

dti

COMPANIES IN 2004–2005

Report for the year ended
31 March 2005

Presented pursuant to the
Companies Act 1985
Section 729

OCTOBER 2005

dti

The DTI drives our ambition of 'prosperity for all' by working to create the best environment for business success in the UK. We help people and companies become more productive by promoting enterprise, innovation and creativity.

We champion UK business at home and abroad. We invest heavily in world-class science and technology. We protect the rights of working people and consumers. And we stand up for fair and open markets in the UK, Europe and the world.

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Introduction

An efficient and effective framework for corporate activity is an essential cornerstone of a modern economy. It sets out the legal basis on which companies are formed, operated and managed. It lays down the rules and procedures through which companies are controlled and financed. It provides the means by which people are held to account for the exercise of corporate economic power. And it is a crucial element in promoting trust and confidence in business and the stability of financial markets.

The activities of DTI, Companies House and the Insolvency Service to which this report relate are focused on ensuring that company and insolvency law is, and remains, fit for purpose and gives people the confidence to start up, grow, invest in and deal with business which is vital for wealth creation and the delivery of prosperity for all.

The DTI Business Plan for Corporate and Insolvency Activity identifies three basic objectives:

- reforming company law so as to reduce regulatory burdens, minimise complexity for business and other users and enable enterprise;
- promoting more efficient and effective capital markets through greater transparency and constructive dialogue between companies and shareholders based on the provision of meaningful, high quality information about company performance;
- improving the efficiency and effectiveness of company registration, compliance, investigation and insolvency so as to protect the interests of investors, business and other stakeholders.

This report outlines the main developments in these areas in the year ending 31 March 2005. It should be read in conjunction with the Annual Reports from Companies House and Insolvency Service which were published earlier this year and are available at www.companieshouse.gov.uk and www.insolvency.gov.uk respectively. The report is shorter than in previous years reflecting an editorial decision not to reproduce or summarise information provided in greater detail in these and other publications. However, all the statistical data which has been provided in previous reports is included.

Company Law Development in 2004–2005

Company Law Reform

Proposals for a Company Law Reform Bill implementing the recommendations of the independent Company Law Review were published on 17 March in the Company Law Reform White Paper (Cm 6456). The White Paper set out a range of measures designed to further four key objectives:

- to enhance shareholder engagement and a long term investment culture;
- to ensure better regulation and a “Think Small First” approach;
- to make it easier to set up and run a company; and
- to provide flexibility for the future.

The overall aim is to ensure that our company law remains up to date, flexible and accessible for all those who use it, and thereby to maintain the UK’s position as a prime location for incorporation and listing.

The White Paper and associated documents can be accessed at <http://www.dti.gov.uk/cld/review.htm>. Consultation on the proposals and related draft clauses closed on 10 June 2005. A further tranche of draft clauses, including draft provisions for implementing the EU Directive on Takeover Bids (Directive 2004/25/EC) was subsequently published on 19 July. As announced in the Queen’s Speech on 17 May, the Government intends to introduce the Company Law Reform Bill in the current Parliamentary Session.

Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Act 2004

The Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Bill received Royal Assent on 28 October. It

- strengthens protection against Enron-style corporate scandals by expanding the powers of investigators to uncover misconduct;
- strengthens the independent regulation of the audit profession and the enforcement of company accounting requirements;
- creates a new type of company – the Community Interest Company – specifically designed for social enterprises; and
- relaxes the prohibition on companies indemnifying directors against liability and permits companies to pay directors’ defence costs as they are incurred.

A Commencement Order was signed on 9 December 2004. All the provisions of the Act have subsequently been brought into force save for those on non-audit services which are due to come into force on 1 October 2005.

The text of the Act is available at:

(www.legislation.hmso.gov.uk/acts/acts2004/20040027.htm)

The text of the Commencement Order can be found at:

(www.legislation.hmso.gov.uk/si/si2004/20043322.htm)

Establishment of Financial Reporting Council

The new FRC was formally launched on 29 March 2004. It took over the functions of the Accountancy Foundation to create a unified regulator with the following functions:

- setting, monitoring and enforcing accounting and auditing standards;
- statutory oversight and regulation of auditors;
- operating an independent investigation and discipline scheme for public interest cases;
- overseeing the regulatory activities of the professional accountancy bodies;
- promoting high standards of corporate governance through oversight of the Combined Code.

These functions are exercised by the FRC's five operating bodies – the Accounting Standards Board, the Auditing Practices Board, the Professional Oversight Board for Accountancy, the Financial Reporting Review Panel and the Accountancy Investigation and Discipline Board – and by the Council itself.

In December the FRC published its Regulatory Strategy and Business Plan and Budget for 2005/06. The Regulatory Strategy underlined the FRC's commitment to promoting:

- high quality corporate reporting;
- high quality auditing;
- high standards of corporate governance;
- the integrity, competence and transparency of the accountancy profession;
- its effectiveness as a unified independent regulator.

The FRC's first Annual Report was published in June 2005.

All these documents and further details of the FRC's work, including its publications, are available on its website at www.frc.org.uk.

Operating and Financial Review

The Companies Act 1985 (Operating and Financial Review and Directors' Report etc) Regulations 2005 (S.I. 2005/1011) came into force on 22 March 2005. Under the Regulations, quoted companies are required to prepare an Operating and Financial Review for each financial year with effect from 1 April 2005. This means that the first of these reports will be published next summer.

The OFR, a key recommendation arising from the Company Law Review, is a narrative report setting out the company's business objectives, its strategy for achieving them and the principal risks and uncertainties involved. It will enable the members of the company to make an informed assessment of the company's future business strategies and prospects and thereby provide a basis for open and constructive dialogue between companies and shareholders on those issues.

Directors Remuneration

In the light of the 2004 company reporting season, the Department commissioned independent research from Deloitte & Touche LLP on the operation and effectiveness of the Directors' Remuneration Report Regulations 2002. Deloitte's report was published in full on 25 January and can be viewed at http://www.dti.gov.uk/cld/Deloitte_Rep_DRRR_2004.pdf.

It showed

- high levels of compliance with the Regulations
- growing investor satisfaction with the quality of disclosure on directors' pay and awards;
- better communication and engagement between shareholders and companies;
- companies changing their remuneration policies and practices to reflect the link between pay and performance.

Commenting on the report, Patricia Hewitt, the then Secretary of State, said that it showed that the 2002 Regulations had had a positive effect and underlined the effectiveness of the Government's action in making directors' remuneration to closer scrutiny by shareholders.

Building Better Boards

Following on from the publication of the Higgs and the Tyson Report in 2003, the Corporate Law and Governance Directorate published a document in December 2004, entitled 'Building Better Boards'. This publication explained Best Practice guidelines on creating effective boards and was the product of extensive discussions with business, academia and head-hunters, who provided

the basis of the case studies integrated in the document. The CBI and the IoD also endorsed this publication.

'Building Better Boards' highlights the benefits of boards with more diverse skills, experiences and attributes. It also makes it clear that board members with diverse experiences and backgrounds can bring varied and complementary perspectives and contribute in the making of strong and dynamic boards that lead to globally successful companies.

This publication can be viewed at http://164.36.164.37/cld/DTI_BETTERBOARDS.pdf

Pre-emption Rights

In September 2004 Paul Myners was asked by Lord Sainsbury, the Minister for Innovation and Science, to examine whether the application of pre-emption rights might be hindering the ability of certain types of company to raise finance flexibly for innovation and growth. The DTI's Corporate Law and Governance Directorate provided support for this exercise.

Paul Myners report published in February 2005 underlined the importance of pre-emption rights for shareholders but made various recommendations for improving the way in which they operate in practice, in particular emphasising the need for more direct discussion between companies and shareholders. It also recommended the revision of the Pre-Emption Guidelines issued by the Pre-Emption Group and the revival of the Group, which had been dormant for a number of years, with a broader membership. Action on these recommendations rests with the reconstituted Pre-Emption Group which met for the first time in April 2005.

EU Developments

EU action in 2004/05 was based on the proposals set out in the Commission's Company Law and Corporate Governance Action Plan (COM(2003)284 Final) published in May 2003. The main developments were

- establishment of a new EU Corporate Governance Forum designed to share information and disseminate best practice between Member States and thereby raise corporate governance standards across the EU;
- agreement of two Commission Recommendations (non-legislative instruments) in September 2004, one dealing with directors' remuneration, the other with the role of independent non-executive directors. Both closely relate to UK practice and accord with our principles-based approach to corporate governance, recognising the importance of the "comply or explain" approach as delivered through the Combined Code;

- negotiation of draft directives relating to
 - cross border mergers
 - the regulation of auditors
 - accounting and corporate governance reporting requirements
 - simplification of the Second Company Law Directive on capital maintenance.
- The Cross Border Mergers Directive was agreed by the Council and the European Parliament in June 2005. The other dossiers remain under consideration.
- publication in September 2005 of a Commission consultation document seeking views on the merits of a directive on shareholders' rights. A second consultation document, inviting views on specific questions, was published in May 2005.

In October 2004, the then Minister of State for Industry and the Regions, Jacqui Smith, set out the Department's strategy and objectives for EU company law in a keynote speech in The Hague. She made it clear that in the UK's view proposals under the Action Plan must be geared to promoting competitiveness by improving market confidence; extending investment opportunities; increasing access to capital; and facilitating cross border restructuring. She also underlined that alternatives to binding EU legislation should be used wherever possible. In that context she particularly welcomed the Commission's confirmation in the Action Plan that it does not intend to create an EU Code on Corporate Governance and the setting up of the Corporate Governance Forum as a strong, independent voice of the EU market.

