



Sovereign Health Care

Solvency and Financial Condition Report
For the year ending 31 December 2022

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1. COMPANY DETAILS

Company Number:	00085588
Firm Reference Number:	202818
Registered Office:	The Waterfront 2 nd Floor, West Wing Salts Mill Road Shipley BD17 7EZ
Registered Auditors:	BDO 55 Baker Street London W1U 7EU
Bankers:	Handelsbanken plc 1 st Floor Centre of Excellence Hope Park Bradford BD5 8HH
Solicitors:	Gordons LLP 1 New Augustus Street Bradford BD1 5LL
Investment Managers:	Torevell & Partners 5 Oxford Court Manchester M2 3WQ
Internal Audit:	Naylor Wintersgill Carlton House Grammar School Street Bradford BD1 4NS
Regulators:	Prudential Regulation Authority 20 Moorgate London EC2R 6DA Financial Conduct Authority 12 Endeavour Square London E20 1JN

2. DIRECTORS' STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY

The Directors are responsible for preparing the SFCR in accordance with the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) rules and Solvency II regulations.

The PRA Rulebook for SII firms in Rule 6.1(2) and Rule 6.2(1) of the Reporting Part requires that the Company must have in place a written policy ensuring ongoing appropriateness of any information disclosed and that the Company must ensure that its SFCR is subject to approval by the Directors.

Each of the Directors, whose names and functions are listed in the Board of Directors section of the Report and Accounts, confirm that, to the best of their knowledge:

1. Throughout the financial year in question, the Company has complied in all material respects with the requirements of the PRA rules and SII Regulations as applicable; and
2. It is reasonable to believe that, as at the date of the publication of the SFCR, the Company continues to comply, and will continue so to comply in future.

By Order of the Board on 29th March 2023.



Russ Piper
Chief Executive

3. ABOUT SOVEREIGN HEALTH CARE

3.1 Our Purpose

Sovereign Health Care was founded in 1873 as the Bradford and District Hospital Fund with the purpose of raising funds for local hospitals. Whilst it has evolved over the years, we remain a not for profit/not for dividend provider of health care cash plans to around 67,500 individuals. The range of health cash plans are low cost, monthly renewable policies with the purpose of financially supporting our customers when they incur everyday health care costs.

The following principles remain core to the business;

- To remain an independent company and provider of individual and company health care cash plans
- To grow our customer numbers in a profitable manner
- To be able to gift the equivalent of between 5% and 10% of annual turnover each year in charitable donations from investment returns, subject to sufficient capital funds available
- To deliver value for money and useable products to its customers
- To remain a low compliance risk to our regulators

In addition to the provision of cash plans to individuals, Sovereign has signed key strategic partnerships with carefully selected third party providers of complementary products in order to expand the benefit offering to the current and future customer base.

The businesses, UK only, core operations and profitability remain firmly based in cash plans. Sovereign Health Care offer a number of products which generally fall into two types of schemes which are either funded by individuals from their own means or provided by employers.

The Health Care Cash Plan gives access to over 20 types of benefit, with cover for dental and optical treatment being the most popular. In all cases the person covered by the policy benefits is regarded as the policyholder, regardless of who pays the premium.

All our individual health cash plans are community and linear priced where we are providing the actual benefit. This means customers are not disadvantaged by age, health history, occupation or opaque underwriting methods. We encourage our customers to use their health cash plans and over the past 3 years we have paid out annually an average of in excess of £6.3m in benefits to our customers.

Policyholders use their plan by arranging and receiving specific types of everyday health care treatment, settling the bill and if covered by the cash plan submitting the receipt and claim form to us for reimbursement of a percentage of the costs incurred (product dependent 50%-100%) up to their relevant cover level limit.

3.2 Executive summary on 2022 performance

The table below summarises Sovereign Health Care's consolidated financial results for the year as reported in the Group financial statements:

	2022	2021
	£000's	£000's
Earned income		
Net earned premiums	9,983	10,210
Net commissions received	81	87
Claims incurred	(7,071)	(6,828)
Operational expenses	(3,292)	(2,927)
Underwriting result	(300)	542
Investment income - net of fees	1,448	980
Interest payable	-	-
Realised gain/(loss) on investments	8,404	4,486
Revaluation of land and buildings	114	-
Unrealised gain/(loss) on investments	(11,112)	2,881
Charitable donations and other charges	(574)	(448)
Surplus/(deficit) before taxation	(2,019)	8,440

Sovereign Health Care continues to focus in its local Bradford and West Yorkshire community, and nationally through corporate employer relationships. Our schemes are low cost, affordable and aim to offer value for money benefits to customers. The cash plans are monthly renewable contracts allowing us to modify the benefits, premiums and terms of conditions subject to us giving customers a minimum of 30 days' notice. Claims for health care treatment can be submitted up to one year after the date of treatment.

Business performance overall was positive considering the continuing backdrop of economic uncertainty and the cost of living crisis. Following the pandemic, 2022 was year of rebuilding our foundations and our sales volumes achieved 133% to target with similar levels of sales to pre-pandemic years. We were extremely pleased to restart our onsite worksite visits, enabling our fields sales team to interact with customers on a face to face basis. Whilst our member bases shrunk by 1%, this is an improved position compared to prior years shrinkage, and also bettered our financial plan. We continue to develop our customer journey, implementing paperless welcomes packs and as a result our customers can access product literature via their online customer portal. This not only looks to reduce our expenses but improves our carbon footprint by reducing our use of paper, and the associated emissions linked to the use of the postal services. 2023 will see further improvements to the customer journey, with the FCA's Consumer Duty requirements at the heart of any changes, ensuring we deliver good outcome for our customers.

At the end of the year, Sovereign Health Care relocated its headquarters to The Waterfront in Shipley, still remaining in the Bradford District. The move to a new, purpose-designed office was to accommodate post-COVID changes in both flexible working patterns and health and wellbeing requirements. The new head office supports both our business needs and those of our employees, including technology to support modern

working patterns, better ventilation, and increased levels of security, to better prepare us for the future. Having moved, we are currently in the process of selling our previous head office and have successfully arranged the sale of the property, which we aim to complete on the deal in the early stages of 2023. Before the year concluded, we had agreed to purchase the entire office building in Shipley and become commercial landlords, accommodating multiple tenants. The completion of this purchase will be finalised in early 2023 and looks to diversify our investment portfolio and further strengthens our investment income.

Claiming behaviour and claims payments returned to typical claiming levels, if not higher, having paid £6.9m (2021: £6.7m) to our customers, including absorbing the increased treatment costs relating to PPE. Catch up treatments, rescheduling or appointments and the efforts in trying to reduce the NHS backlog post pandemic were very apparent in our incidence rates for both the dental and hospital in-patient benefits. The Board believes offering other benefits such as a 24-hour confidential telephone helpline, Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) and access to a 24-hour GP service are integral to our products as the focus on accessible healthcare and mental health services becomes increasingly more important amid the pressures on the NHS and the consequences of the pandemic.

The current route to delivering a reduction in the ongoing service costs and provide a competitive advantage in the marketplace is through continued investment in our technological solutions. To date this investment has delivered a new policy administration system, new IT hardware platform, more robust disaster recovery, a new accounting platform, transition to in-house hosting of all key systems, improvements in our claims processing methodology, insurance processing platform availability and robustness improvements and delivery of a new hosted website and joining capability. As at the end of December 2022, approximately 38,600 registrations were completed for our online customer area, which allow customers to submit claims online, view their claiming history and make changes to their personal details. As ever, the IT improvement programme will continue into 2023 with a key focus on the four outcomes of the Consumer Duty.

The investment in systems will deliver multiple benefits to the company including improvements in costs, efficiency and customer service leading to successful customer retention activity. Additionally, better use of data will allow the company to achieve targeted marketing campaigns based upon customer behaviour and preferences. These developments whilst initially viewed as a defensive measure in retaining our existing core book of business, will also deliver the ability to meet increased demands but in a cost efficient manner and without a proportional increase in operating costs. The ability to grow through a chosen strategic direction with confidence that the back office can support without significant change or enhancement, will place the company in a position of considerable strength moving forwards.

4. BUSINESS PERFORMANCE

4.1 Business – legal form

Sovereign Health Care is a not for profit health insurance company, founded in 1873. The company is limited by guarantee and has no shareholders.

The Board of Directors are deemed Members of the Company, and the ethos being, the Board Members are custodians of the Company, supervising and strengthening the performance of the business for the next generation of custodians.

No individual member is considered to hold undue influence or controlling interest. The memorandum and articles of association of the company determine the operating model of control.

4.2 Underwriting Performance

Underwriting results decreased by £0.84m, an improved position on prior years' movement, as claiming behaviour increased as stated in section 3.2 coupled with increased operational expenses as result of the inflationary hikes.

Please see the table below for the key business performance indicators:

Key performance indicators	2022	2021
Earned income	10,064	10,297
Claims loss ratio	69%	66%
Operational expense ratio	33%	29%
Combined ratio	103%	95%

Earned income

Net earned premiums reduced by £227k as our member base shrunk by 1%. This result was better than forecast, and also an improved position of last year's reduction of £468k. Overall, sales activity surpassed our target position, but unfortunately new additions did not exceed the number of customers that has lapsed. This outcome did not come as a surprise as worksite sales visits didn't recommence until the latter half of the year in addition to high inflation and the impacts of the cost of living crisis affecting household incomes. The Board also agreed to postpone consumer premium reviews for 2022, however considering the economic backdrop, we will have review our schemes in 2023, with any changes likely to occur in 2024.

