

## Prime People Plc Interim Report

for the six months ended 30 September 2015

2015

# PRIME PEOPLE PLC UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM REPORT For the six months ended 30 September 2015

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28<sup>th</sup> October 2015

## **Prime People Plc**

## **Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Interim Report** for the six months ended 30 September 2015

### **CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT**

#### Overview

The Group is pleased to report strong uplift in Operating Profit to £1.06m in the first half of this year compared to £0.63m achieved in the comparable period last year. The growth in the period has been generated from our permanent business, which represents 92% of Net Fee Income (NFI) compared to 93% in the comparable period of 2014. During the period our contract recruitment business has grown by 32%.

The improvement in performance highlighted in our 2015 Annual Report has continued throughout the current period. NFI in the period for the Group is £6.21m which is a 24% increase on last year (2014: £5.00m). There were a number of strong NFI performances in both the UK and Asia. In the UK NFI increased by 22% from £3.2m to £3.9m and in Asia NFI increased by 36% from £1.4m to £1.9m.

### **Financial Results**

Group revenue increased by 27.5% for the period to £10.2m (2014: £8.0m)

Administrative costs for the group have increased from £4.4m in 2014 to £5.2m in the current period which is in part a consequence of higher commission paid to consultants for improved performance and in part an uplift in fee earning head-count of the Group.

Profit before taxation for the period has increased to £1.06m (2014: £0.64m)

The charge for taxation is based on the expected annual effective tax rate of 20% (2014: 21%).

Basic earnings per share for the period increased to 6.97p (2014: 4.17p).

### **Cash Flow**

The Group continues to maintain a strong net cash position.

After taxation payments of £0.20m (2014: £0.01m) cash generated from operations was £1.00 (2014: £0.37m). A special second interim dividend was paid in April 2015 of £0.49m, and a final dividend for 2015 of £0.38m was paid in June 2015 (2014: £0.38m). At the end of the period the Group had net cash of £1.04m (2014: £1.11m)

## **CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT** (continued)

#### Dividend

The Board has declared an interim dividend of 1.75p (2015: 1.75p) together with a special second interim dividend of 4.00p (2015: 4.00p). Both, interim and special dividend will be paid on 27 November 2015 to those shareholders whose names are on the register on 20 November 2015.

#### Outlook

We have expectations that the UK businesses will perform at least at similar levels to the first half of the year. We are looking for continued improved performance from our businesses in Asia which we believe will provide us with increased opportunities for growth in the mid to long term. We continue to have conservative expectations as to the likely performance from our businesses in the Rest of the World. We believe we are well positioned to capitalise on both current and future growth opportunities.

The present focus for the Group is to maximize the returns from recent investment in technology and to increase productivity of the business. We continue to recruit new heads into those markets where there is potential for NFI and profit growth.

### **Robert Macdonald**

Executive Chairman 28 October 2015

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PRIME PEOPLE PLC UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME For the six months ended 30 September 2015

	Note	Six month 30 September 2015 £'000	s <b>ended</b> 30 September 2014 £'000	Year ended 31 March 2015 £'000
Revenue Cost of sales	3	10,197 (3,987)	8,028 (3,030)	16,647 (6,425)
Net fee income Administrative expenses		6,210 (5,147)	4,998 (4,364)	10,222 (8,792)
Operating profit Finance income		1,063	634 6	1,430 6
Profit before taxation Income tax expense	4	1,063 (215)	640 (135)	1,436 (310)
Profit for the period/year		848	505	1,126
Other comprehensive (loss)/income: Exchange (loss)/gain on translating foreoperations	eign	(57)	35	130
Total comprehensive income for the	period/year	791	540	1,256
Attributable to:				
Equity shareholders of the parent		791	540	1,256
Earnings per share Basic earnings per share Diluted earnings per share	6	6.97p 6.82p	4.17p 3.89p	9.28p 9.01p

The above results relate to continuing operations.

The notes on pages 7 to 12 form an integral part of this unaudited condensed consolidated interim report.