More recently the Government's approach to EU company law and the Action Plan has been set out in a booklet "Promoting Competitiveness – The UK approach to EU company law and corporate governance" published in July 2005. The text is available at <http://www.dti.gov.uk/cld/pdfs/ukapproachtoeucompanylaw.pdf>

The European Company Statute (ECS)

The European Public Limited-Liability Company Regulations 2004 (SI 2004/2326), which give effect in Great Britain to the ECS came into force on 8 October 2004. The ECS creates a legal framework for a new form of company, the European Company or "Societas Europaea" (SE), available to commercial bodies with operations in more than one Member State. Its use is voluntary.

International Accounting Standards

The EU Regulation on the Application of International Accounting Standards requires all EU companies listed on EU regulated markets to prepare their consolidated accounts in accordance with international accounting standards

(IAS) from 1 January 2005. The Regulation gives Member States the option to extend the use of IAS to the individual accounts of listed companies and/or the accounts of unlisted companies.

Following consultation with stakeholders, the Government decided to take advantage of this option. The Companies Act 1985 (International Accounting Standards and Other Accounting Amendments) Regulations 2004 (S.I. 2004/2947), made in November 2004, therefore extend the use of IAS to the individual accounts of listed companies and the individual and consolidated accounts of unlisted companies on a permissive basis, for financial years beginning on or after 1 January 2005. The Regulations can be viewed at www.legislation.hmso.gov.uk/stat.htm. The Department's guidance on the Regulations is at www.dti.gov.uk/cld.

The Regulations also cover the Accounts Modernisation Directive (Directive 2003/51) and the Fair Value Directive (Directive 2001/65), which amend the four main accounting directives on the consolidated accounts of certain types of companies, banks and other financial institutions and insurance undertakings. The Modernisation Directive is designed to remove conflicts between the Directives and IAS, so as to achieve a level playing field between companies that apply IAS and those that do not, and reflect recent accounting developments. The Fair Value Directive enables companies to account for their financial instruments at fair value, in line with modern international practices.

In March 2005, the department published a consultation document covering proposals to ensure that listed companies using IAS can still prepare and send out summary financial statements. The consultation document also covered proposals to permit all companies that have had their full accounts audited to send out summary financial statements, and a number of other minor accounting amendments. The consultation document can be viewed at www.dti.gov.uk/cld. Regulations were laid on 15 August and came into force on 1 October 2005. More information and a link to the regulations can be found at www.dti.gov.uk/cld.

Company Investigations

Companies Investigation Branch (CIB) has powers of investigation under the Companies Act 1985 as amended by the Companies (Audit, Investigation and Community Enterprise) Act 2004 and the Financial Service and Markets Act 2000. These powers enable CIB to establish the facts in cases of possible wrong doing and to take appropriate action, such as the prosecution or disqualification of directors, disclosure of information to other regulators or prosecutors, or the winding up of the company.

The Secretary of State has discretion to decide which requests for investigation to pursue once grounds of suspicion of wrong doing, misconduct or other reasons for concern have been established. On receipt of a request for

information, an initial assessment is made to eliminate or re-direct those which clearly do not warrant investigation or can be better dealt with by other organisations with a direct responsibility. The remaining requests receive more detailed consideration, but may still be refused, for example if an adequate civil remedy is available, or if another regulator or the police have begun their own inquiries.

The Companies (Audit, Investigation & Community Enterprise) Act 2004 expanded investigation powers for the commonest form of investigation under Section 447 of the Companies Act 1985 by widening the scope of those who might be called upon to provide information beyond those directly managing or employed by the company.

As announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer during his Budget Speech, as a result of the Hampton Review, Companies Investigation Branch is to be merged within the Insolvency Service Agency of the DTI. The current intention is that Companies Investigation Branch will merge with the Insolvency Service as from 1 April 2006.

Data relating to requests for information, completed investigations, sources of complaints and further analysis is summarised in the following tables. The final table summarises inputs and outcomes for the year.

Table 1

Initial assessment and consideration of complaints and requests for investigation

	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Initial vetting					
Companies named in requests for investigation	4,010	4,433	5,256	4,732	4,269
Companies not accepted for formal consideration or referred elsewhere	2,289	2,471	2,737	2,644	2,647
Cases formally considered	822	743	1,064	858	708
Investigations started	175	160	419	200	171
Cases formally refused	686	575	659	618	551

Table 2

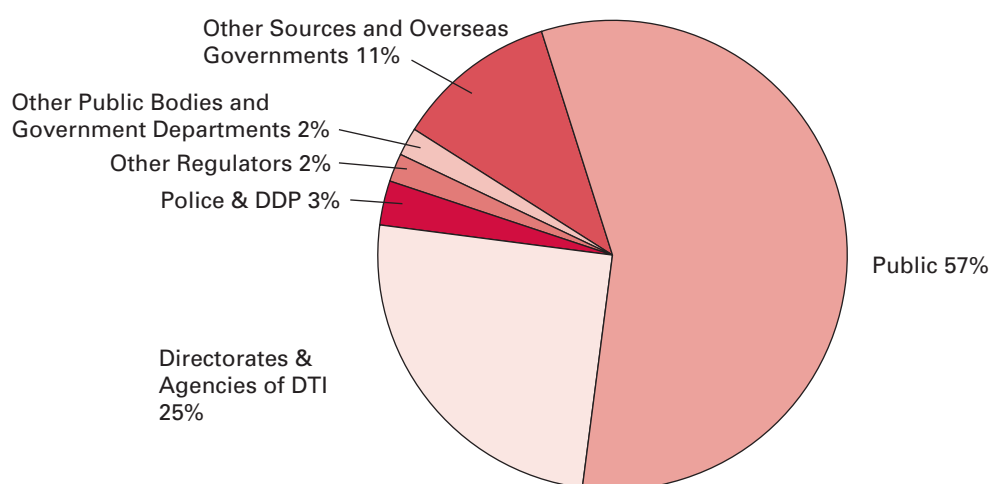
Completed investigations under the Companies Acts – all those for 2004/05 were carried out under section 447

	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Investigations completed	183	158	359	197	174
Investigations outstanding 31st March	63	65	102	70	52

Sources of Requests for Investigation

Table 3*Sources of requests for investigation*

	2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Public	464	57	377	50	350	33	464	58	396	57
Divisions of DTI	139	17	142	19	431	40	161	20	172	25
DPP/Police	25	3	19	3	23	2	22	3	20	3
Other Government Departments	44	5	37	5	11	1	5	1	13	2
FSA/self regulating organisations	18	2	14	2	7	1	12	1	16	2
Other Sources and Overseas Governments	132	16	154	21	246	23	140	17	80	11
Total	822	100	743	100	1068	100	804	100	697	100

Sources of Requests for Investigation**Table 4***Analysis of DTI requests*

Directorate/Executive Agency	2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Companies Investigation Branch	63	46	75	53	249	58	59	37	30	18
The Insolvency Service	10	7	7	5	7	2	6	3	5	3
Companies House	9	6	11	8	146	34	83	52	128	74
Consumer Affairs	6	4	16	11	1	0	3	2	0	0
Others	51	37	33	23	28	6	10	6	9	5
Total	139	100	142	100	431	100	161	100	172	100

Table 5*Alleged misconduct in investigations initiated during the year*

	2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Fraudulent trading	117	69	118	77	384	92	162	84	140	82
Theft	3	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Undischarged bankrupt/disqualified director managing company	7	4	10	7	7	2	8	4	4	2
Unauthorised insurance business	7	4	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Illegal pyramid selling-schemes	6	4	3	2	3	1	7	3	3	2
Miscellaneous	29	17	14	9	21	5	17	9	24	14
	169	100	153	100	415	100	194	100	171	100

Summary of Performance 2004/05

INPUTS

		Prior Year
Complaints Received	4261	4734

OUTPUTS

Complaints accepted for Vetting	710	853
Complaints Vetted	705	825
Complaints Accepted for Investigation	164	214
Investigations Started	171	203
Investigations Completed	177	197

OUTCOMES

Winding-up Orders Obtained	107	387*
Disqualifications Obtained	28	14
Total Years of Disqualifications Obtained	200	74

*The numbers of winding-up orders obtained in 2003/04 include 289 companies linked to two specific investigations.

Collaboration With Overseas Regulators

Overseas regulatory authorities (ORA's) seeking investigative assistance in the UK do so via the Treasury. No such cases were taken up by CIB in 2004/05.

Further information about the work of CIB is at <http://www.dti.gov.uk/cib>

Companies House

Companies House has been an Executive Agency of the Department of Trade and Industry since October 1988 and a Trading Fund since October 1991.

Companies House has two main functions:

- The registration of documents required to be filed under companies, insolvency and related legislation and the incorporation, re-registration and striking-off of companies.
- The provision of company information to the public, for which purpose we enforce compliance with statutory requirements.

The Agency also administers certain discretionary powers on behalf of the Secretary of State under companies legislation, in particular those relating to company names.

The role of Companies House is to register and provide company information. Its overall objective is to provide a high quality, economic and readily accessible service, which satisfies the needs of all our customers – both users and providers of companies House information.