Claims loss ratio

Claims loss ratio indicated the proportion of earned member premiums which are paid out in claims, over the 12 month reporting period. The claims paid value used does not include technical provisions. Claims paid value does include costs relating to third party services provided as an integral part of the cash plans, such as the information helpline, employee assistance programme and personal accident insurance cover. Compared to a target ratio between 65-75%, the claims loss ratio has increased further on prior years position to 69% but

remained within the target ratio range. This is seen as positive, as customers were able to access treatment after the COVID-19 restrictions ceased and were able to claim back the costs.

Operational expense ratio

Operating expense ratio is calculated by taking the net operating expenses over net earned premium, showing the proportion of premiums which are used in running the insurance business. The target ratio for the year was 33%, reporting slightly ahead of target. Whilst this has increased compared to 2021, this was anticipated as operations returned to pre pandemic levels, additionally as with most services, costs have increased as the economy felt the pressures from the cost of living crisis.

4.3 Investment Performance

2022 has been a difficult year for investment markets, but our investments have held up extremely well against a challenging economic background. Markets shown some improvements in the last quarter and our lack of exposure to fixed income investments, whose prices have fallen sharply as interest rates have increased, have assisted in preserving our wealth. Our investment portfolio, made up of collective funds and property, ended the year at £55,027,281 (2021: £60,956,293), coupled with cash and cash at the bank of £20,152,267 (2021: £17,983,852) contributes to our sustained extremely strong capital position. Dividend income received of £1,654,580 (2021: £1,255,531) was 32% higher than last and 14% higher than the previous largest year in 2019. With the investment income received, we have continued to support our local community, making charitable donations of £482,035 (2021: £447,972).

The property listed on our Solvency II balance sheet, was previously a property owned for business use however since moving head office, this property is now classed as an investment property on our balance sheet. The valuation was made on an open market value basis by reference to market evidence of transaction prices. The property was actively marketed for resale and an offer has been accepted. The revaluation of the property is valued at the offer price accepted less any costs to sell. The directors consider this to be the fair value of the property.

The Board are in agreement to continue investing in good quality equities through collective funds for the medium to long term, alongside a more defensive element provided by our cash and deposit holdings.

The table below sets out the investment performance from our group financial statements:

	2022	2021
	£000's	£000's
Investment Income - Net of fees	1,448	980
Interest Payable	-	-
Realised gain/(loss) on investments	8,404	4,486
Revaluation of investment property	114	-
Unrealised gain/(loss) on investments	(11,112)	2,881
Charitable donations and other charges	(574)	(448)
Net investment return	(1,720)	7,898

The dividend income is used to fund our charitable donations therefore is included in the above table.

5. SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE

5.1 General governance arrangements

The Board is the governing body of the Company and establishes, monitors and controls a framework of prudential controls to advance the Company in its objectives. Generally, the Board ensures that the Company acts in accordance with prudent commercial principles, high ethical standards and otherwise strives to meet stakeholder expectations through maximising long-term value. The Board has delegated authority for the day to day operational management of the Company to the Executive team.

Sovereign Health Care continues to adopt the AFM Corporate Governance Code in an appropriate manner for the size and complexity of our organisation. The Board are of the opinion, all principles set out below were met:

- **Purpose and Leadership** - An effective board promotes the purpose of an organisation, and ensured that its values, strategy and culture align with that purpose.
- **Board Composition** - Effective board composition required an effective chair and a balance of skills, background, experience and knowledge with individual directors having sufficient capacity to make valuable contribution. The size of a board should be guided by the scales and complexity of the organisation.
- **Director Responsibilities** - The board and individual directors should have a clear understanding of their accountability and responsibilities. The board's policies and procedures should support effective decision-making and independent challenge.
- **Opportunity And Risk** - A board should promote the long-term sustainable success of the organisation by identifying opportunities to create and preserve value, and establish oversight for the identification and mitigation of risks.
- **Remuneration** - A board should promote executive remuneration structures aligned to the long-term sustainable success of an organisation, taking into account pay and conditions elsewhere in the organisation.
- **Stakeholder Relations and Engage** - Directors should foster effective stakeholder relationships aligned to the organisation's purpose. The board is responsible for overseeing meaningful engagement with stakeholders, including the workforce, and having regard to their views when taking decisions.

The responsibilities and functions of the Board include:

- Input into, and final approval of, the corporate strategy, including setting performance objectives and approving business plans and budgets
- Reviewing and guiding systems of risk management, internal control, ethical practice and legal compliance
- Monitoring both corporate performance and implementation of strategies and policies
- Approving major capital expenditure, leases, acquisitions, divestitures and monitoring capital management
- Ensuring suitability and integrity of both financial and all other reporting
- Ensuring suitability of policies and processes in important areas, including occupational safety and health, environment and legal compliance
- Enhancing and protecting the reputation of the Company

Matters which are specifically reserved for the Board include:

- Appointment and remuneration of the Chair
- Appointment and remuneration of Directors
- Establishment of Board subgroups and determining their membership and delegated authorities

To support Board effectiveness and efficiency, the Board has established the following subgroup:

- Commercial subgroup
- Remuneration subgroup
- Audit and Governance subgroup
- Risk and Compliance subgroup
- Community Programme subgroup

The Terms of Reference of each subgroup and their membership are reviewed annually by the Board.

Board Remuneration

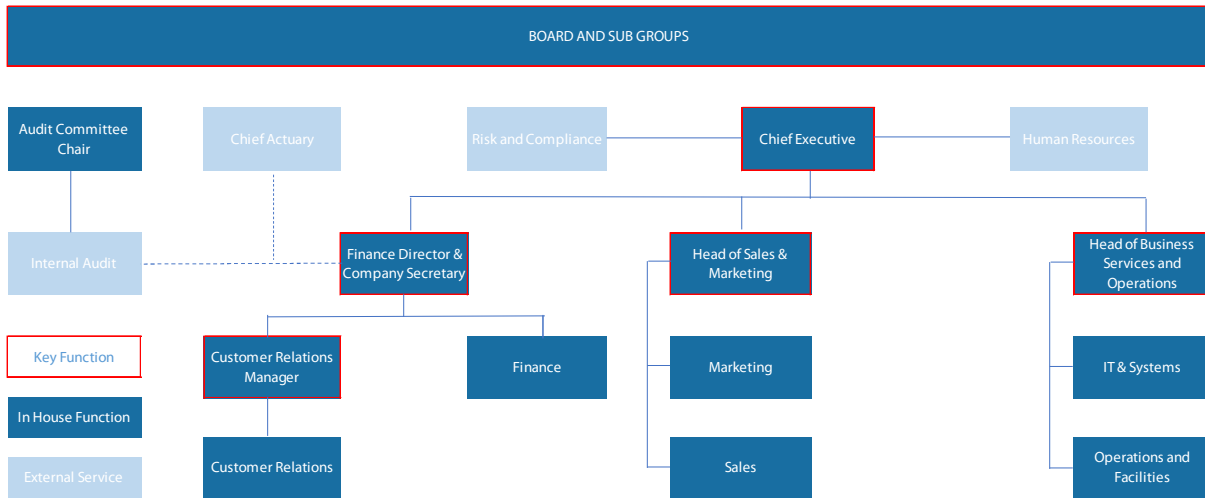
The Company operates a flat rate of remuneration for all non-executive Board members with no variable element. Executive Board members remuneration is determined by their individual contracts of employment. In response to the issuance of guidance on the relative levels of senior individuals within the Companies relative levels of fixed and/or variable remuneration the Company has in 2018 adjusted the bonus scheme and annual salaries of the appropriate employees in order that the variable element would be in line with the appropriate guidance.

The flat rate relative to non-executive directors provides simplicity and clarity on the levels of remuneration for the business. The Standard rate of remuneration is augmented for specific duties undertaken by non-executive members of the Board and the list of these additional duties eligible for remuneration may vary from time to time. A flat rate allowance for duties outside of the scope of individual roles and responsibilities has been agreed and is operated on a per day basis. Any variation would be subject to review and agreement by the Remuneration subgroup for presentation to the Board as a whole. Currently the role of Chair of the Board receives an additional remuneration allowance.

5.2 Fit and proper requirements

The 'Fit and proper' requirement is the standard required by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) when appointing controlled function holders. Sovereign applies the same requirements when appointing those who effectively run the undertaking or have other key functions. The Company is satisfied that compliance with the framework is sufficient to ensure that individuals fulfilling controlled functions meet all relevant regulatory requirements. The framework is regularly reviewed to ensure it will meet all the requirements of the Senior Managers and Certification Regime (SM&CR) and any subsequent changes in the regulatory requirements.