PRIME PEOPLE PLC UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION As at 30 September 2015

	NI 4	30 September 2015	30 September 2014	31 March 2015
Assets	Note	£'000	£'000	£'000
Non-current assets				
Goodwill		9,769	9,769	9,769
Property, plant and equipment		269	386	316
		10,038	10,155	10,085
Current assets				
Trade and other receivables Cash and cash equivalents	9	5,026 1,037	3,695 1,114	4,538 1,009
- Cush and cush equivalents		1,037	1,114	1,007
		6,063	4,809	5,547
Total assets		16,101	14,964	15,632
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities	10	2 412	1.002	1.070
Trade and other payables Current tax liabilities	10	2,412 206	1,883 165	1,958 184
- Current tax nationales		200	103	104
		2,618	2,048	2,142
Non-current liabilities				
Deferred tax liabilities		12	21	16
		12	21	16
Total liabilities		2,630	2,069	2,158
Net assets		13,471	12,895	13,474
Capital and reserves attributable to the	ne Company	's equity holders		
Called up share capital		1,219	1,217	1,219
Capital redemption reserve Treasury shares		9 (21)	(146)	9
Share premium account		(21) 5,370	(146) 5,356	(21) 5,370
Merger reserve		173	173	173
Share option reserve		266	173	212
Currency translation differences		385	347	442
Retained earnings		6,070	5,766	6,070
Equity shareholders funds		13,471	12,895	13,474

The notes on pages 7 to 12 form an integral part of this unaudited condensed consolidated interim report.

# PRIME PEOPLE PLC UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY For the six months ended 30 September 2015

For the six months en	Called up share capital £'000	Capital redem- ption reserve £'000	Treasury shares £'000	Share premium account £'000	Merger reserve £'000	Share option reserve £'000	Foreign currency trans- lation £'000	Retained earnings £'000	Total £'000
At 1 April 2014	1,207	9	(143)	7,109	173	120	312	5,636	14,423
Total Comprehensive In come	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	505	540
Adjustment in respect of share schemes	-	-	-	-	-	53	-	-	53
Issue of ordinary	10			45	-	-	-		
shares	10	-	-	47				-	57
Return of capital Shares Issued from	-	-	-	(1,800)	-	-	-	-	(1,800)
treasury Shares purchased for	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	12
treasury Dividends	-	-	(15)	-	-	-	-	(375)	(375)
At 30 September 2014	1,217	9	(146)	5,356	173	173	347	5,766	12,895
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	_	-	-	_	-	95	621	716
Adjustment in respect of share schemes	-	-	-	-	-	39	-	38	77
Issue of ordinary shares	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3
Shares issued from treasury	-	-	30	13	-	-	-	-	43
Shares purchased for treasury	-	-	(47)	-	_	_	-	-	(47)
Adjustment on share									
disposal Dividend	-	-	142	-	-	-	-	(142) (213)	(213)
At 31 March 2015	1,219	9	(21)	5,370	173	212	442	6,070	13,474
Total comprehensive									
income for the period	-	-	-	-	-	-	(57)	848	791
Adjustment in respect of share schemes	-	-	-	-	-	54	-	15	69
Issue of ordinary shares	7								7
Discounted share	/	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	/
capital	(7)	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	(7)
Dividends	-	-		-	-	-	-	(863)	(863)
At 30 September 2015	1,219	9	(21)	5,370	173	266	385	6,070	13,471

PRIME PEOPLE PLC UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW For the six months ended 30 September 2015

Note	Six me 30 September 2015 £'000	30 September 2014 £'000	Year ended 31 March 2015 £'000
Cash generated from/(used in) underlying operations 7 Income tax paid	1,196 (197)	485 (115)	685 (276)
Net cash from operating activities	999	370	409
Cash flows from investing activities Interest received Net purchase of property, plant and equipment	(51)	6 (138)	6 (156)
Net cash used in investing activities	(51)	(132)	(150)
Cash flows from financing activities Issue of ordinary share capital Capital reduction Shares issued from treasury Shares purchased for treasury Dividend paid to shareholders	- - - - (863)	57 (1,800) 12 (15) (375)	72 (1,800) 42 (62) (588)
Net cash used in financing activities	(863)	(2,121)	(2,336)
Net increase/ (decrease) in cash and cash equi Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of per Effect of foreign exchange rate changes		(1,883) 2,962 35	(2,077) 2,962 130
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period/ye	ar 1,037	1,114	1,009

The notes on pages 7 to 12 form an integral part of this unaudited condensed consolidated interim report.

#### NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM REPORT

For the six months ended 30 September 2015

### 1. General information

Prime People Plc ('the Company') and its subsidiaries (together 'the Group') is an international recruitment services organisation with offices in the United Kingdom, the Middle East and the Asia Pacific region from which it serves an international client base. The Group offers both permanent and contract specialist recruitment consultancy for large and medium sized organisations.

Prime People Plc is the Group's ultimate parent company. The Company is a limited liability company incorporated and domiciled in the United Kingdom. The address of Prime People Group's registered office and its principal place of business is 2 Harewood Place, London, W1S 1BX, England. Prime People Group's shares are quoted on the Alternative Investment Market (AIM) of the London Stock Exchange. The registered number of the company is 1729887.

This unaudited condensed consolidated interim report for the six months ended 30 September 2015 (including comparatives) is presented in GBP 000, and was approved and authorised for issue by the board of directors on 27 October 2015.

Copies of the interim results are available at the Company's registered office and on the Company's website – www.prime-people.co.uk.

This unaudited condensed consolidated interim report does not constitute statutory accounts of the Group within the meaning of section 434 of the Companies Act 2006. The financial information for the year ended 31 March 2015 has been extracted from the statutory accounts for that year, which have been filed with the Registrar of Companies. The auditors' report on those accounts was unqualified and did not contain a statement under section 498 of the Companies Act 2006.

## 2. Basis of preparation

The unaudited condensed consolidated interim report for the six months ended 30 September 2015 has been prepared using accounting policies consistent with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRSs") and in accordance with 'IAS 34, Interim financial reporting', as adopted by the European Union. The condensed consolidated interim report should be read in conjunction with the annual financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2015 which were prepared in accordance with IFRSs as adopted by the European Union.

The Group was profitable for the period and has considerable financial resources comprising £1.04m of net cash at 30 September 2015. After making enquiries, the Directors have formed a judgement, at the time of approving the six months results, that there is a reasonable expectation that the Group has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, a period of not less than 12 months. For this reason the Directors continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the condensed set of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, using the same accounting policies as those used in the preparation of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2015 and which are also expected to apply for the year ended 31 March 2016.

### NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM REPORT

For the six months ended 30 September 2015

## 2. Basis of preparation (continued)

The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the Group for the purposes of preparation of the condensed consolidated interim report.

## 3. Segment reporting

## (a) Revenue and net fee income by geographical region

Revenue			Net fo			
	Six m	onths ended	Year ended	Six mo	nths ended	Year ended
	30 September	30 September	31 March	30 September	30 September	31 March
	2015	2014	2015	2015	2014	2015
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
UK	7,889	6,228	12,957	3,902	3,198	6,532
Asia	1,901	1,446	2,992	1,901	1,446	2,992
Rest of World	d <b>407</b>	354	698	407	354	698
	10,197	8,028	16,647	6,210	4,998	10,222

All revenues disclosed by the group are derived from external customers and are for the provision of recruitment services. The accounting policies of the reportable segments are the same as the Group's accounting policies. Segment profit before taxation represents the profit earned by each segment after allocations of central administration costs.

## (b) Revenue and net fee income by classification

Revenue			Net fo	ee income		
	Six m	onths ended	Year ended	Six mo	nths ended	Year ended
	30 September	30 September	31 March	30 September	30 September	31 March
	2015	2014	2015	2015	2014	2015
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Permanent						
- UK	3,420	2,833	5,760	3,416	2,824	5,747
- Asia	1,901	1,446	2,992	1,901	1,446	2,992
- Rest of Worl	ld <b>407</b>	354	698	407	354	698
Contract (UK)	4,469	3,395	7,197	486	374	785
	10,197	8,028	16,647	6,210	4,998	10,222

### NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM REPORT

For the six months ended 30 September 2015

## (c) Profit before taxation by geographical region

	Six months ended		
	30 September	30 September	31 March
	2015	2014	2015
	£'000	£'000	£'000
UK	725	372	993
Asia	257	248	370
Rest of World	81	14	67
Operating profit	1,063	634	1,430
Net finance income	-	6	6
Profit before taxation	1,063	640	1,436

The analysis above is of the carrying amount of reportable segment assets, liabilities and non-current assets. Segment assets and liabilities include items directly attributable to a segment and include income tax assets and liabilities. Non-current assets include goodwill, property, plant and equipment and computer software.