The Agency has two companies registration offices: the registry of England and Wales is located in Cardiff with an additional information centre in London. The registry for Scotland is situated in Edinburgh. Although there are two statutorily separate Registrars, The Registrar for Scotland is accountable for management purposes to the Chief Executive of Companies House, Cardiff, who is also the Registrar for England and Wales.

Full information about the work of Companies House in 2004/5 is contained in its Annual Report, 'Transforming the way we do business', which was published in July 2005. The Report and other relevant publications and guidance for customers are available on the Companies House website at www.companieshouse.gov.uk

Insolvency

The Insolvency Service became an Agency of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) in March 1990 and operates mainly under the Insolvency Acts 1986 and 2000 and the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986. The Service is accountable to DTI and to Ministers for the performance of its statutory and other functions. The Service exists to:

- administer and investigate the affairs of bankrupts and companies and partnerships wound up by the court and establish why they became insolvent;
- act as trustee/liquidator where no private sector insolvency practitioner is appointed;

- report misconduct by bankrupts and directors;
- deal with the disqualification of unfit directors in corporate failures;
- regulate the insolvency profession;
- assess and pay statutory entitlements to redundancy payments when an employer cannot or will not pay its employees;
- provide banking and investment services for bankruptcy and liquidation estate funds;
- advise DTI Ministers and other government departments and agencies on insolvency, redundancy and related issues.

Full information about the work of the Insolvency Service is contained in its Annual Report 'The Insolvency Service Annual Report & Accounts' which was published in July 2005. The Report and other relevant publications are available at <http://www.insolvency.gov.uk/guidanceleaflets/Guides.htm>

Statistical Tables (Companies House)

STATISTICAL TABLES

Please note: Many of these tables include rounded figures, rounding differences may therefore occur.

SECTION A – ANALYSIS OF THE COMPANIES REGISTER

Table A1

Summary of changes in the number of companies on the register 2000-01 to 2004-05

	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Great Britain					
On register at start of period	1,510.5	1,595.5	1,658.2	1,804.1	2,016.7
New companies Incorporated	238.3	225.5	325.9	390.2	333.7
Dissolved	154.5	164.1	182.0	179.0	191.5
Restored to the register	1.2	1.3	2.0	1.4	1.3
On register at end of period	1,595.5	1,658.2	1,804.1	2,016.7	2,160.0
Of which: in liquidation	67.5	68.6	70.3	69.6	67.7
in course of removal	85.7	98.1	94.1	104.3	112.2
Effective numbers on register at end of period	1,442.3	1,491.5	1,639.7	1,842.8	1,980.1
England and Wales					
On register at start of period	1,430.1	1,510.3	1,569.4	1,706.6	1,908.7
New companies Incorporated	226.5	213.4	308.8	371.4	317.3
Dissolved	147.4	155.6	173.6	170.6	182.7
Restored to the register	1.2	1.3	1.9	1.3	1.2
On register at end of period	1,510.3	1,569.4	1,706.6	1,908.7	2,044.4
<i>Change on previous year</i>	<i>5.6%</i>	<i>3.9%</i>	<i>8.7%</i>	<i>11.8%</i>	<i>7.1%</i>
Of which: in liquidation	64.3	65.5	67.1	66.5	64.7
in course of removal	81.1	93.2	89.1	98.4	105.8
Effective numbers on register at end of period	1,364.9	1,410.7	1,550.4	1,743.8	1,873.9
<i>Change on previous year</i>	<i>5.9%</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>9.9%</i>	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>7.5%</i>
Scotland					
On register at start of period	80.4	85.2	88.8	97.5	108.0
New companies Incorporated	11.9	12.1	17.1	18.8	16.4
Dissolved	7.1	8.5	8.4	8.4	8.8
Restored to the register	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
On register at end of period	85.2	88.8	97.5	108.0	115.7
<i>Change on previous year</i>	<i>6.0%</i>	<i>4.2%</i>	<i>9.8%</i>	<i>10.8%</i>	<i>7.1%</i>
Of which: in liquidation	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.0
in course of removal	4.5	4.9	5.0	5.9	6.4
Effective numbers on register at end of period	77.4	80.8	89.3	99.0	106.2
<i>Change on previous year</i>	<i>5.9%</i>	<i>4.4%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>10.9%</i>	<i>7.3%</i>

Table A2*Public and private companies incorporated and on the GB register 2000-01 to 2004-05*

	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Public Companies					
New incorporations	1.5	0.9	0.7	0.9	1.1
Conversions from private	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.0
Dissolved	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7
In liquidation/course of removal	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.5
Effective number on register at end of period	12.8	12.4	11.8	11.7	11.6
Public companies as percentage of effective register	0.9%	0.8%	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%
Private Companies					
New incorporations	236.8	224.6	325.2	388.4	332.7
Conversions from public	3.8	4.2	4.6	4.8	5.2
Dissolved	153.7	163.2	181.2	177.8	190.9
In liquidation/course of removal	151.4	165.0	162.7	172.3	178.5
Effective number on register at end of period	1,429.4	1,479.1	1,627.9	1,831.1	1,968.5
Of which: Unlimited	4.0	4.2	4.6	4.9	5.3
GB total of effective numbers of public & private companies	1,442.3	1,491.5	1,639.7	1,842.8	1,980.1

Table A3*Analysis of companies on register at 31 March 2005 by region of registered office and period of incorporation*

Thousands of companies								
Region of registered office	Up to 1969	Period of incorporation				Total	%age of GB total	Companies per 1000 population*
		1970 to 1979	1980 to 1989	1990 to 1999	2000 to Mar-04			
North	2.3	1.8	4.5	11.5	29.3	49.3	2.3	16.0
Yorkshire & Humberside	8.4	5.9	13.1	32.8	85.8	146.0	6.8	29.2
East Midlands	5.4	4.2	9.5	25.1	59.2	103.3	4.8	25.5
East Anglia	3.6	2.9	6.7	17.4	37.7	68.3	3.2	32.8
Greater London	26.5	20.4	52.4	143.6	335.5	578.3	26.8	83.9
Rest of South East	19.1	16.8	42.4	125.5	296.4	500.1	23.2	46.4
South West	6.7	6.1	16.5	42.5	94.4	166.2	7.7	34.9
West Midlands	9.2	6.9	15.4	39.2	97.1	167.8	7.8	74.8
North West	9.3	7.3	17.1	47.4	124.1	205.2	9.5	31.9
Wales	2.4	2.1	4.9	13.4	37.0	59.8	2.8	20.6
Scotland	5.3	4.0	10.5	29.5	66.4	115.7	5.4	22.6
Great Britain	98.1	78.5	192.7	527.8	1262.9	2160.0	100.0	38.3

*Resident population at mid-1992

Table A4*Analysis of companies on the register by period of incorporation*

Period of incorporation (Calendar years)	Incorporations in period 000s	On register at 31 March 2004 000s	Thousands of companies %ages of incorporations in period					
			On register at 31 March 2005					
			All Companies		In liquidation/ course of removal		Effective register	
000s	%age	000s	%age	000s	%age	000s	%age	
1862-69	5.0	0.1	0.1	2.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	1.9
1870-79	9.9	0.2	0.2	2.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	1.9
1880-89	18.0	0.5	0.5	2.9	0.0	0.2	0.5	2.7
1890-99	36.6	1.5	1.5	4.0	0.1	0.3	1.4	3.7
1900-99	45.0	2.2	2.1	4.7	0.1	0.3	2.0	4.3
1910-19	58.9	3.0	2.9	4.9	0.2	0.3	2.7	4.5
1920-29	87.3	5.9	5.7	6.5	0.4	0.4	5.3	6.0
1930-39	119.1	9.1	8.8	7.4	0.7	0.6	8.1	6.8
1940-44	35.4	3.4	3.3	9.2	0.3	0.9	2.9	8.3
1945-49	88.7	8.9	8.5	9.6	0.7	0.8	7.8	8.8
1950-54	68.9	8.5	8.1	11.8	0.6	0.9	7.5	10.9
1955-59	107.3	14.4	13.8	12.9	1.1	1.0	12.8	11.9
1960-64	193.3	25.3	24.2	12.5	1.9	1.0	22.3	11.5
1965-69	141.7	19.3	18.5	13.1	1.6	1.1	16.9	11.9
1970-74	234.0	34.5	33.0	14.1	3.3	1.4	29.8	12.7
1975-79	287.0	47.5	45.5	15.8	4.6	1.6	40.8	14.2
1980	69.4	11.4	10.9	15.7	1.2	1.7	9.7	14.0
1981	72.4	12.6	12.0	16.6	1.3	1.9	10.7	14.7
1982	87.2	15.6	14.9	17.0	1.5	1.8	13.3	15.3
1983	96.2	16.8	16.0	16.6	1.8	1.9	14.2	14.8
1984	97.9	18.4	17.4	17.8	1.8	1.9	15.6	15.9
1985	104.6	20.2	19.2	18.4	2.1	2.0	17.1	16.4
1986	117.3	24.3	23.1	19.7	2.4	2.0	20.7	17.7
1987	128.0	27.0	25.6	20.0	2.4	1.9	23.1	18.1
1988	128.9	28.2	26.6	20.6	2.5	1.9	24.1	18.7
1989	130.3	28.7	27.0	20.7	2.4	1.9	24.6	18.9
1990	120.9	28.0	26.3	21.7	2.4	2.0	23.9	19.8
1991	109.8	29.1	27.3	24.8	2.5	2.3	24.8	22.6
1992	108.5	31.2	29.2	26.9	2.6	2.4	26.5	24.5
1993	113.6	36.0	33.3	29.3	2.9	2.5	30.4	26.8
1994	127.5	43.6	40.1	31.4	3.4	2.7	36.7	28.8
1995	143.9	52.5	48.0	33.3	4.1	2.8	43.9	30.5
1996	170.2	64.8	59.1	34.7	5.2	3.0	53.9	31.7
1997	199.0	84.0	75.8	38.1	6.9	3.5	68.8	34.6
1998	202.6	96.5	86.4	42.7	8.2	4.0	78.2	38.6
1999	223.7	115.0	102.5	45.8	9.7	4.3	92.8	41.5
2000	239.4	145.3	126.3	52.7	12.5	5.2	113.8	47.5
2001	222.0	160.3	139.9	63.0	14.4	6.5	125.4	56.5
2002	293.2	259.6	223.5	76.2	20.0	6.8	203.5	69.4
2003	396.7	393.9	352.0	88.7	37.7	9.5	314.4	79.2
2004	332.5	89.4	329.7	99.1	12.2	3.7	317.5	95.5
2005*	91.5	0.0	91.5	100.0	0.1	0.1	91.4	99.9
All companies	5,663.3	2,016.7	2,160.0	38.1	179.9	3.2	1,980.1	35.0