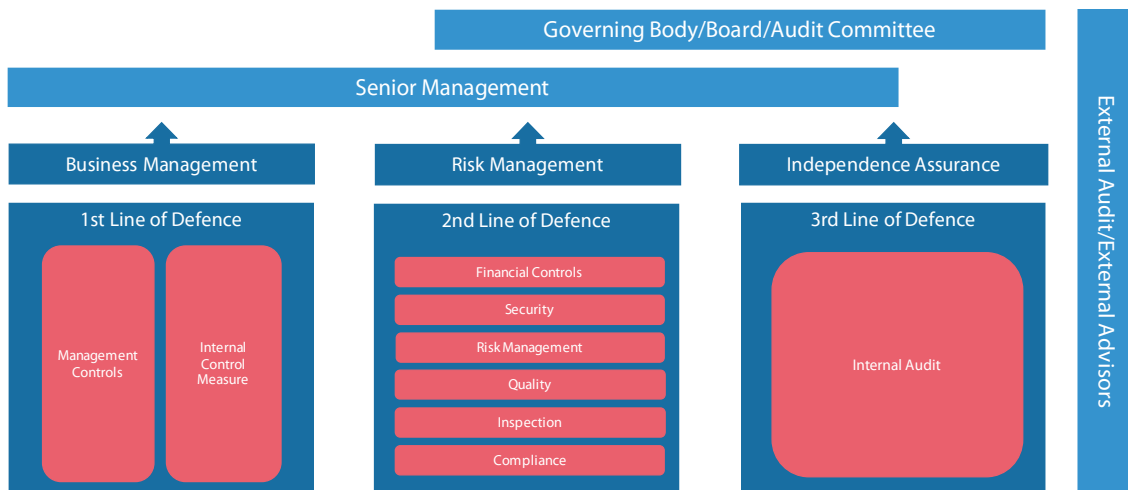
The company's key functions and internal structure are shown below:



The Compliance function adopts appropriate systems and controls in the registration of individuals across the Company ensuring that identified individuals meet the regulators' fit and proper criteria at the point of registration and subsequently, including but not limited to external verification process and internal assessment. In addition, registered and notified individuals are required to complete an annual attestation confirming that the Fit and Proper Requirements have been maintained and that they continue to adhere to the Conduct Standards.

5.3 Risk management

As illustrated in the diagram below, Sovereign utilises the three lines of defence model in the management of its risks.



The model comprises primary risk owners (first line), independent risk management and control functions (second line) and an independent internal audit and assurance group (third line).

First line: The vast majority of employees comprise the first line of defence. Examples include service manager, technology teams supporting the business platforms, client servicing teams and servicing client enquiries.

Second line: A smaller group of employees comprise the second line of defence. These employees have duties within the Risk & Control functions and provide independent oversight of the activities performed within the first line.

Third line: The reporting from this function is direct to the chairs of both the Audit and Governance and/or the Risk and Compliance subgroups.

The Risk Management function reports to the Sovereign Board via the Audit and Governance and/or the Risk and Compliance subgroups.

Subgroup responsibilities

In addition to the Audit and Governance and the Risk and Compliance subgroups, the Board of Sovereign has delegated responsibilities to the Commercial subgroup, the Remuneration subgroup, and the Community Programme subgroup. Each of these groups have terms of reference which are risk focussed and each play a part in more formal upwards risk reporting on a quarterly basis.

The formal consideration and risk reporting of the subgroups is coordinated by the risk management function.

Roles and Responsibilities

The risk management framework is supported by the risk management function but is owned by the management of the business. In order to provide a structure for the continuous review, challenge and updating of the risk register, a number of key roles have been defined, which run through the entire organisation:

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Risk owner | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• agree assessment of the risk with the risk management function including gross and net scores• sign off any relevant authority levels or limits• agree all mitigating strategies identified, plus determine if new controls are required/existing ones can be modified or removed |
| Control owner | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• operate and monitor controls identified within the risk register• report regularly to risk management function and risk owner regarding operation of controls• confirm with risk management the on-going appropriateness of control scoring• recommend to risk owner any changes in control design |

All employees' job descriptions are explicit regarding risk management roles and responsibilities.

Interaction with Internal Audit

Sovereign develops an audit plan on a 3-year rolling basis. It will be derived by the Internal Auditor and the Audit and Governance subgroup with input from senior management and the Risk Management function. The audit approach is cyclical, risk based and ensures that all high-risk areas are identified and prioritised. This ensures that the entire risk and audit universes are considered over time, unless there are appropriate and agreed reasons for them not being so.

In practice this is achieved by reviewing the risk universe against the current audit plan and to highlight those areas of the risk universe that are either not covered, or where additional audit may be appropriate. This will be presented annually to the Audit and Risk Subgroup, and more frequently if required. The internal audit leads will also have a private meeting at least annual with the Chair of the Audit and Governance subgroup in order that any confidential feedback applicable to the Executive and/or Senior team can be provided formally.

As either the audit plan or risk universe is updated, the Risk Management function will be responsible for highlighting any material risks which are not covered by the current audit plan.

Risk and Capital Assessment

The risk management framework is designed to provide management with the information it requires to maximise up-side risk, whilst acknowledging downside risks, by identifying where capital should be held.

The Risk Management function will work closely with the actuarial function to ensure that assessment of risk is integral with the ORSA and that management are provided with clear information regarding the capital impact of the current risk profile. By doing so management will be able to determine where capital is being best deployed and will have a tool to support business decisions in relation to the utilisation of capital.

Business Performance

Performance review is conducted across all functions of the company including underwriting, reserving, finance, claims, operations and compliance. Performance review takes place on a continuous and regular basis and is formalised using a subgroup structure.

Performance is reviewed against business plan. As the risk framework becomes integrated within the business, some existing areas of performance review and associated management information will feed into the risk management of the business.

Management Information

Sovereign is working towards an operating environment where a regular cycle of management information is provided to the key internal stakeholders of the risk management framework, these being:

- Sovereign Board
- Risk and Compliance Subgroup
- Audit and Governance Subgroup
- Remuneration Subgroup
- Commercial Subgroup
- Risk Owners

The information will provide an overview of the following:

- Top Risks (inherent, residual, dependencies)
- Moving Risks
- Risks by Owner
- Risks by Category
- Risk Appetite Utilisation
- Capital management

In addition, regular risk reports will be developed to focus on areas of high risk v appetite and ones requiring improvement in controls. It is expected that reporting requirements will change over time.

Management Information must be appropriate, complete and accurate and comply with the relevant Solvency II data standards.

People and Reward

Sovereign has a training programme which encompasses Risk Training across all aspects of the organisation. Specific training will be provided as required to Risk Owners and Control Owners regarding individual responsibilities and to promote a general 'risk v reward' way of thinking.

Performance Appraisal objectives include specific risk management or control management objectives for the relevant personnel.

Sovereign has a remuneration policy which has been designed to assist the delivery of both its business strategy and risk management strategy. No individual is encouraged to take or is rewarded for taking excessive risk, i.e. outside of stated appetites.

Technology & Infrastructure

The risk framework relies on timely and accurate information and modelling. A strong infrastructure is required to ensure that:

- Data is accurate, accessible and timely
- Modelling is robust, reliable and timely
- Management information is well organised, relevant and appropriately distributed

Investments and the Prudent Person Principle

In reviewing investments for quality and reporting purposes the company utilises recognised ratings agencies as the source for each individual investment. Where ratings are unavailable a full charge is taken or the lowest quality of asset is assumed. Ratings for material concentration of assets or significant counterparties are taken from a number of recognised sources to ensure that the chosen partner rating is consistent and appropriate for the risk.

Own Risk and Solvency Assessment (ORSA)

The ORSA document provides a key pillar to the overall control and understanding of the business from the perspective of the Board.

The ORSA is updated on an annual basis, for approval in the first half of the year following the period into which it refers, i.e. the 31 December 2022 ORSA will be reviewed and approved by the Board prior to 31 July 2023.

The ORSA process will act as a trigger for management actions which the Board will review and authorise as required. Where risks are identified that are beyond the company's risk appetite, as detailed in the risk tolerance summary, actions should be undertaken to bring these back within the defined acceptable levels. It is recognised that additional capital will not reduce the risk, it will only provide a financial buffer while management actions are sought to deal with the risks identified. Sovereign's risk management framework continues to evolve through enhanced modelling, monitoring and feedback and provides the basis for the Board's calculation of its own capital requirements within the business.

Ongoing monitoring of the key items highlighted within the ORSA forms part of Sovereign's Board meetings. However, it should be noted that the monitoring of risk and the management of the risks is built into the operations of the Company. Any deficiencies highlighted through this continual monitoring will be brought to the attention of the Executives for action, and where required the Board will be informed and/or asked to approve any resulting action where this falls outside of the current levels of delegated authority.

5.4 Internal control

The Board view an effective system of internal control as a key mechanism by which they discharge their fiduciary responsibilities.

Sovereign believes that a sound system of internal control helps safeguard Sovereign's assets by facilitating safe, reliable and efficient operations, by assisting us to comply with applicable laws and regulations, and by helping us ensure the reliability of our internal and external reporting.

All members of Sovereign's staff have a responsibility to ensure the effective application of internal controls in their areas of responsibility and to act in a way that safeguards our assets from loss, inappropriate use and fraud.

In addition Article 46 of the Solvency II directive requires:

"Insurance and reinsurance undertakings shall have in place an effective internal control system. This system shall at least include administrative and accounting procedures, an internal control framework, and appropriate reporting arrangements at all levels of the undertaking and a compliance function."

