we do not and will not express an opinion or any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

If, based on the work we have performed on the other information that we obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, 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.

When we read the other information not yet received as identified above, if we conclude that there is a material misstatement therein, we are required to communicate the matter to the directors and use our professional judgement to determine the appropriate action to take.

Responsibilities of the directors for the financial report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is 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 the Australian Auditing Standards 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 the financial report.



A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar1.pdf. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Report on the remuneration report

Our opinion on the remuneration report

We have audited the remuneration report included in pages 11 to 33 of the directors' report for the year ended 30 June 2018.

In our opinion, the remuneration report of Southern Cross Media Group Limited for the year ended 30 June 2018 complies with section 300A of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Responsibilities

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the remuneration report in accordance with section 300A of the *Corporations Act 2001*. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the remuneration report, based on our audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards.

A handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to a representative of PricewaterhouseCoopers.

PricewaterhouseCoopers

A handwritten signature in black ink, belonging to Sam Lobley.

Sam Lobley
Partner

Melbourne
23 August 2018