*To March 31 2005
- Fewer than 50 companies

Table A5*Percentage of companies on the register at 31 March 2005 by age since incorporation*

Percentage of companies	All companies	In liquidation/ course of removal	Effective register
10% of companies were incorporated in the last	0.6 years	1.3 years	0.5 years
20% " "	1.2 years	1.6 years	1.1 years
30% " "	1.8 years	2.4 years	1.8 years
40% " "	2.6 years	3.3 years	2.5 years
50% " "	3.8 years	4.6 years	3.7 years
60% " "	5.5 years	6.4 years	5.4 years
70% " "	8.0 years	9.0 years	7.9 years
80% " "	12.9 years	14.9 years	12.7 years
90% " "	22.1 years	23.4 years	22.0 years
Average Age	8.6 years	9.4 years	8.6 years
Number of Companies (000s)	2,160.0	179.9	1,980.1

Table A6*Companies on the register at 31 March 2005: Analysis of Accounting Reference Date (ARD) by period of incorporation*

Month of ARD	Thousands of companies						Total
	Period of incorporation						
	Up to 1969	1970 to 1979	1980 to 1989	1990 to 1999	2000 to 2003	Jan 04 to March 05	
January	3.9	3.0	5.7	20.1	37.5	44.4	114.6
February	2.5	2.2	4.2	18.8	35.1	49.7	112.5
March	23.7	18.6	62.6	112.0	172.1	85.3	474.3
April	7.3	5.7	12.1	43.4	65.7	27.0	161.2
May	3.0	3.1	6.9	27.3	51.7	22.2	114.2
June	6.9	6.1	14.2	42.6	63.9	27.0	160.8
July	2.8	2.9	6.8	29.3	59.4	25.7	126.9
August	2.9	3.1	7.0	27.7	54.2	24.5	119.5
September	8.0	6.6	14.6	42.0	68.9	29.3	169.5
October	3.4	3.6	7.4	29.1	62.7	24.7	130.9
November	2.0	2.1	4.5	22.6	50.1	25.7	107.0
December	31.6	21.4	46.9	112.8	120.3	35.7	368.8
Total	98.1	78.5	192.7	527.8	841.7	421.2	2,160.0

Table A7*Analysis of companies on the register at 31 March 2005 by issued share capital*

Issued share capital	England & Wales		Scotland		Great Britain	
	No. of companies 000s	Issued capital £m	No. of companies 000s	Issued capital £m	No. of companies 000s	Issued capital £m
No issued share capital	82.0	0.0	4.9	0.0	86.9	0.0
Up to £100	1,509.5	48.8	80.1	2.4	1,589.7	51.2
Over £100 & under £1,000	87.2	29.0	3.9	1.3	91.1	30.3
£1,000 & under £5,000	150.2	204.2	7.7	11.3	157.9	215.4
£5,000 & under £10,000	25.2	157.8	2.1	13.2	27.3	171.1
£10,000 & under £20,000	39.7	462.7	3.8	44.6	43.5	507.3
£20,000 & under £50,000	32.9	965.3	3.7	108.9	36.6	1,074.1
£50,000 & under £100,000	30.2	1,862.0	2.7	172.9	32.9	2,035.0
£100,000 & under £200,000	24.3	3,016.0	2.4	296.3	26.6	3,312.3
£200,000 & under £500,000	20.2	6,049.7	1.7	516.1	21.9	6,565.8
£500,000 & under £1m	11.1	7,332.9	0.9	605.5	12.0	7,938.4
£1m & over	31.8	1,697,378.0	1.8	79,847.8	33.6	1,777,225.8
Total	2,044.4	1,717,506.5	115.7	81,620.3	2,160.0	1,799,126.9

SECTION B**Table B1**

New incorporations of companies with share capital: analysed by amount of nominal capital, 2000-01 to 2004-05

Nominal share capital	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
England and Wales					
Up to £100	61.4	57.0	89.8	135.5	112.8
Over £100 & under £1,000	1.2	1.2	2.2	2.4	3.0
£1,000 & under £5,000	122.7	117.0	166.6	180.8	154.1
£5,000 & under £10,000	0.9	0.8	1.2	1.2	1.7
£10,000 & under £20,000	12.8	12.2	17.1	17.7	14.2
£20,000 & under £50,000	1.1	0.9	1.5	1.8	1.6
£50,000 & under £100,000	2.9	2.3	2.8	2.9	2.4
£100,000 & under £200,000	10.2	10.0	13.0	13.2	10.6
£200,000 & under £500,000	1.2	0.9	1.4	1.3	1.0
£500,000 & under £1m	1.1	1.0	1.4	1.3	1.2
£1m & over	5.7	4.6	5.6	5.8	6.4
Companies with share capital	221.2	207.9	302.6	363.9	309.0
Companies without share capital	5.0	5.3	6.2	7.5	8.4
Scotland					
Up to £100	4.3	4.3	5.9	6.6	5.6
Over £100 & under £1,000	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
£1,000 & under £5,000	4.4	4.4	6.4	7.4	6.8
£5,000 & under £10,000	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
£10,000 & under £20,000	1.0	0.9	1.4	1.5	1.2
£20,000 & under £50,000	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
£50,000 & under £100,000	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3
£100,000 & under £200,000	0.8	0.9	1.5	1.4	1.1
£200,000 & under £500,000	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
£500,000 & under £1m	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.5
Companies with share capital	11.4	11.6	16.6	18.4	15.9
Companies without share capital	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5

– Fewer than 50 companies

Nominal share capital includes sterling equivalent of foreign currency

Table B2*Analysis of companies incorporated in 2004-05 by issued share capital*

Issued share capital	England & Wales		Scotland		Great Britain	
	No. of companies 000s	Issued capital £m	No. of companies 000s	Issued capital £m	No. of companies 000s	Issued capital £m
No issued share capital	22.2	0.0	0.6	0.0	22.7	0.0
Up to £100	265.0	5.7	14.6	0.3	279.6	6.0
Over £100 & under £1,000	8.4	2.5	0.4	0.1	8.8	2.7
£1,000 & under £5,000	16.5	17.9	0.7	0.7	17.2	18.7
£5,000 & under £10,000	0.6	3.4	0.0	0.2	0.6	3.6
£10,000 & under £20,000	1.3	14.4	0.1	0.6	1.4	15.0
£20,000 & under £50,000	0.6	16.7	0.1	1.6	0.6	18.3
£50,000 & under £100,000	0.8	47.1	–	1.8	0.8	48.9
£100,000 & over	1.9	29,532.6	0.1	123.6	2.0	29,656.2
Total	317.3	29,640.4	16.5	128.9	333.7	29,769.3

– Fewer than 50 companies

Table B3*Companies incorporated in 2004–05 with an issued capital of £50 million and over*

	£ million Nominal Capital	£ million Issued Capital
140 Park Lane (No.4) Limited	110	110
A.S.D.A. Cooperation Limited	250	250
Aegis Portman Holdings Limited	500	138
Allied Domecq Atlantic Investment Limited	1,294	792
Allied Domecq Investment Holdings Limited	2,500	952
Allied Domecq Spirits & Wine Investments Holdings Limited	2,500	2,000
American Express Holdings Limited	2,000	101
Arleston Limited	400	355
Augustus 2 Limited	104	104
Avon UK Holdings Limited	500	396
Barh Limited	60	56
BF Properties (No.4) Limited	141	141
BF Properties (No.5) Limited	140	140
BF VII Limited	600	520
Bradford & Bingley Funding No 4 Limited	650	650
Bskyb Investments Limited	6,000	4,643
Burford Zeta Limited	223	223
Cadbury Schweppes Us Investments Limited	3,000	336
Caterpillar Overseas Limited	105	105
Cemex Uk Limited	500	222
Centrica Epsilon Limited	1,000	515
Chelsea Harbour Finance Two Limited	73	73
Cineworld Group Limited	209	209
Colorcon European Financial Holdings (No.1) Limited	186	185
Colorcon European Financial Holdings (No.2) Limited	186	185
Colorcon European Holdings (No.1) Limited	140	137
Colorcon European Holdings (No.2) Limited	62	62
Colorcon European Holdings (No.3) Limited	62	62
Fair Isaac Uk Group Limited	150	126