The Board believes that sound internal control and corporate governance is best achieved by processes firmly embedded within Sovereign's operations. Reviewing the effectiveness of internal control is an essential part of the Board's responsibilities while management is accountable to the Board for developing, operating and monitoring the system of internal control and for providing assurance to the Board that it has done so.

The Board has agreed that aspects of its internal control review work shall be delegated to the Commercial Subgroup, the Audit and Governance Subgroup and the Risk and Compliance Subgroup. Each subgroup shall report back to the Board who will decide on the adequacy of the subgroup's review. It is the Board's responsibility to establish the terms of reference of each subgroup.

In determining the Sovereign Policies and Procedures and thereby providing what constitutes Sovereign's system of internal control the Board considers the following factors:

- The Business Principles and related objectives
- The nature and extent of the risks facing the Company
- The extent and categories of risk which it regards as acceptable to bear
- The likelihood of the risks concerned materialising
- Sovereign's ability to reduce the incidence and impact on the business of risks that do materialise
- The costs of operating particular controls relative to the benefit thereby obtained in managing the related risks

The Company retain the services of an internal audit function in order that an independent third party view on the operation of key controls and the oversight of key service providers is maintained with the necessary levels of rigour. The internal audit function report on a day to day basis to the Finance Director, however they provide the formal reporting through to the Chair of the Audit and Governance subgroup to ensure appropriate segregation and governance is maintained.

5.5 Internal audit

Due to the size of the business the internal audit process is outsourced to an appropriately qualified third party.

The program for internal audit to follow was proposed by Senior management with reference to the key business risks identified during the course of the ORSA process and internal risk mapping exercise. The internal audit program is then approved by the appropriate subgroup with timescales and prioritisation guidance being provided.

The internal audit plan is a rolling 3 year programme designed to cover all material risks to the business, its operations and reporting, whilst also allowing for any additional work highlighted as a result of business issues or regulatory requirements to be considered within the scope of the timetable.

In order to maintain the appropriate level of independence Internal audit reporting is undertaken with a direct line of responsibility to the Chair of the Audit subgroup. The use of third parties in undertaking the work ensures an appropriate degree of separation from the day to day activity of the senior team within the business to ensure objectivity.

5.6 Actuarial function

The actuarial function is outsourced to a third party actuarial consulting practice along with the SMF20, Chief Actuarial Function. The actuarial function will present annually to the Audit and Governance subgroup to ensure the Solvency II calculations are adequate and appropriate for Sovereign Health Care. Oversight of the requirements and deliverables is appointed to the Finance Director.

5.7 Outsourcing

Due to the size of the business a number of key functions have been outsourced in order that the business is able to benefit from appropriate current expertise without incurring the additional overhead that would be required to fulfil the function in house. All current outsourced service providers are located within the United Kingdom.

The outsourcing arrangements are subject to the outsourcing approach policy. Outsourcing is considered appropriate where the business:

- does not have the required knowledge, resources and/or experience to fulfil a specific function from its own staff
- requires additional short term resource

- deems it is cost effective to outsource a specific service
- deems it is risk effective to outsource a specific service
- deems it is a legally or regulatory required arrangement
- deems it is to achieve a tangible quality outcome with regards a specific project

The following checks are undertaken when appointing an outsourced partner;

- Financial health check
- Trade body
- References
- Appropriate fit and proper for purpose check

Outsourced partners are checked regularly, at a minimum annually, to ensure the arrangement continues to serve the best interests of the company and its customers. All key outsourced arrangements are subject to a formal contract, approved by the Board – where appropriate and signed by at least one executive director.

The Board of the company are keen to remain focused on the areas where the company has expertise and not expand beyond our knowledge or capability, as such Sovereign will continue to focus on the provision of good value, simple, easy to use cash plans within the UK market.

6. RISK PROFILE

The Board have agreed the following Risk Appetite for Sovereign Health Care:

- Operate within our area of expertise. Any diversification will only take place when we understand the risks and business models
- Growth is profitable and not loss making, although we understand by the nature of our schemes that occasionally claims may run higher than premiums on new business
- New products will be underwritten to be profitable within agreed parameters and timescales
- Quality of delivery will always have greater prominence than quantity of delivery
- Principles of insurance and correct customer morals are above the technicalities of the Terms and Conditions
- We will not carry any long term insurance risks, although we will include mediated modules within our product range
- Our investment strategy is to achieve capital growth and income over the medium to long term through our investments which are additional to our cash deposits
- Reserves will be held as a mixture of cash type deposits and investment funds as agreed by the Board of Directors

6.1 Underwriting risk

As a general insurer Sovereign Health Care writes short term monthly renewable contracts. These contracts individually and collectively present a relatively small financial risk when compared to the other key risks. However, as an insurer we do review, calculate and manage our potential insurance exposures and ensure that we hold sufficient capital in available cash in a mixture of immediately available, short term or longer term maturity deposits to ensure that sufficient cash will be available to meet the requirements of 12 months claims as they fall due.

Plans are priced on a community basis, utilising historical performance and claims data, with a number of additional assumptions built in the models. If policyholder behaviour, healthcare costs or any of the other underlying base assumptions change there is a risk that premiums will not be sufficient to meet the claims made.

The following measures are used to assess underwriting risks:

- **Claims modelling and experience** – based on experience, budgets are prepared for each product including expected claiming ratios. Product performance is monitored against this target claims ratio and deviations are investigated.
- **Market monitoring and tracking of claims trends** – cash plan claims are driven by behavioural factors. Claim trends, purchasing behaviours and other signs from the broader healthcare market are all monitored for indications that customer behaviours may deviate from the underwriting assumptions.
- **Solvency II capital requirements** – under Solvency II we are required to assess and quantify the underwriting risk exposure through a mass accident and pandemic scenario.

The principal risk faced by the company is that actual claims and benefit payments exceed the premiums received for the insurance cover. This could occur because the frequency and severity of claims are greater than anticipated. Claim events for certain benefits can be random and the actual volume of claims received and value of these claims could vary year on year.

All the Sovereign Health Care cash plan products are monthly renewable policies, required premium increase can be implemented with a short timescale, 30 days' notice, enabling the risk that premiums are insufficient to cover claims and expenses to be controlled.

Concentration risk – key customers

The Company also acknowledges the risk of reliance on a small number of large volume clients and works closely with the relevant customer group to ensure that the offering available continues to meet the requirements. In addition there is an active renewal of supply contract process which serves to highlight potential issues and ensure these are addressed in a timely and appropriate manner.

As a business, the risk created due to the success of the product is not one which we would seek to move away from or limit on a single customer basis. Mitigation is sought through increasing the depth and breadth of the customer base to ensure that a single customer or small group of customers does not represent an unduly large proportion of the forecast income generation plans.

Insurance Premium Tax

As a general insurer, the premiums we charge for our products including Insurance Premium Tax (IPT). This indirect tax is then passed on to HMRC. In 1994, the introductory standard rate of IPT was just 2.5%. But over the years IPT has increased, to 6% in 2015, then 9.5% in November 2015, and in October 2016 it rose to 10%. Now the current rate of IPT is 12%. Some of the past increases have not been passed on to the end consumer, however with the more recent increases, we had no other option but to pass this on to our customers otherwise it would have had a detrimental impact on our operating profit.

We have lobbied regulators and the government through our trade association to highlight the consequences if they continue to raise the IPT rates. This risk is also included on our risk register.

6.2 Market risk

Investment Risk

Sovereign Health Care holds investments in collective funds, as 31 December 2022 these assets are held at fair value of £54.2m (2021: £61m). These investments are traded on regulated financial markets, both in the UK and abroad. Our investments are managed by an external specialist investment manager who are listed on the Financial Services Register and authorised and regulated by the FCA. Management of the investments is undertaken utilising the advice of third party wealth management professionals on a recommendation basis. Movements in the regulated markets can drive volatility within the valuation of these assets. Under Solvency II, our investments are stressed on interest rate risk, equity risk, currency risk and concentration risk. The capital requirement relating to market risk equates to £21.8m (2021: £30m) and the Board are of the opinion we hold sufficient capital reserves to cover this risk charge as demonstrated by our Solvency II coverage ratio.

The Board recognises the significant influence of the valuation of the Company's investment portfolio on the SCR coverage levels, currently at 326% (2021: 248%). The Board will continue to review and consider the solvency position and coverage levels on a periodic basis, should the ratio drop to 200%, this would trigger the board to consider crystallisation of investment assets in order that the company maintain sufficient liquidity to meet 12 months cost of claims and operational expenses as they fall due.

With regard to the balance of the Company's investment reserves, the Board have set investment objectives that aim to ensure the long term sustainability of the business by achieving capital growth and strong income returns over the medium to long term through the careful management of our investments.

The Board recognises that the allocation of portfolio assets across broadly defined financial asset and sub-asset categories (a mixture of cash and fixed interest investments and investment funds) with varying degrees

of risk and return is the most significant determinant of long-term investment returns and portfolio asset value stability. Diversification across and within asset classes is the primary means by which the Board expects the portfolio to avoid undue risk of large losses over long time periods.