## 4. Income tax expense

The charge for taxation on profits for the interim period amounted to £0.22m (2014: £0.14m) an effective rate of 20% (2014: 21%).

## 5. Dividends

	Six mor	nths ended	Year ended
	30 September	30 September	31 March
	2015 £'000	2014 £'000	2015 £'000
	2 000	<b>~</b> 000	~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~
Final dividend for 2015 of 3.09 pence per share (2014: 3.09 pence per share)	376	376	376
Special second interim dividend for 2015 of 4.00 pence per share	487	-	-
Interim dividend for 2015 of 1.75 pence per share	-	-	212
	863	376	588

The interim dividend for 2016 of 1.75 pence (2015: 1.75 pence paid on 28 November 2014), and a special second interim dividend of 4.0p (2015: 4.00 pence paid on 2 April 2015) was approved by the board on 27 October 2015 and will be paid on 27 November 2015 to those shareholders whose names are on the register on 20 November 2015.

## NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM REPORT

For the six months ended 30 September 2015

## 6. Earnings per share

Earnings per share (EPS) is calculated by dividing the profit attributable to ordinary shareholders by the weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the period.

Fully diluted earnings per share is calculated by adjusting the weighted average number of ordinary shares by existing share options assuming dilution through conversion of all existing options.

Earnings and weighted average number of shares from continuing operations used in the calculations are show below:

	Six mor	nths ended	Year ended	
	30 September 2015 £'000	30 September 2014 £'000	31 March 2015 £'000	
Retained profit for basic and diluted earnings per share	e <b>848</b>	505	1,126	
	Number	Number	Number	
Weighted average number of shares used for basic earnings per share Dilutive effect of share options	12,176,030 260,697	12,106,942 876,289	12,131,633 362,117	
Diluted weighted average number of shares used for diluted earnings per share	12,436,726	12,983,231	12,493,750	
	Pence	Pence	Pence	
Basic earnings per share Diluted earnings per share	6.97p 6.82p	4.17p 3.89p	9.28p 9.01p	

## **PRIME PEOPLE PLC NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM REPORT**For the six months ended 30 September 2015

## 7. Reconciliation of profit before tax to cash flow from operating activities

	Six mont 30 September 2015 £'000	hs ended 30 September 2014 £'000	Year ended 31 March 2015 £'000
Profit before taxation Adjust for:	1,063	640	1,436
Depreciation	99	79	170
Share option reserve movement	69	53	130
Loss on sale of plant and equipment	-	1	-
Net finance income	-	(6)	(6)
Operating cash flow before changes in working capital	1,231	767	1,730
(Increase)decrease in receivables	(488)	(160)	(1,003)
(Decrease)/increase in payables	453	(122)	(42)
Cash generated from underlying operations	1,196	485	685

## 8. Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds

	Six mont	Year ended	
	30 September	30 September	31 March
	2015	2014	2015
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Decrease in cash and cash equivalents in period/year Net funds at the start of the period/year Other non-cash changes	85 1,009 (57)	(1,883) 2,962 35	(2,077) 2,962 130
Net funds at the end of the period/year	1,037	1,114	1,009

## **NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM REPORT** For the six months ended 30 September 2015

## 9. Trade and other receivables

	30 September 2015 £'000	30 September 2014 £'000	31 March 2015 £'000
Trade receivables Allowance for doubtful debts Prepayments and accrued income Other receivables	2,321 (190) 2,827 68	1,982 (178) 1,810 81	2,126 (102) 578 1,936
	5,026	3,695	4,538

## 10. Trade and other payables

	30 September 2015 £'000	30 September 2014 £'000	31 March 2015 £'000
Trade payables	113	249	239
Other taxes and social security	588	460	567
Other payables	462	222	239
Accruals and deferred income	1,249	952	913
	2,412	1,883	1,958



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