Companies in 2004–2005

First Media & Entertainment Bank Limited	3,000	300
First Property Bank Limited	3,000	300
GE Money Home Lending Finance Limited	720	465
GE Money Home Lending Holdings Limited	610	510
GE Money Home Lending Investments Limited	359	274
Goldcase Development Company Limited	100	50
Grainger European Financing Limited	220	200
Harewood Investments No. 3 Limited	1,501	1,501
Harewood Investments No. 4 Limited	3,003	78
Heinz Europe Holdings Limited	3,000	1,979
HG Swaps (Number 2) Limited	200	139
HGT Company Limited	200	174
Kaysail Limited	500	236
KCC International Plc	100	81
Liberty (Rsph) No.4 Limited	60	60
Linx Acquisition Limited	89	89
Macquarie UK Broadcast Holdings Limited	317	317
Manlock Investments Limited	350	335
MCD Europe Limited	70	65
MIP Group Limited	150	70
MKW Holdco 1 Limited	250	79
News Printers Assets Limited	225	225
NGT Three Limited	2,000	1,381
Novelis Europe Holdings Limited	145	145
Pajen Limited	150	70
Peel Acquisitions (Ports) Limited	93	81
Peel Acquisitions Limited	894	675
Proctor & Gamble Holdings (UK) Limited	100	100
Project Salt Two UK Limited	750	76
Prudential Farnborough Limited	100	52
Queens Moat Houses Finance Number 1 Limited	200	150
Regus H Holdings Limited	278	106
Rhyme (UK) Limited	440	220
RLG With Profit Holdings Limited	83	83
Securicor Finance Limited	100	100
Sonic Finance Holdings Limited	110	107
Spice Island Group Limited	100	100
Strabor Investments Limited	75	69
Stroud Nad Swindon Funding Company (No.2) Limited	200	134
Sun Life of Canada UK Limited	1,100	470
The Luxury Club Limited	1,500	1,500
Unigraphics Solutions Holdings (UK) Limited	100	57
W.E.S. Investments Limited	160	149
Westark Properties Limited	150	110
WRG Finance Plc	121	121
	50,617	27,369

Share Capital Includes Sterling Equivalent of Foreign Currency

SECTION C – REMOVALS FROM THE REGISTER AND LIQUIDATIONS**Table C1***Companies removed from the registers 2000-01 to 2004-05*

	Thousands of companies									
	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	Apr-Jun 2004	Jul-Sep 2004	Oct-Dec 2004	Jan-Mar 2005	
Great Britain										
Struck off and dissolved	138.2	149.2	166.4	161.9	174.8	43.5	44.5	43.2	43.6	
Wound up voluntarily or subject to the supervision of the Court under the Companies Acts	16.4	14.9	15.6	16.6	16.8	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.2	
Total removed from the register	154.6	164.1	182.0	178.5	191.6	47.6	48.7	47.5	47.8	
Less:										
Restorations to the register	1.2	1.4	2.0	1.4	1.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	
Net total of removals	153.7	162.6	180.0	177.1	188.8	46.3	48.2	47.0	47.3	
England and Wales										
Struck off and dissolved	131.7	141.4	158.7	154.3	167.0	41.7	42.3	41.3	41.7	
Wound up voluntarily or subject to the supervision of the Court under the Companies Acts	15.8	14.2	14.9	15.7	15.8	3.8	3.9	4.1	4.0	
Total removed from the register	147.5	155.6	173.6	170.0	182.8	45.5	46.2	45.4	45.7	
Less:										
Restorations to the register	1.2	1.3	1.9	1.3	1.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	
Net total of removals	146.6	154.1	171.7	168.8	180.2	44.2	45.8	45.0	45.2	
Scotland										
Struck off and dissolved	6.4	7.8	7.7	7.5	7.8	1.8	2.2	1.9	1.9	
Wound up voluntarily or subject to the supervision of the Court under the Companies Acts	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	
Total removed from the register	7.1	8.5	8.4	8.4	8.8	2.1	2.4	2.1	2.2	
Less:										
Restorations to the register	–	–	0.1	0.1	0.1	–	–	–	–	
Net total of removals	7.1	8.5	8.3	8.4	8.7	2.1	2.4	2.0	2.2	

– Fewer than 50 companies

Table C2*Liquidations and receiverships notified, 2000-01 to 2004-05*

	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	Apr-Jun 2004	Jul-Sep 2004	Oct-Dec 2004	Jan-Mar 2005
Great Britain									
Compulsory liquidations	5,445	5,170	6,853	5,102	5,450	1,400	1,340	1,383	1,327
Creditors' voluntary liquidations	9,791	10,676	9,646	8,930	7,837	1,955	1,925	1,914	2,043
Admin Orders converted To Cred				13	361	18	39	100	204
Total insolvencies	15,236*	15,846*	16,499	14,032	13,648	3,373	3,304	3,397	3,574
Members' voluntary liquidations	2,785	2,744	2,964	2,702	3,311	630	763	1,205	713
Total liquidations	18,021*	18,590*	19,463	16,734	16,959	4,003	4,067	4,602	4,287
Receiverships notified	1,901	1,815	1,532	1,284	819	221	217	252	129
Administrator appointments **	482	753	641	931	1,786	401	430	460	495
Company voluntary arrangements	566	617	697	756	602	158	133	130	181
England and Wales									
Compulsory liquidations	5,074	4,724	6,319	4,696	4,996	1,295	1,226	1,277	1,198
Creditors' voluntary liquidations	9,549	10,446	9,437	8,724	7,661	1,917	1,870	1,875	1,999
Admin Orders converted To Cred				12	357	18	36	99	204
Total insolvencies	14,623*	15,170*	15,756	13,420	13,014	3,230	3,132	3,251	3,401
Members' voluntary liquidations	2,646	2,618	2,821	2,554	3,121	576	736	1,144	665
Total liquidations	17,269*	17,788*	18,577	15,974	16,135	3,806	3,868	4,395	4,066
Receiverships notified	1,790	1,720	1,412	1,171	756	201	203	238	114
Administrator appointments **	474	749	631	915	1,759	392	421	457	489
Company voluntary arrangements	565	616	695	745	595	154	132	130	179
Scotland									
Compulsory liquidations	371	446	534	406	454	105	114	106	129
Creditors' voluntary liquidations	242	230	209	206	176	38	55	39	44
Admin Orders converted To Cred				1	4	0	3	1	0
Total insolvencies	613	676	743	612	634	143	172	146	173
Members' voluntary liquidations	139	126	143	148	190	54	27	61	48
Total liquidations	752	802	886	760	824	197	199	207	221
Receiverships notified	111	95	120	113	63	20	14	14	15
Administrator appointments **	8	4	10	16	27	9	9	3	6
Company voluntary arrangements	1	1	2	11	7	4	1	0	2

* Figures amended since publication of 'Companies in 2001-02'

** From 2003/04 figures for Administrator Appointments include those filed under the Enterprise Act 2002

SECTION D – LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**Table D1***Disqualification Orders notified to the Secretary of State: 2000-01 to 2004-05*

Act and description	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Insolvency Act 2000					
s6* Disqualification of directors by Undertaking		1,213	1,275	1,154	967
Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986					
s2-5 Disqualification on conviction of indictable offence, for persistent breaches of companies legislation, for fraud in winding-up and on summary conviction	135	152	166	141	134
s6* Disqualification of unfit directors of insolvent companies	1,548	548	319	213	178
s8 Disqualification following investigation of companies	17	16	17	19	38
s10 Disqualification for wrongful trading	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1,770	1,929	1,777	1,527	1,317

Notes:

Courts are required to send details of orders made which disqualify a person taking part in the management of a company. Details of each disqualification order available for inspection by the public at Companies House in London, Cardiff and Edinburgh, and at the Royal Courts of Justice in London.

* Section 6 of the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986 was amended to incorporate Disqualification Undertakings following the Insolvency Act 2000. Disqualification Undertakings came into force from 1 April 2001. It allows the Secretary of State to accept disqualification undertaking from an individual without the need for the matter to be dealt with through the Courts.