It is expected that the Portfolio's actual asset allocation will vary from its target asset allocation as a result of the varying returns earned on its investments in different asset classes. In the view of the Board, Sovereign is an investor with a long term investment horizon and can tolerate the attached short term investment risk to the portfolio.

The Board accepts the risk that actual returns may vary from objective across short periods of time. The investment manager shall act within a reasonable period of time to evaluate any variations and make recommendations to rebalance the portfolio.

On a periodic basis, independent investment management professionals are approached for current market trends, views on holdings and to act as a sense check and benchmark of the current advisers.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine continues along with the backdrop of the cost of living crisis. The Board understands the investment market remains volatile throughout periods of uncertainty and remains in regular contact with our Investment Advisors. Through the assessment of underlying stocks within our collective funds, our exposure to Russian stocks is deemed negligible.

The Company understands the investment market will remain volatile throughout this period; however, we believe our portfolio is well diversified and balanced, between growth and value stocks, adding a certain degree of reassurance through these turbulent times. As stated previously, our objective to invest over a medium to long term time horizon means we can tolerate these market shocks. This approach coupled with our defensive approach to holding large cash balances, will act to protect the Company's strong capital position.

Financial Risks of Climate Change

Our investment strategy is focussed on delivering medium to long term growth whilst creating sufficient dividend income to fund the community funding programme. The Board accept there is an element of financial risk relating to climate change, specifically transition risk associated with investing into collective funds. Our collective funds, valued at £54.2m, present the largest risk. The Board have opted for an engagement strategy with our asset managers, and our investment advisors are in continuous talks with the fund managers to discuss environmental, social and governance (ESG) consideration as well as performance.

Through the Commercial sub-group and the Board, our investment advisors present ESG ratings for each collective fund including the following measures:

- Peer rank
- Global rank
- % of "green" revenue
- % of "brown" revenue
- Carbon intensity figure
- Carbon intensity figure (CIF) band
- Overall ESG rating

Of our current portfolio, less than 2% of the underlying companies held by each fund, are rated as "laggards", using the MSCI ESG data. Over half of the portfolio's companies are rated ESG leaders, with ratings of AA to AAA. The active asset managers within our portfolio all prefer sustainable business models and good governance, and with the increasing focus on ESG considerations, the Directors were pleased these funds produced above average ratings as a result.

With active engagement, rather than an exclusion mandate, the focus is on evaluating and monitoring effective risk management of climate change whilst keeping ESG ratings as an indicator.

The appropriate director has been allocated the responsibility of managing the financial risks of climate change and their statement of responsibilities have been updated accordingly. These risks identified will be continually monitored across multiple subgroups including:

- Commercial
- Audit and Governance
- Risk and Compliance

Having regard to the nature of our strategic plans, the Board does not consider climate change to be of significant risk in the medium term but continues to monitor and manage any risks that arise. The Group keeps a watchful eye on developments to ensure understanding of the effects of climate change are appropriately reflected in our strategic plans and ORSA.

6.3 Credit Risk

The company's exposure to credit risk is not limited to the balances identified in the liquidity risk section, but also covers the carrying value of certain other financial assets, namely contributors' premiums due but not received (included within debtors) of £459k (2021: £476k).

The Board adopts a low risk appetite by holding high levels of cash or cash equivalents in order to meet any unplanned or catastrophic risks/events. Currently the Board have agreed to hold cash balances equivalent to the greater amount of:

- a) our Minimum Capital Requirement (MCR) (£5.8m) or
- b) 12 months forecast claims payments (£6.9m).

Cash is held in a variety of instant access, term and notice accounts in order to achieve the correct balance of liquidity needs and desired investment returns. Cash investments are also used as a hedge against insurance/operational risk and for liquidity needs or to facilitate a planned programme of investments in either or both equity and fixed income assets.

Debt instruments held with credit institutions, including term cash deposits are managed internally. Balances are placed on deposit for periods of up to 12 months in such a manner to ensure that sufficient funds are always available to meet the short term operational expenditure, investment decisions and any other liabilities as they fall due. Total deposits and cash equivalents of £19m (2021: £16.9m) are held with a number of counterparties and different terms. Due to economic uncertainty, the Board felt it prudent to reduce the exposure to market volatility by holding a significant amount of cash as a defensive element.

The company is therefore exposed to risk in relation to the counterparties availability of funds to meet the terms of the deposits as they fall due. This risk is managed through the careful selection of counterparties and the use of credit rating agency view of potential partners and the operation of the counterparty risk policy within the business, limiting the exposure to any specific party and the overall risk at each level of credit rating.

Credit ratings for credit institutions who are deemed as material counterparties are rated between AA and BBB and are consistent with the Solvency II reporting requirements in calculating the Solvency Capital Requirement.

6.4 Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Company will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities that are settled by delivering cash or another financial asset.

The Company is exposed to liquidity risk in meeting operating costs as represented by the creditors other than technical provisions within the Solvency II balance sheet totalling £0.9m (2021: £2m), and in meeting policyholder claims, represented on the year-end statement of financial position by the provision for outstanding claims totalling £0.7m (2021: £0.6m). Both of these exposures are due within 12 months of the statement of financial position date, and in particular the large majority of claims represented by the technical provisions are generally settled within 3 months. The creditors other than technical provisions includes a contingent liability of £21.6k representing the net liabilities of a wholly owned subsidiary company.

The Company seeks to mitigate liquidity risk by holding cash reserves which at any one time enable financial liabilities to be met for at least a month. Details on the cash reserves have been outlined in the credit risk section.

6.5 Operational risk

Operational risk relates to the risk of loss resulting from inadequate or failing internal processes, people and systems or from external events such as natural disaster or terrorist attacks.

Operational disruptions can cause wide reaching harm to our customers and to the Company. Operational resilience remains a key focus for Sovereign Health Care, considering the backdrop of the pandemic, in addition to the regulators recent consultation papers on building operational resilience within the UK financial sector. Sovereign Health Care has completed the initial work in line with the regulatory requirements, however, the Company foresee this has an evolutionary process, a continuous cycle, always learning and developing our response to disruptions.

Operational risks are recorded on Sovereign Health Care's risk register. The material areas of risk are highlighted below:

- Systems and Infrastructure
- Cyber security
- Outsourcing arrangements
- People

Systems and Infrastructure

Significant time and expense have been incurred over the years to strengthen our core IT infrastructure. Our IT infrastructure is located across three sites, including a specialised co-located data centre and utilisation of a cloud-based service to add extra resilience. Our infrastructure is regularly reviewed and tested, including the testing of backups and recovery of data. Our computer servers that support our systems and applications are hosted at an ISO-27001 co-location datacentre, where they are protected by uninterruptable battery/generator backup power supplier, monitoring cooling and fire systems.

User access to the systems is provided by a technology called Remote Desktop Services. This allows Sovereign Health Care to control and manage our systems. The remote desktop can be accessed from the office or from home, with a secure internet connection. The system is also protected by controlling access through Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA).

Our telephony system is provided by a close service provider and allows access from any location. This allows for calls to be made and received without having the need to be in the office.

We also have a contract for workplace recovery site, should for any reason, our registered office is out of use, we can use this site to provide an office location for staff. This site is always available and is fully configured with desks and computers and a secure connection to our co-location site. Our systems are also protected by real-time threats using anti-virus software, firewall technologies and systems monitoring.

All our systems are protected by daily backups, giving the Company four copies of our production data in at last three locations. Our production servers are also replicated, using a cloud based datacentre, every 10 minutes. Maintaining cloud backups allows the Company to restore our live environment in the event of complete server or co-location site failure.

Cyber security and data security

IT failure could lead to significant issues, for example system downtime, lost productivity and data corruption, theft or loss. Cyber security continues to be a key focus for the Board and management team, commissioning a Cyber Security Audit at the end of 2021. From the audit findings, in 2022 the Board took the decision to gain the government backed accreditation Cyber Essential and Cyber Essential Plus. This work is ongoing and will look to further improve our current procedures to proactively mitigate the risk of a cyber attack.

Information Security, Data Protection and Computer Policies are all in place, frequently reviewed and training provided to all staff. The Company also holds a comprehensive cyber insurance policy.

Outsourcing arrangements

We value all our business relationship and have contracts with our key suppliers and outsourcing arrangements. Through strong and actively engaged relationships we can ensure our operational activities work efficiently and effectively, with no or little operational disruption.

People

Inevitably, as a small insurer, a degree of reliance exists on key personnel, whose departure from the Company could increase the risk of processes operating effectively. There can be key person dependency in areas where experience and/or knowledge is very difficult to replace in the short term. This means loss of key personnel is recorded on our Company risk register. This risk is mitigated by strong staff development programmes and succession planning across the whole business. Core processes are documented across all areas, so other staff members can perform the processes if necessary.

7. VALUATION FOR SOLVENCY II PURPOSES

Solvency II requires assets and liabilities to be valued on market-consistent basis, whilst Sovereign Health Care's financial statements are prepared on the basis of UK GAAP. Whilst the two reporting regimes are very similar, there are some inconsistencies, therefore certain adjustments are required to comply with the requirements of Solvency II.

The assumptions and basis of valuation of each material category of business is considered separately where they differ from the statutory reporting valuation processes. As a general principle the value of a balance sheet item should reflect the amount at which the assets and liabilities could be exchanged between knowledgeable willing parties in an arm's length transaction.