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Companies Act 1985				
Section	Offence	Prosecutions	Convictions	Convictions not obtained
S216	Failure to comply with company notice under s212	1	0	1
S221	Failure to keep or preserve accounting records	53	21	32
S222	Failure to keep or preserve accounting records	44	13	31
S233	Being a Director of a Company approved accounts containing a material falsehood	8	0	8
S28	Company failing to change name on direction of SoS	8	5	3
S447	Failure to produce books and papers in compliance with section 447 authority	6	1	5
S458	Fraudulent trading	8	7	1
S652	False or misleading application to strike company off register	8	7	1
S652E	Breach or failure to perform duty imposed by s652B and 652C	3	1	2
Count for Companies Act 1985		139	55	84

Companies Act 1989				
Section	Offence	Prosecutions	Convictions	Convictions not obtained
S458		2	2	0
Count for Companies Act 1989		2	2	0

Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986				
Section	Offence	Prosecutions	Convictions	Convictions not obtained
S11	Undischarged bankrupt or disqualified director acting as a director or concerned in the management of a company	45	37	8
S11+13	Undischarged bankrupt or disqualified director acting as a director or concerned in the management of a company	33	22	11

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Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986				
Section	Offence	Prosecutions	Convictions	Convictions not obtained
S13	Undischarged bankrupt or disqualified director acting as a director or concerned in the management of a company	12	7	5
Count for Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986		90	66	24

Insolvency Act 1986				
Section	Offence	Prosecutions	Convictions	Convictions not obtained
S206	Fraud etc in anticipation of winding-up	18	4	14
S208	Misconduct in course of winding-up	30	8	22
S210	Material omissions from statement relating to company's affairs	4	4	0
S216	Contravention of restrictions on re-use of company name on insolvent liquidation	46	28	18
S235	Failure to co-operate with office holder	45	14	31
Count for Insolvency Act 1986		143	58	85

Total Count	374	181	193
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All Prosecutions of Companies Act Offences	
Magistrate Court Hearings and Crown Court Trials	61
Number of Individuals Convicted	46
All Cases in Table	
Magistrate Court Hearings and Crown Court Trials	140
Number of Individuals Convicted	121

Table D3*Prosecutions by the Department under the Companies Act 1985*

Section Offence	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
England & Wales					
242(1) and Failure to deliver Accounts					
242(2) (No. of Offences)					
Prosecutions	2,133	2,544	3,141	3,400	4,558
Convictions	1,013	1,238	1,613	1,921	2,675
% convictions	47.5%	48.7%	51.4%	56.5%	58.7%
Number adjourned to a later hearing date	87	128	83	147	209
Number of charges where a conviction was not obtained	940	1,139	1,354	1,366	1,704
363(3) and Failure to deliver Annual Returns					
363(4) (No. of Offences)					
Prosecutions	1,022	1,023	1,259	1,820	2,266
Convictions	429	438	574	955	1,209
% convictions	42.0%	42.8%	45.6%	52.5%	53.4%
Number adjourned to a later hearing date	20	45	32	65	73
Number of charges where a conviction was not obtained	520	534	621	776	959
Number of directors involved in proceedings	1,670	2,102	2,146	2,548	3,477
Number of directors convicted	760	900	1,088	1,396	1,880
% directors convicted	45.5%	42.8%	50.7%	54.8%	54.1%
Number of companies involved in proceedings	1,245	1,580	1,676	1,947	2,597
Number of companies in which directors convicted	607	715	873	1,131	1,514
% companies in which directors convicted	48.8%	45.3%	52.1%	58.1%	58.3%
Scotland					
242(1) and Failure to deliver Accounts					
242(2) (No. of Offences)					
Prosecutions	403	383	536	378	465
Convictions	40	16	84	49	48
% convictions	9.9%	4.2%	15.7%	13.0%	10.3%
Number adjourned to a later hearing date	0	0	0	0	0
Number of charges where a conviction was not obtained	363	367	400	332	380
363(3) and Failure to deliver Annual Returns					
363(4) (No. of Offences)					
Prosecutions	326	307	335	269	281
Convictions	32	5	45*	19	26
% convictions	9.8%	1.6%	0.0%	7.1%	9.3%
Number adjourned to a later hearing date	0	0	0	0	0
Number of charges where a conviction was not obtained	294	302	242	249	313
Number of directors involved in proceedings	871	486	1,142	828	929
Number of directors convicted	68	18	109	64	74
% directors convicted	7.8%	3.7%	9.5%	7.7%	8.0%
Number of companies involved in proceedings	621	390	829	600	693
Number of companies in which directors convicted	62	17	85	47	59
% companies in which directors convicted	10.0%	4.3%	10.3%	7.8%	8.5%

Notes:

1) The majority of charges where convictions were not obtained was as a result of the annual returns and accounts being filed and the prosecutions not proceeded with.

2) A number of prosecutions dealt with in the above were started before April 2004

* Includes 20 Companies convicted

Table D4

*Applications made to the Department in 2004-05 under miscellaneous provisions of the Companies Act 1985**

Section	Nature of application	Number of applications					
		Outstanding at 1 April 2004	Received	Approved	Not proceeded with	Refused	Outstanding at 31 March 2005
28(1)	Approval of change of name	148	67,654	56,819	10,494	294	195
28(2)	Direction to change name which is too like that of an existing company	227	729	291	23	371	271
28(3)	Direction to change name because of misleading information or unfulfilled assurances	2	17	1	0	18	0
32	Direction to abandon misleading name	2	1	0	1	2	0
225(4)	Exemption from restrictions on extending a company's accounting reference period	1	84	32	0	52	1
244(5)	Extension of the time allowed for laying and delivering accounts	0	8,010	2,686	0	5,324	0
367(1)	Direction to call general meeting of a company	0	1	0	0	1	0
387(1)	Direction appointing an auditor of a company	0	0	0	0	0	0
231(3)	Exemption from a holding company disclosing certain details in notes to a company's accounts	0	2	0	0	2	0

Notes

* As amended by the Companies Act 1989

SECTION E OTHER COMPANIES AND BUSINESSES

Table E1

Registrations in 2004-05 of companies not registered under the Companies Act 1985. Companies incorporated outside Great Britain which have established a place of business in Great Britain and register documents under Part XXIII of the Companies Act 1985

	Where incorporated	New Registrations	Registrations closed	Registered at 31 March 2005
Rest of UK	Isle of Man	4	14	471
	Channel Islands	72	30	479
	Northern Ireland	2	14	92
Rest of EC	Netherlands	63	25	448
	Germany	21	13	304
	Republic of Ireland	25	17	291
	France	13	10	189
	Belgium	11	15	123
	Italy	9	10	80
	Spain	12	3	71
	Luxembourg	5	5	54
	Sweden	6	26	44
	Denmark	4	2	43
	Cyprus	9	0	35
	Finland	5	2	24
	Austria	4	0	21
	Greece	2	0	15
	Poland	1	0	10
	Malta	0	0	5
	Czech Republic	1	0	4
	Hungary	1	0	4
	Slovenia	0	0	2
	Lithuania	0	0	1
Slovakia	0	0	1	
Portugal	0	0	0	
Commonwealth	Cayman Islands	63	8	248
	India	28	19	230
	Canada	12	16	150
	Australia	15	15	144
	Gibraltar	5	7	115
	Bermuda	9	5	88
	Bahamas	6	8	69
	Singapore	6	2	42
	Nigeria	1	1	40
	South Africa	7	9	36
	New Zealand	3	2	34
	Malaysia	0	0	19
	Pakistan	1	0	19
	Zimbabwe	0	0	14
	Ghana	0	1	13
	Bangladesh	0	0	9
	Jamaica	0	0	8
	Turks & Caicos	0	0	5
	Zambia	0	0	4
	Kenya	0	1	3
	Other Commonwealth	9	4	67

Rest of World	USA	164	137	2,381
	Japan	12	21	217
	Virgin Islands	29	12	178
	Switzerland	5	6	100
	Hong Kong	5	0	80
	South Korea	2	5	68
	Panama	3	3	64
	China (People's Republic)	7	3	48
	Norway	5	1	36
	Liberia	0	2	32
	Russia	2	5	29
	Iran	5	2	25
	Turkey	4	1	23
	El Salvador	1	1	18
	Netherlands Antilles	0	0	18
	Taiwan	3	0	14
	Israel	3	3	13
	Liechtenstein	0	1	12
	Brazil	2	2	11
	United Arab Emirates	0	1	11
	Kuwait	0	1	10
	Saudi Arabia	0	1	9
	Philippines	2	2	5
	Mexico	1	0	4
	Bahrain	0	0	3
	Indonesia	0	0	3
	Lebanon	0	1	3
Thailand	0	2	3	
Others	6	8	80	
Summary	Rest of UK	78	58	1,042
	Rest of EC	192	128	1,769
	Commonwealth	165	98	1,357
	Rest of World	261	221	3,498
Total	696	505	7,666	

Table E2*Limited partnerships registered under the Limited Partnerships Act 1907*

	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Great Britain					
New registrations	1,078	928	894	1,000	1,245
Dissolution	46	9	63	82	155
Number on register at end of period	8,619	9,538	10,369	11,287	12,377
England and Wales					
New registrations	675	536	553	716	980
Dissolution	1	0	5	3	4
Number on register at end of period	4,856	5,392	5,940	6,653	7,629
Scotland					
New registrations	403	392	341	284	265
Dissolution	45	9	58	79	151
Number on register at end of period	3,763	4,146	4,429	4,634	4,748

Table E3*Other companies and types of business administered by Companies House*

	New registrations 2004-05	Registrations closed in 2004-05	Number registered at 31 March 2005
Great Britain			
Assurance companies	0	2	928
Companies incorporated other than under the Companies Acts:			
Industrial & Provident Societies	135	169	9,521
Incorporated by Royal Charter	0	1	793
Special Acts of Parliament	0	1	50
Newspaper and Libel Act 1881 ⁽¹⁾	35	0	384
European Economic Interest Groupings: ⁽²⁾			
Principal establishment in GB	4	0	185
Principal establishment outside UK	0	0	4
European Public Limited Liability Companies ⁽³⁾ (Societas Europaeas)	1	0	1

(1) The Registrar of Companies is not empowered to close the records of companies registered under this Act
This figure includes 281 inactive registrations

(2) Registered under the European Economic Interest Grouping Regulations 1989 (SI 1989 No 638)

(3) Registered under the European Company Statute and European Public Limited Liability Company Regulation 2004, which came into effect 08/10/04

Table E4*Limited Liability Partnerships registered under Section 2 of the Limited Liability Partnership Act 2000*

	New Registrations in 2004-05	Registrations closed in 2004-05	Number registered at 31 March 2005
Great Britain	5,191	660	11,924
England and Wales	4,959	635	11,379
Scotland	232	25	545

Table E5*Compliance rates for annual returns and accounts for Limited Liability Partnerships*

	Number of companies %age of effective register		
	Average June 02– March 03	Average April 03– March 04	Average April 04– March 05
Great Britain			
Effective register	3,360	5,542	8,952
Companies up-to-date in filing:			
Annual returns	3,171 94.4%	4,884 88.1%	7,426 83.0%
Accounts	3,340 99.4%	5,153 93.0%	7,839 87.6%
England & Wales			
Effective register	3,205	5,279	8,535
Companies up-to-date in filing:			
Annual returns	3,021 94.3%	4,643 88.0%	7,061 82.7%
Accounts	3,186 99.4%	4,902 92.9%	7,460 87.4%
Scotland			
Effective register	155	263	417
Companies up-to-date- in filing:			
Annual returns	150 96.8%	241 91.6%	365 87.5%
Accounts	154 99.4%	251 95.4%	379 90.9%

SECTION F – WORKLOAD OF COMPANIES HOUSE

Table F1*Number of documents filed at Companies House, 2000-01 to 2004-05*

	Thousands								
	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	Apr-Jun 2004	Jul-Sep 2004	Oct-Dec 2004	Jan-Mar 2005
Great Britain									
New registrations	236	225	322	394	334	81	82	77	94
Changes of name	64	59	60	62	57	14	14	14	15
Annual returns	1,187	1,260	1,299	1,477	1,612	408	392	400	412
Annual accounts	1,061	1,144	1,188	1,299	1,427	305	329	388	405
Mortgage documents	223	188	192	212	228	65	54	53	56
Liquidation documents	171	172	133	131	130	33	33	33	31
Other statutory documents*	2,996	3,014	3,367	3,309	2,874	730	715	705	724
England & Wales									
New registrations	224	213	305	375	317	76	78	74	89
Changes of name	60	55	56	59	53	13	13	13	14
Annual returns	1,122	1,191	1,228	1,396	1,524	385	371	380	388
Annual accounts	1,003	1,082	1,124	1,227	1,349	289	310	368	382
Mortgage documents	212	175	178	197	213	62	50	49	52
Liquidation documents	168	168	129	128	127	32	33	32	30
Other statutory documents*	2,847	2,856	3,197	3,139	2,716	690	677	668	681
Scotland									
New registrations	12	12	17	19	17	4	4	4	5
Changes of name	4	4	4	4	4	1	1	1	1
Annual returns	65	69	72	82	88	22	21	21	24
Annual accounts	58	62	65	72	79	17	18	21	23
Mortgage documents	11	13	14	15	15	4	4	3	4
Liquidation documents	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	1	1
Other statutory documents*	149	157	170	170	157	40	38	36	43

* Other statutory documents consist largely of changes of director and of registered office address, capital documents and resolutions

Table F2*Annual accounts registered at Companies House by type. 2000-01 to 2004-05***Thousands and percentages**

	2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05	
	000s	%age	000s	%age	000s	%age	000s	%age	000s	%age
Great Britain										
Full	406.7	38.4	230.3	20.1	168.3	14.2	163.9	12.9	153.6	10.8
Abbreviated:										
Small	444.8	41.9	187.1	16.4	98.5	8.3	99.7	7.8	85.1	6.0
Medium	8.1	0.8	8.6	0.8	9.5	0.8	11.0	0.9	9.8	0.7
Group	15.9	1.5	16.3	1.4	16.4	1.4	16.6	1.3	16.7	1.2
Dormant	184.5	17.4	214.9	18.8	219.1	18.4	256.0	20.1	277.5	19.5
Interim/initial	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.0
Audit Exempt			486.6	42.5	676.3	56.9	723.7	56.9	882.5	61.9
Total	1,060.4	100.0	1,144.1	100.0	1,188.4	100.0	1,271.3	100.0	1,425.4	100.0
England & Wales										
Full	387.9	38.7	218.9	20.2	159.3	14.2	155.0	12.9	145.1	10.8
Abbreviated:										
Small	417.0	41.6	175.1	16.2	92.0	8.2	93.1	7.8	79.2	5.9
Medium	7.5	0.7	7.9	0.7	8.8	0.8	10.2	0.8	9.1	0.7
Group	15.0	1.5	15.4	1.4	15.5	1.4	15.7	1.3	15.7	1.2
Dormant	175.3	17.5	204.0	18.9	207.1	18.4	243.0	20.2	263.5	19.5
Interim/initial	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.0
Audit Exempt			460.4	42.6	640.5	57.0	683.6	56.9	835.1	62.0
Total	1,003.0	100.0	1,082.0	100.0	1,123.5	100.0	1,200.9	100.0	1,347.9	100.0
Scotland										
Full	18.8	32.8	11.4	18.4	9.0	13.9	8.9	12.6	8.5	11.0
Abbreviated:										
Small	27.8	48.5	12.0	19.3	6.5	10.0	6.6	9.4	5.9	7.6
Medium	0.6	1.0	0.7	1.1	0.7	1.1	0.8	1.1	0.7	0.9
Group	0.9	1.6	0.9	1.4	0.9	1.4	0.9	1.3	1.0	1.3
Dormant	9.2	16.1	10.9	17.6	12.0	18.5	13.0	18.5	14.0	18.1
Interim/initial	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
Audit Exempt			26.2	42.2	35.8	55.2	40.1	57.0	47.4	61.2
Total	57.3	100.0	62.1	100.0	64.9	100.0	70.4	100.0	77.5	100.0

In 2001-02 full and abbreviated accounts which claim audit exemption are classified as audit exempt accounts. For earlier years they have been classed as full accounts or abbreviated accounts, as appropriate.

Table F3*Compliance rates for annual returns and accounts, 2000-01 to 2004-05*

	Average April 00– March 01	Average April 01– March 02	Average April 02– March 03	Average April 03– March 04	Average April 04– March 05
Great Britain					
Effective register	1,405	1,455	1,545	1,742	1,899
Companies up-to-date in filing:					
Annual returns	1,315 93.6%	1,377 94.7%	1,465 94.8%	1,656 95.0%	1,807 95.1%
Accounts	1,336 95.1%	1,388 95.4%	1,476 95.5%	1,670 95.8%	1,821 95.9%
England & Wales					
Effective register	1,330	1,376	1,462	1,648	1,797
Companies up-to-date- in filing:					
Annual returns	1,244 93.5%	1,302 94.6%	1,384 94.7%	1,565 94.9%	1,709 95.1%
Accounts	1,264 95.0%	1,313 95.4%	1,396 95.5%	1,579 95.8%	1,723 95.9%
Scotland					
Effective register	75	79	84	94	102
Companies up-to-date- in filing:					
Annual returns	71 94.7%	75 95.8%	81 96.1%	91 96.3%	98 96.2%
Accounts	72 96.0%	75 95.5%	80 96.0%	91 96.4%	98 96.3%

Table F4*Civil Penalties for the late filing of accounts by limited companies 2004-05**

Late Filing Penalties – Number and Value of Penalties Issued						
Period Overdue	Private Companies			Public Companies		
	Penalty Band £	Number	Value (£m)	Penalty Band £	Number	Value (£m)
England and Wales						
0–3 months	100	118,614	11.86	500	974	0.49
3–6 months	250	32,545	8.14	1,000	204	0.20
6–12 months	500	22,149	11.07	2,000	133	0.27
Over 12 months	1,000	6,731	6.73	5,000	47	0.24
Total		180,039	37.80		1,358	1.19
Scotland						
0–3 months	100	6,280	0.63	500	27	0.01
3–6 months	250	2,074	0.52	1,000	3	-
6–12 months	500	918	0.46	2,000	2	-
Over 12 months	1,000	244	0.25	5,000	0	-
Total		9,516	1.85		32	0.02

* In accordance with section 242A of the Companies Act 1985 as amended by the Companies Act 1989, which came into force on 1 July 1992.

– less than £5,000.

Table F5*Searches of company records at Companies House, 2000-01 to 2004-05*

	Thousands								
	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	Apr-Jun 2004	Jul-Sep 2004	Oct-Dec 2004	Jan-Mar 2005
Public Searches:									
London	160	75	25	4	2	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.5
Cardiff	291	199	79	31	21	6.3	5.5	4.6	4.2
Edinburgh	40	30	13						
Postal Searches:									
Cardiff	80	58	23	7	1	0.6	0.1	0.1	-
Edinburgh	9	8	5						
Image Searches:	1,555	1,475	1,952	2,280	2,608	582	617	648	761
Total	2,135	1,845	2,097	2,322	2,631	590	623	653	766
Searches per live company	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4

Note: Search volumes are for microfiche based products and exclude computer and rollfilm products.
 Searches for Edinburgh are now dealt with by Companies House Cardiff.

- Fewer than 50.