All valuations should be made on a going concern principle, rather than a "fire sale" or insolvency valuation which by the very nature of the approach would deliver higher liability and lower asset values.

The table below identifies the changes in valuation that move the Company from its reported UK GAAP Report and Accounts Retained Earning to the Solvency II Own Funds.

	2022			2021		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
UK Statutory Retained Earnings			75,448,740			76,825,449
Deferred tax asset	-			-		
Participations	893,880			840,138		
Transfer out of cash and cash equivalents	(10,700)			(7,027,749)		
Transfer of cash into deposits other than cash and cash equivalents	-			7,011,964		
Change in valuation basis of other assets	<u>(1,143,682)</u>			<u>(78,112)</u>		
Change in assets		(260,502)			746,241	
Removal to technical provisions	1,052,727			1,029,409		
Best estimate liabilities	(735,019)			(632,243)		
Risk margin	(146,625)			(149,705)		
Change in valuation basis of other liabilities	(21,587)			(20,556)		
Deferred tax liabilities	-			(184,898)		
Change in liabilities		149,496			42,007	
Net change			(111,006)			788,249
Solvency II Own Funds			<u>75,337,735</u>			<u>77,613,698</u>

7.1 Assets

The table below details the assets of the UK GAAP balance sheet prepared under FRS 102 and how the valuation methodology differs under the valuation basis for the preparation of the Solvency II balance sheet.

Category of Asset	SII Valuation Basis
Deferred Tax Asset	A deferred tax asset or liability arises on the temporary difference between the valuation of assets and liabilities (including technical provisions) for the statutory financial statements. The deferred tax asset reflects the associated reduction in tax liability that would arise on the results for the company should the higher Solvency II best estimate of liability (over the statutory technical provisions) ever be realised.
Intangible Assets	Write down any value to £Nil to reflect estimated fair market value
Property, Plant and Equipment	Write down any value to £Nil to reflect estimated fair market value.
Holdings in related undertakings, including participations	All participations will be held an adjusted equity valuation on a solvency II basis. No adjustments are made to arrive at the adjusted equity valuation from the UK statutory accounts valuation of participations for Sovereign Health Care as the assets and liabilities of the subsidiaries are either fair value, or deemed to be fair value and no inadmissible assets are held.
Investment property, collective investments undertakings and equities	<p>This includes all financial investments except subsidiaries (these are brought in through participations).</p> <p>All investments are measured at fair value with adjustments through the profit and loss. The methodologies applied to determination of fair value holdings are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Listed/quoted investments are carried at market bid value; 2. Where no quoted market price or suitable proxy is available, alternative valuation methods are used in accordance with Article 10 of the Delegated Regulation 2015/35. <p>The vast majority of the assets held are valued using methodology 1.</p>
Financial Receivables inc. Insurance Receivables	<p>This covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amounts owed from policyholders. • Debtors are reflected at book value which is deemed equivalent to fair value equivalent due to short duration of the assets held. <p>The company operates a provision mechanism for debts in excess of 3 months.</p>
Cash and cash equivalents and deposits other than cash equivalents	No change in valuation methodology. The presentation under cash and cash equivalents or deposits other than cash equivalents is determined by the ability to withdraw balances within twenty four hours without incurring a penalty (instant access) which differs from FRS102.
Any other assets, not elsewhere shown	Assets are held at fair value or equivalent due to short duration of the assets held.

The table below sets out, by material asset class, the valuation of each category under both Solvency II and UK GAAP statutory account reported balances:

	2022	2022
	Solvency II	Statutory
	£	£
Property, plant & equipment held for own use	-	912,685
Holdings in related undertakings, including participations	904,080	10,200
Property investment	788,562	788,562
Equities - unlisted	2,519	2,519
Collective fund investments	54,238,719	54,238,719
Deposits other than cash equivalents	7,028,601	7,028,601
Insurance and intermediaries receivables	459,247	459,247
Receivables (not insurance)	752,300	752,300
Cash and cash equivalents	11,942,146	11,952,846
Any other assets, not elsewhere shown	1,232,074	1,463,071
Total assets	77,348,249	77,608,750

7.2 Technical provisions

The technical provisions comprise two elements the best estimate of current liabilities and a Solvency II risk margin. The balances of the technical provisions under both Solvency II and UK GAAP statutory account reported balances are as follows:

	2022	2022
	Solvency II	Statutory
	£	£
Claims provision	709,155	670,265
Premium provision	25,864	382,462
Risk Margin	146,625	-
Total technical provisions	881,644	1,052,727

The liabilities valued in the technical provisions are those associated with existing contracts as at 31 December 2022. Under Solvency II, contracts must be valued if there is a legal obligation to provide cover even if the commencement date of the policy is after the valuation date.

The Solvency II technical provisions are designed to reflect the amount a third-party insurer would be paid to accept the liabilities at the valuation date. The technical provisions are calculated as the sum of the best estimate and the risk margin. The best estimate is the sum of the premium provision and claims provision. The premium provision and claims provision are calculated separately.

The premium provision is established in respect of unearned exposure (i.e. exposure after the valuation date) and the claims provision is established in respect of earned exposure (i.e. claims which have occurred prior to the valuation date). Within the premium provision, future premium income can be offset against future claim and expense outgo as the calculations are performed on a cash-flow basis. If future cash inflows are expected to be greater than future cash outflows the premium provision will be negative.

The unearned exposure used in the premium provision calculation includes those policies for which an unearned premium reserve is held as at 31 December 2022. This reserve relates to those policies which have paid their premium in advance in return for cover over a longer period than one month.

The premium provision also assumes there is, on average, one month of premium earnings outstanding at the valuation date. This is a reasonable assumption, given that most of the policies in force are monthly renewable and the company has the right to reprice and cancel the cover. This additional one month of cover and one month's additional premium has been included in the calculation to reflect the fact that the company must give the policyholder 30 days' notice of cancellation.

The expected claim cash flow used in the premium provision is calculated by applying a loss ratio to the future earnings which reflects the expected losses incurred in the month after the valuation date. Given the short timescales, it is appropriate to use a loss ratio calculated using recent company history. An allocation of expenses is applied which reflects the cost of handling the future claim payments associated with the unearned exposure at the valuation date.

The claims provision calculation uses outputs from the audited year-end Incurred But Not Reported (IBNR) process to project the expected future claim payments for claims which have occurred prior to the valuation date. The expected future claims payments are set equal to the claims provision in the financial statements as this represents the firm's best estimate of future claim cash flow. The claims provision is the sum of the expected claim payments and the associated claims handling expenses. The cash flows are not discounted currently since the average duration of the payments is less than 3 months after the valuation date.

The Risk Margin is calculated as the cost of capital the third party insurer would require taking on the liabilities and is calculated as 6% of the SCR for existing business.

Both the best estimate technical provision and risk margin contain an in built level of uncertainty within the calculation of the balance due to the estimated nature of the potential future liabilities of the business. Given the relatively small value of the best estimate technical provisions within the context of the total SCR and the volume of historical data available, the levels of uncertainty within the balance are deemed to be low.

In the calculation of the Best Estimate of the liabilities no allowance has been made for any of the transitional adjustments set out in the Delegated acts. We have made no adjustment for matching or volatility in the risk free rate or any transitional adjustments to overall technical provisions.

When viewing the difference between the UK Statutory Balance sheet value and the Solvency II technical provisions the key differences relate to:

- Replacement of unearned premium reserve with best estimate of future premium income;
- Solvency II Risk Margin; and
- Requirement to hold reserves to meet the costs of processing claims in the subsequent period

When considering the overall value of the technical provisions the business has viewed any events that may fall outside of the standard modelling of our required provisions to meet future insurance liabilities and concluded that these values are immaterial.

The Board consider the calculation of the technical provisions to be in line with the requirements of the Solvency II Regulations.

7.3 Other liabilities

The table below details other liabilities, other than technical provisions, of the UK GAAP balance sheet prepared under FRS 102 and how the valuation methodology differs under the valuation basis for the preparation of the Solvency II balance sheet.

Category of Liabilities	SII Valuation Basis
Contingent Liabilities	The balance represents the excess of liabilities over assets of a wholly owned subsidiary that has a negative net asset value.
Other Provisions	Other provisions represent amounts expected to be paid and are held at fair value.
Payables (trade)	Amounts expected to be paid (including taxation), liabilities are reflected at book value which is deemed equivalent to fair value equivalent due to short duration.
Other Liabilities	Amounts expected to be paid not shown elsewhere, liabilities are reflected at book value which is deemed equivalent to fair value equivalent due to short duration.