SECTION G – FINANCE**Table G1***Companies House: analysis of fee income, 2000-01 to 2004-05*

	£million				
	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
England and Wales					
Annual Returns	16.91	17.64	18.52	20.60	24.47
Mortgage Registrations	1.90	1.49	1.44	1.70	1.78
Incorporations	5.36	4.96	6.73	7.90	6.50
Changes of name	1.36	1.12	0.97	1.00	0.94
Searches	10.82	12.33	13.50	13.10	13.01
Copies and certificates	0.61	0.67	0.79	0.90	0.89
Other income	2.86	1.45	0.48	1.40	0.49
Dissolution	0.76	0.86	0.94	1.00	1.09
Limited Liability Partnership		0.19	0.28	0.30	0.49
Total income	40.58	40.71	43.65	48.00	49.66
Scotland					
Annual Returns	1.00	1.00	1.08	1.20	1.30
Mortgage Registrations	0.02	0.10	0.17	0.20	0.16
Incorporations	0.28	0.19	0.37	0.40	0.40
Changes of name	0.08	0.04	0.07	0.10	0.10
Searches	0.42	0.09	0.11	0.10	0.13
Copies and certificates	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.10	0.11
Other income	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dissolution	0.05	0.05	0.03	0.00	0.04
Limited Liability Partnership		0.00	0.01	0.10	0.11
Total income	1.91	1.48	1.85	2.20	2.35

Table G2*Late Filing Penalties 2004-05*

Costs incurred by Companies House in administering the system of Late Filing Penalties (£m)	Salaries/ Staff Costs	Accommodation	Other Costs	Total Costs*	Reimburse- ments**	Net Expenditure
Companies House	0.9	–	2.2	3.1	3.10	0

Notes:

* The costs include administration and collection of penalties in accordance with Section 242A of the Companies Act 1985 as amended by Companies Act 1989, which came into force on 1 July 1992.

** Funds received from DTI to cover the costs incurred by Companies House in operating the system.

Income from collecting the penalties was £32.0 million (all of which has been remitted to HM Treasury).

Table G3*Company law and insider dealing: cost of administration and income 2004-05*

	Salaries/ Staff Costs	Accommo- dation	Other Costs	Total Costs	Income	£(m) Net Expenditure
Company Law Directorate						
Investigations and Enforcement Directorate (b)						
Companies House (d)	28.04	6.93	20.36	55.33	56.86	1.53
Financial Reporting Council						
Total						

Notes:

- (a) Includes the cost of the Legal Services Directorate in respect of company law work.
- (b) Investigations and Enforcement Directorate ceased to exist on 16 January 1998 and Companies Investigations Branch transferred to Company Law and Investigations Directorate.
- (c) Includes payments to Inspectors appointed under sections 431, 432 and 442 of the Companies Act 1985 (£ million), outside Investigators appointed under section 447 of the Companies Act 1985 (£ million), payments to external Inspectors appointed under section 177 of the Financial Services Act 1986 (£ million), and payments to Treasury Solicitor, agents Solicitors, Counsel and for witness expenses associated with prosecution work (£ million).
- (d) Companies House's figures do not include late filing penalties costs or reimbursements, please refer to Table G2.

Winding Up Orders Obtained During the Year

3T COMMUNITY LIMITED

A & M TRANSPORT (MARCH) LIMITED

ADMUS EUROPE PLC

ALCROFT LIMITED

ARRIANNE LIMITED

BICKFORD PROPERTIES LIMITED

BITWEB LIMITED

BLUE TRAFFIC (EUROPE) LTD

BM SECURITIES LIMITED

BORDEAUX ESTATES LIMITED

CALLCUTTER COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED

CANA LIMITED

CAR AUDIO WAREHOUSE LTD (comp liq)

CERTIFICATED COLLECTORS LIMITED

CHAFFORD INSURANCE CONSULTANTS LIMITED

CHARTER INTERNATIONAL UK LIMITED

CHARTERLINE SERVICES LIMITED

CHIPPENHAM CAR AUDIO CENTRE LTD

CHURCHILL WINES LIMITED

CLOUDLINE DESIGN & GRAPHICS LIMITED

COFFEE CAPRI LIMITED

COOLBREEZENET LTD

CORPORATE ASSET DISPOSAL LIMITED

COUNTRYWIDE ENTERPRISES UK LIMITED

CREDIT FIRST BULLION LIMITED

DATABASE APPLICATIONS LIMITED

DIRECT TRADE SERVICES LIMITED

DISCOVERY CONCEPTS LIMITED
DISTRESS PROPERTIES INCORPORATED LIMITED
DOWNTOWN MANAGEMENT LIMITED
DRIVERTIME RECRUITMENT LIMITED
DST LIMITED
EASY DEBT (MANAGEMENT) LIMITED
ECHO BEACH VACATIONS LTD (comp liq)
EQUITY OPTIONS LIMITED
EUROPA BUILDING NORTHERN LTD
EUROPA BUILDING NORTHERN LTD
EUROPA PROPERTY COMPANY LTD
EUROPA PROPERTY COMPANY LTD
EUROPEAN GLASS BUILD LTD
EUROPE-UK ELECTRONICS LIMITED
EXTENSA SERVICES LIMITED
FINANCETRACK LIMITED
GOLDWAY MANAGEMENT(NORTHERN) LIMITED
HARBOROUGH LIMITED
HEATHURST LIMITED
HOLLYWELL TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED
ISRACO LETTINGS LIMITED
J.N.K. EIPE LIMITED
JTX ASSOCIATES LIMITED
KMA COMPUTERS LIMITED
KRISMA PLC
LANDSTAR SECURITIES LTD
LIQUORICE MIX LTD
MEGATON LIMITED
MICRONET INTERACTIVE LIMITED
MIDSHIRES LIVESTOCK LIMITED
MOTOR-DISCOUNTS LIMITED
MULTIMEDIA EUROPE LIMITED

MURTON PROPERTIES LIMITED
NEOWEB LIMITED
NESHER MARKETING SYSTEMS LIMITED
NEW OPENINGS PLC
NEWFORM IND. LTD
NIGHTVIEW LIMITED
NORTHMERE PROPERTIES LIMITED
NWIP LIMITED
ODYSSEY DEVELOPMENT SYSTEMS (UK) LIMITED
OFFSHORE TRADING INVESTMENTS LIMITED
OKAPI LIMITED
ONETON LIMITED
ORCHIGOLD LIMITED
ORIENTAL LIMITED
PACTDALE LIMITED
PEACHEY PROPERTIES LIMITED
PEACHEY PROPERTIES LIMITED
POWER CRICKET LTD
PRIME GOLDBANK LIMITED
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WINESTORE (UK) LIMITED

WIZARD INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

YORKSHIRE BOOST LIMITED

ZAMLON (BRADFORD) LIMITED

ZAMLON LIMITED

ZIDON COMPUTING LIMITED

Disqualification Orders Obtained During the Year

Artistic Impressions Limited	Longmuir, James	5 Years
Berger & Company Plc	Armstrong, Ian	6 Years
Berger & Company Plc	Lademacher, Filip	13 Years
Berger & Company Plc	Stirrat, David	6 Years
Blue Water Partners Limited	Lee, David Cyril	10 Years
Business Services Corporation (Uk) Limited	Slater, Mark R	6 Years
Emess Plc	Singer, Nigel David	6 Years
F.G.S. Flume (Uk) Ltd	Fox, Colin Michael	2 Years
F.G.S. Flume (Uk) Ltd	Fox, Richard John	12 Years
Hever Racing Club Plc	Francombe, John	2 Years
Hever Worldwide Properties Plc	Popely, John Henry	8 Years
Homewatch Uk Limited	Horwell, Stuart Ronald	10 Years
Infinity Lifestyles Ltd	Darrall, Christopher Stafford	10 Years
Infinity Lifestyles Ltd	Newman, Peter Kenneth	10 Years
Intrepid Marketing Limited	Dawson, Gary John	10 Years
Intrepid Marketing Limited	Dawson, Julie Elizabeth	6 Years
Intrepid Marketing Limited	Grant, Sandra Caroline	8 Years
Plumb Publications Company Limited	Grant-Parkes, Charles	8 Years
Plumb Publications Company Limited	Grant-Parkes, Charles	8 Years
Plumb Publications Company Limited	Grant-Parkes, James	8 Years
Queens Moat Houses Limited	Bairstow, John	6 Years
Somerville Leisure Plc	Harris, Andrew John	9 Years
Somerville Leisure Plc	Patterson, John	12 Years
Transtec Plc	Munday, Peter John	3 Years
Transtec Plc	Parkin, Richard John	4 Years 6 Months
Transtec Plc	Summerfield Peter Humphrey	3 Years 6 Months
V.T.A Ltd	Marfleet, Charles Toby	4 Years
V.T.A Ltd	Marfleet, Charles Richard	4 Years

Contact Points

1. Company Law Review, and resulting legislation to modernise company law:
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3. Accounting requirements, including EC directives on accounts, ie Fourth and Seventh Directives (including extension to partnerships etc and exemptions for small companies), review of law on partnerships; review of accounting disclosures, particularly for small companies; dormant companies; company law issues affecting Gibraltar; Limited Liability Partnerships; audit threshold; small and medium company thresholds:
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4. Auditors and audit requirements including EU Committee on Auditing; Coordinating Group on Audit and Accounting Issues; Eighth Company Law Directive – Part II of the Companies Act 1989; Professional Liability:
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5. First and Second Company Law Directives on co-ordination of safeguards for shareholders and others; prospective Tenth Directive concerning crossborder mergers of plcs; proposed Thirteenth Directive on takeover bids; prospective Fourteenth Directive on transfer of registered office:
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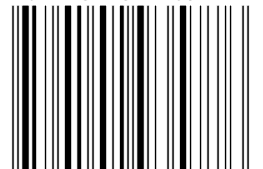
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