The table below sets out, by material liability class, the valuation of each category under both Solvency II and UK GAAP statutory account reported balances:

	2022	2022
	Solvency II	Statutory
	£	£
Contingent liabilities	21,587	-
Provisions other than technical provisions	100,237	100,237
Deferred tax liabilities	197,426	197,426
Insurance & intermediaries payables	35,440	35,440
Payables (trade, not insurance)	45,156	45,156
Any other liabilities, not elsewhere shown	729,024	729,024
Total other liabilities	1,128,870	1,107,282

8. CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

Capital management focuses on two main elements:

- Ensuring that the company holds sufficient capital to ensure coverage of regulatory capital requirements (Minimum Capital Requirement (MCR) and SCR) over the foreseeable planning horizon (currently a 3 yearly cycle); and
- Optimisation of the quality of capital available (as all capital currently held is historical retained earnings, other than deferred tax assets, this is the highest quality available under Solvency II)

8.1 Own funds

Sovereign Health Care has no shareholders and therefore our capital originates from retained earnings. Own Funds remain a combination the historical retained earnings. The excess of assets over liabilities on the Solvency II balance sheet forms the reconciliation reserve:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Excess of assets over liabilities	75,337,735	77,613,698
Other basic own fund items	-	-
Reconciliation reserve	75,337,735	77,613,698

Under Solvency II, own funds are classified into three tiers according to their ability to absorb losses, and only a limited proportion of own funds from the lower tiers can used to cover the Solvency Capital Requirement or Minimum Capital Requirement.

All of Sovereign Health Care's capital in the Solvency II Balance sheet is classed as Tier 1, this highest quality of capital. This is eligible to cover both the SCR and MCR. As at 31 December 2022, Sovereign Health Care has no deferred tax assets, which would be classed as Teir 3 capital, the lowest quality capital.

8.2 MCR and SCR

Sovereign Health Care fully complies with the Standard Formula in the calculation of both the MCR and SCR. No material simplified methods or undertaking specific parameters have been used in the calculation of either the MCR or SCR. A detailed review of the assumptions within the model were undertaken and these were found to be appropriate for the firm. Set out below is a summary of our Retained Earnings/Own Funds, the MCR and SCR together with coverage ratios:

Own Funds/Retained Earnings	Solvency II £	UK GAAP £	Appendix Reference
At 31 December 2022	75,337,735	75,448,740	s.23.01.b
Minimum Capital Requirement	5,771,988		s.23.01.b
Solvency Capital Requirement	23,087,951		s.23.01.b/s.25.01.b
SCR coverage ratio	326%		s.23.01.b

The MCR, calculated using the standard formula, is detailed below:

Overall MCR calculation	2022 £	2021 £	Appendix Reference
Linear MCR	501,551	508,499	s.28.01.b
SCR	23,087,951	31,293,918	s.28.01.b
MCR cap	10,389,578	14,082,263	s.28.01.b
MCR floor	5,771,988	7,823,479	s.28.01.b
Combined MCR	5,771,988	7,823,479	s.28.01.b
Absolute floor of the MCR	2,325,105	2,112,250	s.28.01.b
Minimum Capital Requirement	5,771,988	7,823,479	

The SCR, calculated using the standard formula, detailed below:

Risk Component	Risk Amount	Diversif. Factor	Capital Requirements	
Basic Operational Risk Charge	299,477		299,477	306,291
Interest Rate Risk	45,036	(41,016)	4,019	2,319
Equity Risk	18,429,572	(1,090,151)	17,339,421	25,454,150
Property Risk	197,141	(52,953)	144,187	124,974
Spread Risk	-	-	-	-
Currency Risk	7,588,377	(3,314,575)	4,273,802	4,407,459
Concentration Risk	87,329	(86,979)	350	19
Market Risk	26,347,454	(4,585,674)	21,761,780	29,988,922
Counterparty Risk	1,381,862	(18,956)	1,362,906	1,369,546
Health Underwriting Risk	2,661,346	(538,451)	2,122,895	2,157,678
Overall Diversification		(2,459,108)	(2,459,108)	(2,528,519)
Solvency Capital Requirement	30,690,140	(7,602,188)	23,087,951	31,293,918

Risk Sensitivity and Solvency II impact

We are strongly capitalised with a Solvency II capital surplus of £52.2m (2021: £46.3m) representing a solvency cover ratio of 326% (2021: 248%). Capital requirements have decreased by £8.2m as a direct result of reducing our exposure to equities coupled with the market value loss.

	2022	2021
Own Funds	75,337,735	77,613,698
Solvency Capital Requirement (SCR)	23,087,951	31,293,918
Solvency II Capital Surplus	52,249,784	46,319,780
Solvency Capital Ratio	326%	248%

The SCR of £23.1m would change by an amount equal or opposite to 18% or less following a:

- 20% rise or fall in equities (surplus would increase by £6m/decrease by £6m respectively), or
- 100% rise in the volume of insurance underwritten (surplus would move by less than £320k)

8.3 Other disclosures

Use of Duration based Equity Risk Sub module in the calculation of the SCR

The duration based equity risk sub module has not been used in the calculation of the SCR.

Difference between Standard Formula and any Internal Model used

No internal or partial internal model has been used in the calculation of the SCR.

Non Compliance with MCR and SCR

The company has maintained Own Funds in excess of the MCR and the SCR throughout the reporting period.

9.APPENDIX – QUANTITATIVE REPORTING TEMPLATES

Sovereign Health Care

Solvency and Financial Condition Report

Disclosures

31 December

2022

(Monetary amounts in GBP thousands)

General information

Undertaking name	Sovereign Health Care
Undertaking identification code	213800PGKJQYRABOJQ62
Type of code of undertaking	LEI
Type of undertaking	Non-life undertakings
Country of authorisation	GB
Language of reporting	en
Reporting reference date	31 December 2022
Currency used for reporting	GBP
Accounting standards	Local GAAP
Method of Calculation of the SCR	Standard formula
Matching adjustment	No use of matching adjustment
Volatility adjustment	No use of volatility adjustment
Transitional measure on the risk-free interest rate	No use of transitional measure on the risk-free interest rate
Transitional measure on technical provisions	No use of transitional measure on technical provisions

List of reported templates

- S.02.01.02 - Balance sheet
- S.05.01.02 - Premiums, claims and expenses by line of business
- S.05.02.01 - Premiums, claims and expenses by country
- S.17.01.02 - Non-Life Technical Provisions
- S.19.01.21 - Non-Life insurance claims
- S.23.01.01 - Own Funds
- S.25.01.21 - Solvency Capital Requirement - for undertakings on Standard Formula
- S.28.01.01 - Minimum Capital Requirement - Only life or only non-life insurance or reinsurance activity

S.02.01.02

Balance sheet

		Solvency II value
		C0010
Assets		
R0030	Intangible assets	
R0040	Deferred tax assets	
R0050	Pension benefit surplus	
R0060	Property, plant & equipment held for own use	0
R0070	Investments (other than assets held for index-linked and unit-linked contracts)	62,962
R0080	<i>Property (other than for own use)</i>	789
R0090	<i>Holdings in related undertakings, including participations</i>	904
R0100	<i>Equities</i>	3
R0110	<i>Equities - listed</i>	
R0120	<i>Equities - unlisted</i>	3
R0130	<i>Bonds</i>	0
R0140	<i>Government Bonds</i>	0
R0150	<i>Corporate Bonds</i>	0
R0160	<i>Structured notes</i>	0
R0170	<i>Collateralised securities</i>	0
R0180	<i>Collective Investments Undertakings</i>	54,239
R0190	<i>Derivatives</i>	
R0200	<i>Deposits other than cash equivalents</i>	7,029
R0210	<i>Other investments</i>	0
R0220	Assets held for index-linked and unit-linked contracts	
R0230	Loans and mortgages	0
R0240	<i>Loans on policies</i>	0
R0250	<i>Loans and mortgages to individuals</i>	
R0260	<i>Other loans and mortgages</i>	
R0270	Reinsurance recoverables from:	0
R0280	<i>Non-life and health similar to non-life</i>	0
R0290	<i>Non-life excluding health</i>	0
R0300	<i>Health similar to non-life</i>	0
R0310	<i>Life and health similar to life, excluding index-linked and unit-linked</i>	0
R0320	<i>Health similar to life</i>	
R0330	<i>Life excluding health and index-linked and unit-linked</i>	
R0340	<i>Life index-linked and unit-linked</i>	
R0350	Deposits to cedants	0
R0360	Insurance and intermediaries receivables	459
R0370	Reinsurance receivables	
R0380	Receivables (trade, not insurance)	752
R0390	Own shares (held directly)	
R0400	Amounts due in respect of own fund items or initial fund called up but not yet paid in	0
R0410	Cash and cash equivalents	11,942
R0420	Any other assets, not elsewhere shown	1,232
R0500	Total assets	77,348

S.02.01.02

Balance sheet

		Solvency II value
		C0010
	Liabilities	
R0510	Technical provisions - non-life	882
R0520	<i>Technical provisions - non-life (excluding health)</i>	0
R0530	<i>TP calculated as a whole</i>	0
R0540	<i>Best Estimate</i>	0
R0550	<i>Risk margin</i>	0
R0560	<i>Technical provisions - health (similar to non-life)</i>	882
R0570	<i>TP calculated as a whole</i>	0
R0580	<i>Best Estimate</i>	735
R0590	<i>Risk margin</i>	147
R0600	Technical provisions - life (excluding index-linked and unit-linked)	0
R0610	<i>Technical provisions - health (similar to life)</i>	0
R0620	<i>TP calculated as a whole</i>	
R0630	<i>Best Estimate</i>	
R0640	<i>Risk margin</i>	
R0650	<i>Technical provisions - life (excluding health and index-linked and unit-linked)</i>	0
R0660	<i>TP calculated as a whole</i>	
R0670	<i>Best Estimate</i>	
R0680	<i>Risk margin</i>	
R0690	Technical provisions - index-linked and unit-linked	0
R0700	<i>TP calculated as a whole</i>	
R0710	<i>Best Estimate</i>	
R0720	<i>Risk margin</i>	
R0740	Contingent liabilities	22
R0750	Provisions other than technical provisions	100
R0760	Pension benefit obligations	
R0770	Deposits from reinsurers	
R0780	Deferred tax liabilities	197
R0790	Derivatives	
R0800	Debts owed to credit institutions	
R0810	Financial liabilities other than debts owed to credit institutions	
R0820	Insurance & intermediaries payables	35
R0830	Reinsurance payables	
R0840	Payables (trade, not insurance)	45
R0850	Subordinated liabilities	0
R0860	<i>Subordinated liabilities not in BOF</i>	
R0870	<i>Subordinated liabilities in BOF</i>	0
R0880	Any other liabilities, not elsewhere shown	729
R0900	Total liabilities	2,011
R1000	Excess of assets over liabilities	75,338

S.23.01.01

Own Funds

Basic own funds before deduction for participations in other financial sector as foreseen in article 68 of Delegated Regulation 2015/35

R0010	Ordinary share capital (gross of own shares)
R0030	Share premium account related to ordinary share capital
R0040	Initial funds, members' contributions or the equivalent basic own-fund item for mutual and mutual-type undertakings
R0050	Subordinated mutual member accounts
R0070	Surplus funds
R0090	Preference shares
R0110	Share premium account related to preference shares
R0130	Reconciliation reserve
R0140	Subordinated liabilities
R0160	An amount equal to the value of net deferred tax assets
R0180	Other own fund items approved by the supervisory authority as basic own funds not specified above
R0220	Own funds from the financial statements that should not be represented by the reconciliation reserve and do not meet the criteria to be classified as Solvency II own funds
R0230	Deductions for participations in financial and credit institutions
R0290	Total basic own funds after deductions

Ancillary own funds

R0300	Unpaid and uncalled ordinary share capital callable on demand
R0310	Unpaid and uncalled initial funds, members' contributions or the equivalent basic own fund item for mutual and mutual - type undertakings, callable on demand
R0320	Unpaid and uncalled preference shares callable on demand
R0330	A legally binding commitment to subscribe and pay for subordinated liabilities on demand
R0340	Letters of credit and guarantees under Article 96(2) of the Directive 2009/138/EC
R0350	Letters of credit and guarantees other than under Article 96(2) of the Directive 2009/138/EC
R0360	Supplementary members calls under first subparagraph of Article 96(3) of the Directive 2009/138/EC
R0370	Supplementary members calls - other than under first subparagraph of Article 96(3) of the Directive 2009/138/EC
R0390	Other ancillary own funds
R0400	Total ancillary own funds

Available and eligible own funds

R0500	Total available own funds to meet the SCR
R0510	Total available own funds to meet the MCR
R0540	Total eligible own funds to meet the SCR
R0550	Total eligible own funds to meet the MCR

R0580	SCR
R0600	MCR
R0620	Ratio of Eligible own funds to SCR
R0640	Ratio of Eligible own funds to MCR

Reconciliation reserve

R0700	Excess of assets over liabilities
R0710	Own shares (held directly and indirectly)
R0720	Foreseeable dividends, distributions and charges
R0730	Other basic own fund items
R0740	Adjustment for restricted own fund items in respect of matching adjustment portfolios and ring fenced funds
R0760	Reconciliation reserve

Expected profits

R0770	Expected profits included in future premiums (EPIFP) - Life business
R0780	Expected profits included in future premiums (EPIFP) - Non- life business
R0790	Total Expected profits included in future premiums (EPIFP)

Total	Tier 1 unrestricted	Tier 1 restricted	Tier 2	Tier 3
C0010	C0020	C0030	C0040	C0050
0	0		0	
0	0		0	
0	0		0	
0		0	0	0
0	0			
0		0	0	0
0		0	0	0
75,338	75,338			
0		0	0	0
0				0
0	0	0	0	0
0				
0				
0				
0				
0				
75,338	75,338	0	0	0

0				
0				
0				
0				
0				
0				
0				
0				
0				
0				
0				
0				
0			0	0

75,338	75,338	0	0	0
75,338	75,338	0	0	
75,338	75,338	0	0	0
75,338	75,338	0	0	

23,088
5,772
326.31%
1305.23%

C0060
75,338
0
0
0
75,338

184
184

S.25.01.21

Solvency Capital Requirement - for undertakings on Standard Formula

	Gross solvency capital requirement	USP	Simplifications
	C0110	C0090	C0120
R0010 Market risk	21,762		
R0020 Counterparty default risk	1,363		
R0030 Life underwriting risk	0		
R0040 Health underwriting risk	2,123		
R0050 Non-life underwriting risk	0		
R0060 Diversification	-2,459		
R0070 Intangible asset risk	0		
R0100 Basic Solvency Capital Requirement	22,788		
Calculation of Solvency Capital Requirement			
R0130 Operational risk	299		
R0140 Loss-absorbing capacity of technical provisions	0		
R0150 Loss-absorbing capacity of deferred taxes			
R0160 Capital requirement for business operated in accordance with Art. 4 of Directive 2003/41/EC	0		
R0200 Solvency Capital Requirement excluding capital add-on	23,088		
R0210 Capital add-ons already set	0		
R0220 Solvency capital requirement	23,088		
Other information on SCR			
R0400 Capital requirement for duration-based equity risk sub-module	0		
R0410 Total amount of Notional Solvency Capital Requirements for remaining part	0		
R0420 Total amount of Notional Solvency Capital Requirements for ring fenced funds	0		
R0430 Total amount of Notional Solvency Capital Requirements for matching adjustment portfolios	0		
R0440 Diversification effects due to RFF nSCR aggregation for article 304	0		
Approach to tax rate			
R0590 Approach based on average tax rate	0		
Calculation of loss absorbing capacity of deferred taxes			
LAC DT			
C0130			
R0640 LAC DT			
R0650 LAC DT justified by reversion of deferred tax liabilities	0		
R0660 LAC DT justified by reference to probable future taxable economic profit	0		
R0670 LAC DT justified by carry back, current year	0		
R0680 LAC DT justified by carry back, future years	0		
R0690 Maximum LAC DT	0		

USP Key

For life underwriting risk:

- 1 - Increase in the amount of annuity benefits
- 9 - None

For health underwriting risk:

- 1 - Increase in the amount of annuity benefits
- 2 - Standard deviation for NSLT health premium risk
- 3 - Standard deviation for NSLT health gross premium risk
- 4 - Adjustment factor for non-proportional reinsurance
- 5 - Standard deviation for NSLT health reserve risk
- 9 - None

For non-life underwriting risk:

- 4 - Adjustment factor for non-proportional reinsurance
- 6 - Standard deviation for non-life premium risk
- 7 - Standard deviation for non-life gross premium risk
- 8 - Standard deviation for non-life reserve risk
- 9 - None

S.28.01.01

Minimum Capital Requirement - Only life or only non-life insurance or reinsurance activity

Linear formula component for non-life insurance and reinsurance obligations

R0010 MCR_{NL} Result

C0010

502

Net (of reinsurance/SPV) best estimate and TP calculated as a whole	Net (of reinsurance) written premiums in the last 12 months
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C0020

C0030

R0020	Medical expense insurance and proportional reinsurance
R0030	Income protection insurance and proportional reinsurance
R0040	Workers' compensation insurance and proportional reinsurance
R0050	Motor vehicle liability insurance and proportional reinsurance
R0060	Other motor insurance and proportional reinsurance
R0070	Marine, aviation and transport insurance and proportional reinsurance
R0080	Fire and other damage to property insurance and proportional reinsurance
R0090	General liability insurance and proportional reinsurance
R0100	Credit and suretyship insurance and proportional reinsurance
R0110	Legal expenses insurance and proportional reinsurance
R0120	Assistance and proportional reinsurance
R0130	Miscellaneous financial loss insurance and proportional reinsurance
R0140	Non-proportional health reinsurance
R0150	Non-proportional casualty reinsurance
R0160	Non-proportional marine, aviation and transport reinsurance
R0170	Non-proportional property reinsurance

735	9,936
0	
0	
0	
0	
0	
0	
0	
0	
0	
0	
0	
0	
0	
0	
0	

Linear formula component for life insurance and reinsurance obligations

R0200 MCR_L Result

C0040

0

Net (of reinsurance/SPV) best estimate and TP calculated as a whole	Net (of reinsurance/SPV) total capital at risk
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C0050

C0060

R0210	Obligations with profit participation - guaranteed benefits
R0220	Obligations with profit participation - future discretionary benefits
R0230	Index-linked and unit-linked insurance obligations
R0240	Other life (re)insurance and health (re)insurance obligations
R0250	Total capital at risk for all life (re)insurance obligations

Overall MCR calculation

R0300	Linear MCR
R0310	SCR
R0320	MCR cap
R0330	MCR floor
R0340	Combined MCR
R0350	Absolute floor of the MCR
R0400	Minimum Capital Requirement

C0070

502
23,088
10,390
5,772
5,772
2,325
5,772